



Gold Coast Congress 2024 Information Manual

2024

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2024

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

2024 DATES

Saturday 17th February 2024 – Saturday 24th February 2024

2025 DATES

Saturday 1st February 2025 – Saturday 8th February 2025

ABF NUMBER

All players will need an ABF number to play in the Gold Coast Congress. Please email masterpoints@abf.com.au with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. Alternatively, email Pele Rankin and she will get the ABF number for you.

If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - ABF Masterpoint Centre.

Once you have an ABF number, you need to be **registered with [MyABF](#)** to submit an entry to any event. International players may submit their entries via Pele Rankin - gccentries@qldbridge.com.au

New Zealand players will need an ABF number before you can sign up. Please email masterpoints@abf.com.au with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - [ABF Masterpoint Centre](#).

To sign up to [MyABF](#), please follow these instructions. It only takes a couple of minutes:

Sign up at this site <https://www.myabf.com.au/view>

Click on 'SIGN UP', which will take you to this link <https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register> where you will need to enter **ABF number, Name, Email address and a password** that's easy to remember to avoid having to reset password.

Once you have done this, you will be sent an email to activate your account. Check spam for the activation email if you haven't received it.

When you activate your account, you will be taken you to a site with your profile. Include your email address, mobile phone number and date of birth.

For information on registering - [MyABF resources and how to sign up](#)

ACCOMMODATION

For accommodation enquiries, contact Sue Smith –
M - 0429 056 445 or E – Sue.gccongress@gmail.com

Some accommodation options are listed on the GCC website: [ACCOMMODATION](#)

Regretfully, we will no longer be offering subsidised youth accommodation.

ADVERTISING IN BULLETIN

Events Any ABF event and any QBA Gold Point event held prior to June 30th can have a free advertisement – size is the Editors prerogative. All other ABF events will be published in the

Coming Events Calendar. Strict deadlines must be adhered to. Deadlines set by Editor with Tournament Organiser's approval.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements are \$300 a page. The editor has the prerogative to negotiate with prospective advertisers regarding possible columns to be published in the Bulletins for advertising.

ADVISORS

David Appleton and Shane Harrison

AIR CONDITIONING – PLAYER COMFORT

There are approximately two thousand players at the venue, ensuring the comfort of ALL players is a challenge.

Over time the organisers have noticed that there are areas where it is particularly cold due to air pockets coming from the air conditioner.

The room sometimes leaks from condensation due to the amount of air conditioning we are using.

What you **CAN** do to improve your personal comfort level:

- as advertised in all communication, please bring a jumper or shawl to keep you warm;
- we have a supply of pashminas and wraps so please just ask a caddy who will bring it to you - we do ask -that you return these to the caddy at end of the session.
- if it is obviously too cold for you and those around you, please ask the caddy to report the table number and section to Kim Ellaway who will bring her thermometer to see if it can be fixed or perhaps, we can move the table.

Things you can do that will **NOT** improve your comfort level:

- discuss the issue with a Director or the Scoring Staff
- discuss it with the Recorder.

ALERTS - SUMMARY

PRE-ALERTS

List your unusual or complex treatments in the pre-alerts section of the system card. For instance – RCO 2s, Bergen raises, DONT Dbl vs 1NT, unusual carding (leading low from doubletons should be noted in the “leads” section of system card).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announce the number of clubs contained in a 1♣ opening and the HCP range of a 1NT opening. Those playing a strong club system just need to announce 1♣ as “Strong 16+”.

ALERTS DURING THE AUCTION

Alert by circling partner's call and saying “Alert” but don't offer an explanation unless asked (then aim to be concise, yet complete).

DON'T ALERT:

- Any double or redouble.
- Any call beyond 3NT, except a conventional opening bid
- A bid of a suit *bid* or *shown* by an opponent.
- Any 2♣ response to a 1NT opening bid in an uncontested auction (e.g. *Stayman*)
- Any Jump Raise in a contested auction.

For our New Zealand players, we do **NOT** use STOP Cards

DO ALERT:

All other conventional calls (such as Transfers, 2♥=hearts and a minor)

'Unusual' natural bids. These include: weak jump shift responses, pre-emptive jump raises (but only in uncontested auctions), inverted minors, canapé tendency, negative free bids, transfer accepts that deny four trumps, etc.

At the end of the auction, the declaring side should mark any unusual calls that weren't alerted at the time. Do this with a plus sign (+).

IF PARTNER STUFFS UP

Declarer/Dummy: If partner fails to alert or provides a wrong or misleading explanation, you should wait until the **end of the auction** before calling the Director and correcting.

Defenders: wait until the **end of the hand** before piping up.

BBO

THE BBO liaison Officer is Ray Ellaway. Open Finals will be the only matches on BBO. BBO will only be available if operators come forward to assist.

BRIDGE MATES

If you have never used the Bridgemate Scoring Units we suggest you arrive a few minutes before your first session and ask a Director for a quick tutorial. We are confident that your opponents will also help you to use this user-friendly technology.

BRIDGE MATES II – PLAYER NUMBERS FOR THE TEAMS

During the team events, when you turn on the Bridgemates, you will be asked to enter your player numbers. This is NOT your ABF number. Each player in every team has been assigned a number. These will be found on the bright orange sheet which will be on your table at the start of play. NS at the home table should enter the player numbers for the players in your own team.

The reason for this is that, if done correctly, the scoring team will produce a summary of the results for each pair in your team, comparing their results against the average score across your section on each board (the datum). These results have no official status and are just for your own interest. It is a service we are happy to be able to provide, but to take advantage of it, it is important that the player numbers are accurately entered each round.

Our observations from recent years show that over 90% of teams sit in the same seats for the whole event. To simplify the process for entering player numbers for these teams, from Round 2 onwards if your team is sitting in the same seats as in Round 1, you may just enter "1" for all four players. The unit will display "same as Round 1" as the player names and the system will correctly record the pairs.

BRIDGE COMPANION'S PROGRAM

19 th – 24 th			TBIB Daily Prize Wheel. You Must be Present to Win. A TBIB lucky star under a chair in main playing area for a spin opportunity Foyer GCCEC
18 th	Sunday	11.00am-12.30pm	<u>Get Together Non Bridge Playing Partners</u> Apartment 1901, Air on Broadbeach 159 Old Burleigh Rd, Broadbeach
19 th	Monday	8.30am	Directors Get Together - Hosted by Chris Snook 0413136435 chris@snook.id.au - Upstairs Room 10
19 th	Monday	10.30am-4.30pm	<u>Kingscliff</u> , a coastal town, just south of Tweed Heads. The main street Marine Parade offers lovely boutique shopping with many cafes. We will lunch here, and then off to Fingal Head if time allows. A slow walk to the lighthouse and outlook, to view Cook Island. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch & tea at own costs
20 th	Tuesday	9.45am-10.15am	<u>Get Together Non Bridge Playing Partners</u> Apartment 1901, Air on Broadbeach 159 Old Burleigh Rd, Broadbeach
20 th	Tuesday	10.30am-4.00pm	<u>Cedar Creek Falls track</u> to lookout 500m return. Time: Allow about 15min walking time. Details: Take a walk to Cedar Creek Falls lookout and admire views of the gorge and waterfalls. <u>Cedar Creek Falls rock pools</u> 1.1km return. There are many steps on this walk, so be prepared for an uphill climb on our return. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch at own costs
21 st	Wednesday	2.00pm-2.15pm	<i>Sports Day Theme</i> Parade - Foyer GCCEC
21 st	Wednesday	10.30am-3.30pm	<u>Harbour Town</u> - One of Australia's largest outlet Shopping centres with over 240 stores, as well as providing alfresco dining. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach. \$15 bus
22 nd	Thursday	10.30am-4.30pm	<u>The Margaret Olley Art Centre</u> (MOAC) is the third and final stage of the Tweed Regional Gallery. MOAC celebrates Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors. Lunch at the Apex dining tearoom. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch & tea at own costs
23 rd	Friday	8.15am	Champagne and Nibbles for Shoe shoppers inherSHOES Gnd Flr, Oasis Shopping Centre
23 rd	Friday	10.30am-2.30pm	<u>Sanctuary Cove</u> – A fabulous range of boutiques, with mouth-watering selections of cafes and restaurants with views over the Marina.

Other Options

David Fleay Wildlife Park - A wildlife park with a difference! You can stroll through natural habitats and visit a nocturnal house to see some of Australia's most iconic wildlife.

Sirromet Winery & tasting - Try some of Queensland's award-winning wines during a 1.5-hour wine tasting experience at the Sirromet Winery in Mount Cotton.

SkyPoint Observation Deck - Offers panoramic views of the Gold Coast, 230m above sea level, located atop the iconic Q1 building in Surfers Paradise. \$36 per person, one time entry.

All Golf Enquiries to Ian Wright 0417194347 • ian83@me.com

Any expressions of interest or pre-bookings would be very welcome. Sue (m) 0424 830 158
gcchospitality@qldbridge.com.au

BULLETIN

Stephen Lester is the Bulletin Editor. The quality of the Bulletin is enhanced with contributions from players of all standards. Quality play, defence or bidding or humorous stories from the tournament or even general comments or criticisms are greatly appreciated. There are many ways to make a submission including:

- see a Bulletin Editor – there is often one at the venue
- phone or SMS the number on the header of the Daily Bulletin (0468 459 351)
- send an email to the address on the header of the Daily Bulletin sleksix@gmail.com)
- put a submission in the Bulletin Submission box opposite the Administration desk

BUS - GCC

The Gold Coast Congress Bus will pick up and return visiting players who are residing within a reasonable distance from the Gold Coast Convention Centre. No pickup from The Star Gold Coast or Freshwater Point Resort.

The bus service is mainly for those who need the service. To make pre-bookings – contact Barry on 0418 747 078 and advise your location so he is aware when driving the loop - from the Convention Centre up Surf Parade to Wharf Road then Old Burleigh Road, Broadbeach Boulevard to Alexandra Avenue, then Surf Parade before returning to the Convention Centre.

CADDY NOTES AND INSTRUCTIONS

2024 Caddy Dates are Sunday 18th February to Saturday 24th February – 2 sessions each day except the last Saturday where there is one.

Caddy Notes and Instructions

PLAYERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE THEIR MOBILE PHONES DURING SESSION TIMES. STAFF ARE NOT ALLOWED MOBILE PHONES AND THAT MEANS **CADDYS ARE NOT ALLOWED MOBILE PHONES FOR ANY REASON.** Prue (Operations Manager), the Bridge Administration Office or the Congress's coffee shop (in the foyer) will look after your phone if you are expecting urgent calls.

