

ILLAWARRA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting to be held on 30th May 2026 at 10 am in the IBA Hall

1. Welcome by Marie Pickering
2. Attendees : Marie Pickering, Kaye Hart, Don Clark, Grant Cowen, Dave Gallagher, Carolyn Githens, Cheryl Waters, Barbara Overington, Ngaire Meehan, Dave Havyatt
3. Apologies : Cath Gregory, Julie Cowling
4. Minutes of the last committee meeting

Moved by Carolyn Githens that the minutes of the last committee meeting be accepted seconded Dave Gallagher – passed unanimously.

5. Business arising from the previous meetings

Action 2025/35 Dave Havyatt and Cheryl Waters to develop a structure for the Dropbox with input from Kaye Hart. On-going.

Action 2026/1: Marie Pickering and Carolyn Githens to compare the features of myABF to those offered by Pianola. Completed. Carolyn Githens and Marie Pickering have researched myABF and found that it will be at least 18 months before myABF will match the features of Pianola so the club will continue to use Pianola.

Kaye Hart to send a Pianola message to all members giving Jane Johnson's correct contact details. Completed.

Action 2026/7: Kaye Hart to write a thank you letter to Chris for all her hard work on the committee and as publicity officer. Completed.

Action 2026/8: Kaye Hart to work with Rob Kinloch to ensure that the updated Code of Conduct is displayed in the Hall. Completed by Dave Havyatt.

Action 2026/9: The Secretary to ask Lorna O'Leary to liaise with Council about the changes to the wiring. Completed with Dave Havyatt's help.

Action 2026/10: Dave Havyatt to provide information about a new, larger tv. Waiting until the changes in wiring have been approved by the Council.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Correspondence In

E-mail 17th April 2026 from Dave Havyatt to Lorna O'Leary detailing the changes to wiring that we need to carrying out in the hall for her to pass onto the council.

E-mail 18th April 2026 from Dave Havyatt regarding the survey on new club sessions.

E-mail 30th April 2026 from Carolyn Githens asking for agreement to purchase new dishwasher..

E-mail 20th May 2026 from Marie Pickering and Cath Gregory with the Convenor's report for the 2026Swiss Pairs Congress.

E-mail 22nd May 2026 from Barb Overington change of e-mail address for Brian

Hazell.

E-mail 22nd May 2026 from Dave Havyatt to IBA members alerting them to the ABF knock out teams competition.

E-mail 25th May 2026 from Dave Havyatt to NSWBridge requesting dates for the 2027 IBA Congresses. Waiting for a response from Sydney Bridge Centre for the 13th February date. Grant Cowen has checked with Kembla Grange racecourse, and the February dates are OK for 2027, but the June dates are still provisional.

6.2 Correspondence out

Letter, 4th May 2026, to Chris Yates thanking her for her work for the IBA. Marie Pickering asked that a copy of this letter be circulated to all members of the Management Committee so that they could appreciate Chris' work for the IBA.

6.3 Business arising from the correspondence

7 Reports to the Committee

7.1 Financial Report

The Financial report is included below.

7.2 Business arising from the Financial Report

7.3 Assistant Secretary's report

We've had 4 enquiries regarding booking our Hall and in each case they have been moved onto Eddie next door to handle (not suitable functions for our hall)

In early February WCC advised they are working on a revised Licence Template for all Community Facilities and will be in touch when that is complete to begin the renewal process.

During late February WCC booked their Annual Site Inspection requesting a number of things including their usual Quarterly Asset Inspection Checklist, Chemical register, Booking procedure documentation and Asset Registration.

This request created a flurry of searching activity at our end and having help from others was much appreciated.

As it turned out it was quite simple given the fact that after a number of calls WCC apologised for any confusion as we do not hold an Asset Register and the Licence agreement specifically excludes it.

The request by WCC for the various reports was a good opportunity to create a revised Booking Procedure making it very simple to know exactly what to do.

The Inspection also ensured that the contents of the closet in the foyer where the fire equipment is stored complied with Australian standards.

