

SOUTH PERTH BRIDGE CLUB



President's Report

2021 AGM

I am pleased to report that our club is recovering well from the long lockdown last year and the subsequent occasional snap lockdowns. Table numbers have been improving and we have recorded a healthy profit of \$46,000.

Last year your new committee decided that considering it is unlikely we will be moving to a new facility for at least another 10 years we would focus on two goals. Firstly recruitment and the fostering of new members and secondly the improvement of our amenities.

Concerning recruitment we decided to try and improve the visibility of our club by advertising in The Little Aussie Directory, I am not sure this has been particularly effective when this week I spoke to few people who are currently doing Fiske's beginner course. None of them had seen our ad in the Little Aussie Directory, all of them had 'found' our club by going on line. This tells me that we need to have a look at enhancing our presence on line and perhaps even social media. Also our members are our best recruiters, tell your friends and associates about the enigmatic game of bridge and how they can unravel its mysteries by joining our club.

Our Supervised and Intermediate sessions have become very popular and there are significant numbers attending these sessions; this is very pleasing for they are the future of our club. I would particularly like to thank Fiske for running a number of his courses at this club, Marnie for her work chairing the Education and Membership sub-committee and along with Lyndal directing the supervised sessions. I would also like to mention one of our sponsors and member Kareena Ballard of Jones Ballard; not only are they printing our personal scorers that most of you use each session but they sponsor our Club Restricted and Novice Pairs Championships by subsidising their entry fees.

Concerning improvement of our amenities, you have already seen the transformation of our kitchen. This has made a huge difference in providing for the social activities. Thanks Tony, Wilma and Jenny for overseeing this project. I have been told that work can be expected to commence on the provision our new UAT and refurbishment of the men's and ladies' toilets towards the end of January or early February next

year. No doubt this will cause some inconvenience but the end result will be worth it.

As to the 'Big Flood'; thank you all that answered the call for towels. Fortunately we didn't have to cancel any sessions, but it took a lot of work and planning behind the scenes. All the remedial work had to be done out of working hours on penalty rates so it cost a lot of money; we are trying to recover some of the cost through our insurance - it remains to be seen if we are successful. There is still work to be done inside and outside the building.

We have recently been reviewing our safety and evacuation procedures to make sure we are complying with Worksafe requirements. We now have an evacuation plan which is on the noticeboards. Please note that the assembly point is in the carpark area in front of the main entrance. There is a sign on the fence.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Tournament Committee and thank Laurie, with initial help from Jan, for managing the many schedule changes that occurred due to the ANC being moved over to WA and then postponed and now cancelled. Thanks also to all the directors - as always they have done a wonderful job. There are many others to thank: Jane editing The Declarer, the Dealing Team, Cassie and the bar managers and servers and the long list of "Other Officers" listed in the 2021 Programme, and of course Jackie & Matthew for that amazing Lasagna Night.

My personal thanks to the Management Committee. I very much appreciate your support and encouragement throughout the year. And finally, after several years of amazing service a very big and heartfelt thank you from all the club to Wilma and Jenny. Thank you both.