

ILLAWARRA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION INC.

Notes from the Management Committee Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 9:30 am in the IBA Hall

1. Welcome
2. Attendees; Barb Overington, Dave Havyatt, Cheryl Waters, Marie Pickering, Grant Cowen, Rob Kinloch (for part of the meeting), Julie Cowling, Carolyn Githens, Kaye Hart
3. Apologies; Cath Gregory, Don Clark, Dave Gallagher, Ngaire Meehan
4. Minutes of the last committee meeting; Motion: That the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026 be accepted. Moved Dave Havyatt, seconded Grant Cowen – passed unanimously.
5. Business arising from the previous meetings
  - Action 2025/34** Cath Gregory and Marie Pickering to approach the Master Builders club about complaints made by players at the 2025 congresses. On-going an appointment was made but cancelled by the club but a new appointment has been made. Completed
  - Action 2025/35** Dave Havyatt and Cheryl Waters to develop a structure for the DropBox with input from Kaye Hart. Completed except that editing of education files is still On-going.
  - Action 2026/1:** Marie Pickering and Carolyn Githens to compare the features of myABF to those offered by Pianola. On-going
  - Action 2026/2:** Kaye Hart to provide feedback on the zero-tolerance document to the Tournament Committee. Completed.
  - Action 2026/3:** Kaye Hart to ask Lorna O’Leary to discuss the timing of the licence renewal with her council liaison officer. Completed.
  - Action 2026/4:** Marie Pickering to supply a list of the Congress Convenors responsibilities to Cath Gregory. Completed Marie Pickering has now created a file with all the information that Congress Convenors need.
  - Action 2026/5:** All members of the Management Committee should obtain a free Dropbox account. In addition, members should have reviewed the organisation of the DropBox in the areas covered by their responsibilities. Completed for those who require access to the DropBox.

The Management Committee referred to the Tournament Committee the proposal that the Swiss Pairs Congress should be a two-day Congress, if so, the structure of the Congress (pairs and teams etc.) and also as the 2027 Queensland Congress runs until February 6<sup>th</sup>, should the congress for 2027 return to the September date. Completed.

Ngaire Meehan has agreed to look after the Honour Boards and has been asked to investigate the supply of filtered water to the club premises. Completed.

- Action 2026/6:** Kaye Hart to contact the Treasurer of the Director’s Association to find out if it is possible to have a club membership to cover all the directors and a favourable fee. Completed.

## 6. Correspondence

### 6.1 Correspondence In

E-mail 2<sup>nd</sup> February from Lorna O'Leary providing a response to the request for more information about the licence renewal timetable. The Council advised that the process was currently under review and the IBA would be advised when this had been finalised.

E-mail 5<sup>th</sup> February from Jill MacRae requesting a copy of the Welcome to the IBA for use with upcoming lessons. Completed.

E-mail 11<sup>th</sup> February from Barb Overington requesting advice Anne McNamara's membership status. Completed.

E-mail 12<sup>th</sup> February from Carolyn Githens handling Barb Overington's request for information about Anne McNamara's membership.

E-mail 12<sup>th</sup> February requesting to hire the hall by the Illawarra Steelers.

E-mail 13<sup>th</sup> February from Barb Overington noting that Wayne Hunt's and Jane Johnson's mobile numbers in the 2026 diary are the same. **Action 2026/7:** Kaye Hart to send a Pianola message to all members giving Jane Johnson's correct contact details.

E-mail 13<sup>th</sup> February that Lorna O'Leary was able to provide a key for the IBA hall to Don Clark.

E-mail 15<sup>th</sup> February from Carolyn Githens that she had responded to e-mails received on the Admin account from Chris Huddle and Ross Stuart .

E-mail 17<sup>th</sup> February from Marie Pickering noting amendments to the Calendar for April.

E-mail 28<sup>th</sup> February from Marie Pickering noting that the Master Builders Club had cancelled the booking for the Chris Diment Congress.

E-mail 9<sup>th</sup> March noting that the next physical inspection of the IBA Hall will be undertaken on the 21<sup>st</sup> April.

E-mail 12<sup>th</sup> March from Council and Lorna O'Leary noting that for the IBA hall there is no asset register listed in the licence agreement with Council (this is not the case for other Council facilities).

E-mail 16<sup>th</sup> March from Lorna O'Leary that after her third follow up there is an official response that the line marking we have requested in our no parking area at the beginning of the footpath (and hopefully on the footpath too) hasn't been forgotten and will happen sometime in the future. That's the progress.