The area where the fire hose is must be devoid of anything that is not fire equipment. We made the appropriate changes and we are now compliant.

Sent the completed Qrtly Asset Inspection Checklist for Jan, Feb and March the after doing the physical checks with Don Clark in his new role assisting me.
We noted a couple of things needed to be fixed by WCC (guttering issue at back of clubhouse and a sensor light at the back not working)

During March WCC requested I check the expiry dates on our defibrillator for the batteries and the pads. (expire in 2029)

3rd quarter Number of Users for Jan, Feb and March 2026 was 3389

A substantial increase on the number of people who came to bridge for the same period in 2025 of 3006.

Lorna

7.4 IBAND Report

Enjoyable bridge afternoons at Thirroul

5 – 7 tables on Wednesday

An average of 9 tables on Friday.

Sadly, there have been some issues with the security of the hall on the days that I have not been able to run the sessions.

With this in mind, I have returned the extra set of keys to TRIPS.

Information for the organiser of the Chris Diment Congress:

IBAND has:

10 large tables

15 bridge cloths

22 Side tables

49 bidding boxes

Barb Overington

7.5 Tournament Committee Report

Correspondence from NSWBridge regarding the State-Wide Pairs and the minutes of the meeting held on 18th April are included below. The State-Wide Pairs will be included in the calendar and the \$5 entry fee will be covered by the club as covered by the motion passed at the Management Committee meeting held on the 11th April 2026. Dave Havyatt will talk to the Tournament Committee about using myABF and Pianola for results as it would include all club venues – but is it worth the extra effort. In addition, Dave will raise with the Tournament Committee the use of the Bridgemate App and a survey of players on whether scores for each hand should be shown on the Bridgemate screens. This latter recommendation was made in order to speed up play.

7.6 Congress Convenor's Report

The Convenor's report for the Swiss Pairs Congress is included below. Marie Pickering and Jeff Carberry went to Kembla Grange racecourse to check the venue. Both were happy with the venue but continued use of this venue may need for the entry fees to be increased.

7.7 Web Site Report - Cheryl Waters was thanked for all her work with the website.

7.8 Business Plan Report – still waiting for information from Wollongong Council.

7.9 Publicity Report – Marie Pickering raised finding a replacement Publicity Officer. It was agreed that Marie would approach Erica Grey about filling this vacancy before advertising for volunteers on Pianola.

7.10 Newsletter Editor's Report - nothing to report but it was noted that the certificates for State Wide competitions were handed out on Wednesday 27th April.

7.11 Any other Reports

7.12 Acceptance of Reports – Moved Dave Havyatt, seconded Carolyn Githens passed unanimously.

8. General Business

Survey results for an extra session were tabled (attached below). Monday was the most popular. Dave Havyatt recommended an afternoon session but it was noted that Monday night on-line may be affected and that this needed to be monitored. The Committee approved a Monday afternoon session but on the basis that it is reviewed on a monthly basis to determine if it should be continued.

Ian Lisle will be holding free lessons and mentoring of partnerships for players from supervised play and those new to bridge in June and July. Players in these sessions will be asked to suggest a suitable gift for Ian. The dates for the first group of these lessons will be the 20th, 27th, and 4th July. The next set of dates need revising as they clash with a Steve Geddes lesson.

Ngaire Meehan was thanked for updating the honour board but asked for further assistance as to which events should be included. It was agreed that all Novice events be highlighted, events listed as Major Events in the club calendar, under 100 Master Points, State-Wide results and Australia-wide successes.

The difficulties and mistakes associated with the preparation of the calendar were discussed. One approach to simplify the calendar was to remove contact details from the printed version and to encourage members to use Pianola instead. Dave Havyatt will share with members the use of Pianola and if this approach is successful the printed contact details will be removed from the calendar. It was also noted that an updated format should be used with the printed version. Dave Havyatt has a spreadsheet for 2027 that could be loaded into the on-line calendar as a trial for the new format. The Tournament Committee would need to work on the timing of events to ensure that most players are available. So, although additional input would still be required it would reduce Malcolm Kerr's role and that of other interested parties.

