

August 2026

## From the President

I would like to encourage you to attend the club's AGM coming up on 29th August at 12:45 pm. Please do consider attending since this is your opportunity to get an update on the state of the club and show your support.

As I approach the end of my first year as President, I would like to thank my fellow Management Committee members for their time and commitment to ensuring SPBC runs smoothly. I would also like to acknowledge and thank all those who have worked on our various committees over this time, as well as the many volunteers who have given up their time to support our club.

During the month we held a red-point session on one Tuesday evening, and we were very pleased to see it was very well supported. Just a reminder to the Tuesday evening players that your continued support is needed to keep this session going on green point days. If it has to be withdrawn there won't be any red point sessions either.

Jim Willetts



## Club Rookies pairs

The **Club Rookies pairs** (for members with < 25 MPs) was held on Saturday 8 August. It was great to see 16 pairs enter the event. First place went to Binni Shah and Louann Mokrzycki. In second place were Michael and Betsy Heffernan, and in third place were Dale Nelligan and Helen Clarke. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts. Congratulations to all winners and well done to all who entered!



Jim with Binni and Louann



Jim with Michael and Betsy



Jim with Helen and Dale

## Annual General Meeting

The SPBC Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday, 29 August 2026 at 12:45pm**.

The AGM will be followed by a normal Saturday session, however with extra points on offer. And as an added inducement there may be some cake to be had at afternoon tea! Your attendance at our AGM, to show support for our club, would be greatly appreciated.

## Events coming up in late-August and September

The SPBC sessions for the **Australia-Wide open pairs** will be held on **Wednesday, 26 August, at 12:30pm**.

The **SPBC Women's Pairs Championship** and the **SPBC Men's Pairs Championship**, for SPBC members only, will be held concurrently over two **Wednesdays, 9 and 16 September, at 12:30pm**. The cost per player, for both weeks, is \$20. Entry is through MyABF.

## Kitchen Duty Roster

The September kitchen duty roster calls for those with surnames beginning with **H, O, P** and **Mac/Mc** to assist with setting up and clearing away the kitchen before and after the tea break. Please contribute to the smooth running of the tea breaks when rostered on. Instructions are on the wall in the kitchen if you are not sure what needs to be done. Many hands make light work, and if we all do our bit, the inconvenience to those rostered on is small. Thank you for your cooperation.

## SPBC New Members

Welcome to new members whose applications to join SPBC were approved by the Management Committee at the August meeting: Theresa Daly, Bert Grobbelaar, Elizabeth Cubitt, Maggie Hadlow, Felicity Boyd and Michaela Rauscher

## Masterpoint Ranking Promotions July 2026

Congratulations to the SPBC members who achieved new Masterpoint rankings at the end of July 2026.

|                   |                 |               |                     |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Robert Lavis      | Graduate Master | Mary Outh-Aut | Local Master        |
| Peter Sage        | Club Master     | Binni Shah    | Local Master        |
| Catherine Ferrari | Local Master    | Rodney Basell | Bronze Local Master |

## Car-pooling

There are some sessions at the Club now, where parking space is at a premium, particularly the sessions on Tuesdays and Saturdays. This is a great problem to have, as it means these sessions are well-attended. However, the double-parking that has been occurring to fit cars in creates potential safety issues. So, if you attend these sessions, it would be great, if you could consider car-pooling with your playing partner, or perhaps someone who lives nearby you and who also attends the same session, to reduce the load on the carpark.

## Queensland Fruit Fly

Further to the information provided in the June Newsletter about Queensland Fruit Fly, that has been detected in the City of South Perth, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) are currently baiting trees in the area to try to eradicate this pest. You may see them in the courtyard area from time to time checking their baits.

To assist DPIRD, the Management Committee of SPBC requests that **members no longer bring fruit into the club for distribution to other members** until such time that we are notified that it is safe to do so.

For more information please visit the DPIRD website at <https://www.dpiird.wa.gov.au/businesses/pests-weeds-and-diseases/animal-pests-diseases/pest-insects/queensland-fruit-fly/>

Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

## SPBC Winter Congress

The SPBC Winter Congress was held 31 July -2 August 2026. The congress ran very smoothly thanks to the excellent organisation and management by Convenor Rhonda Hulshoff and by Director Neville Walker. Thanks also Judy Palmer and her team of helpers for their wonderful hospitality over the weekend. The congress was well-attended. It was particularly pleasing to see 24 pairs enter the Novice Pairs event. The addition of the Novice pairs to our congresses continues to be a great success.

The **Welcome Pairs** event on Friday afternoon was attended by 29 pairs. The winners were Alison Orr and Jan Howell, with Chris Cullen and Mimi Packer in second place, and Trish Christy and Patricia Anderson in third place. The best pair under 300 Masterpoints went to Simon Orton and Angelique Morin. Best SPBC Pair went to Cathy Hood and Bob Prince. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.



Jim with Simon and Angelique



Jim with Patricia and Trish

The **Novice Pairs**, held on Saturday morning was won by Mark Mullins and Trish Christy with Susan McGill and Lesley Maff in second place, Margaret Van Dam and Pip Brady in third place, and Felicity O'Neil and Nia Parker in fourth place. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.



Jim with Mark and Trish



Jim with Lesley and Susan



Jim with Margaret and Pip



Jim with Felicity and Nia

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## SPBC Winter Congress (continued)

The **Open Pairs** event was held across two sessions on Saturday. A Qualifying round was held in the morning, with a Final and Plate and Consolation taking place in the afternoon. Placing first North/South in the qualifying round were Geoff Holman and David Matthews. Placing first East/West in the qualifying round were David Fowler and Tad Bieganski.



Jim with David and Geoff



Jim with Tad and David

First place in the Open Pairs Final went to Viv Wood and Jonathan Free – with an impressive 70.19%. Alan Cransberg and Kimberley Zhao were in second place, and Karol Miller and Simon Brayshaw were placed third. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.



Jim with Jonathan and Viv



Jim with Alan and Kimberley



Jim with Karol and Simon

First place in the Open Pairs Plate went to Tony Stevens and Clive Youdell, with David Schokman and Val Biltoft in second place, and Jenny Skinner and Judy Havas placing third.

The congress concluded with the **Open Teams** event on Sunday. Fourteen teams participated. First place went to Team Wilsmore: Daniel Wallwork, Geoffrey Pocock, Nigel Zellar, and Avon Wilsmore. In second place was Team Matthews: Henry Christie, Geoff Holman, Ron Cooper and David Matthews. Placing third was Team Free: Jonathan Free, Viv Wood, Pauline Collett and Martin Doran.



Team Wilsmore



Team Matthews



Team Free