

# Commercial Club Albury Bridge Club

February 2017 Newsletter

## CLUB MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Club Membership Subs for 2017 were due on the 31<sup>st</sup> January so any Members yet to pay are reminded to do so at their earliest convenience.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The date for our AGM is Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February and as many Members as possible are asked to attend. The Meeting will be held in the Wattle Room at 4.30pm and will be followed by drinks and nibbles kindly provided by the Commercial Club.

## NATIONWIDE PAIRS

Nationwide Pairs will be held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February.

## TEAMS EVENT

Time to organise yourselves for the upcoming Teams Event, which is our only Gold Point event for the year, and will commence on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March and run for three weeks, i.e. Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March. The Entry Form will be on the Noticeboard for your convenience.

## ALBURY PLAYERS AT THE SFOB – BY RICHARD

Recently, some of us participated in the Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra. This comprises 15 different events over 12 days! The 2 main events are the National Swiss Pairs & the South West Pacific Teams. The main pair's event had 228 Pairs! This is the event that John Friesen & Zyg Roberts, as well as myself & Kay French played in. This involves 11 x 9 board matches over 2 days – 55 boards on the first day & 44 boards on the second day. John & Zyg were seeded 149 (that means 148 pairs with more MasterPoints than them & they have 1566 mps between them!) and they finished 91<sup>st</sup>. Kay & I were seeded 124 and finished 80<sup>th</sup>. Both pairs had 6 wins, 1 draw, 4 losses – so we all did quite well & finished above our seeding.



Kay & I also played in the main Teams event, which had a field of 126 teams & we were seeded 74. We didn't finish above our seeding and had 4 wins, 2 draws, 6 losses. This was disappointing, but we did play 3 teams ranked 21 and above – which included 14 players of national level (5 of whom had represented Australia!). Our best result was a draw with Team 11 & they weren't very happy. This event is quite gruelling as it involves 12 x 20 board matches over 4 days – about 6½ hours of bridge each day! It was exhilarating and exhausting at the same time. *Anyone coming next year?*

## 70% CLUB

Congratulations go to Sue McConnell and Bob Brown who achieved a great 73.43% on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> January.

## "WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT".....TABLE MANNERS

I have been nominated "Table Manners Police" and asked to raise this subject again.

Firstly we should all remember that we play the game for enjoyment, and secondly that our Partner is the most important person in the room!

A Google search has found lots and lots of sites on Etiquette and Table Manners relating to Bridge. Obviously there are far too many to list here so I am only mentioning a couple, but for those with a computer, it's worth the time to refresh one's memory.

Courtesy:- This applies to how one relates to partner, the opponents and the Director, all of whom should be treated with respect. Greet your opponents when moving to the next table then once bidding has commenced general conversation is not encouraged. Bridge is a competitive game and each player needs to respect the rights of other players.

Post Mortems: - Wait till the end of the day's play for post mortems and then discuss any misunderstandings etc. over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine. Not only could a post mortem undermine your partner's confidence and be embarrassing, but loud voices could communicate information to players who have not played the hand at other tables. Remember that one of our Members, who shall remain nameless, can hear a pin drop a mile away and has a memory like an elephant!!

## BIRTHDAYS

Our very best wishes go to Jenny O'Mahoney, Mary Smith, Kath Thomas, Cath Tucker, Coby Donders, Peter Westmoreland and Terry Coyle who all celebrate February birthdays. We also have two Members who are celebrating very significant birthdays this month so our heartiest congratulations and best wishes go to both Chick Ditchfield and Robin Manson.