CADDYS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE EARPHONES IN THEIR EARS FOR ANY REASON as they need to be listening for caddy calls.

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A good caddy is one whose section never needs to call for a caddy as **WE LIKE PROACTIVE CADDYS**. A proactive caddy is one who regularly patrols their section recognising fast tables and rather than have them call you, you have boards ready to go on their table.

FEEL FREE TO BRING A BOOK however do not get immersed in the book as a good caddy is proactive caddy. There is always something to do so if you are bored and you have not brought reading materials, ask your floor manager for jobs.

DO NOT LEAVE THE FLOOR FOR ANY REASON WITHOUT YOUR FLOOR MANAGER BEING ADVISED including toilet visit or coming out to the Admin Office to see me.

CADDIES CAN BE SEEN BUT NOT HEARD. YOU MUST NOT SPEAK TO A PLAYER UNLESS YOU ARE SPOKEN TO FIRST. DO NOT DISTURB THEM FOR ANY REASON

Clothing - Caddy attire includes a Shirt (Purple colour) provided by me and it is to be worn during the bridge session. The shirt provided is to be handed in at the end of the day for washing and a different shirt will be issued the following day. It is strongly recommended that you wear long shorts/pants (rather than skirt or dress) and enclosed shoes. Short Shorts or Skirts are not appropriate – **all clothing MUST be at least halfway down the thigh**. ALL caddies MUST wear covered in **comfortable enclosed shoes** throughout the whole week – runners are perfect. Walking around in bare feet is not allowed – thongs are not considered appropriate and there is a lot of walking. **Caddys will be sent home if they are dressed INAPPROPRIATELY**. Caddies who take their shirt home either on purpose or by accident will be expected to wash the shirt and either return or bring it back.

Hours - You will need to arrive half an hour before a session especially your first one. Your allocated Floor Manager will advise of starting times. **PLEASE DON'T BE LATE!**

Pay – I will pay you via bank transfer after the event. I will come and get your details sometime over the week.

Parking – I have organised parking privately with each caddy. It is expected that caddies find alternative parking however we are given some free ones so please enquire.

Caddy Bags - At the start of the event you will receive a caddy bag which carries what the players may need - system cards, pens and bidding pads. Spare Scoring Booklets for the Event you are caddying should be added to your bag. You will need to have your caddy bag with you throughout each session – When you start the caddy bags will have the required stationery for the first event except scoring book. After that event it is your responsibility to ensure you have the correct stationery for the players. Floor Managers will explain what the stationery is for each event.

Distributing & Picking Up Boards - Each caddy will be allocated a section and Floor Manager. Your job is to ensure players always have boards to play. Each event has different board allocation requirements. **LISTEN TO YOUR FLOOR MANAGER** as to distribution of boards. The numbers of the boards change but it is your job to hand them in the numerical order as instructed. **IT IS VITAL THAT THE BOARDS GET HANDED OUT CORRECTLY.**

Once the players have finished with their boards you must go and pick up the boards and put them in the correct order in your boxes. A new round within a session cannot commence until all boards have been found.

Caddy Calls - A player will call for a caddy for three reasons (1) when they need a new board or (2) when they need something from your caddy bag or (3) when they need you to fill in as dummy (see elsewhere). When they ask for a new board it is your job to go and find the board they are after. Your Floor Manager will advise you as to where you can get boards from and listen to the players as they usually know which boards they want. Once the players have finished with the board that you have got for them, you will need to return it to the table you took it from. Smokers

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and Toilet visits are looked after at events with caddys offering to be dummy whilst the player leaves the table. All you have to do is pull the card that the player nominates and turn it after the trick has been played. We will show you, but this is part of the service of being a caddy. However, remember at the end of the session you will not have time to be dummy as there will be lots of caddy calls.

Director Calls –If you realise that the player who is calling for the Director is not being heard, you can assist by standing next to the player and calling for the director yourself.

Turn Overs – At the end of each event, we need to turn the rooms around. The major turnovers are Monday and Thursday. Additional payment for those who are asked to stay behind to assist with set up will be made.

BRING YOUR LUNCH On most days you will not have time to go home or across the road between the sessions to get something to eat and we do not supply meals on any of the days, please be prepared. There is a snack bar at the Centre which is costly. Please bring your own food or there are snack food stores across the way, but you may not have time to access these. We will have a fridge for staff use and we will advise their location once you start.

Caddies usually come back for a second go so it is enjoyable especially if you do the right thing by your floor manager.

Please note – do not bring any expensive items on to the premises as there is nowhere to store valuables when you are busy. I am contactable throughout the whole congress – if you have any problems, **my number is 0412064903** - Kim Ellaway, Manager.

CALENDAR 2024

Fri 16 Feb	Sat 17 Feb	Sun 18 Feb	Mon 19 Feb	Tue 20 Feb	Wed 21 Feb	Thu 22 Feb	Fri 23 Feb	Sat 24 Feb
		BR Pairs Championship Sun Qual/Mon Final						
		Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs	Monday Butler Swiss Pairs				Friday Butler Swiss Pairs	
		Rookie 0-10 MP Pairs				Rookie 0-10 MP Pairs		
No GCC	Walk-in Pairs x1	Walk-in Pairs x2	Walk-in Pairs x2	Walk-in Pairs x2	Walk-in Pairs x2	Walk-in Pairs x2	Walk-in Pairs x2	Walk-in Pairs x1
				Teams Championship			Teams Finals	Open Teams Final
				0-50 #1&2 Masterpoint Pairs	0-50 #1&2 Masterpoint Pairs	0-50 #1&2 Butler Swiss Pairs	Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs – #1,2 & 3	
								Dinner Dance

CATEGORIES - TEAMS

All teams should have nominated their categories when submitting their entry. **Mixed category requires at least 1 male and 1 female player*

Check that you have selected the correct category as once winners are announced, no correspondence will be entered into.

Open Categories: Same Sex, Mixed*, Queensland and Best New Zealand Team

Under 1500 MPs Categories: Same Sex, Mixed*, Queensland

Intermediate Categories: Same Sex, Mixed* and Queensland

Restricted Categories: Same Sex, Mixed* and Queensland

Novice Categories: Same Sex, Mixed*

CATEGORY PRIZE POLICY - TEAMS

Special category prizes are awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series or third place. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category by the Manager or Entries Coordinator.

CHARITY 2024 – ZEPHYR FOUNDATION

Please see [ZEPHYR FOUNDATION](#)

CLOSING TIMES FOR ENTRIES FOR EVENTS

All events except Friday events (mentioned below) close 24 hours before the event starts. Online entry via MyABF is preferred.

Friday events:

Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs Thursday 6.00pm

Friday Butler Swiss Pairs Thursday 6.00pm

Any player making changes to their entries at the venue will be charged an administration fee of \$10 per player.

COFFEE, TEA AND WATER

As a service to participants, volunteers will be operating a tea and coffee service for this event. Coffee is made from ground coffee beans with fresh milk and will cost \$4 a cup. The service will start around one hour before play and continue until late into the last session.

Please understand that the service is run for the benefit of players by volunteers. There will be \$20 vouchers and \$40 vouchers available for purchase from the Bridge Office. \$20 entitles you to 5 coffees without handling any money apart from payment. \$40 entitles you to 11 coffees. As we are not allowed to run the free water service in the playing area this year we will be selling bottles of water at \$2.00 from the coffee shop. These can be purchased via voucher in lots of 2's. We cannot under any circumstance give free – a cup of hot water so please don't request – it is a public liability issue. We will not be doing double shots this year. **VOUCHERS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE BRIDGE OFFICE VIA EFTPOS OR CASH.** No refunds once a voucher has been purchased. Coffee, Tea and Water can be individually purchased via EFTPOS.

Located upstairs opposite Administration
Min \$5 contribution to ABF Youth Bridge (free for Youth)
100 participants maximum – GCCEC Health & Safety Regulations

Sunday 18th
1.30-2.15pm

Liam Milne

Leading Thirds and Fifths



Why do so many experts lead thirds and fifths against suit contracts, while intermediate players tend to prefer fourth best? And how do third and fifth leads work? Find out how to play this useful defense convention.

***Liam Milne** is a current member of the Australian Open team. As well as playing professionally, Liam also teaches and directs in Sydney. His recent national titles include the 2022 Gold Coast Teams, ANC Open Teams, Victor Champion Cup and Spring National Open Teams.*

Monday 19th
1.30-2.15pm

William Jenner-O'Shea

Overcall more to be a Nuisance.



Knowing when to overcall to spice up competitive auctions is where experts thrive, learn some tips and tricks from Will to be a more competitive player to help improve your game.

***Will Jenner-O'Shea** has represented Australia in several bridge events, including the World Mind Sports Games in Beijing in 2008. Will has also built a successful career teaching.*

Tuesday 20th
9.00am – 9.45am

Paul Dalley

Fresh bidding ideas for 2024



Paul will take you on a journey of discovery with some fresh ideas from his workshop on latest bidding theory to help your partnership in 2024.

***Paul Dalley** has won the Gold Coast Open teams for the last two years. In 2022 he also won the Gold Coast Open Pairs. Paul has won numerous other national events in Australia and New Zealand and was a member of the Australian Open team in 2023.*

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**Tuesday 20th
1.30-2.15pm**

Andy Hung

**How to Defend
Against Common
and Strange
Conventions**



How do expert players deal against common conventions such as the Multi 2D, or the Unusual 2NT? Or what about those intimidating 2-opening bids which may have 6 different meanings? Come along and Andy will share the secrets with you. *Andy Hung is a professional bridge player and teacher who has represented Australia in Open competitions. He has won several Australian National titles and placed third in two previous US Nationals. When he's not competing in tournaments, you will find him teaching at the WABC in Perth, or running bridge holidays in Australia, or overseas - contact him for his holidays this year!*

**Wednesday 21st
9.00am – 9.45am**

Paul Marston

**Competitive bidding
(when both sides
have 18 – 22 HCP)**



The aim of this lesson is to give you a winning strategy when the opponents bid over you and the points are shared.

The strategy is not difficult or complicated, yet many people still find it hard to grasp. The reason is that it involves a change of thinking. During the lesson Paul will lay down the groundwork for that change of thinking.

Paul Marston has long been Australia's number one bridge teacher. His classes are very popular, both face-to-face and online. He has a special interest in teaching beginners where his retention rate is greater than 80% face-to-face and 95% online.

**Thursday 22nd
1.30pm -2.15pm**

Nick Jacob

**Demystifying
auctions after
a takeout double**



Takeout doubles are one of the first and best competitive conventions we learn playing bridge. Despite this, everyone - from beginners to experts - struggles at times to work out what exactly we show when we respond to partner's takeout doubles. Join Nick to learn some skills for responding and rebidding after takeout doubles in a variety of common auctions.

