



NOVICE NEWS #11 FEBRUARY 2020

Thanks to hard work by our teachers, Lynley Jenkins and Dot Piddington, we are starting to see quite a few new names join as members and some of these have moved from lessons to play in regular sessions. Please be patient and considerate of these new players and expect they will need more time to complete their boards. Most, if not all, are still attending lessons and learning from their teachers. Therefore, please do not try to 'teach' these new players at the table. None of our Novices have been playing long enough to forget what it is like in those first nerve-wracking sessions. Be kind.

The next Novice event on the calendar is the **Cecily Critchley Memorial Novice Teams** (less than 100 master points) that is being held over three Thursdays starting on February 6th. If you have not played in teams before, this is a great introduction and we encourage you to form a team and enter. You need 4 players and you are allowed to have a fifth player as a substitute if one player is not able to play all three weeks. The scoring for teams is different to scoring a regular duplicate session and therefore requires a slightly different approach to your play. Please see the attached sheet written by Eva Berger.

The Gold Coast Bridge Congress, held at the Convention Centre in Broadbeach, is from Friday 21st to Saturday 29th February 2020. There are booklets available at the club detailing the program and entry requirements. This is a great experience for a Novice and we recommend you enter at least one event. Our Vice President, Odette Hall, is available to help you with any questions.

Handicap system. Many of you in the past will have received free game tickets if you have won your session on handicap, depending on certain criteria. The handicap system has been revised. A different day of the week is nominated as the handicap day for a month regardless of whether there is a sponsored event or not. For example, in January, Monday handicap winners will receive a free ticket. In February, Tuesday handicap winners in both sections will receive free tickets. March - Wednesday, April - Thursday, May - Friday and June - Saturday. This will be repeated for the second six months of the year. On Thursday and Saturday there are usually three sections, however these sections must have at least 7 tables before they are eligible for free tickets. Nighttime bridge has not qualified for free tickets owing to insufficient tables in play.

Facebook etc. Liz Downer has re-activated our Facebook page and is doing a great job of advertising upcoming events, posting interesting stories and uploading photos. If you have content or photos you think are worth sharing, please forward to Liz. We are also very happy to post photos on our website of important milestones and social occasions at our club. And don't forget our newsletters. Neil publishes a newsletter once a month and Neville de Mestre publishes his newsletter every quarter. Neville is always looking for content such as an amusing bridge incident, an interesting story involving bridge players, a poem, a song or a bit of history.

Volunteers. All clubs could not survive without their volunteers and ours is no exception. We have very few paid staff. The majority of the work required to run our club is carried out by a relatively small group of volunteers. If you would like to help out, in any way, it would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to any member of the Board if you wish to help.

Rule (Eva Berger)

Players must decide their call before commencing to touch the bidding box. Any vacillation among calls may convey unauthorised information and restrict partner's actions according to Laws 16B1 and 73c.

Tip (Lynley Jenkins)

Even if partner has made a simple overcall at the one level, don't miss the opportunity to show support with 6+ points. Remember partner could hold up to 18 points and may really need to know. Bridge is a partnership game.

GCBC Bylaw

The Director must be called for any infraction of the laws, including rudeness or other inappropriate behavior.

Etiquette

As the Tip above says, Bridge is a partnership game. Always respect and thank your partner.

Quote

The auction tells you what to lead, your hand has to persuade you otherwise.
Benito Garozzo

Julie Wicks
Novice Coordinator
juliekwicks@gmail.com