E-mail 17<sup>th</sup> March from Carolyn Githens to Therese Nichols explaining the discrepancy in her myABF account.

E-mails 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> March from Carolyn Githens giving details of new members.

E-mails on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> April between Marie Pickering and the Kembla Grange staff about booking their facility for the Chris Diment Congress.

E-mail 28<sup>th</sup> March providing notes of the December Ethics Committee meeting to members of the Management Committee.

E-mail 31<sup>st</sup> March from Rob Kinloch providing the final Tournament Regulations for discussion at the next Management Committee meeting.

E-mail 31<sup>st</sup> March from Kembla Grange staff that the room for the Congress can be set up between 2 and 3 on Friday afternoon at no additional cost.

## 6.2 Correspondence out

E-mail 2nd February requesting that Lorna O'Leary contact Council about the licence renewal process.

E-mail 2<sup>nd</sup> February to the Australian Director's association requesting that they consider a club membership rate for their Association.

E-mail 12<sup>th</sup> February to Tournament Committee providing information from the Management Committee meeting and the procedure for setting up a DropBox account.

E-mail 13<sup>th</sup> February advising the Illawarra Steelers that our hall was not available for hire on Tuesday evenings.

E-mail 17<sup>th</sup> February providing the procedure to obtain a free DropBox to Lorna O'Leary.

12<sup>th</sup> March Numerous e-mails between Kaye and Lorna O'Neill and the Council to ascertain what assets the Council needed to inspect as part of the Quarterly Inspection.

## 6.3 Business arising from the correspondence

## 7 Reports to the Committee

### 7.1 Financial Report

Financial reports for the current period are attached below.

### 7.2 Business arising from the Financial Report

### 7.3 Assistant Secretary's report

### 7.4 IBAND Report

Bridge at Thirroul is going well. We had a great day celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Wonderful that Rob, Jeff and Kaye could attend.

Due to absences from our Christmas bridge day, the recipient of the George Cole Trophy and the director thank yous were belatedly given to the very worthy recipients at the end of February. Congratulations to Barbara Giogio: George Cole Trophy.

To Rob Mathie and Jack Regan for their invaluable director help at IBAND. Friday IBAND has been incredible over the last few weeks. We're raising the rafters!

So wonderful to welcome Figtree beginners and regular out of town visitors – long may it continue. Glad I didn't send this report through last night. We had a bumper day at Thirroul today: 12 tables, ran out of bidding boxes and boards. Can I have 3 more boards for emergencies? I have 33 but a spare board 34. 35 and 36 would be very helpful: 1 more bidding box would be great as well.

Barb Overington

Barb notified the committee that there will be a re-organisation of her directing staff with Barb, Jack and Rob acting as directors and Wayne handling the computing work for IBAND. Barb also asked Dave Havyatt if he could help with her computer as she needs either a new screen or computer.

## 7.5 Tournament Committee Report

Minutes of the Tournament Committee meetings held on the 14<sup>th</sup> February and the 14<sup>th</sup> March are given below. The Tournament Committee - "Management Committee to be asked – Is there a need to have Club members acknowledge the Rules and Regulations and agree to them?"

## 7.6 Congress Convenor's Report

Sue Southern had suggested that more bidding boxes be bought but as IBAND has 50 the extra boxes aren't necessary. The Congress Convenor's report for the IBA Swiss Pairs is included below. The Convenor noted that the Congress had experienced a small loss of \$940.90.

## 7.7 Web Site Report

## 7.8 Business Plan Report

Awaiting information from Wollongong Council.

## 7.9 Publicity Report

Radio station 97.3 contacted on three occasions to promote the upcoming bridge lessons commencing on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 9am and run by Jill MacRae.

- The Wollongong Council Seniors Festival Bridge Taster Sessions were run again this year. These sessions were held on two Mondays 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March at 10am during Seniors Week activities in the IBA room at the Figtree Community Hall. All were well attended. I contacted Allannah Scott on the Events Committee at the Wollongong Council to thank her for her help and let her know how successful the Taster Sessions were. Seven people attended each Bridge Taster Session. Four of these joined the club.
- Prize Certificates were printed off for use in photographs taken at the prize presentations at the Illawarra Swiss Pairs Congress held at the Builders club on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

I am advising the IBA that I am resigning from the Committee as from this month. I am also having a break from bridge. I want to thank everyone on the Committee for your support. I know the club is in good hands.

I will be preparing a job list for the role of Publicity Officer.