The Birthday Party was successful with 17 tables. In future all eating will be in the APA hall. The food bought by members needs to be better co-ordinated as too many plates of sandwiches were bought. A suggestion that the details of the savoury food be included in the list so that the number of any one dish can be controlled. The Christmas party, 19th December, will use this approach.

The State Teams event, but not the GNOT, will have a new format. There will be three categories, Open, less than Grand, less than National and there be no zone final only a Regional Final. First in each category will compete in the State Final but there may be extra finalists depending on the number of competitors in the Regional Final. The Regional Final will be held the 26th and 27th September at the IBA, the APA Hall has also been booked. Barbara Overington has been asked to see if the IBAND venue is available for a Saturday afternoon session on the 26th September and if she is available to direct. Dave Havyatt will continue to encourage IBA teams to participate in the ABF Knock-out teams event.

Ngair Meehan reported on supply of a new water machine that was expensive. The existing machine could be cleaned for \$88 and water containers cost \$13 each. It was decided that the existing machine would be kept and a sign that it was tap water and please turn off the tap would be prepared by Kaye Hart. It was noted that members who wanted to drink filtered water would then know to bring their own.

There was a note in the Suggestion box noting that they loved the fact that on Wednesday, 20th May, that they played everybody and only 2 boards per table. Also, they loved the timer being used at the first GNOT session.

Meeting Closed 11:57am

9. New Members

There were no new members.

Kaye Hart, Secretary Illawarra Bridge Association Inc.

Illawarra Bridge Association **Balance Sheet**

<u>Current Assets</u>	<u>April/May 2026</u>	<u>February/March 2026</u>
E-Saver Account - CUA	\$ 13,469.74	\$ 17,780.33
Prime Access Bank A/c Chq	\$ 99.26	\$ 28.26
Property Account	\$ 7,939.56	\$ 7,709.56
Term Deposit	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Petty Cash	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Interest Receivable		
Total Current Assets	\$ 221,808.56	\$ 225,818.15

Illawarra Bridge Association Inc - Profit & Loss Oct to May

	31-Oct	30-Nov	31-Dec	31-Jan	28-Feb	31-Mar	30-Apr	31-May	Total
Income									
Table Fees - Figtree & Thirroul	\$6,213	\$6,285	\$5,302	\$4,420	\$6,049	\$5,934	\$5,904	\$5,959	\$46,065.91
Supper Income		\$556	\$387	\$20	\$378		\$550	\$110	\$2,000.45
Cards / Bidding Pads/Books	\$14	\$27	\$34						\$74.00
Congresses					\$110	\$6,694			\$6,803.83
Donations /Grants/Sponsorship		\$1,230	\$410						\$1,640.00
Hall Hire	\$115	\$115		\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$805.00
Interest	\$3,043	\$17	\$13	\$11	\$9	\$19	\$30		\$3,142.01
Lessons / Tutorials					\$900	\$900		\$41	\$1,840.50
Memberships	\$110	\$50		\$50	\$250	\$3,350	\$6,645		\$10,455.00
Special Events		\$390	\$720				\$172	\$600	\$1,881.76
Sundry Income					\$30	\$188			\$218.45
Total Received	\$9,495	\$8,670	\$6,865	\$4,616	\$7,841	\$17,201	\$13,415	\$6,824	\$74,926.91
Total Income	\$9,495	\$8,670	\$6,865	\$4,616	\$7,841	\$17,201	\$13,415	\$6,824	\$74,926.91
Expenditure									
Accounting									\$0.00
Advertising			\$1,097						\$1,097.29
Affiliation Fees -ABF							\$7,501		\$7,501.44
Affiliation Fees - NSWBA	\$342		\$5,400						\$5,742.00
ABF - Nationwide Pairs									\$0.00
Bank Fees									\$0.00
Bathroom & Kitchen Supplies		\$121	\$135	\$157		\$599	\$165	\$5,662	\$6,839.48
Bridge Supplies	\$60	192.61	\$232		\$605	\$475	\$91	\$943	\$2,598.45
Cleaning	\$361	\$935	\$361	\$361	\$361	\$361	\$361	\$361	\$3,458.62
Computing			\$33						\$33.25

