

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE TBA – October 2020

The TBA Committee met at the TBA on Tuesday October 6th from 3.30pm.

PARTICIPATING : J Rhodes (Chair), L Cooke, M Gibbs, M Sherlock, S Edler, E Gee, K Marsden, I Bailey, G Poulton, P Timmins, S Falkingham

APOLOGIES : J Grosvenor,

The following matters were discussed :

Building Matters

Correspondence has been received from the Tasmanian Community Foundation to advise that we have not progressed to the second stage of the current round of grant funding. A building subcommittee comprising Julie Rhodes, Malcolm Sherlock and Edward Gee will continue to investigate the feasibility of our extensions although they have now been placed on hold indefinitely.

Tournament Matters

Simon Edler reminded members that the Tasmanian Swiss Pairs would be run by Tamar Bridge Club in Launceston over the weekend of October 24th and 25th

The 2021 Tasmanian Bridge Congress will be held at Elwick racecourse from April 9th – 11th 2021. Reserve these dates in your diary and watch out for more details soon. There will be rookie, novice restricted and open sections to cater for all levels of experience.

Congratulations to Anne Parrot and Warren Papworth for winning the recently concluded Elsie Strickland pairs. A three week Swiss Pairs event begins next Monday night.

Improver's Bridge Lessons

David Robinson will be conducting a series of lessons for improvers starting on October 28th and continuing on Wednesday afternoons of Nov 4th, 18th, 25th and Dec 2nd from 2.00pm. The theme is "How to take that extra Trick!" and focuses on all the different ways of taking an extra trick from ruffing losers in Dummy through to avoidance plays and squeezes. Cost is \$5 which David kindly donates to the TBA. The topics covered will increase in difficulty as the lessons progress. Full details of the classes will be advertised at the Club and on the TBA web site.

On-line Bridge

Now that the Tasmanian Department of Health has advised that we can use regular sized tables provided that other COVID-19 safety measures remain in place, we have been able to increase the number of tables in use to 18, which is a big improvement on 12. Bookings are still recommended for busy sessions to ensure that you reserve a place, but it means we will be less reliant on running parallel online sessions.

The TBA is currently evaluating the timing and frequency of online sessions for the future and we would welcome feedback from our members as to their preferences in this regard. The topic will also be discussed at Ross on October 30th as players from Northern clubs are also encouraged to participate.

Melbourne Cup Day – November 3rd

A special Melbourne Cup event will be held from 10.30 am on Tuesday November 3rd. Table Money will be \$10 which will include Red Masterpoints and a glass of champagne. Participants are asked to bring a plate of food to share, which will be individually plated (like we did for the AGM) to ensure compliance with COVID-19 safety requirements.

This year we are going to hire a Catering Assistant to reduce the work load on members around this event.

There will be \$2 and \$5 sweeps running throughout the day – members are encouraged to bring correct change to make things run smoothly.

There will be prizes for the best dressed and best headwear (hats and fascinators both included). There will also be a prize for the overall winner of the event as well as a prize for the highest finishing restricted, rookie and novice pairs.

Social Bridge

Due to the interest of several members in playing social bridge at the TBA, the Committee has decided to allocate one Sunday a month for social bridge. The regular Sunday will be the second Sunday of the month, starting on Sunday November 8th at 1.15pm. Sue Falkingham will be directing and players are encouraged to bring a plate of food to share. Members are able to bring a visitor to participate, but all visitors must sign the COVID-19 Safety Plan undertaking, and comply with COVID-19 Safety Plan requirements. Normal table money will be payable.

New Chairs

As a result of a motion carried at the AGM , the TBA will purchase 10 new chairs for people with special needs. Lynne Cooke is looking into this, so if you are a person with such needs, or have knowledge of chairs which might be suitable, please her or another committee member about it.

Laundry Assistant

We are looking for a volunteer to take care of the TBA laundry. This would involve checking the “laundry basket” and taking home the tea towels or table cloths for washing. If you could help out the club in this way, please let me, or a committee member know.

Missing Bridge? – We are missing you!

Some of our members have been missing since COVID-19 began. If your circumstances have changed and you need some help to come back to bridge, let us know – we might be able to help with organising a lift or a partner for you.

Our thoughts are especially with Judith Oxley as this time – all the best Judith; we hope we see you back soon.

Julie Rhodes
President, TBA