Nick Jacob played in New Zealand youth and Open team events and has represented Victoria in the Australian National Championships. He has won numerous National Teams and Pairs events.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

COLOUR CODING FOR SECTIONS

For player convenience, playing areas will be colour coded for the whole event through the use of coloured tablecloths and matching coloured flag. This will help to identify your section, results and playing area.

- **Open Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Blue
- **Under 1500 Teams** - Orange
- **Intermediate Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Yellow
- **Restricted Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Green
- **Novice Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Maroon
- **Rookies/0-50/Walk-Ins** - Fuchsia
- **Open Sunday Butler, Open Monday Butler** in Orange
- **0-500 Sunday Butler, 0-500 Monday Butler, Friday Butler Pairs** - Purple

CONGRESS SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2024

[System regulations](#) are published on the Gold Coast Congress My ABF website.

[Supplementary regulations](#) are now published on the website.

CONTACTS FOR GCC STAFF

The main contacts are:

General Enquiries	Kim and Ray Ellaway 0412 064 903 manager@qldbridge.com.au
Tournament Organiser	Tim Runting 0458 448 765 gccconvenor@qldbridge.com.au
Partnership Enquiries	Toni Bardon Mobile 0401 082 054 tmbardon@hotmail.com
Accommodation Enquiries	Sue Smith 0429 056 445 Sue.gcccongress@gmail.com
Entry Enquiries	Pele Rankin 0439 949 060 gcccentries@qldbridge.com.au (Email preferred. Please call only between 9am and 5pm)
Chief Director	Dr Laurie Kelso 0412 559 171 iskelso@ihug.com.au
New Zealand enquiries	Alister Stuck acs@inspire.net.nz (06) 358 3449
Hospitality	Sue Ziegenfuss gcchospitality@qldbridge.com.au 0424 830 158

CORRECTION OF SCORES

Scoring Area Phone Number is 0456 587 765 – accepts text messages only

After each session, a printout of the results for each pair or team will be made available. For the last session of a stage of an event, you may obtain a copy on request from the Scoring Enquiries Desk – located in the Administration Office during the pairs and outside the playing area thereafter.

If you believe that there is a mistake, you need to follow this procedure:

1. on the board where you believe that there was an error, agree with your opponents that the score was entered incorrectly;
2. make the correction on your printout and have them sign it;
3. give the corrected printout to the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon, under the sign “SCORING ENQUIRIES” next to the Scoring Room. She will check that you have provided all the necessary information. The correction will be made by the scorers during the following session and a new personal printout will be made available for you to collect.

Agreed scoring errors need to be advised within the scoring correction period for the session in which the error occurred. The scoring correction periods are displayed prominently near the scoreboards. At the conclusion of the scoring correction period, scores become final and, under the Laws of Bridge, no further changes can be made. **This is critical for the last rounds when the correction period is limited, and scorers may not pick up anomalies. You are responsible for your own actions - or lack thereof.**

The Scoring team may be advised of potential scoring errors via text to 0456-587-765 (receives texts only). Include the following information: Event, Session/Match, Pair number, Board number, Contract, Declarer, Score, What you believe is correct. The scoring team has a protocol to follow to determine if a result is manifestly wrong. If it is not accepted or if the error relates to the number of tricks taken, you will need to obtain written confirmation from your opponents as described above.

COURTESY BUS

The Gold Coast Congress Bus will pick up and return visiting players who are residing within a reasonable distance from the Gold Coast Convention Centre. No pickup from The Star Gold Coast or Freshwater Point Resort.

The bus service is mainly for those who need the service. To make pre-bookings – contact Barry on 0418 747 078 and advise your location so he is aware when driving the loop - from the Convention Centre up Surf Parade to Wharf Road then Old Burleigh Road, Broadbeach Boulevard to Alexandra Avenue then Surf Parade then to Convention Centre.

DINNER DANCE

Saturday 24th February 7.30pm. Limited Numbers.

Table Lists can be collected from the Dinner Dance Table next to the Scoring Area. Table sizes are for 10 guests. We are unable to accommodate larger tables than 10. Numbers will be restricted to 250 people. Please advise us of any special dietary requirement when making your booking.

Please return your form before 5:00pm Wednesday 21st February. Seating allocation will be based on the time of lodgement of your form.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

To help us in providing you with the best possible food, wine and entertainment at the GCC, as well as eliminating the waste of no shows, we are asking all participants in the Gold Coast Congress other than the Walk-In Duplicates to contribute \$20. Non-players are asked to pay \$50. No tickets will be issued. Your table allocation will be posted on boards next to the dining hall doors.

The evening includes a 3 course meal and drinks, prize giving and the return of the fabulous Captain Wow to dance the night away.

Only first prizes to be presented and only for: Pairs Championships (4 divisions), Teams Championships (5 divisions) and Ivy Dahler (3 divisions). First in Open Pairs and Open Teams will be announced even if players not there to collect. ABF Medallions will be presented to First and Second in the Open Teams and Open Pairs.

The GCCEC has strict guidelines regarding its liquor licence and the responsible serving of alcohol. Under no circumstances can alcohol be brought onto the premises for consumption at the dinner dance, nor can any alcohol purchased at the GCC Dinner be taken from the premises during or after the event. No alcohol will be served to those under 18, or the drunk and disorderly. Please refer to GCCEC website for its policy on the responsible serving of alcohol.

[http://www.gccec.com.au/responsible service alcohol](http://www.gccec.com.au/responsible-service-alcohol).

Should you have any further questions regarding the dinner dance, please go to the Dinner Dance desk next to the Scoring Room.

DIRECTOR, CHIEF TOURNAMENT

Laurie Kelso is the Chief Tournament Director

DIRECTORS GET TOGETHER

A [Directors Get Together](#) will be conducted by Chris Snook on Monday 19th February 2024 from 8.30am to 9.30am upstairs in Meeting Room 12 opposite administration office. Enquiries: Chris Snook 0413136435 chris@snook.id.au

DISCOUNT ENTRY FEES - YOUTH BRIDGE PLAYERS

All players born on or after 1 January 2006 are entitled to free entry. If free-entry Youth wins a cash prize, half the value of entry fee to be deducted before payment.

All players born on or after 1 January 1999 are entitled to a 50% discount.

Your state-based bridge association or local bridge club may also offer a subsidy – it doesn't hurt to ask!

DISCOUNT PERIOD FINISHING DAY

The \$20 discount per person for most entry fees applies if prepaid by midnight Monday 12th February 2024. No discount for Walk-In Pairs.

DOCTOR

During session time, if you need a doctor or medical assistance you can contact Kim Ellaway through the Administration Desk. Kim will direct you to the inhouse Doctor.

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Outside of session time, contact the Broadbeach Medical Centre on 07-5531-6344, Suite GO1, 2681 Gold Coast Highway Broadbeach. Please note they do not bulk bill. After-hours service: National Home Doctors Service on 137425 who do bulk bill.

DRAW FOR NEXT ROUND PAGE

The draw for the next round in the Teams and Swiss Pairs events will be published on the web at the same time it is displayed on the projector screens at the venue. So, if you are "[connected](#)" you can check your standings and the draw online.

DRESS UP THEME DAY

We encourage all players to dress in keeping Annual Theme for Wednesday Teams theme is **SPORTS DAY**! Please celebrate our your most sporty gear. The photography will play finishes and the parade from 2:15pm to 21st February. Prizes will be available for some combination of groups, pairs or individuals.



with the Gold Coast Sessions. The 2024 62nd year and wear commence when 2:30pm Wednesday

DROP-IN PAIRS

Pairs of players defeated in the Open Teams Round-of-4 will be permitted to enter the Ivy Dahler Pairs commencing in Round 4 subject to the following conditions:

- only players who were in teams defeated in the Round-of-4 will be allowed to enter, but partnerships may be from different teams
- only an even number of entries will be accepted (i.e. 2 pairs, 4 pairs, etc)
- full entry fee will be payable, unless the pair had paid the discounted fee originally
- entry for pairs must be submitted and paid for at Bridge Administration Desk by 1.00pm
- drop-in pairs will be randomly assigned to either the NS or EW field and will be randomly drawn against each other in Round 4
- drop-in scores will be assigned according to the formula described in the Appendices

DROP-IN SCORES - From the Appendices

Drop-in scores for pairs entering the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs - Open in Round 4

Assuming an original entry of n tables, pairs entering at Round 4 will be assigned a VP score, x (rounded to 2 decimal places), equal to the greater of:

- i) the average score of the top n/10 (rounded up) pairs at the conclusion of Round 3; and
- ii) the leader's score at the conclusion of Round 3 minus 10.5.

Scores for NS and EW drop-in pairs will be calculated separately.

Such pairs will be assigned an IMP score for each of Matches 1-3 as nearly equivalent as possible to the IMP score which would convert to x/3 VPs.

ELIGIBILITY

General eligibility* is based on awards processed as officially released by the ABF in October 2023. Players must individually meet the eligibility criteria to compete in the events. This includes Team/Pair events where all players must be under the stated masterpoint range or age as per below.

Overseas players may enter Novice, Restricted, Intermediate and 0-1500 events, however, they must quote their local registration number and be eligible to play in equivalent events in their own country.

Grand Slam players must state their rating when entering, eligibility includes under 54% for Novice, 56% and under for Restricted, and 59% and under for Intermediate events and 62% and under for the Under 1500 event.

A player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction, or higher, as the one entered. Notwithstanding, players who have already entered a restricted category at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible. Winners of events restricted by masterpoints cannot play in the identical event in subsequent years.

CATEGORY	GENERAL ELIGIBILITY	NZ ELIGIBILITY
0-10MP's (Rookie)	Under 10 MPs as at 30/9/2023*	Novice as at 30/09/2023
0-50 MP's	Under 50 MPs as at 30/9/2023*	Certificate of Proficiency or lower as at 30/09/2023
NOVICE	Under 100 MPs as at 30/9/2023*	Club Master or lower as at 30/09/2023
RESTRICTED	Under 300 MPs as at 30/9/2023*	Provincial or lower as at 30/09/2023
INTERMEDIATE	Under 750 MPs as at 30/9/2023*	Master or lower as at 30/09/2023
0-1500 MP's	Under 1500 MPs as at 30/9/2023*	Life Master or lower as at 30/9/23
MIXED	Required to have at least 1 male and 1 female player	
YOUTH	Must be born on or after 01/01/1999	

Players born on or after 01/01/2006 (under 18 years) and born on or before 01/01/1924 (over 100 years) are entitled to free entry - courtesy of Gold Coast Congress. Players born on or after 01/01/1999 (under 25 years) are entitled to a 50% discount. Please advise DOB when entering (ABF Policy).