Congresses					\$7,507			\$287	\$7,793.56
Directors Fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500		\$1,000	\$500	\$4,000.00
Directors Training/Registration									\$0.00
Donations		\$950	\$410						\$1,360.00
Electricity	\$698			\$888			\$1,128		\$2,713.98
Events	\$220	\$450	\$610			\$36	\$711	\$744	\$2,770.57
Insurance		\$815							\$815.00
Lessons						\$25			\$25.00
Library Expenses								\$110	\$110.00
Masterpoints	\$2,514	\$109	\$514		\$292	\$371			\$3,800.05
Pianola						\$2,166			\$2,166.00
Prizes			\$40	\$40					\$80.00
Printing & Stationery	\$179	\$195	\$188			\$1,202	\$511	\$222	\$2,496.71
Real Bridge Expenses	\$99	\$183		\$150		\$82		\$184	\$698.44
Refreshments	\$426	\$626	\$711	\$115	\$144	\$119	\$119		\$2,258.07
Repairs & Maintenance			\$1,599	\$133					\$1,731.95
Security	\$677	\$477	\$527	\$77	\$772	\$677	\$477	\$477	\$4,160.83
Suppers	\$759	\$478	\$517	\$10	\$930		\$902	\$864	\$4,459.20
Sundries	\$975	\$297	\$500		\$184			\$250	\$2,206.13
Telephone/Utilities	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$920.00
Thirroul - Hall Hire		\$880				\$1,200			\$2,080.00
Thirroul - Expenses	\$67	\$100	\$532	\$304	\$293		\$471		\$1,767.62
Transfer to MyABF					\$310	\$50		\$50	\$410.00
Total Outgoings	\$7,991	\$7,424	\$14,021	\$2,849	\$12,012	\$7,478	\$13,552	\$10,768	\$76,094
Total Expenses	\$7,991	\$7,424	\$14,021	\$2,849	\$12,012	\$7,478	\$13,552	\$10,768	\$76,093.64
Profit/(Loss)	\$1,503.98	\$1,245.39	(\$7,155.75)	\$1,766.89	(\$4,170.56)	\$9,722.91	(\$136.37)	(\$3,943.22)	(\$1,166.73)



**An invitation to the 2026 Bridge NSW State-Wide Pairs
1-7 August 2026**

Dear Marie,

I have recently taken over the running of the NSW State-Wide Pairs from Warren Lazer, and I invite your club to take part in this year's event.

The SWP is a single-session event, played face-to-face in clubs in the first week of August. The club organiser will receive all relevant instructions by email a few weeks prior to the event.

For those clubs that have not previously competed, here's a quick synopsis:

- The event may be run anytime in the week from 1-7 August.
- Only face-to-face sessions are permitted – no online sessions regardless of platform.
- There is no need to disrupt your normal duplicate pairs sessions, as the State-Wide Pairs can be included as a normal session. Casual (non-competing) pairs can be accommodated, so you do not have to turn away pairs who don't wish to participate.
- Dealing files and hand records will be emailed to your designated dealer. The hand records include an analysis of all the hands played, to be distributed to the players after the game.
- The event is matchpointed across the state after the results from all participating clubs have been received.
- Cash prizes will be awarded, as well as gift vouchers, and certificates for the winners in each club. Prizes are also awarded in the divisions of Under 25, Under 50 and Under 100 masterpoints, as of 30th June 2026.
- Red masterpoints are issued at Congress B4 level. We will process the red points for the event, but you are welcome to also award normal club green points for your session.

The entry fee will remain at \$10 per pair (\$5 per player). Results, prizes and certificates will be sent to all clubs as soon as possible after the event, and the results will be posted on the BNSW web site.