Thanks again

Chris Yates

**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.

## 7.10 Newsletter Editor's Report

The newsletter editor was thanked for the wonderful quality of his production and asked if he could include a Vale section. He noted that if the information was provided to him he would do so.

## 7.11 Any other Reports

## 7.12 Acceptance of Reports

Motion to accept the reports Moved: Grant Cowen Seconded Kaye Hart, passed unanimously.

## 8. General Business

Rob Kinloch joined the Committee meeting at 930 to discuss the updated Tournament Committee regulations. He tabled a precis of the updated regulations to aid the discussions of the Management Committee. This precis is included below. The President thanked Rob Kinloch, Dave Havyatt and the Tournament Committee for their great job in revising the regulations. Kaye Hart raised a small correction to section 9.8 of the rules. Motion that the Revised Tournament Regulations, Code of Conduct and Ethics regulations dated February 2026 be accepted with the amendments discussed in the meeting and in the correspondence with the Management Committee. Moved Kaye Hart seconded Grant Cowen and passed unanimously.

Dave Havyatt noted that there was a need to support directors with perhaps a personal message from the President to directors. It was decided that when the President attended the Director's meeting that she would pass on the Association's thanks.

The President noted that new members are given the Code of Conduct and asked to sign these. Copies of the revised Code of Conduct should be placed on the walls of the IBA hall.

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

Marie Pickering noted that the e-mails used by myABF should be double-checked and she found that an out-of-date e-mail was being used as her e-mail and it was possible that other similar e-mails were being used for other members.

The Master Builders club notified the President that because of parking issues they were cancelling the booking for the Chris Diment Congress. Grant Cowen has contacted a number of venues and found the Kembla Grange Racecourse. This venue charges \$1200 per day but this can be partly offset by its larger size allowing a larger number of entries to the Congress. This may mean that the Association may need to use two directors for this Congress. It was also suggested that the venue be checked to see if the same or similar date is available for the next few years.

Dave Havyatt informed the meeting that State Selection Events would now cost an extra \$2.50 per person per session. The events would also have 3 divisions at the Regional Final and that anyone playing in the club Selection event would qualify to play in the Regional Final. Motion that the club would pay the extra fee for State Selection events without charging members. Moved Dave Havyatt, seconded Kaye Hart passed unanimously.

Suggestions from the members included a request that each month people are reminded to bring food for the Homeless Hub and that people are asked to keep their cards away from their mouth. The Directors will be asked to take note of both of these suggestions.

Dave Havyatt asked that the switching of the lights in the hall be changed so that different sections could be turned off and that the tv be connected physically to the computer to make lessons easier. To facilitate lessons, it was suggested that a bigger tv screen be bought. Motion that the change of wiring, physical wiring and the new tv be bought, Moved

Dave Havyatt, seconded Grant Cowen and passed unanimously. **Action 2026/9:** The Secretary to ask Lorna O’Leary to liaise with Council about the changes to the wiring and **Action 2026/10:** Dave Havyatt to provide information about a new, larger tv.

Lessons in September on Tuesday night will need to hire the APA hall and Marie Pickering will work with the APA to find dates for the lessons. Motion that the APA hall be hired for September lessons moved Carolyn Githens, seconded Grant Cowen and passed unanimously. It was noted that the IBA needed to negotiate costs with Eddy.

The Tournament Committee had recommended another session of Bridge on Friday morning, but the Management Committee noted that this would be in conflict with IBAND so the Tournament Committee was asked to get further suggestions for the timing of the additional session

#### 9. New Members

Jo Brindley  
Sheila Hall  
Jane Katkjaer  
Irene Lesniewicz  
Maija McLoughlin  
Philip Priest  
John Stringer  
Julie Stringer  
Roseanne Ward  
Nicole Ross  
Kate McDonald  
Karen Moses  
Bob Moses  
Maria Talty  
Greg Talty  
Helen Tasses  
Terry Boyer  
Lynette Nicoll  
Julia Irvine  
Michael Irvine  
Valerie Crisp  
Veronica Maguire

Mege Houghton has also applied to become a member – she lives elsewhere but she is a regular visitor to Wollongong and would be a non-home member. Motion that these new members be accepted Moved Carolyn Githens, seconded Grant Cowen and passed unanimously.

Meeting closed at 10:50 am.

Next Meeting Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 10am in the IBA Hall.

Kaye Hart, Secretary Illawarra Bridge Association Inc.