ENTERING

On-line entering with [MyABF](#) is the preferred and only option to enter. Pele from Entries, and Kim and Ray from Enquiries can assist in these areas.

Pele Rankin: gccentries@qldbridge.com.au m: 0439 949 060. Email preferred. Please call between 9am and 5pm.

Kim & Ray Ellaway: manager@qldbridge.com.au m: 0412 064 903

You need to be registered with MyABF to submit an entry to any event. International players may submit their entries via Pele Rankin - gccentries@qldbridge.com.au

New Zealand players will need an ABF number before you can sign up. Please email masterpoints@abf.com.au with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - ABF Masterpoint Centre.

To sign up MyABF website, please follow these instructions. It only takes a couple of minutes:

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Sign up at this site <https://www.myabf.com.au/view>

Click on 'SIGN UP', which will take you to this

link <https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register> where you will need to enter **ABF number, Name, Email address and a password** that's easy to remember to avoid having to reset password.

Once you have done this, you will be sent an email to activate your account. Check spam for the activation email if you haven't received it.

Once you have activated your account, it will take you to a site with your profile. Include your mobile phone number and select the box for notifications if you would like to receive your results via text message.

For information on registering - [MyABF resources and how to sign up](#)

ENTRIES

Please ensure you get your entries in and remember they need to be paid by 12th February 2024 to receive the early bird discount. Never rely solely on your team-mates to do it for you.

MyABF is the preferred option for entering. Pele, Kim, and Ray are available to assist.

Entries close 24 hours prior to all events starting. Late entries for Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs and Friday Butler Swiss Pairs will be accepted up to 6.00pm on Thursday 22nd February 2024. Any changes to entries to these events will be charged an administration fee of \$10 per player. QBA reserves the right not to accept late entries and also reject entries without assigning cause.

Online entries close 48 hours prior to event. Phone entries may be accepted up to 24 hours prior to play starting, however for events on Friday and Saturday, entries will be accepted until 6.00pm on Thursday 22nd February.

Refunds are automatically given to those pairs who qualify for teams final. Youth players claiming a reduction in fees must disclose DOB at time of entry.

ENTRY DISCOUNTS

Youth Players and Senior Players are entitled to free entry (see DOB eligibility details in table below). GCC Prize Money Policy applies. Players born on or after 1 January 1999 (under 25 years) are entitled to a 50% discount. Players claiming a discount must disclose DOB at time of entry (ABF Policy). Early Bird Prices only apply if entry payment is received by 12th February 2024.

ENTRY FEES

Entry Fees – A few players, because of extenuating circumstances, have not been able to pre-pay their entry fee. If this means YOU, then please proceed to Bridge Administration Desk and take care of the matter. **Your team or pair cannot commence play if an entry fee is unpaid.**

Entry Fees for the events are as follows –

- Bobby Richman Pairs Championship: \$290 p/pair (\$250 if paid by 12/2)
- Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$170 p/pair (\$130 if paid by 12/2)
- Monday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$170 p/pair (\$130 if paid by 12/2)
- Teams Championships \$860 p/team (\$780 if paid by 12/2)
- Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs \$230 p/pair (\$190 if paid by 12/2)
- Rookie Pairs \$90 p/pair per session (\$50 if paid by 12/2)
- 0 - 50 Masterpoint Pairs (2 sessions) \$140 p/pair x Tuesday (\$100 if paid by 12/2)
\$140 p/pair x Wednesday (\$100 if paid by 12/2)

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- Friday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$140 p/pair x Thursday (\$100 if paid by 12/2)
- Walk In Pairs: \$170 per/pair (\$130 if paid by 12/2)
- \$15 per player (Pay at table)

Players born on or after 1 January 2006 (under 18 years) and born on or before 1 January 1924 (over 100 years) are entitled to free entry - courtesy of Gold Coast Congress. Players born on or after 1 January 1999 (under 25 years) are entitled to a 50% discount. Please advise DOB when entering (ABF Policy).

If you have not paid, you must go to the Bridge Administration Desk before play starts. Entry to the Ivy Dahler Pairs and Friday Butler Swiss Pairs will be accepted up to 6.00pm on Thursday.

Early bird discount applies to each person for most events if entry and entry fee is received prior to midnight Monday 12th February 2024.

ENTRY FORM

There is no official Entry Form but there is a form you can complete if you would like to post/email an entry. Control/Click this link: [Entry Form](#)

EVENT ORGANISERS

Tournament organiser – Tim Runting
Chief Tournament Director –Dr Laurie Kelso
Chief Scorer – Matthew McManus

EVENT INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

OPEN: Carries ABF Open Playoff Points. Swiss Pairs Events do not carry playoff points.

YOUTH: Open to players born after 1st January 1999.

0-1500: Open to players who have not attained 1500 MPs as at 30 Sept 2023

INTERMEDIATE: Open to players who have not attained 750 MPs as at 30 Sept 2023

RESTRICTED: Open to players who have not attained 300 MPs as at 30 Sept 2023

NOVICE: Open to players who have not attained 100 MP's as at 30 Sept 2023

UNDER 50 MP: Open to players who have not attained 50 MPs as at 30 Sept 2023

ROOKIE: Open to players who have not attained 10 MP's as at 30 Sept 2023

FINALISTS

Those teams qualifying for a berth in the Finals series of the Teams Championships in all sections do so only on the condition that they are willing and available to progress to the conclusion of their respective events.

For the Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice - If one or two teams are not available the play off for the finals to be given to third and/or fourth place. If no two teams are available, the team willing to participate in the finals series to be given the title and prizemoney with the runner up to be given second place status.

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FINALS INCLUDING TOP 4 AND SEMI FINALS

The top 2 from each field of Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice teams will play in finals beginning at 10.00 am on Friday. The top 6 in the Open Field will play finals on Friday and then the top 2 on Saturday.

OPEN - TOP 6 AT END OF MATCH 12

Round of 4 - 3rd to 6th

Friday 9:00am 24 Boards (2x12 Board Stanzas)

Losing teams in the round of 4 may feed into the Ivy Dahler Pairs or play in the Walk In Pairs. Conditions apply.

OPEN - SEMI FINAL

1st, 2nd and winners of the Round of 4

Friday 2:00pm 36 Boards (3x12 Board Stanzas)

OPEN - FINAL

Saturday 9:00am 48 Boards (4x12 Board Stanzas)

UNDER 1500, INTERMEDIATE, RESTRICTED and NOVICE,

Top 2 at the end of Match 12

Friday 10:00am 48 Boards (4x12 Board Stanzas)

FINDING US ONLINE

[GCC website](#) or [Facebook](#)

GOLD POINTS

Gold points are awarded for all events except Walk In Pairs.

For further information regarding masterpoint allocation, please refer to [Masterpoints](#) .

HELP BEFORE PLAY

Help will be available as follows:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Rookies | Sunday 18 th February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am |
| | Thursday 22 nd February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am |
| Under 50s | Tuesday 20 th February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am |
| | Wednesday 21 st February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am |
| | Thursday 22 nd February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am |
| Novices | Sunday 18 th February Novice Pairs start 10.00am help from 9.30am |
| | Tuesday 20 th February Novice Teams start 10.00am help from 9.30am |
| | Friday 23 rd February Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs starts 10am help from 9.30am |

Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

HELP BEFORE PLAY VOLUNTEERS

Date	Day	Event	Help from	Play Starts	Volunteers
18/02/2024	Sunday	BR Novice Pairs	9.30am	10.00am	Mick Fawcett, Lyn Tracey, Phil Hale
18/02/2024	Sunday	Rookies	9.30am	10.00am	Mick Fawcett, Graham Rusher, Andrew & Susan Sharp
20/02/2024	Tuesday	Novice Teams	9.30am	10.00am	Michelle Radke, Winny Chan, Dewi Eastman
20/02/2024	Tuesday	0-50s	9.30am	10.00am	Jim & Pamela Evans, Graham Rusher
21/02/2024	Wednesday	0-50s	9.30am	10.00am	Graham Rusher, Andrew & Susan Sharp
22/02/2024	Thursday	0-50s	9.30am	10.00am	Jim & Pamela Evans, Graham Rusher
22/02/2024	Thursday	Rookies	9.30am	10.00am	Michelle Radke, Winny Chan, Dewi Eastman
23/02/2024	Friday	Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs	9.30am	10.00am	Mick Fawcett, Lyn Tracey, Phil Hale

HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT AND KEEPING COSTS DOWN

There has been an increasing trend for players to read the Daily Bulletin online. This has enabled us to reduce the print runs of the bulletin reducing our carbon footprint and keeping down the costs for you the players.

HOSPITALITY

Hospitality is held in the Convener's Unit daily usually after the afternoon's play in the pairs and after the last match during the teams. The Convener, at times, allows other officers to host hospitality sessions.

HOUSE TEAMS AND PAIRS

Any nominations are welcomed in the event that House Teams or Pairs are required. House players are eligible to win prizes and master points.

IMPORTANT POINTS

- Gold Points are awarded in all events except Walk-in Pairs
- [List of prizes](#) are published on the My ABF GCC website
- [System regulations](#) are available on the MyABF GCC website
- [Supplementary regulations](#) are now published on website
- Seating for Pairs and Teams Championships are available on website 24 hours prior to event
- Gold Coast Congress Compendium updated regularly as information comes to hand

INTERMEDIATE ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 750 MP's as at 30 September 2023.

LATE ENTRIES IVY DAHLER BUTLER PAIRS AND FRIDAY BUTLER PAIRS

Entries for the end-of-week events (Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs, Sere McMahon Swiss Pairs and Friday Novice Pairs) close at **6.00pm Thursday**.

To relieve the pressure on the Administration Desk at this time, and to cut down on the queues, we are leaving the web site on-line entries open right up until **6.00pm Thursday** for players

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wishing to enter and pay on-line by credit card. The QBA reserves the right not to accept late entries and reject entries without assigning cause.

You will still be able to pay at the Administration Desk using cash, cheque, or credit card. Changes to existing entries (different players, changing events, cancellations etc.) will need to be done at the Administration Desk. Any changes to entries to these events will be charged an administration fee of \$10 per player.

Avoid the queues and enter on-line. If you make the finals, you will automatically receive a refund.

LUNCHES

The Convention Centre Kiosk, The Combi, will sell a few sandwiches, salads and sausage rolls. Alternatively, here are some suggestions nearby from the GCCEC – [Cafes near GCCEC](#)

MASTERPOINTS

Walk-In Pairs are awarded Red Masterpoints.