You can register your club via the online form at <https://australianbridge.com/entries>. Further instructions are available at the [web site](#), and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. You can reach me by responding to this email (swp@australianbridge.com), or ring me on 0412 335 840 (after midday, unless it is urgent).

Brad Coles

2026 State-Wide Pairs Tournament Organiser

Email: swp@australianbridge.com

Web site: <https://australianbridge.com/swp>

Tournament Committee Illawarra Bridge Association		MINUTES OF MEETING			
Location: Figtree Community Hall		Date:	Saturday, 18 April 2026		
		Time:	10.30 am		
PRESENT		Stuart Cutsforth, Renate La Marra, Dave Havyatt, Rob Kinloch, Grant Cowen			
APOLOGIES		Liz Cusack Jeff Carberry,			
APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING		moved: Rob		seconded: Dave	
1	BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING				
1.1	Protocol for data base management on 3 IBA computers	Action: Dave	ongoing		
1.2	Day on time for extra weekly Bridge session - Dave sent out a survey via the Newsletter				
	feedback at next meeting		ongoing		
1.3	IBA Disciplinary & Ethics Regulations - approved by MC with minor changes		complete		
1.4	as above		complete		
1.5	Distribute form for members to sign that they have read above regulations - not required		complete		
1.6	IBA Swiss Pairs and Chris Diment congress - find new venue see item 3.1, 3.2		complete		
	see Item 3.1 and 3.2				
2	CORRESPONDENCE				
2.1	Letter received from Andrew Smith asking for another Director to be trained to help on Tuesdays				
	A few members will be approached. Dave suggested that we could separate the directors task in 2				
	with a person doing the floor work and someone else the required computer setup function				
	Make announcement at sessions that we need more directors				Action Directors
	Inform Andrew of the discussion outcome.				Action Renate
2.2	Letter from David Higgins re Elimination of Sit-outs				
	Inform David that we are monitoring the situation for further development on technologies that could assist				
	to bring this about.				Action Renate
3	IBA CONGRESSES				
3.1	IBA Swiss Pairs	new venue found and decision made that it will be a 2 day event			
3.2	Chris Diment Congress	to be held at new venue - Port Kembla Racecourse			
3.3	Directors' Report for Congresses	report for Swiss Pairs		Action Jeff	
3.4	Application for Next years congresses	opens in July			
4	UPCOMING EVENTS (2 MONTHS IN ADVANCE)				
4.1	Board Generation	up-to-date till end of July	4.3 Entry Sheets	up to date	
4.2	Dealing roster	ensure Jeff can deal boards for IBA + Wed teams close together			Action Rob
5	REVIEW OF IBA EVENTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS				
5.1	Supplementary Regs for Easter Egglectic completed by Dave. He is drafting regs for Team Championships				Dave
6	IBA WEBSITE/CALENDAR		none		
7	CALENDAR ITEMS		now to be collected in a separate file		
8	GENERAL BUSINESS				
8.1	Directors' Monthly Law Reminder, leave copy on desk and send copy to Renate				Action Jeff
	topic for May same as April - Unauthorized Information				
8.2	Renate to prepare a questionnaire for each Law topic				Action Renate
8.3	Directors' Meeting bi-monthly - chairperson Dave Havyatt				Action Dave
8.4	Stuart and Renate away till 20 August. Dave Havyatt temp chairperson				Action Dave
9	MEETING CLOSE		11.15 am		
10	NEXT MEETING		Saturday, 23 May 2026		

Illawarra Bridge Association Swiss Pairs Event 2026 Convenor Report

The Illawarra Bridge Association (Club No. 2105) conducted the IBA Swiss Pairs on 15 February 2026. The event comprised two sessions with 32 tables. A total of 303.75 masterpoints were awarded.

