

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE TBA – December 2020

The TBA Committee met at the TBA on Tuesday December 8th from 3.30pm.

PARTICIPATING : J Rhodes (Chair), M Gibbs, M Sherlock, S Edler, K Marsden, I Bailey, G Poulton, P Timmins, S Falkingham, J Grosvenor

APOLOGIES : Lynne Cook, Edward Gee

The following matters were discussed :

Christmas Party

Our Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 19th with lunch from 12.00. Please bring a plate of food to share. If you are bringing food that needs to be warmed, please be at the Club by 11.30. The Health Dept have advised that we can help ourselves from share plates provided that :

1. Hands are sanitised on entry
2. Tongs are used
3. There is not a throng around the food table.

Consequently, this year you will have to bring your own tongs with which to serve yourself! If your tongs have any kind of value, I suggest that you label them clearly, as there will be over 70 pairs of tongs in use on that day! The motto for the 2020 Xmas party is Tongs not Throngs!

It is planned that bridge will start at approximately 1.15pm, and is free. Due to our reduced capacity, you will need to book. We will accommodate as many people as we can.

Note: *The party is currently fully booked. If you are booked but unable to attend please email the TBA to cancel your booking. If you are interested in being put on a waiting list in case of cancellations please email the TBA.*

Christmas/New Year opening Hours

We will run a few sessions between Christmas and New Year. The normal schedule of sessions will run up to and including Tuesday 22nd December and will resume starting on Saturday January 2nd. The following sessions will be run during the intervening period:

Wednesday Dec 23 rd	10:00am
Thursday Dec 24 th	9.30am
Monday Dec 28 th	10:00am
Monday Dec 28 th	7.30pm
Wednesday Dec 30 th	10.00am
Thursday Dec 31 st	9.30am

Online Bridge

The Tasmania Wide Pairs, which is played on Wednesday nights from 7.15 pm has had a successful trial and will continue to be run on Wednesday evenings. This is a red master point. The intent from the ABF was that these are state events. We sought clarification from the ABF as to whether a Tasmanian player can invite an interstate player to be their partner. The ABF have confirmed that this is allowable.

Colony 47 Giving Tree Closes on December 16th

As usual, the TBA is supporting Colony 47, a charity supporting the homeless in Hobart at Christmas time. Members are asked to bring appropriate gifts and place them under our tree.

Unlike in previous years, members are asked to bring their gifts unwrapped so they can be sanitised (!) and then wrapped by Colony 47.

Gifts which have been requested by Colony 47 are for ADULT Males and Females, TEENS – male and female and 9-12 year old boys and girls as well as Non Perishable FOOD or Hamper items. They especially like practical gifts such as socks, undies, toiletries etc.

Bridge Etiquette

The TBA has a zero tolerance policy for rude or bullying behaviours at the tables. As advised last month, players must remember that courteous behaviour toward one another is a mandated requirement in bridge, and is just as important as following suit, or making a lawful bid.

Law 74 of the Laws of Bridge states:

- 1. A player should maintain a courteous attitude at all times***
- 2. A player should carefully avoid any remark or extraneous action that might cause embarrassment to another player or might interfere with their enjoyment of the game.***

Please do all you can to make all of our members feel welcome at the Club, and remember to call the Director if you feel that an uncourteous attitude is being displayed at the table.

The TBA regards the right of players to enjoy their session of bridge as very important, and players engaging in rude behaviour may be required to show cause as to why they should not be suspended from the club.

Social Bridge

Social bridge has successfully commenced and will continue to be held on the second Sunday of the month at 1.15pm. Sue Falkingham will be directing and players are encouraged to bring a plate of food to share. Members are able to bring a visitor to participate, but all visitors must sign the COVID-19 Safety Plan undertaking, and comply with COVID-19 Safety Plan requirements. Normal table money is payable.

Sunday Swiss – Last Sunday of the Month

Due to the popularity of the Swiss Pairs format amongst all levels of players, the TBA will introduce a regular Sunday Swiss pairs event to be held on the last Sunday of each month. The event will run all day, with people bringing their own lunch. These will be ideal for newer players wanting to get familiar with the Swiss Pairs format before the Tasmanian Gold Swiss Pairs in April 2021. The first event will commence at 9.30am on Sunday January 31st

New Chairs

Five of each of the two most popular chairs have been purchased and are available for members who need additional support when sitting. Look out for them and move them to a suitable location for you.

Thank you all Volunteers

On behalf of the TBA Committee I would like to thank everyone who has done something for our Club in 2020. The smooth running of the club not only relies on people who are prepared to join the Management Committee, but to all those others who undertake the various tasks required to make our club a success.

Merry Christmas Everyone

If I don't get to see you personally before Christmas, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to a better (and more predictable!) 2021.

Julie Rhodes
President, TBA

December 2020