## *Finance Reports*

### **Illawarra Bridge Association**

### **Balance Sheet**

<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>	<b><u>February/March 2026</u></b>	<b><u>December/January</u></b>
E-Saver Account - CUA	\$ 17,780.33	\$ 12,946.01
Prime Access Bank A/c Chq	\$ 28.26	\$ 28.26
Property Account	\$ 7,709.56	\$ 7,479.56
Term Deposit	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Petty Cash	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Interest Receivable		
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 225,818.15</b>	<b>\$ 220,753.83</b>

**Illawarra Bridge Association Inc - Profit & Loss 2025-2026**

	<b>31-Oct</b>	<b>30-Nov</b>	<b>31-Dec</b>	<b>31-Jan</b>	<b>28-Feb</b>	<b>31-Mar</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>							
Table Fees - Figtree & Thirroul	\$6,213	\$6,285	\$5,302	\$4,420	\$6,049	\$5,934	\$34,203.37
Supper Income		\$556	\$387	\$20	\$378		\$1,340.80
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	\$575.00
Interest	\$3,043	\$17	\$13	\$11	\$9	\$19	\$3,112.31
Lessons / Tutorials					\$900	\$900	\$1,800.00
Memberships	\$110	\$50		\$50	\$250	\$3,350	\$3,809.69
Special Events		\$390	\$720				\$1,110.00
Sundry Income					\$30	\$188	\$218.45
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$9,495</b>	<b>\$8,670</b>	<b>\$6,865</b>	<b>\$4,616</b>	<b>\$7,841</b>	<b>\$17,201</b>	<b>\$54,687.45</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,495</b>	<b>\$8,670</b>	<b>\$6,865</b>	<b>\$4,616</b>	<b>\$7,841</b>	<b>\$17,201</b>	<b>\$54,687.45</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
Accounting							\$0.00
Advertising			\$1,097				\$1,097.29
Affiliation Fees -ABF							\$0.00
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	\$1,012.13
Bridge Supplies	\$60	192.61	\$232		\$605	\$475	\$1,564.71
Cleaning	\$361	\$935	\$361	\$361	\$361	\$361	\$2,737.50
Computing			\$33				\$33.25
Congresses					\$7,507		\$7,506.56
Directors Fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500		\$2,500.00
Directors Training/Registration							\$0.00
Donations		\$950	\$410				\$1,360.00
Electricity	\$698			\$888			\$1,586.20
Events	\$220	\$450	\$610			\$36	\$1,315.90
Insurance		\$815					\$815.00
Lessons						\$25	\$25.00
Library Expenses							\$0.00
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	\$1,764.20
Real Bridge Expenses	\$99	\$183		\$150		\$82	\$514.52
Refreshments	\$426	\$626	\$711	\$115	\$144	\$119	\$2,139.27
Repairs & Maintenance			\$1,599	\$133			\$1,731.95
Security	\$677	\$477	\$527	\$77	\$772	\$677	\$3,206.83
Suppers	\$759	\$478	\$517	\$10	\$930		\$2,693.86
Sundries	\$975	\$297	\$500		\$184		\$1,956.13
Telephone/Utilities	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$690.00
Thirroul - Hall Hire		\$880				\$1,200	\$2,080.00
Thirroul - Expenses	\$67	\$100	\$532	\$304	\$293		\$1,296.24
Transfer to MyABF					\$310	\$50	\$360.00
<b>Total Outgoings</b>	<b>\$7,991</b>	<b>\$7,424</b>	<b>\$14,021</b>	<b>\$2,849</b>	<b>\$12,012</b>	<b>\$7,478</b>	<b>\$51,775</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,991</b>	<b>\$7,424</b>	<b>\$14,021</b>	<b>\$2,849</b>	<b>\$12,012</b>	<b>\$7,478</b>	<b>\$51,774.59</b>
<b>Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$1,503.98</b>	<b>\$1,245.39</b>	<b>(\$7,155.75)</b>	<b>\$1,766.89</b>	<b>(\$4,170.56)</b>	<b>\$9,722.91</b>	<b>\$2,912.86</b>



- 3.2 Chris Diment Congress – Some entries are submitted already.
- 3.3 Director’s Report for Congresses N/A
- 3.4 Application for next years’ congresses (opens in July) Discussed – See 2.1
- 3.5 Australian and State Events
- 4 UPCOMING EVENTS (2 month in advance)
- 4.1 Board Generation – Done to April
- 4.2 Dealing Roster **ACTION** – Renate to talk to Dave about this.
- 4.3 Entry Sheets **ACTION** – Renate to organise these.

