

From the President

Our major event of the year, the Easter Congress, is fast approaching. This is always a great long-weekend of bridge and is enjoyed by all players. Unfortunately, I will miss the Congress this year, but I am sure that it will be a very enjoyable event.

The Club recently held the Browning Cup with a great attendance, with over 50% of the players relatively new to Championship events. The wide variety of players made it a very enjoyable event. I encourage some of those less experienced Browning Cup players to come along to at least one day of the Easter Congress. You will be made to feel welcome by our more experienced members and hopefully you will learn a lot. Always remember that one of the best ways to improve your bridge is to play against better players.



Tony McKinnon

Browning Cup

The **Club Handicap Championship, The Browning Cup** held over two **Tuesdays, 18 and 25 March**. There was a great turn out for the event with 44 pairs participating, and players of all levels of experience, from novice to open, playing against each other. The handicap for this event was determined by players' ABF masterpoint ranking. Prizes were presented by Club president Tony McKinnon. Congratulations to the winners.

With the handicaps applied, in first place and winners of the Cup were Peter Jones and Tony Ramage. In second place were Garry Mullin and Paul Fielding, and in third place were Murray McKay and Neville Walker. Fourth place went to Don Moran and Bob Mitchell, and fifth place went to Veronica Woodward and Mike Gale. Before the handicap was applied, achieving the best results were Cassie Morin and Valerie Isle, followed by Carol Newport and Wendy Harman. Red points were awarded according to the pre-handicap results.



Tony and Tony, with the Cup



Garry and Paul



Neville and Murray



Veronica and Mike



Valerie, Cassie and Tony



Wendy and Carol

Kitchen Duty Roster

The April kitchen duty roster calls for those with surnames beginning with **C, G, I and N** 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.

Events coming up in April

The Club Birthday Party will be celebrated with a red-point event and cake for afternoon tea on **Saturday, 5 April at 1:30 pm**. Winners names will be placed on the Dora Wilson Trophy.

The **SPBC Easter Congress**, proudly sponsored by DFG legal, will take place from **Good Friday, 18 April to Easter Monday, 21 April**. The Welcome Pairs will be held on Friday afternoon, Open and Novice Pairs on Saturday, Swiss Pairs on Sunday, and Open Teams on Monday. The Novice pairs is a great opportunity for less experienced players to join the Congress. This four-day congress is our club's major event of the year. It is always a fantastic congress, so please consider coming along. Entry to the events is through MyABF.

SPBC New Member

Welcome to new member, Judy Canute, whose application to join SPBC was approved by the Management Committee at the March meeting.

Masterpoint Ranking Promotions at the end of February

Congratulations to the SPBC members who have achieved new Masterpoint rankings this past month:

Sue Harding	Graduate Master	Margaret Martin	Bronze Local Master
Carolyn Jones	Graduate Master	Rachel McRae	Silver Local Master
Michael Gale	Club Master	Mark Mullins	Silver Local Master
Graham Rennie	Club Master	Denise Pass	Regional Master
Efram Gamba	Local Master	Kevin Pass	Regional Master
Gail Wray	Local Master	Shane Brown	Bronze State Master
Anne Bannister	Bronze Local Master	Erik Moller	National Master

Parking

There are times when the car park is very full, and all normal bays are occupied. As tempting as it may be, **please do not park in the ACROD parking bays unless you have a permit**, regardless of how full the car park is.

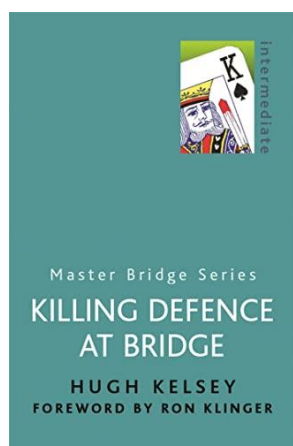
Mobile Phones

A reminder that mobile phones should be either turned off or set to silent when in the playing room. The sound of phones going off, with incoming calls or texts, is very disturbing to other players when they are concentrating on their game.

We understand that there are times when players may be expecting an urgent call. If this is the case the player should inform the Director prior to the start of play. **Please be considerate of other players and turn off your phone or set it to silent.**

More from the Library

Killing Defence at Bridge, by Hugh Kelsey. This book is considered a must-read for intermediate to advanced bridge players and has been praised for its clarity and depth.



With world sales exceeding 100,000 this book is recognised as one of the classics of bridge literature written by one of the foremost analysts of bridge. Virtually every great player throughout the world highly recommends it.

It carries the mark of a genius and was the first in a series of major books written by Hugh Kelsey, who became internationally recognised as a leading authority on the analysis of bridge. He coupled this incisive thinking with a brilliant skill with words and made the most complex techniques in bridge sound simple and easy to grasp.

The book covers the following defensive strategies:

Defensive Bidding Strategies

- **Interference Bids:** Learn when and how to make interference bids to disrupt your opponent's bidding sequence.
- **Double and Redouble:** Master the art of using double and redouble effectively to communicate with your partner and put pressure on opponents.

Card Play Techniques

- **Signals and Discards:** Understand the importance of signalling and discarding correctly to give your partner valuable information.
- **Trump Management:** Discover techniques for managing your trumps to maximize defensive potential.

Squeeze Plays

- **Classic Squeeze:** Learn the mechanics of executing a classic squeeze, where you force an opponent to give up a valuable card.
- **Non-Simultaneous Squeeze:** Understand more complex squeeze plays that don't involve simultaneous pressure on the opponent.

Endplay Strategies

- **Throw-In Plays:** Learn to manoeuvre opponents into winning trick situations where they must lead favourably for your side.
- **Strip and Endplay:** Master the technique of stripping an opponent's exit cards to force them into giving you the advantage.

Additional Features

- **Real-Life Examples:** The book includes numerous examples from actual play to illustrate the techniques discussed.
- **Practice Hands:** There are practice hands for you to try out and improve your defensive play.