

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO 2019 AGM

Once again we have had a busy and successful year.

Our bridge programme is one of the most comprehensive offered by a club in WA. We provide seven regular sessions each week as well as supervised sessions and sessions for players who prefer a less competitive environment than in a regular session. Something for everyone and at various times to suit those in the workforce as well as non- working members.

We have run successful congresses and championship events and I congratulate the winners. This year, owing to a determination by the ABF Masterpoint Centre, that our January Open Swiss Pairs event would be included in our annual red point allocation, we reduced the number of open red point sessions and concentrated on member only events. The Club Winter Pairs was a new event. Both the Browning Cup Handicap Pairs and Club State Masters and Below Championship were increased to two sessions rather than just one to better reflect their importance. The Women's Pairs and Men's Pairs Championship events were combined following a suggestion that we try it, but there were varying views of its success, so we will review the format for next year.

Although we are on notice that the City plans to re-locate the club in the future we need to ensure that we continue to provide attractive and comfortable facilities for members. In December we purchased new carpet partly funded by a grant from the City, replaced the old fluorescent tubes with LED lights, purchased new supper room chairs and recently a second new hot water urn was installed. We have also upgraded the security system and changed our internet provider in readiness for the NBN expected soon and purchased a new dealing machine to ensure we have back up dealing facilities.

Last year I reported that we had met with the consultants preparing a masterplan for the development of the George Burnett Recreation Precinct. Their report which made provision for the bridge club was submitted to the City, but put on hold until a decision regarding the proposed Recreation and Aquatic Facility was made. In the meantime the City has adopted a Community Recreation Facilities Plan which proposes the repurposing or upgrading of the GBLC and the relocation of the SPBC within this centre. However the future use of the GBLC depends on the outcome of decisions regarding the RAF and today all that I can tell you is that we are still hopeful of commencing constructive discussions in the near future.

I would now like to thank all the members who have contributed to the club this year. There are so many and everyone's help is much appreciated. Without it we would not be such a happy and successful club. I do want to make special mention of Bill Kemp who retired from directing at the club earlier this year after a very long time, Cherry Zamudio who has been our newsletter editor for some years and has now retired from that role, Wendy Harman for her fund raising by selling the Entertainment Books and Julie Crewe who is stepping down from the MC. Julie successfully submitted two applications for funding grants this past year.

It remains for me to thank the Management Committee and Sub- committees for all their hard work this year. Thank you all!