4.4 **February Events**

- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Real Bridge
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> – Split Field
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> - Management Committee Meeting
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> – *Gold Coast Online Congress*
- Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Improve your Bridge 1  
Real Bridge
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Beginners’ Lesson 1
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> - *Bateman’s Bay Congress*
- Sat 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> – *ABF Canberra Open Play offs*
- Sun 15<sup>th</sup> – IBA Swiss Pairs Congress
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup> – Improve your Bridge 2  
Real Bridge
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> – Beginners’ Lesson 2
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup> – IBAND 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> – *Card Club*
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> – NSW Open Interstate  
Team Selection
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> - *ABDA Seminar*
- Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – Improve your Bridge 3  
Real Bridge
- ABF Hobart Mixed*
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup> – Beginners’ Lesson 3
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday Teams Champs 1

4.5 **March Events**

- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Improve your Bridge 4
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Seniors Week Taster Session  
10.00am – 12.00 noon
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> - Beginners’ Lesson 4
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> - Tues Teams Champs 2
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> – Mixed Pairs Champs 1 Red Pts  
State Qualifying
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> - Geddes Tutorial 1
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> & Sun 8<sup>th</sup> – *NSW Open Interstate  
Team Selection Stage 2*
- Mon 9<sup>th</sup> - Seniors Week Taster Session  
10.00am – 12.00 noon
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Beginners’ Lesson 5
- Sat 14<sup>th</sup> - Mixed Pairs Champs 2 Red Pts  
State Qualifying
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> – Beginners’ Lesson 6
- Wed 18<sup>th</sup> – Split Field
- Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> – Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> – *Tasmanian  
Festival of Bridge*  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> – Wed 25<sup>th</sup> –  
& Seniors Playoff
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup> – Beginners’ Lesson 7
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> – Hi-Lo 1
- Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> - Thurs Pairs Champs 1 Red Pts
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> – Sun 29<sup>th</sup> – *NSW Women’s Interstate  
Team Selection*
- Sat 28<sup>th</sup> - Card Club
- Tues 31<sup>st</sup> – Lesson 8 & Graduation

5 REVIEW OF IBA EVENTS FOR IMPROVEMENT N/A

6 IBA WEBSITE/CALENDAR Cheryl Waters does good work on the website behind the scenes. Thank you Cheryl.

7 CALENDAR ITEMS (collected throughout the year)

- 7.1 66 Club to run for 2 weeks in 2027
- 7.2 February IBA Congress will be on 2 days – Saturday for pairs and Sunday for Teams

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Directors are now informing players of rules before each session. These are written out and given to all Directors so they say the same.

**February Topic – Touching Cards in Bidding Boxes.** Jeff's notes **Attached** to these Minutes.

**March Topic – Claiming the Contract**

**ACTION** – Jeff to prepare monthly topics and advise all Directors of each short presentation.

8.2 Due to the numbers at present Bridge Sessions eg Saturdays, an extra session has been suggested on a Monday or Friday morning. The Committee has concurred and Dave Havyatt has agreed to Direct an extra session so a survey of players will be taken to decide which day suits interested players and Dave.

8.3 The 66 club worked well and suggestions were made to play over 2 weeks next year so everyone plays everyone else.

8.4 The final discussion continued from **IBA Disciplinary & Ethics Regulations** in the Draft Copy. The aim is to finalise the TC Regulations.

Much discussion was given to 6.2 of the Draft re .....

*\* Should an offender be allowed to play whilst the 2 weeks of Investigation by the Ethics Committee is carried out?*

*\* What if there are extenuating circumstances?*

*\* Should the offender be presumed innocent until proven guilty?*

8.5 How to proceed from this point re the Regulations : informing MC, Directors, members

*\* Before the next session Management to call an instant Meeting.*

*\* Dave and Rob to address the Management Committee, then a Directors meeting and then inform the players.*

8.6 All players are asked to tick a box to say they have read and agree with the rules and regulations and the procedures set out.

MEETING CLOSE: 12.30pm

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 **10.00am**

### 8.1. Bidding Boxes – Avoiding Unauthorized Information

Law 16 covers unauthorized information (UI). UI may come inadvertently, as by hearing a conversation from another table or by accidentally sighting a card. But more frequently it comes from partner.

Today we are going to discuss how to avoid providing UI in using the bidding boxes. In essence it's very simple – but many players don't follow the following rules:

**Do not touch the bidding box until you have decided on your call.**

Breaks in normal tempo may of themselves provide UI, but if you must pause for thought don't do it with your hand anywhere near the bidding box.