Overall Pair Winners

1st: Barry Dalsto & Freddie Zulfiqar (Parramatta Bridge Club)

2nd: Maeve Doyle & Stuart Schon (George's River Bridge Club)

3rd: Stephen Brell and Ruth Neild (Illawarra Bridge Association)

Intermediate Pair Winners

1st: David Rieser & Michael Green (North Shore Bridge Club)

Novice Pair Winners

1st: Julie Carbonara & Judy Sheehan (Kiama Bridge Club)

Super Novice Winners: Kirsten Van Den Berg & Murray Colderick (Peninsula Bridge Club).

Best Local Placing (not having received a prize already):

Helen and Paul Lavings

Overall feedback received was very positive, with many attendees describing the event as enjoyable, welcoming and well organised, with several specifically thanking the organisers and directors for how smoothly the day ran. Unfortunately, The Builders Club is no longer able to accommodate us for our Chris Diment Congress on 13th and 14th June. We are now looking for an alternative venue. A big thank you to Jeff and Rob our directors for the excellent job done on the day. We also extend our thanks to all our members who volunteered for all the little and big jobs that needed to be done long before the day, as well as assisting in the setting up and returning of equipment. Hiring a van for carrying the equipment to and from Thirroul, Figtree and The Builders Club made a significant difference. Thanks to Don for organising and doing those trips.

Cath Gregory (Convenor)

Additional Session at Figtree

Background

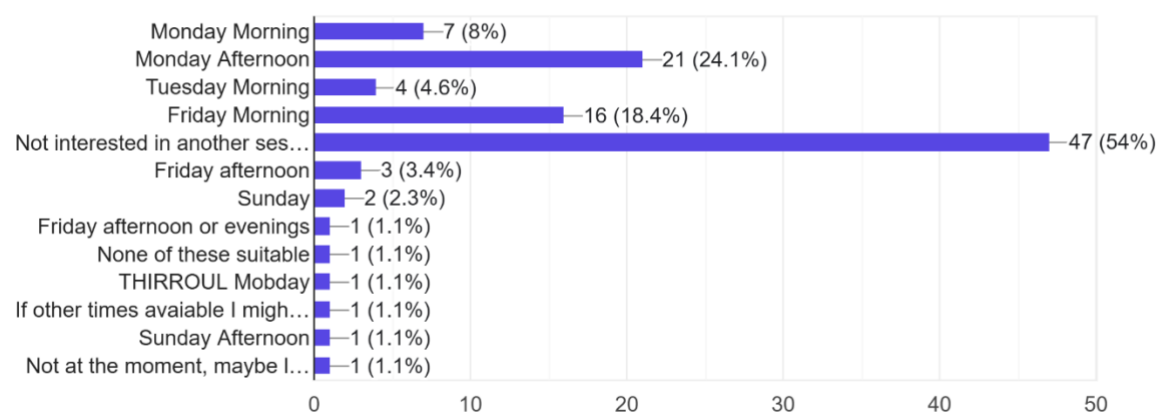
At our peak season where we were getting 18 or so tables on Saturday, Jeff Carberry suggested we play an extra session to take pressure off Saturday. The MC requested I do a survey of members.

Member Survey

87 responses were received to the survey. 47 participants (54%) expressed no interest in an additional session, while a further 11 participants indicated an interest at different times to those proposed in the survey.

Would you be likely to play at another session at Figtree if it was held at the following times?

87 responses



Monday afternoon and Friday Morning were the two most popular sessions nominated. Only seven respondents said they would discontinue playing an existing session if an alternative was offered: two Thursday morning and one each for Friday PM, Wednesday morning, Tuesday afternoon and Saturday afternoon. Only one of the players expressing an interest in Monday morning said they would discontinue an existing session (Tuesday afternoon).

Recommendation

21 people would constitute a 6-table event. As the prospective Director my intention would be to always attend as a non-playing Director and be available as a partner for walk-ins (or play with my partner who I surrender to walk-ins). I recommend we commence an ordinary duplicate session on Monday afternoon at Figtree on a three-month trial basis. If the session is sustaining 6 or more tables at the conclusion of the six months the session should continue.

Dave Havyatt 22 May 2026