All other events including Rookies and 0-50mps are awarded Gold Masterpoints.

Masterpoint Awards:

Sunday/Monday Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Open Teams

Under 1500 MPs Teams

Intermediate Teams

Restricted Teams

Novice Teams

Open Butler Swiss Pairs

Intermediate Butler Swiss Pairs

Restricted Butler Swiss Pairs

Novice Butler Swiss Pairs

0-50 MPs Butler Swiss Pairs

Substantial awards for outright places (top half of field in pairs, top third of field in Teams and Swiss pairs). All Masterpoint awards are subject to final field size.

Gold in main events, red for walk-ins

0.36 gold masterpoints for each win

0.32 gold masterpoints for each win

1.12 gold masterpoints for each win

0.56 gold masterpoints for each win

0.50 gold masterpoints for each win

0.41 gold masterpoints for each win

0.36 gold masterpoints for each win

0.64 gold masterpoints for each win

0.29 gold masterpoints for each win

0.23 gold masterpoints for each win

0.16 gold masterpoints for each win

0.16 gold masterpoints for each win

MINOR SPONSORS

Voucher Sponsors are entitled to free advertisements. A \$50 voucher is entitled to an advertisement equivalent to the size of 1/6th of a page. \$500 of vouchers will provide a daily advertisement of the same size.

My ABF – SIGNING UP

All players will need an ABF number to play in the Gold Coast Congress. Please email masterpoints@abf.com.au with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. Alternatively, email Pele Rankin and she will get the ABF number for you.

If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - ABF Masterpoint Centre.

Once you have an ABF number, you need to be **registered with [MyABF](#)** to submit an entry to any event. International players may submit their entries via Pele Rankin - gccentries@qldbridge.com.au

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New Zealand players will need an ABF number before you can sign up. Please email masterpoints@abf.com.au with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - [ABF Masterpoint Centre](#).

To sign up to [MyABF](#), please follow these instructions. It only takes a couple of minutes:

Sign up at this site <https://www.myabf.com.au/view>

Click on 'SIGN UP', which will take you to this link <https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register> where you will need to enter **ABF number, Name, Email address and a password** that's easy to remember to avoid having to reset password.

You will be sent an email to activate your account. Check spam for the activation email if you haven't received it.

Once you have activated your account, it will take you to a site with your profile. Include your mobile phone number and select the box for notifications if you would like to receive your results via text message. Please enter your date of birth.

For information on registering - [MyABF resources and how to sign up](#)

My ABF REFUNDS

Should you withdraw from the event prior to publication of the draw, and you would like a refund of your entry fees, please refer to these instructions:

[My ABF How to Withdraw and Entry and Request a Refund](#)

NEW ZEALAND MASTERPOINT CONVERSION

CATEGORY	NZ ELIGIBILITY
Rookie	Novice as at 30/09/2023
Under 50	Certificate of Proficiency or lower as at 30/09/2023
NOVICE	Club Master or lower as at 30/09/2023
RESTRICTED	Provincial or lower as at 30/09/2023
0-500 MPs and INTERMEDIATE	Master or lower as at 30/09/2023
Under 1500	Life Master or lower as at 30/09/2023
Youth	Born after or on 01/01/1999

NIGHT PLAY

No night bridge apart from No Frills Walk In

NO FRILLS WALK-IN PAIRS

Saturday 17th February – 1 Session: 6.00pm

NOVICE ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 100 MP's as at 30 September 2023.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL
NOVICE AND ROOKIE ACTIVITIES

NOVICE & ROOKIE ACTIVITY	VENUE	DATE/TIME
GCC Bobby Richman Novice Pairs Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Maroon Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Sunday 18 th Help from 9.30am
GCC Rookie Pairs Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Sunday 18 th Help from 9.15am
GCC 0-50 MP Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Tuesday 20 th Help from 9.15am
GCC Novice Teams Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Maroon Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Tuesday 20 th Help from 9.30am
GCC 0-50 MP Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Wednesday 21 st Help from 9.15am
GCC Rookie Pairs Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Thursday 22 nd Help from 9.15am
GCC 0-50 MP Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Thursday 22 nd Help from 9.15am
GCC Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs Welcome Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Maroon Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Friday 23 rd Help from 9.30am

[GCC Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

NOVICE EVENTS

ROOKIE PAIRS – under 10 masterpoints (2 separate events)

Sunday 18th Feb 10.00am (min 24 boards) finish approx. 1.45pm

Thursday 22nd Feb 10.00am (min 24 boards) finish approx. 1.45pm

\$90 per pair (\$50 if prepaid by 12/2)

0-50 MASTERPOINT PAIRS

Tuesday 20th Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$110.00 (\$90 if paid by 12/2) per pair

Wednesday 21st Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$140.00 (\$100 if paid by 12/2) per pair

0-50 BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

Thursday 22nd Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$140.00 (\$100 if paid by 12/2) per pair

Small tea break will be held during sessions of 0-50 and 0-10 masterpoint sessions

FRIDAY IVY DAHLER NOVICE PAIRS – under 100 masterpoints

Friday 23rd Feb 10am & 2pm; Saturday 24th 10am (3 sessions). Finish approx. 1.30pm Saturday

\$230 per pair (\$190 if prepaid by 12/2)

NOVICE BR PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP – under 100 masterpoints

4 sessions must play all

Sun 18th Feb 10.00am & 2.30pm finish approx. 5.45pm

Mon 19th Feb 10.00am & 2.30pm finish approx. 5.45pm

\$290 PER PAIR (\$250 if prepaid by 12/2)

NOVICE TEAMS – under 100 masterpoints - 12 matches

Tue 20th Feb, 10:00am & 2.30pm (4 matches) finish 6.00 pm approx.

Wed 21st Feb, 10:00am & 2.30pm (4 matches) finish 6.00 pm approx.

Thu 22nd Feb, 10:00am & 2.30pm (4 matches) finish 6.00 pm approx.

\$860 PER TEAM (\$780 if prepaid by 12/2)

(Top 2 at the end of match 12 play the finals at 10am Fri 23rd Feb – 4 x 12 board stanzas)

NOVICE HELP BEFORE PLAY

Help will be on hand one hour before the start of play for all 0-50, Rookie and half an hour before play for Novice players. Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

Novice Bobby Richman Pairs Sun 18th Feb play starts 10am – help from 9.30am

Novice Teams Tue 20th Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

Novice Ivy Dahler Pairs Fri 23rd Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

[Gold Coast Congress Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

ONLINE ENTRIES

Enter online via MyABF <https://www.myabf.com.au/>. Online entries close 48 hours prior to event. Phone entries may be accepted up to 24 hours prior to play starting, however for events on Friday 23rd February, entries will be accepted until 6.00pm on Thursday 22nd February.

ONSITE PERSONNEL

Attending the congress during the tournament will be:

World Bridge Federation:

Ben Thomson – Vice President

Australian Bridge Federation:

Alison Stralow – President

Executive Director – David Fryda

Chris Mulley – Secretary

Dr Laurie Kelso - Joint National Event Coordinator and Secretary of WBF Laws Committee

Matthew McManus – Joint National Event Coordinator

Peter Reynolds – Chairman ABF Tournament Committee

Jane Rasmussen – Executive Secretary

New Zealand Bridge Federation:

Chairperson – Alan Morris

Board Member – Sue Brown

Board Member - Anna Kalma

Board Member – Kate Terry

Board Member – John Skipper

Board Member – Murray Wiggins

National Secretary – Alistair Stuck

Queensland Bridge Association:

Richard Ward – QBA President and ABF Board Member

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL IBPA

Barry Rigal (USA)– President of the International Bridge Press Association
David Stern – Executive Vice President of the International Press Association
Liam Milne – Executive member of the International Bridge Press Association
Geo Tislevoll – (NZL) Executive member of the International Bridge Press Association
Richard Solomon (NZL) - Treasurer

OPEN PAIRS and TEAMS PLAYOFF POINTS

https://www.abfevents.com.au/events/pqp/standings/2024/2024_PQP_Table.html

BR Open Pairs Championship carries ABF Open Playoff Points. Swiss Pairs Events do not carry playoff points. PQP's awarded are:

1st = 36, 2nd = 28, 3rd = 20, 4th = 12, 5th = 6

Open Teams Championship carries ABF Open Playoff Points. PQP's awarded are:

1st = 48, 2nd = 24, 3rd = 18, 4th = 12, 5th 8, 6th 4

Australian Playoff Points are allocated to Open and Mixed events. Australian players entering the Gold Coast Congress Open Teams will be eligible for Open PQPs, irrespective of the category for which their team nominates. There is no finals play-off on Friday for Women's and Seniors' teams.

OVERSEAS ELIGIBILITY

New Zealand eligibility is publicised. Players from other countries will need to contact the Convenor.

ROOKIE 0-10 MP's: Novice as at 30/09/2023

0 – 50 MP's: Certificate of Proficiency as at 30/09/2023

NOVICE: Club Master or lower as at 30/09/2023

RESTRICTED: Provincial or lower as at 30/09/2023

0 – 500 MP's: Master or lower as at 30/09/2023

INTERMEDIATE under 750 MP's: Master or lower as at 30/09/2023

Under 1500: Life Master or lower as at 30/09/2023

Youth: Must be born after 01/01/1999

PARKING

Parking will be available for \$15 per entry per day or \$63 for a weekly pass with unlimited entry from Sunday 18th February to Saturday 24th February inclusive.

The Bridge Administration Desk is the ONLY place you can obtain a weekly pass. It will be open on Saturday 17th February from 12.00pm until 6pm then from Sunday one hour before play to half an hour after play finishes. Weekly passes can only be used from Sunday to Saturday inclusive.

For those requiring casual day parking, a one entry one exit ticket will be available from the machine upon entry. Those parking will need to pay \$15 on departure at the pay stations which are located at the centre lifts as you are exiting. Note that the \$15 ticket is a one entry and one exit ticket so if you intend to leave between sessions you will be required to pay a second \$15 parking fee.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

PARTNERSHIP REQUESTS

You may put in a partnership request with Toni Bardon 0401 082 054 or tmbardon@hotmail.com

PAYING AN ENTRY THAT'S ALREADY BEEN LODGED

A detailed "How to" guide illustrating this is on the My ABF Resources website [here](#):

PAYMENT OF PRIZE MONEY

When players come to the admin desk for their prize, they will be asked for Bank Account Details for one member of the winning pair or team. Prize money can be paid with bridge credits if requested. Overseas winners will need to discuss with Administration Staff.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

1. Direct Deposit BSB: 484-799 Acc No: 452338505 Name: QBA
2. Cheques payable to: "Queensland Bridge Association". Post to Pele Rankin
3. Credit Card (complete details below)

Please charge my credit card the amount of \$ _____

Card Type: Mastercard Visa

Card holder's Name: _____

Card No: _____

Expiry Date ____ / ____

Card holders signature: _____

Mail entries to Pele Rankin, 38 Kirkdale Rd Chapel Hill Qld 4069

ONLINE ENTRANTS: If you enter on-line and promise payment by cheque or mailed credit card details, you **need to provide your name and event** along with the cheque or credit card details. No need to complete other parts of the form.