**Do not partially withdraw a call (especially pass, X or XX) from the bidding box and then replace it for another call.**

Under Bridge NSW regulations if a call is removed from the bidding box – that call is made!

If you inadvertently remove an incorrect call from the bidding box, call the director and explain what has happened.

Jeff Carberry

## ***TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES***

***ILLAWARRA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION***  
2026

DATE: Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March,

LOCATION: Figtree Community Hall

TIME: **10.00am**

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**PRESENT:** Rob Kinloch, Jeff Carberry, Stuart Cutsforth, Renate La Marra, Grant Cowen, Dave Havyatt, Liz Cusack

**APOLOGIES:** Barb Overington

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:**

Moved - Renate La Marra

Seconded - Grant Cowen

### **1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING**

1.1 A protocol is to be set up for updating/ backing up/ generating new data bases etc of all Bridge related software on all 3 computers - this needs to be easily followed.

**ACTION** – Dave to set up lists and put in Drop Box. **ONGOING**

1.2 Day and time for extra weekly session of Bridge still to be decided.

1.3 IBA Disciplinary & Ethics Regulations – continued from 6.2 and Draft was completed for editing and printing.

1.4 Further discussion of how and when to put the procedures into practice and inform the Management Committee, Directors and members. Dave and Rob will address the Management Committee and a Directors' meeting will be scheduled after the next Tournament Committee Meeting. Then the players will be informed.

1.5 A sheet to have club members sign to say they have read and agree with the Rules and regulations may not be necessary.

### **2 CORRESPONDENCE**

2.1 **ACTION** – Renate has an entry sheet for teams to enter the Deferred South Coast Interclub Teams Competition. A date is needed for this.

### **3 IBA CONGRESSES**

IBA Swiss Pairs **ACTION** – A report will be forthcoming from Jeff

Chris Diment Congress - The Builders Club staff and members were not satisfied with the times, parking etc **ACTION** – Grant and Marie are looking at possible venues.

Director's Report for Congresses N/A

Application for next years' congresses (opens in July) Not yet.

### **4 UPCOMING EVENTS (2 month in advance)**

4.1 Board Generation – All under control in Dave Gallagher's absence

4.2 Dealing Roster - Complete to April. Set 4 months at a time – the next one will be until August. 4.3 Entry Sheets - See 2.1

4.4 Nationwide Pairs – Jeff rang Martin Wilcox to confirm Red Points are given for this. Dates are now needed to be added to the Calendar and an Addendum can be done and added.

**ACTION** – Renate to compile the dates and send an email to Cheryl Waters.

#### 4.5 March Events

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Improve your Bridge 4  
2 Red Pts  
Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Seniors Week Taster Session  
7.00pm                      10.00am – 12.00 noon  
1.00pm  
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> - Beginners' Lesson 4  
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> - Tues Teams Champs 2  
*Festival*  
Sat 7<sup>th</sup> – Mixed Pairs Champs 1 Red Pts  
State Qualifying  
Sat 7<sup>th</sup> - Geddes Tutorial 1  
Committee Meeting  
Sat 7<sup>th</sup> & Sun 8<sup>th</sup> – *NSW Open Interstate  
Team Selection Stage 2*  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup> - Seniors Week Taster Session  
10.00am – 12.00 noon  
Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Beginners' Lesson 5  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> - Mixed Pairs Champs 2 Red Pts  
State Qualifying  
Tues 17<sup>th</sup> – Beginners' Lesson 6  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup> – Split Field  
Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> – Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> – *Tasmanian  
Festival of Bridge*  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> – Wed 25<sup>th</sup> – *ABF Hobart Mixed  
Seniors Playoff*  
Tues 24<sup>th</sup> – Beginners' Lesson 7  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> – Hi-Lo 1  
Thurs 26<sup>th</sup>- Thurs Pairs Champs 1 Red Pts  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup> – Sun 29<sup>th</sup> – *NSW Women's Interstate Team Selection*  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> - *Card Club*  
Tues 31<sup>st</sup> – Beginners' Lesson 8 & Graduation

