

From the President

For many years Jan Howell has guided the club through the many proposals from the City of South Perth for a change of location and has tirelessly represented our club's best interests in many, many meetings and discussions with the City of South Perth. Jan Howell has now stepped down from chairing the Club's Facilities Committee. Many thanks for your efforts, Jan.

Tony McKinnon has now taken over as Chair of our Facilities Committee. Tony and I met with representatives of the City of South Perth to hear about the latest developments in connection with their Challenger Reserve Plan. For now, the Council is only proceeding with the preliminary stages of providing a new pavilion for the use of the cricket and soccer teams. It sounds like this will consume a large proportion of the funds that are currently set aside for Community Development projects in South Perth and therefore moving the bridge club is off the agenda - for now. Ultimately it may still happen, but it is not under consideration at this time. Our focus on the Facilities Committee will therefore shift to making improvements in our current premises.

Following Laurie's remarks in last month's newsletter about paying with MyABF credits, the Committee is considering whether to move to paying for normal sessions with credits instead of tokens. Members may be familiar with this system as used at other clubs. For members it has the advantages of not having to pay for 10 tokens in advance and then remembering to bring them to their sessions. For the Club it has the advantage of not having to count the tokens and then re-bag them for reuse. For the few people who pay by cash this would still remain possible.

Finally, 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 show support for the club. Two members of the Committee are standing down at this meeting, and we really do need to replace them. The club is fortunate in having many helpers willing to put time in to keep things running smoothly. I would like to appeal for some "new blood" to come forward, perhaps some of the less experienced members would be interested. You don't have to be amongst the club's best bridge players to be on the Committee! Please do not hesitate to call me (0409 084 936) if you would like to know anything more about the Committee.

Jim Willetts

Lyndall Steed Club Novice pairs

The **Lyndall Steed Club Novice pairs** (for members with < 100 MPs) was held over two Saturdays, 4 & 11 July. There were two sections: Open and Novice (<100 MPs). The event was well attended, with 25 pairs entering. First place overall went to Claire O'Donovan and Joe Ventner; in second place were Paul Fielding and Garry Mullins; in third place were Mike Gale and Veronica Woodward; and in fourth place were Margaret Martin and Tina Miragliotta. Congratulations to all winners and well done to all who entered!



Lyndall with Claire and Joe



Lyndall with Paul and Garry



Lyndall with Veronica and Mike



Lyndall with Margaret

We were delighted that Lyndall could present the prizes to the winners in person. Lyndall joined SPBC around 2005. She's been an active committee member holding roles on the Education Committee, Tournament Committee and Management Committee. She has been Club Treasurer, and for a good ten years has taken responsibility for easing the transition of new players from bridge lessons into regular bridge at South Perth and at Melville Bridge club.

Events coming up in August and September

The **Club Rookie pairs** (for members with < 25 MPs) will be held on **Saturday, 8 August**, starting at **9:15 am**. Cost is \$10 pp for the session. This event is especially for less experienced players and offers a great opportunity to play for Red Points against similar level players. Eligible members are encouraged to participate. Entry is via MyABF. For players who are not familiar with using MyABF (www.myabf.com.au), please don't hesitate to ask a Director for assistance.

The **Winter Evening Pairs**, an open walk-in event, will be held on **Tuesday, 11 August** at **7:00pm**.

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 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 August kitchen duty roster calls for those with surnames beginning with **B, E, D** and **V** 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 the following new members whose applications to join SPBC were approved by the Management Committee at the July meeting: Carmel Tick, Farida Nagree, Shakir Nagree, Amelia Hardwick, Tricia Hawgood, Shelley Hird and Karen Gatland.

Masterpoint Ranking Promotions May 2026

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

Silvia Clearwater	Club Master	Mark Mullins	State Master
Dianne Heath	Local Master	Steven Kemp	Life Master
Tom Hou	Bronze Local Master	Sue McEntee	Grand master
Paul Fielding	State Master		

Western Australian Women's Team at the ANC in Canberra

During July, the West Australian Women's Team won the Interstate Teams Competition at the ANC in Canberra. Congratulations to Cassie Morin, Cynthia Belonogoff, Kimberley Zhao, Dianne Dwyer, Jane Reynolds, Viv Wood and Alison Stralow (Non-playing Captain). Included within the team of six players were three of our members - Cynthia, Cassie and Kimberley. Hearty congratulations to the team for a wonderful achievement!

Jim Willetts asked Cassie for a description of the win. Here it is, in her own words: *A wonderful team effort and I think perhaps we may have been underdogs. We led all week and on completion of the round-robin stage we finished first, with the NSW women second. We then played a 5-stanza match against NSW (12 boards a round) taking with us a small bonus of 4.66 VP points for coming top of the field.*

The final stanza was nail-biting. We needed a good win, as NSW were closing in on us. On the very last board, Cynthia opened with a pre-emptive weak opening bid of 3S and I'm sitting with 20 points and all the aces minus the King of Spades. With a deep breath and heart pounding I pulled out 6S and behind the closed screens I could hear Cynthia sigh. It made 13 tricks, and on the other table NSW only bid 4S, thus giving us the match and Championship! A wonderful experience with an accomplished team.



Many Happy Returns!

David Dale celebrated his 90th birthday at the club on Wednesday 29 July.

Fellow players were treated to a delicious birthday cake for afternoon tea and were delighted to celebrate David's milestone birthday with him.

Best wishes for David's continued good health and bridging!

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 Green Point session, however with 30% extra points on offer. And as an added inducement I believe there will be one of our club members reaching a very noteworthy milestone and there may be some cake to be had!

Nomination forms for the 2026-27 Committee are available on the noticeboard in the playing area at the club. Please consider seriously nominating for the Committee. We need new people to come forward to serve on the Committee as some members of the current committee are standing down. The continuing success of the Club and the provision of an enjoyable venue for bridge relies on the support of members willing to actively participate in the Club's management.

Notice of Motion forms are also available on the noticeboard in the club house.

Nominations for the Committee and Notices of Motion are both **due by 5 pm on Friday 7 August**.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Tuesday evening session

The Tuesday evening session is struggling. The last time it ran was on 7 July, with only 5 pairs playing. Since then, insufficient players have turned up to make it worthwhile. If you have any interest in continuing this session, then you are urged to support it before the Committee makes the decision to discontinue it.

South Perth Winter Congress

The SPBC Winter Congress was held from 31 July – 2 August. It was a great success, thanks to the hard work of many people and the support from the many players who attended the sessions across the three days. Names and photos of winners will appear in the August newsletter.

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.