PENS

Pens will be issued at the start of the Pairs and start of the Teams and belong to the players who are responsible for carrying their own pens from table to table.

PHOTOS POLICY

The Gold Coast Congress photographer takes random photos of winners and players during the week of the congress. Should any player not wish to have their photo taken, they should advise the GCC Manager in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the congress.

PLAYER NUMBERS FOR THE TEAMS USING BRIDGEMATE II

See [BRIDGE MATES II – PLAYER NUMBERS FOR THE TEAMS](#)

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

PLAYER QUALIFYING POINTS

Please refer to [PQPs – PLAYER QUALIFYING POINTS](#)

POLICY BRIDGE COMPANIONS ATTENDEES

Conditions of participation in Bridge Companion excursions: The GCC has strict guidelines regarding participation in any excursions. If an attendee has any health concerns that may impact their ability to participate in the excursion, please advise Sue (m) 0424 830 158 gcchospitality@qldbridge.com.au. You may be barred from joining some of the excursions.

POLICY DINNER DANCE

Conditions of Entry to the Dinner Dance: The GCCEC has strict guidelines regarding its liquor licence and the Responsible Service of Alcohol. Under no circumstances can alcohol be brought onto the premises for consumption at the dinner dance, nor can any alcohol purchased at the GCC Dinner be taken from the venue during or after the event. No alcohol will be served to those under 18, or to anybody deemed to be drunk and/or disorderly.

POLICY PHOTOS

The Gold Coast Congress photographer takes random photos of winners and players during the week of the congress. Should any player not wish to have their photo taken, they should advise the GCC Manager in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the congress.

POLICY REFUNDS

Late refunds are issued at the Gold Coast Congress Management's discretion, ideally before the draw for the event is published. Gold Coast Congress Management reserve the right to charge an administration fee of 25% of the entry fee.

POLICY TEAM CATEGORY

Special category prizes (awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category.

POLICY TEAM CATEGORY

Special category prizes (awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL
POLICY – QBA WELLNESS GUIDE

WELLNESS GUIDELINES: Players and officials are asked not to attend any event if they are infectious, or if they are supposed to be isolating or quarantining. Those who come to play and, feeling unwell, self-diagnose that they may be infectious, should inform the director and leave the venue.

POLICY – WALK IN PAIRS

Anything up to and including 10 tables will be a Howell movement, More than 10 tables will be a Mitchell movement.

PQPs – PLAYER QUALIFYING POINTS

PQP’s are earned as per table below:

https://www.abfevents.com.au/events/pqp/standings/2024/2024_PQP_Table.html

EVENT	TYPE	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	4 TH	5 TH	6 TH
Gold Coast Pairs	MP Pairs	36	28	20	12	6	
Gold Coast Teams	Teams	48	24	18	12	8	4

Australian players entering the Gold Coast Congress BR Open Pairs and Open Teams will be eligible for Open PQPs, irrespective of the category for which their team nominates..

PRIZES

Link with the list of prizes is published on the GCC website.

Please see the prize board near the office. Qualifying Rounds – the bridge admin office will decide on how many within the section receives pens. It depends on the end number of sessions.

House players are eligible to win prizes.

Youth players who had free entry to an event and win a prize, will have half the entry fee deducted from their prize should the prize money exceed \$150.

PRIZE MONEY – 2024

		PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP			
OPEN (8 sect)		PLATE	INTER(5 sect)	REST(5 sect)	NOVICE(3 sect)
1 st	\$1,800.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
2 nd	\$ 800.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$350.00
3 rd	\$ 600.00				

Best Women’s Pair (Open) - \$200.00

Best Queensland Pair in each category \$200.00(v)

Qualifying – decision as to how many, will be made by Bridge Admin after event starts – pens to be awarded. It is assumed as at 29/8 that it will be 11 in the Open, 6 in the Restricted, 6 in the Intermediate and 3 in the Novice.

Finals – winners in each section in each session to be awarded pens.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Other Sections

1 st	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$300.00
2 nd	\$300.00 (C\$200 V\$100)	\$300.00 (C\$200 V\$100)	\$300.00 (C\$200 V\$100)	\$250.00 (C\$150 V\$100)

Prize of Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

SUNDAY, MONDAY & FRIDAY BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

0-500 Field only applies to the Sunday and Monday events.

One field only

OPEN

1 st	\$300.00	1 st	<u>0-500</u> \$200.00
2 nd	\$200.00	2 nd	\$150.00
3 rd	\$150.00 (C\$50 & V\$100)		

No 3rd Prize for Friday Butler

Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

Sessional winners will receive pens.

ROOKIE PAIRS

1 st	\$80.00 for both North-South and East-West
2 nd	\$60.00 for both North-South and East-West – (Vouchers)

UNDER 50 PAIRS – 2 SESSIONS

1 st	\$160.00
2 nd	\$120.00 (Vouchers)
3 rd	\$100.00 (Vouchers)

Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre Foyer.

IVY DAHLER BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

		<u>Open (2 fields)</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Novice</u>
1 st	NS/EW	\$400.00 x2	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
2 nd	NS/EW	\$300.00 x2	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00

WALK IN PAIRS

\$50/\$60 Restaurant vouchers for North/South and East/West Daily Winners when more than 10 ½ tables. One prize only if 10 tables or less.

No Frills Walk Ins – Sectional and Directional Winners to receive WINE and PEN

TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

	<u>Open</u>	<u>Under 1500</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Novice</u>
1 st	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
2 nd	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
3 rd	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$ 700.00
3 rd	\$1,500.00				
5 th	\$1,000.00				
5 th	\$1,000.00				

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Team Categories

1 st	\$400.00 (C & V)	\$400.00(C&V)	\$400.00(C&V)	\$400.00(C&V)	\$400.00(C&V)
	4 categories	3 categories	3 categories	3 categories	3 categories

C & V = \$100 in Vouchers and \$300 in Direct Deposit in all categories. Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

Wine to be distributed to spot prizes throughout the event.

PRIZES – PAYMENT

When players come to the admin desk for their prize, they will be asked for Bank Account Details for one member of the winning pair or team. Prizes in bridge credits can be organised. Overseas winners will need to discuss with Administration Staff.

PRIZES – RESTRICTED PAIRS

The top two Qld pairs in the GCC Restricted Pairs will be awarded the airfare and entry to the ANC Restricted Pairs held in Orange, NSW. To qualify for the prize, the pairs must meet the ABF Eligibility criteria for the ANC Restricted Pairs which is under 300 Masterpoints on 31 Dec 2023.

PRIZES – YOUTH

If a youth player has paid no entry fee and he/she wins a prize over \$150, half price entry fee to be taken out of the prize.

PROBLEMS

Tim Runting is the Convenor and Kim Ellaway the Manager. If you experience any problems with the events, see either of them. Kim can be contacted on 0412 064 903 at any time during the congress, or Tim on 0458 448 765.

PROTECTED PAIRS

Pairs playing a **GREEN** system can apply for an Orange sticker if both are below Life Master or one is below State Master.

This affords protection from **BROWN STICKER** conventions in all events where they are permitted with the exception of the major Final of the Open Pairs.

RECORDERS

The ABF is keen to ensure events are played in the spirit of sportsmanship, and that players have an enjoyable experience at events run under the auspices of the ABF. The recorders at this event fulfil an important role in supporting this objective.

Recorders may receive oral or written communication from players at the end of each session regarding issues that have arisen during the event relating to player ethics or behaviour. Please feel free to consult with them about any concerns you might have.

The recorders for this event are Richard Ward, Jodi Tutty, Bob Sebesfi and David Beauchamp.

The Director will guide you to the appropriate adviser.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL
PROGRAM