#### 4.6 April Events

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thurs Pairs Champs  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> – Easter Egglectic 1 at  
Sat 4<sup>th</sup> - Easter Egglectic 2 at  
Mon 6<sup>th</sup> - Easter Egglectic 3 at 7.00pm  
Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> – Sun 12<sup>th</sup> – *Central West*  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup> –15<sup>th</sup> - *ABF Canberra Womens'  
Play Off*  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup> - Management  
at 10.00am  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> - Sun 19<sup>th</sup> *Sapphire Coast,  
Ballina & Peninsula*  
Sat 25<sup>th</sup> - ANZAC Day - Split Field  
*Card Club*  
Wed 29<sup>th</sup> April - Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Autumn  
(Adelaide) Nat's

[School Holidays from 4<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April](#)  
[Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Good Friday](#)  
[Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Sunday](#)

### 5 REVIEW OF IBA EVENTS FOR IMPROVEMENT

5.1 Splitting Fields for the Mixed Pairs and Non-Mixed Pairs worked well, with Red Points and Green Points awarded. Winners are derived from the best scores for 2 out of 3 sessions, producing the highest percentages.

### 6 IBA WEBSITE/CALENDAR

7 CALENDAR ITEMS (collected throughout the year)

### 8 GENERAL BUSINESS.

8.1 Director Talks to members before each Bridge Session -

**February Topic – Touching Cards in Bidding Boxes – Avoiding Unauthorised Information.**

**March Topic – Claiming the Contract – Claims and Concessions**

Jeff distributed "Claims and Concessions" for the Director's talks.

Attached

**April Topic – to be Decided**

8.2 The committee discussed Claiming of a hand before it is played out – if contested and all 4 players agree, then play continues, but this means the chance of calling the Director is lost. The other alternative is if the claim is contested the Director may be called to decide what happens. Defenders may also claim and concede. If the Declarer says No, play continues.

8.3 A proposal from Dave Havyatt for Supplementary Regulations for Egglectic Competitions. Moved - Dave Havyatt Seconded - Jeff Carberry to accept. All agreed.  
**Attached**

8.4 A decision was made for the Directors to meet on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April. Then they will meet every 2 months, when the Management Committee is not meeting. It was proposed to have the Directors' Meetings at the end of the Tournament Committee Meetings.

Directors need to bring any notes or questions about calls made in sessions they would like to discuss. Dave has a Notebook of Boards etc

**ACTION** – **Dave** to invite the Directors and Convene the Meetings.

#### 8.5 **Rules and Regulations and Ethics Regulations**

\* As from the last meeting 6.2 was discussed next – When a Director has suspended a player for 1 week – the player may return to play unless the Ethics Committee contacts them otherwise. The Director concerned must notify the Chairman of the Ethics Committee, or a designated representative, as soon as practically possible. Then the Chairperson will notify the player as to whether or not they may attend the next Bridge session, pending the Ethics Committee meeting together to decide and make a ruling.

\* The Tournament Committee has noted the frequency of incidents involving Paul Woods and wish to notify the Management Committee of their concerns.

**ACTION** – **Grant** will mention our concerns to Paul.

**ACTION** – **Rob** to send the completed Rules and Regulations to Marie, Kaye, Barb and the Directors.

\* The Directors' meetings need to go on the IBA Website. On the 18<sup>th</sup> April the Directors will meet after the Tournament Committee Meeting.

\* Management Committee to be asked – Is there a need to have Club members acknowledge the Rules and Regulations and agree to them?

**MEETING CLOSED: 11.40am**

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, April, 2026 at 10.30am**

**Followed by Directors' Meeting at 11.30am**

## **Claims and Concessions**

Law 68 deals with claims and concessions.

Law 68C in particular states that “A claim should be accompanied at once by a clear statement of the line of play or defence through which the claimer proposes to win the tricks claimed, including the correct order in which the cards will be played. The player making the claim or concession faces his hand.”

After any claim or concession, play is suspended.

The most common reason for the director to be called after a claim is if there is an outstanding trump, and the statement of claim does not refer to the fact that there is an outstanding trump. When claiming, consider well the trump situation – and it never hurts to state “drawing any outstanding trumps” as part of your claim statement.

# Easter Egglectic Supplementary Regulations

## 1. The Event

- 1.1. The event is the Illawarra Bridge Association (IBA) Easter Egglectic.
- 1.2. The event is an individual eclectic on the sessions played at IBA Maundy Thursday night, Easter Saturday and Easter Monday Night.

## 2. Eligibility

- 2.1. To be eligible for the eclectic a player must have played in at least two of the sessions listed in regulation 1.2.
- 2.2. As an individual event, players do not have to have played with the same partner in each session.

