

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE TBA – February 2022

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

PARTICIPATING : J Rhodes (Chair), M Gibbs, S Edler, I Bailey, R Giles, S Falkingham, K Marsden, E Gee.

The following matters were discussed :

Tasmanian Festival of Bridge

Our annual premier bridge event kicks off in Launceston on March 24th and runs for four days – 2 x two day events. I encourage you all to try to participate in all or some of these events. There are restricted as well as open events, and placing well in a restricted event can lead to sponsorship by the ABF to participate in the Restricted Butler competition at the Australian National Championships in Adelaide in July. Time to plan a weekend in Lonny and catch up with those old Launceston friends. If you would like to arrange billeted accommodation contact the convenor of the event via MyABF.

Eating at Tables

It is a long standing policy of the TBA that people do not eat at the card tables unless it is part of a special event, or on Tuesdays, when lunch is a formal part of the day. Many members do not wish to sit at tables whilst others are eating, especially now as it involves the extended removal of masks. Eating at the card tables also increases the risk of food falling on the tablecloths or carpet underneath the tables as well as getting on the cards. However, we appreciate that some members need or would like to eat whilst they are at bridge. Consequently we have established an "eating" table near the comfortable chairs. We would appreciate members using this table to eat food rather than at the regular playing tables. Of course, if we are able to build our club extension, there will be a comfortable break out area where dining. and discussions will be actively encouraged!

Wednesday Night Online Bridge

This red masterpoint event has now switched from BBO to Real Bridge which means you can see and talk with your opponents, more like "real" bridge! I encourage everyone to have a go at using this platform. It is quite easy to use, and you will soon feel comfortable with it once you have used it a couple of times. You will need to enter the event via MyABF. Feel free to ask someone at the club to help you get started with MyABF or Real Bridge if you need help. The TBA is also running three "taster" sessions to introduce players to the RealBridge platform (see the website for details).

TBA participation at the ANC.

At the annual State meeting in October last year, it was decided to review Tasmania's participation at the ANC, as considerable funds are spent providing subsidies to participating state representatives each year. Each club was asked to survey their members with the results to be discussed at a special state meeting to be held during the TFoB in Launceston in March. Feedback from TBA members was overwhelmingly positive, and I would like to thank all those who wrote to the Committee with their thoughts on the matter. The TBA will now forward a summary of the feedback received from our members to the other club representatives so that they are informed of our position prior to the March meeting.

Our club's official position is that we will continue to participate in the ANC. Some suggestions were received pertaining to selection processes and team training, and these matter will be placed on the agenda for next year's State meeting.

Nominate for a Team!

Nominations are now open for participation in the Tasmanian Open, Women's and Senior's Teams at the ANC in Adelaide in July. Selection is based on your performances over the last twelve months, but you must nominate before the closing date in mid March to be considered. There are details on the Notice Board at the TBA.

Bridge Weekends Away are Back!

Put this one in your diary! Over the weekend of August 6th and 7th the TBA will be conducting a new event called the Eastcoaster Pairs. It will be held at the beautiful Eastcoaster Resort in Orford. There will be two sessions on the Saturday and one on the Sunday with lunch and dinner on the Saturday included in the entry fee. Full details will be available soon.

AGM – 2022

The AGM coming up on March 19th 2022. The meeting will commence at 12 noon followed by lunch (Please bring a plate of food to share). here will be FREE bridge after that for anyone who attended the AGM. Persons not attending the AGM but wishing to play will be charged normal table money.

All committee positions will be declared vacant at the meeting so if you would like to stand for a committee or executive position, now is the time to think about it. Nominations will close on March 9th, and the nomination forms will be available from early February.

I know that we have many talented and capable people out there in our membership ranks. If you are a bridge beginner, please think about nominating for a position on the TBA management committee. Experience with the game is not a prerequisite for being able to make a contribution – the main requirement is being willing to make a positive contribution to the club.

There is also the opportunity to nominate for a volunteer position at the club – without the contribution of our volunteers, the TBA cannot function. Nomination Forms for the committee and for volunteer positions can be found next to the collection box at the North end of the playing area.

I am required by the Constitution to stand down in March but will be staying on the Committee (also as required by the Constitution) as the ex President, to assist the new incumbent.

If you think you could make a contribution, please think about nominating for a position.

Julie Rhodes
President, TBA
February 2022