Sat 17 Feb	No Frills Walk-In Pairs – 1 session	6.00pm. No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table
Sun – Mon 18-19 Feb	Bobby Richman Pairs Championship 4 sessions (Matchpoint Pairs) (all pairs play in all sessions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open ▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs) ▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs) ▪ Novice (under 100 MPs) 	2 qualifying sessions Sunday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm 2 finals sessions (10 Table sections) Monday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 6.00pm Open Pairs Championship will be playing for the Bobby Richman Trophy Best Women's pair will be playing for the Gerda Stern Trophy – sponsored by David Stern. Best Qld Pair in each category receives a voucher prize. Best Intermediate Pair will receive a Trophy. Restricted Pairs Championship will receive a trophy Novice Pairs Championship will be playing for the Tony Jackman Shield.
Sun 18 Feb	Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs 2 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open • 0-500 	10.00am and 2.30pm. Butler Swiss Pairs event Separate NS and EW fields in the Open. 6 x 9 board matches over 2 sessions finishing by 5.45pm
Sun 18 Feb	Rookie Pairs Sage Walk-in Pairs 10am Hideaway Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm	10.00am finishing approx 1.30pm. Single session Matchpoint pairs for players under 10 MPs – 24 boards minimum. Sponsored by Annette Maluish Walk-In Pairs - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table
Mon 19 Feb	Monday Butler Swiss Pairs - 2 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open • 0-500 Sage Walk-in Pairs 10am Hideaway Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm	10.00am and 2.30pm. Butler Swiss Pairs event Separate NS and EW fields in the Open. 6 x 9 board matches over 2 sessions finishing by 5.45pm Walk-In Pairs - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table.
Tue to Thu 20-22 Feb	Teams Championship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open • Under 1500 MPs • Intermediate (under 750 MPs) • Restricted (under 300 MPs) • Novice (under 100 MPs) 	Comprising 12 x 14-board matches for all sections. Open Teams field will play for the Stepbridge Trophy. Under 1500 will play for a Trophy, Intermediate Teams will play for the Two Men and a Truck Trophy. Restricted Teams Trophy is in memory of Pauline Evans – Prize money is partially sponsored by Jim Evans. Novice Teams will play for the Therese Tully Trophy. Matches: Starting times each day – 10.00am & 2.30pm (4 matches per day), finish by 6.00pm. Finals (No Women's or Seniors' final): Fri-Sat - see below
Tue 20 Feb	0-50 MP Pairs Sessions 1 & 2 Sage Walk-in Pairs 10am Hideaway Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm	Two-session matchpointed pairs for players with fewer than 50 MPs - 10.00am and 2.30pm Walk-In Pairs - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Wed 21 Feb	0-50 MP Pairs Sessions 1 & 2 Sage Walk-in Pairs 10am Sage Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm	Two-session matchpointed pairs for players with fewer than 50 MPs - 10.00am and 2.30pm Walk-In Pairs - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table
Thu 22 Feb	Rookie Pairs Walk-in Pairs - 2 Sessions 0-50 MP Butler Swiss Pairs	10.00am. Single session matchpointed pairs for players with fewer than 10 MPs. Sponsored by Annette Maluish. Walk-In Pairs - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table 10.00am and 2.30pm. Two-sessions with 6 x 8 board matches for players with fewer than 50 MPs
Fri and Sat 23-24 Feb	Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open ▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs) ▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs) ▪ Novice (under 100 MPs) 	Comprises 10 x 8-board matches over 3 sessions: Friday 10.00am and 2.00pm, session finishing by 6.00pm, and Saturday 10.00am finishing by 1.30pm. Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice players will be playing for the Ivy Dahler Trophies. Two fields in Open section. Single fields in Intermediate, Restricted and Novice sections. Drop-ins from team round of four will be permitted
Fri and Sat 23-24 Feb	Teams Finals	Open Round-of-Four for 3rd to 6th places Friday 9.00am 2x12-board matches. Drop-ins to Ivy Dahler Pairs will be permitted. Entry fee will be the discounted rate if that was the fee they paid before 12 th February 2024. Open Semi-Finals for 1st and 2nd and two winners from Round-of-four Friday 2.00pm 3x12-board matches Open Finals for 2 Semi-finals winners Saturday 9.00am 4x12board matches. Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice Finals for top 2 at the end of Match 12 Friday 10.00am 4x12-board matches
Fri 23 Feb	Friday Butler Swiss Pairs Open - 2 Sessions	10.00am and 2.00pm, finishing by 5.15pm. Comprises 6 x 8 board matches over 2 sessions. Saturday finish 1.30pm
	Paul Lavings Bridge Gear Walk-in Pairs - 2 Sessions	10.00am and 2.00pm. 2 separate sessions. No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table.
Sat 24 Feb	Paul Lavings Bridge Gear Walk-in Pairs - 1 Session Dinner Dance – 7.30pm	Starts 10.00am. No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player collected at the table. All players will need to pay \$20 with non-players paying \$50. Please book at the venue prior to Wednesday 21 st February to ensure you place is secured.

REFUNDS

Should you withdraw from an event prior to the draw is done, and you would like a refund of your entry fees, please refer to these instructions from MyABF.

[How to Withdraw an Entry/Request a Refund](#)

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

REFUNDS POLICY

Late refunds are issued at the Gold Coast Congress Management's discretion, ideally before the draw for the event is published. Gold Coast Congress Management reserve the right to charge an administration fee of 25% of the entry fee.

RESTRICTED ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have less than 300 MP's as at 30 September 2023.

RESTRICTED PAIRS PRIZE

The top two Qld pairs in the Gold Coast Restricted Pairs will be awarded the airfare and entry to the ANC Restricted Pairs held in Orange, NSW. To qualify for the prize, the pairs must meet the ABF Eligibility criteria for the ANC Restricted Pairs which is under 300 Masterpoints on 31 December 2023.

REVIEWERS

Russel Harms and Nick Hughes

REVIEW CONSULTANTS

David Appleton, Shane Harrison, Kim Morrison and David Stevenson

ROOKIE (0-10) ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 10 MP's as at 30 September 2023.

ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50 AND NOVICE LIAISON OFFICERS

Mick Fawcett, Lyn Tracey, Jim Evans, Pamela Evans, Phil Hale, Michelle Radke, Andrew Sharp, and Susan Sharp, Winny Chan, Dewi Eastman.

ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50 AND NOVICE COLOURS

- **0-50** in fuchsia
- **Rookies** in fuchsia
- **Novice** in Maroon

ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50 AND NOVICE EVENTS

Please refer to [NOVICE EVENTS](#)

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50, AND NOVICE HELP

Help will be available as follows:

Rookies	Sunday 18 th February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am onwards Thursday 22 nd February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am onwards
Under 50s	Tuesday 20 th February play starts 10.00am help from 9.15am Wednesday 21 st February play starts 10.00 help from 9.15am Thursday 22 nd February play starts 10.00 help from 9.15am
Novices	Sunday 18 th February Novice Pairs start 10.00am help from 9.30am Tuesday 20 th February Novice Teams start 10.00am help from 9.30am Friday 23 rd February Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs 10am help from 9.30am

Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow fluorescent jackets.

[Gold Coast Congress Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

Our thanks to our helpers: Mick Fawcett, Lyn Tracey, Richard Fox, Kathy Males, Warren Males, Jim Evans, Pamela Evans, Phil Hale, Sameer Pandya, Michelle Radke, Rachel Langdon, Andrew Sharp, and Susan Sharp

ROOM SET UP – COLOUR CODING

Coloured flags will identify your section, results and playing areas. For the whole event, the room tablecloth colours will be:

Open Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler — Light and Dark Blue

Under 1500 — Orange

Intermediate Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler — Light and Dark Yellow

Restricted Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler — Light and Dark Green

Novice Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler — Maroon

Rookies/0-50/Walk-Ins Events — Fuchsia

Sunday Butler Open, Monday Butler Open — Orange

Sunday Butler 0-500, Monday Butler 0-500, Friday Butler Pairs — Purple

SCORE BOOKLETS

Scoring booklets are provided at the start of each event. Should you require another one, please ask a caddy, and if available, another will be supplied.

SCORING ISSUES

The Scoring Liaison Officer is Toni Bardon. She will act as liaison between players and the Scoring Unit. Any problems and concerns you have about scoring and results should be addressed to Toni – she has a desk outside the Scoring Room. Scoring Area Phone Number is 0456587765 – accepts text messages only.

SCORING CORRECTION PERIODS

See also [CORRECTION OF SCORES](#)

Errors in scoring must be advised to the Scoring Enquiries desk before the following times:

Pairs Championships

Qualifying One	3.00pm Sunday
Qualifying Two	One hour after scores are posted
Final One	3.00pm Monday
Final Two	One hour after scores are posted

Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3.00pm Sunday
Matches 4-6	One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

Monday Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3.00pm Monday
Matches 4-6	One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

Teams Championships

Matches 1, 3, 5, 7, 9	One hour after the end of the next even numbered match
Matches 2, 4, 6, 8, 10	At the start of the next even numbered match
Matches 11, 12	8:30pm Thursday for corrections affecting Final series qualification. Midnight, Thursday, for all other corrections

Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3:00pm Friday
Matches 4-7	11.00am Saturday
Matches 8-10	One hour after scores for Match 10 are posted

Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3:00pm, Friday
Matches 4-6	One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

All Other Sessions

Sessions Not Listed Above 20 minutes after scores for the session are posted

World Championships have been awarded based on scoring errors. E/W Pairs should not simply acknowledge the scores on the Bridgemates but should check them carefully. Incorrect scores can change the result of an event even though the relevant pairs may have nothing to do with the scoring error. They may also affect draws for Teams and Swiss Pairs events, Masterpoints, Playoff Qualifying Points.

SEATING

Seating for Pairs and Teams Championships are available on the GCC website 24 hours prior to the event.

SERVICES

During session time, if you need a doctor or medical assistance you can contact Kim Ellaway through the Administration Desk. Kim will direct you to the inhouse Doctor.

Outside of session time, contact the Broadbeach Medical Centre on 07-5531-6344, Suite GO1, 2681 Gold Coast Highway Broadbeach. Please note they do not bulk bill. After-hours service: National Home Doctors Service on 137425 who do bulk bill.

SESSION TIMES

All session times are shown in the online Daily Bulletin each day.

Pairs Championship – Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice

Sunday 10.00am, 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm
Monday 10.00am, 2.30pm finishing 6.00pm

Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs

Sunday 10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

Monday Butler Swiss Pairs

Monday 10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

Under 50 Masterpoint Pairs – 2 sessions

Tuesday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm
Wednesday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm
Thursday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

Rookie Pairs – two separate events

Sunday 10.00am – 1.15pm Short coffee break during session
Thursday 10.00am – 1.15pm Short coffee break during session

Teams Championship

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10.00am – 1.30pm and 2.30pm – 6.00pm

NOTE – The top 2 from each field of Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice teams will play in finals beginning at 10.00am on Friday. The top 6 in the Open Field will play finals on Friday and then the top 2 on Saturday. No longer Seniors'/Women's teams finals.

Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday 10.00am – 1.30pm; 2.00 pm – 6.00pm (Approx finish times)
Saturday 10.00am – finished by 1.30pm

Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday 10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.00pm finishing 5.15pm

Walk In Pairs

Saturday 17th 6.00pm
Sunday 18th 10.00am and 2.30pm
Monday 19th 10.00am and 2.30pm
Tuesday 20th 10.00am and 2.30pm
Wednesday 21st 10.00am and 2.30pm
Thursday 22nd 10.00am and 2.30pm
Friday 23rd 10.00am and 2.00pm
Saturday 25th 10.00am (finish time 1.30pm)

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Refer also to [Bridge Companion's Program](#)

19 th – 24 th			TBIB Daily Prize Wheel. You Must be Present to Win. A TBIB lucky star under a chair in main playing area for a spin opportunity Foyer GCCEC
18 th	Sunday	11.00am-12.30pm	<u>Get Together Non Bridge Playing Partners</u> Apartment 1901, Air on Broadbeach 159 Old Burleigh Rd, Broadbeach
19 th	Monday	8.30am	Directors Get Together - Hosted by Chris Snook 0413136435 chris@snook.id.au - Upstairs Room 12
19 th	Monday	10.30am-4.30pm	<u>Kingscliff</u> , a coastal town, just south of Tweed Heads. The main street Marine Parade offers lovely boutique shopping with many cafes. We will lunch here, and then off to Fingal Head if time allows. A slow walk to the lighthouse and outlook, to view Cook Island. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch & tea at own costs
20 th	Tuesday	9.45am-10.15am	<u>Get Together Non Bridge Playing Partners</u> Apartment 1901, Air on Broadbeach 159 Old Burleigh Rd, Broadbeach
20 th	Tuesday	10.30am-4.00pm	<u>Cedar Creek Falls track</u> to lookout 500m return. Time: Allow about 15min walking time. Details: Take a walk to Cedar Creek Falls lookout and admire views of the gorge and waterfalls. <u>Cedar Creek Falls rock pools</u> 1.1km return. There are many steps on this walk, so be prepared for an uphill climb on our return. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch at own costs
21 st	Wednesday	2.00pm-2.15pm	<i>Sports Day Theme</i> Parade - Foyer GCCEC
21 st	Wednesday	10.30am-3.30pm	<u>Harbour Town</u> - One of Australia's largest outlet Shopping centres with over 240 stores, as well as providing alfresco dining. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach. \$15 bus
22 nd	Thursday	10.30am-4.30pm	<u>The Margaret Olley Art Centre</u> (MOAC) is the third and final stage of the Tweed Regional Gallery. MOAC celebrates Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors. Lunch at the Apex dining tearoom. Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch & tea at own costs
23 rd	Friday	8.15am	Champagne and Nibbles for Shoe shoppers inherSHOES Gnd Flr, Oasis Shopping Centre
23 rd	Friday	10.30am-2.30pm	<u>Sanctuary Cove</u> – A fabulous range of boutiques, with

mouth-watering selections of cafes and restaurants with views over the Marina.