## 3. Scoring

- 3.1. Individual scores are obtained as the total of the best two percentage scores by a player over the three sessions.
- 3.2. The winner is the player with the highest total percentage.
- 3.3. Green masterpoints will be awarded as follows

- 3.3.1. Winner's Award. In accordance with clause 4.3.2 of the Masterpoints Manual, the outright award for the winner will be determined by reference to Table 3B in the Masterpoints Manual where:  
Number of tables will be the lesser of average number of tables played at the three sessions rounded down, or 125% of the number of players that played at least two sessions divided by four.  
Number of sessions will be two.
- 3.3.2. Placing Awards. In accordance with clause 4.1.1 of the Masterpoints Manual,
  - (a) Placing awards will be made to the top half of the field (rounded down),
  - (b) The runner up will receive 70% of the winner's award, and other awards are calculated as the winner's award divided by one less than the placing position, and
  - (c) In accordance with clause 4.4.6 if any position is tied, the players involved share the masterpoints available.

## 4. Score Review Period

- 4.1. The score review period will end one hour after the results are posted to the club website.

## Congress Convenor Report

### *Swiss Pairs 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Income & Expenditure*

	Income	Expenditure
MyABF 63 pairs @ \$55/each -1.85%	\$6875	
Paid directly to club	\$110	
Printing of brochures/flyers		\$155.00
Director's fees 2 sessions at \$190 a session		\$380.00
Ass. Director fees 2 sessions at \$100 a session		\$200.00
Board dealing 22 sets of <u>boards @\$0.50</u> per board		\$308.00
Stationery		\$100.00
Red Points Fee at B\$ level, 113.34 @ \$2.68 each		\$303.75
<b>Builders Club</b>		
Room Hire		\$805.00
Early Access Fee		\$100.00
Catering cost lunch boxes @\$25		\$3737.50
Van Hire		\$426.71
Incidentals		
BridgeNSW Masterpoints		
Prize Money		\$1400.00
Total	\$6975	\$7915.96
Income -Exp (\$6975 -\$7915.96) = -\$940.90		

***Pairs: Categories:***

***20 in Open, 12 in Intermediate 13 in Restricted, 15 in Novice, 3 in Super Novice***

***Ratio 1:0.6:0.65:0.75:0.15***

1<sup>st</sup> Open \$300                      1<sup>st</sup> intermediate \$200    1<sup>st</sup> Super Novice \$100

2<sup>nd</sup> Open \$200    1<sup>st</sup> Restricted \$200                      Best Local Pair \$100

3<sup>rd</sup> Open \$100                      1<sup>st</sup> Novice \$200

**Total prize money pairs: \$1400**

## **THE UPDATED TC REGS – A PRECIS. – an aide to discussion at MC meeting April 2026**

The Tournament Committee ( TC) has spent some time updating our Tournament regulations to keep it line with Bridge NSW ( the“new “body now “controlling” bridge in NSW) and the Australian Bridge Federation. (ABF)

I believe that the updated regulations now give clarity to:

- The role of the TC
- The regulations for Club games and events run by the IBA
- The role of the Management Committee (MC) and its duties in appointing a TC, a Chief Tournament Director and particularly the role of the MC as the Club’s Rules and Ethics Committee (REC)
- The role of a playing Director
- The process involved in an appeal against a Director’s decision
- The process involved in a complaint against a Director
- The IBA’s Code of Conduct which reinforces the need for players to maintain a courteous attitude and to avoid any remark or action that interferes with the enjoyment of the game of bridge.
- The role of REC including the processes to be followed by players making a complaint; the processes to be followed after the receipt of said complaint including a guideline of mandatory penalties and how they can be applied; and a link to Rules 11 and 12 of the IBA Rules and Regulations.
- Item 6: Serious Offences ..... (pg 11) and in particular 6.2 = the area of most debate/contention – how best to deal with a really serious issue but maintain procedural fairness? After discussion it was thought best to leave it in the hands of the Chair of the REC to make a decision re whether the player concerned can play whilst the matter is considered. While this puts a lot of pressure on the Chair the suggestion is that he/she consult as widely as possible before a decision is reached (there are obvious time constraints)
- The role of the Director in the disciplinary process

Hopefully the MC will in its wisdom ratify the updated TC regs. Once ratified Directors will be informed (at meetings to be held after the monthly TC meetings, by copies of the TC Regs etc) then the members will be informed (at sessions, notices in the club rooms, copy of regs on the web page etc)

While all TC members have contributed to the updated TC regs I need to give a special thanks to Dave Havyatt, without whom these rules would not read as clearly as they do!

Rob Kinloch  
April 2026