

From the President

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas!

I know there was a major snafu at our Christmas party - vital ingredients for a good Christmas dinner simply ran out. Those who were affected were offered a partial refund which I hope went some way to making up for the disappointment. Despite this, the atmosphere in the room did not seem to suffer so I hope very much that everyone had a great time! Even some of those who had suffered from the food shortage were good enough to advise me that they had enjoyed the party anyway. It goes without saying that the caterer involved will not be engaged for future events at the club.

And now we look forward to a New Year - and I am sure all of the Committee join me in wishing you all a healthy, prosperous and fun bridging year!

Don't miss the January Swiss pairs on Sunday the 4th January, the Australia Day Pairs on, well, the 26th, and if you are eligible, the Mentors in Groups of Three on the 18th.

Jim Willetts

SPBC Christmas Celebration

The Club held its annual Christmas celebration on 14 December 2025. It was wonderful to see members from all levels of experience coming together in the afternoon to play bridge and joining the evening festivities that followed. The event was well attended with 43 pairs playing across two sections, 29 pairs in section A, and 14 pairs in section B. Dave Munro and Bruce Fraser were the N/S winners and Maureen Hughes and Lyndal Steed the E/W winners in section A. Stephen Chang and Tom How were the N/S winners and Lesley Store and Rosalinde Kearsley were the E/W winners in section B. Thank you to those who organised the event, and to the many helpers who made it possible.



Events coming up in late December and January

A **Last Chance Red Point Fling** will be held on **Tuesday, 30 December 2025**, commencing at **12:30 pm**. No need to book. Normal table money.

The **SPBC January Swiss Pairs Congress** will be held on **Sunday, 4 January 2026**, commencing at **9:30 am** Cost is \$40 per person. Entry is through MyABF only. Prizes will include Best pair with <300 MPs and Best pair with <150MPs.

The **SPBC Australia Day Open Pairs** will be held on **Monday, 26 January 2026**, commencing at 12:30 pm. This is a walk-in event, Red-point event, with normal table money. Everyone is welcome.

Mentors in Teams of Three 2026

This event, previously called Masters in Teams of Three, is shared between Melville and South Perth Bridge Clubs. Next year it will be hosted by South Perth, and is moving earlier in the year, to **January 18th, 2026**. Cost is \$20 per player with <150MPs, and there is no charge for the Mentor.

This is a wonderful opportunity for players with < 150 MPs to be mentored by a well-experienced player and for the Mentors to share their bridge wisdom. Start getting your team together now. South Perth members, please contact Jeannie Ravn (jdavn@bigpond.net.au) if you need help to find a mentor.

Masterpoint Ranking Promotions October 2025

Congratulations to the SPBC members who have achieved new Masterpoint rankings at the end of October:

Sophie Bastow	Graduate Master	Jenny Von Roretz	Club Master
Marie Heavens	Club Master	Rosemary Green	Local Master
Rhonda Loxley	Club Master	Pip Brady	Silver Local Master
Jaynie McCagh	Club Master	Gabrielle Bastow	National Master

New members

Welcome to following new members whose applications were approved at the December Management Committee meeting: Norma Norrish, Rosemary Hutchings, Maduraa Muthukumar, Tracey Utting and John Hughes.

First Aid volunteer

The club is seeking a volunteer to be the designated first aider. Preferably, this would be someone who knows or is willing to learn how to use the defibrillator. The main duty would be keeping the first aid box stocked. If you think this is something that you could do, please contact a committee member for more information.

Playing etiquette

There are many things that we do as a matter of course and etiquette that are expected when playing bridge, especially in interclub, state or national events. Sometimes we can become complacent about expected etiquette, especially in the more social environment of club sessions. One of these practices is leaving all the bidding cards on the table until the opening lead has been made. This allows the person on lead to see the bidding and use it to inform their decision about what to lead, without having to remember or ask about who bid what. It also helps players to avoid making a lead out of turn and allows play to commence in an efficient and timely manner. It would be appreciated if all players could leave bidding cards on the table until the opening lead has been made.