

From the President

At the AGM in August, I was pleased to announce that the South Perth Council had committed to replace our aging air conditioning this year. Unfortunately, there have been delays in the process. Funding for the work is still in place, but the awarding of the contract to undertake the work is now scheduled in January. I know the state of our air conditioning is a concern to a number of our members and I will update you on future developments.

On a happier note, I would like to sincerely thank two long standing members of the Tournament Committee who are finishing up on the Committee. Fran Muller has been our Trophies Officer for many years and Alfred Leung has been organising our Inter-Club Teams competition. They have both done an excellent job in these roles.

Tony McKinnon



Kitchen Duty Roster

The October kitchen duty roster calls for those with surnames beginning with **R, F, W and J** to assist with setting up and clearing away the kitchen before and after the tea break. All members (who are able to do so) are requested to assist with kitchen duty when they are rostered on. Many hands make light work, sharing the burden, so it is not an arduous task. If you are unsure what to do, there are notices on the walls in the kitchen with instructions and information on where to find everything you'll need.

Intermediate Spring Pairs

The Intermediate Spring Pairs was held over two Saturdays, 4 and 11 November. Congratulations to the winners, Angelique Morin and Erik Moller. Second place went to Paul Fielding and Garry Mullin, and in third place were Shane Brown and Gabrielle Bastow. Prizes were presented by Club president Tony McKinnon .

Intermediate Spring Pairs winners:



Tony with Erik



Tony with Paul and Garry



Tony with Shane and Gabrielle



Happy Birthday!

Our club Vice-President, Garth Scotford, celebrated his 80th Birthday at SPBC, during and after the Saturday afternoon session on 28 October. Players were treated to a delicious chocolate cake for afternoon tea, and nibbles with drinks after the session. Many happy returns, Garth.

Thank you to Rachel McRae, our House Manager, who came in especially to organise the cake for afternoon tea and to put together the delicious platters for the post-game nibbles.

Garth cuts his birthday cake

Events coming up in late November and December

The **Spring into Summer Tuesday Evening Pairs** is a members-only, two-session red point event that will be held on **21 and 28 November**, with cash prizes (with the amount dependent on numbers). Starts 7:00pm. Entry is \$20. Enter via the red book.

Tickets for the annual **Christmas Party**, to be held on **Sunday 10 December**, are now on sale. Doors open at 12:45 for a welcome drink. Bridge starts at 1:30, followed by a festive celebration of cocktail-style finger food with drinks. This is a members-only event. Cost is \$40 per person – all inclusive.

Bookings by 2 December are essential, so that catering can be arranged, and will be confirmed only on payment. Preferred payment is by bank transfer to the SPBC account. Alternatively, please pay a Director with cash or credit card. Don't forget to bring your ticket to the party – you may be the lucky door-prize winner!

The **Festive Open Pairs** will be held on **22 December**, commencing at 12:30 pm. This is a red-point event, and the cost is normal table money: Members \$7, and visitors \$10. All members and visitors are welcome. Why not don your favourite festive colours and join us for an enjoyable afternoon of bridge!

A final opportunity to get some red points to finish off the year, the **Final Red-point Fling for 2023** will be held on **Saturday, 30 December**. This is a walk-in event, commencing at 1:30pm. The cost is normal table money: Members \$7, and visitors \$10. All members and visitors are welcome.

Lessons for new and intermediate players

If you are a new or intermediate player looking to further develop your bridge knowledge, the upcoming *Next Steps* lessons might be for you:

Common Bidding Mistakes with Fiske Warren, Tuesday morning 14 November, 9.45 – 11.45am

Negative Doubles with Fiske Warren, Tuesday morning 21 November, 9.45 – 11.45am

Fiske: fiskebridge@bigpond.com

Lessons on other topics will be offered from time to time, provided there is sufficient support. If you have a suggestion for a lesson please email Jan Howell, Chair of Education and Membership Committee at janhowell53@gmail.com.

South Perth Declarer

November 2023

Melbourne Cup

The club's annual Melbourne Cup celebration looked like it might have needed to become an occasion for wearing flippers instead of fascinators and finery, when it was discovered early in the morning that the supper-room, kitchen, office, bar, and part of the entry foyer, were ankle-deep in water, courtesy of a broken pipe in the water cooler. Thanks to the speedy action of our treasurer, Shane Brown, who discovered the flood, turned off the water and rounded up some willing helpers; mops and buckets were soon in action, while Management Committee members hunted down, and then awaited the arrival of, a commercial cleaner.



Remarkably, by the time members started arriving at about 11am for the Melbourne Cup luncheon, the water had been pumped out and the area cleaned, leaving only a damp section of carpet as evidence of the flood; and the cleaners, who did a fabulous job of rescuing our day, were on their way home.

With the water crisis behind us, the celebrations started! Sweepstakes were run; the big race was watched, and lunch was able to go ahead in the supper-room as planned. Attendees were treated to a delicious feast of roast chicken, a variety of scrumptious quiches and an array of tasty salads, followed by fresh strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, and ice-cream for dessert. A complimentary drink from the bar and a refreshing fruit punch completed the menu.

With appetites well and truly sated, people adjourned to the playing room for a hat parade, which displayed the elegant hats and headpieces worn by some, as well as the creative skills of members who took the time to make their own cup-inspired headwear and outfits. And finally, the day was completed by an enjoyable session of bridge, where spot-prizes of chocolates were awarded to lucky players throughout the afternoon. A wonderful day was had by all who attended.



Masterpoint Ranking Promotions

Congratulations to the SPBC members who recently achieved new Masterpoint rankings:

Shane Brown	Regional Master	Andrew Palmer	Local Master
Jean Lam	Regional Master	Lenie Vanderbeld	Local Master
Ian Olsen	Regional Master	Karyn Mears	Club master
Jan Taylor	Regional Master	Sandra Noble	Club master
Maggie Gillies	Silver Local Master	John Munut	Graduate Master
Sue McGill	Local Master	Jan Pearson	Graduate Master

System cards

Another gentle reminder ...

The recent intermediate pairs event, saw many players enter this sort of event for the first time – which was fantastic! However, some did not have a system card. While some leeway is given for less experienced players at club events, it is a BAWA requirement that matching system cards are made available *by each member of a partnership* at **any red point event, including any SPBC members-only event**. So please take the time to get one now and be ready for the next event!

Having a system card helps to eliminate a lot of question asking and, hopefully, reduces the incidence of *unauthorised information*. The club has a supply of simple system cards that are ideal for use by players whose system is straightforward. Completing one of these with your partner can be a great way to ensure you have a common understanding of your system and the conventions that you have agreed to play. If you have different agreements with different partners, you will need a system card for each partnership.

If you would like a system card to complete, please ask a Director. If you need help to complete it, there are many members who have cards who would be willing to help!

Recycling

Thank you to members who are supporting our club's recycling program. A reminder that there are some things that we are not able to recycle, and it would be very helpful to the volunteer who looks after this, if the materials brought in for recycling could be sorted before being left in at the club.

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| Bread bag tags | ✓ | Please keep separate from other materials and place in the container |
| Can pull-back tops | ✓ | Please keep separate from other materials and place in the container |
| Plastic lids | ✓ | Please keep separate and place in the container – preferably with the paper or cardboard inserts already removed. |
| Assorted small plastic items (as in the photo) | ✗ | These are not being collected as they cannot be sorted by the recycling machines. Please put these in your rubbish bins at home |
| Metal lids | ✗ | These are not being collected. Please put in your own recycling bins at home |



Small plastic items like these cannot be recycled.