Depart Ground Floor, Air on Broadbeach. \$15 bus

Other Options

David Fleay Wildlife Park - A wildlife park with a difference! You can stroll through natural habitats and visit a nocturnal house to see some of Australia's most iconic wildlife.

Sirromet Winery & tasting - Try some of Queensland's award-winning wines during a 1.5-hour wine tasting experience at the Sirromet Winery in Mount Cotton.

SkyPoint Observation Deck - Offers panoramic views of the Gold Coast, 230m above sea level, located atop the iconic Q1 building in Surfers Paradise. \$36 per person, one time entry.

All Golf Enquiries to Ian Wright 0417194347 • ian83@me.com

Any expressions of interest or pre-bookings would be very welcome. Sue (m) 0424 830 158
gcchospitality@qldbridge.com.au

SPRING NATIONALS PRIZES

Best Qld Novice Team in the GCC Novice Teams will receive free entry into the Restricted Teams and 2 x pairs entries at the 2024 Spring Nationals in Sydney.

Best Under 1500 Qld Team in the GCC Under 1500 Teams will receive free entry into the Open Teams and 2 x pairs entries at the 2024 Spring Nationals in Sydney.

SPONSORS – (MINOR)

Voucher Sponsors are entitled to free advertisements. A \$50 voucher is entitled to an advertisement equivalent to the size of 1/6th of a page. \$500 of vouchers will provide a daily advertisement of the same size.

SPONSORS

The Gold Congress could not run without our sponsors. We are deeply indebted to them and would ask you to show your appreciation by supporting them.

ANNETTE MALUISH: Annette has a passion for encouraging new people to take up bridge to share her love of the game. She provides the prize money for both Rookie Days and the Friday Novice Pairs.

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE MAGAZINE: Australia's national bridge magazine now comes in two different editions, Regular and Novice, so players of all levels will find something of interest. You can subscribe to either magazine at Paul Lavings' book stall or visit www.australianbridge.com.

DAVID STERN: in memory of his late mother Gerda Stern – the best Women's Pair in the Open Pairs will receive prize money and trophy donated by David Stern in Gerda's memory.

JIM EVANS: In memory of his late wife Pauline Evans – The Restricted Teams trophy will be dedicated to Pauline's Memory. Prize Money has also been donated by Jim.

PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS AND SUPPLIES: Paul has been a stalwart supporter of this event for well over 20 years and all third placed pairs win vouchers for items from his stall. Best way you can support Paul is by checking out his shop in the foyer, you will be surprised by his range of items and reasonable prices. www.bridgegear.com

SPRING NATIONALS – NSWBA: the Spring Nationals offer free entry to a Queensland Team and 2 Queensland Pairs to their event. This is done on a reciprocal basis as we give two free entries to the Gold Coast Congress.

STEPBRIDGE: StepBridge Australia is an Online Australian Bridge Club that offers Novice, Restricted and Open bridge sessions daily, in a friendly and controlled environment. For new players joining StepBridge, 5 free introductory games are provided. StepBridge has a Virtual Club facility that allows face-to-face bridge clubs to organise their own club sessions and congresses. For Youth Players we offer additional introductory free games, no membership fees, and match Participation Point purchases to provide half price table fees. For further information, visit www.stepbridge.com.au or email support@stepbridge.com.au

TONY BEMROSE INSURANCE BROKERS: TBIB pay \$5000.00 in sponsorship plus the Prize Wheel. Take the opportunity to speak to them at the Congress – it is cost free to ask and you may well be pleasantly surprised <https://www.tbib.com.au/abf/>

TWO MEN AND A TRUCK: www.twomen.com.au They are amazing! Since 2010 they have done a fantastic job moving all our gear from Brisbane to the Gold Coast Convention Centre and back. This is worth a fortune to us. They are cheerful, willing, flexible and efficient. If you have just one item to move or a whole unit, house or office, make sure to give them a call.

TO THOSE WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS: We have a few of these and we can only say thank you.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE SURROUNDING BRIDGE CLUBS.

VOLUNTEERS: to all those players, friends and family members who donate their hours to make this event the success it is.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU MENTIONED ABOVE.

Tim Runting and Kim Ellaway

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

STAFF PHOTOS

Staff photos are taken every second year.

STAFFING

Our Floor Managers, Kim, Amber, and Jessie are dressed in light blue vests. Our Caddies are in purple however they are only here to caddy – see our floor managers if further assistance is required. Also, our Directors led by Laurie Kelso have the navy vests with blue undershirts.

Our Scoring Staff are led by Matthew McManus and can be found wearing Black Shirts. However, all scoring issues should be addressed to the Scoring Enquiries Desk outside the scoring room just inside the doors in the centre of the playing area.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions at the Bridge Administration Desk where there is a team of people only too willing to help.

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

[Supplementary regulations](#) are published on the GCC website at this [link](#).

SYSTEM REGULATIONS

[System regulations](#) are published on the My ABF GCC.

[Supplementary regulations](#) are now published on the website.

SYSTEMS AND SYSTEM CARDS

[System regulations](#) are published on the GCC My ABF website.

Each pair is required to have two current ABF approved, systemically identical system cards on the table for the opposing pair before the start of each round. Overseas players will be permitted to use New Zealand and WBF system cards in addition to ABF cards. ABF system cards and guide to completing them are available at this site: <http://www.abf.com.au/member-services/system-cards/>.

GREEN and BLUE systems are permitted without restriction.

RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events except for **Restricted and Novice Pairs and Teams Championships**, all **0-50 Masterpoint events**, **Rookie Pairs**, **Friday Novice Pairs** and **Restricted Butler Swiss Pairs**. In addition, in these events, the CTD may also further restrict a pair from playing any method which the director judges may not be readily understood by a significant proportion of players in the field.

Eligible pairs may claim Protected Pair status in all events with the exception of the major Final of the **Open Pairs Championship**.

Provided the required system submission (detailed below) has been complied with, YELLOW systems will be allowed in the **Open Teams Championship** from Round 3 onwards. They may not be played against a contestant with a current position in the lower two-thirds of the field (decimals rounded up).

Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the Tournament Organiser with an adequately completed ABF Standard system card and a bona fide defence before 10.00am on February 5, 2024.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

STARTING TIMES

Sat 17 Feb	No Frills Walk-in Pairs - 1 Session	6.00pm
Sun to Mon 18-19 Feb	Pairs Championship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open ▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs) ▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs) ▪ Novice (under 100 MPs) 	2 qualifying sessions Sunday 10.00am and 2.30pm 2 finals sessions (10 Table sections) Monday 10.00am and 2.30pm
Sun 18 Feb	Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs – 2 sessions	Sunday 10.00am and 2.30pm
Sun 18 Feb	Rookie Pairs - 1 session Sage Walk-in Pairs – 10am Hideaway Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm	10.00am 10.00am and 2.30pm
Mon 19 Feb	Monday Butler Swiss Pairs – 2 sessions Sage Walk-in Pairs – 10am Hideaway Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm	10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Tue to Thu 20-22 Feb	Teams Championship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open ▪ Under 1500 ▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs) ▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs) ▪ Novice (under 100 MPs) 	10.00am and 2.30pm
Tue 20 Feb	0-50 Masterpoint Pairs – 2 sessions Sage Walk-in Pairs – 10am Hideaway Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm	10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Wed 21 Feb	0-50 Masterpoint Pairs – 2 sessions Sage Walk-in Pairs – 10am Sage Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm	10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Thu 22 Feb	Rookie Pairs - 1 session Walk-in Pairs – 2 sessions 0-50 MPs Swiss Butler Pairs – 2 sessions	10.00am 10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Fri and Sat 23-24 Feb	Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open ▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs) ▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs) ▪ Novice (under 100 MPs) 	3 sessions Friday 10.00am and 2.00pm Match 1-7 Saturday 10.00am Match 8-10
Fri and Sat 23-24 Feb	Teams Finals	Open Round-of-Four for 3rd to 6th places Friday 9am Open Semi-Finals for 1st and 2nd and two winners from Round-of-four Friday 2pm Open Finals for 2 Semi-finals winners Saturday 9am No Seniors'/Women's Finals Novice, Restricted and Intermediate Finals for top 2 at the end of Match 12 Friday 10am
Fri 23 Feb	Friday Butler Swiss Pairs – 2 sessions Paul Lavings Bridge Gear Walk-in Pairs – 2 separate sessions	10.00am and 2.00pm 10.00am and 2.00pm
Sat 24 Feb	Paul Lavings Bridge Gear Walk-in Pairs - 1 Session Dinner Dance	10.00am 7.00pm for 7.30pm

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

SUBSTITUTES

If you need a substitute during the week, see Toni Bardon at the Scoring Desk. Except in case of emergency, substitutes are not permitted in Matches 8-10 of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs.

TEA, COFFEE AND WATER

As a service to participants, volunteers will be operating a tea and coffee service for this event. Coffee is made from ground coffee beans with fresh milk and will cost \$4 a cup. The service will start around one hour before play and continue until late into the last session.

Please understand that the service is run for the benefit of players by volunteers. There will be \$20 vouchers and \$40 vouchers available for purchase from the Bridge Office. \$20 entitles you to 5 coffees without handling any money apart from payment. \$40 entitles you to 11 coffees. As we are not allowed to run the free water service in the playing area this year we will be selling bottles of water at \$2.00 from the coffee shop. These can be purchased via voucher in lots of 2's. We cannot under any circumstance give free – a cup of hot water so please don't request – it is a public liability issue. We will not be doing double shots this year. **VOUCHERS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE BRIDGE OFFICE VIA EFTPOS OR CASH.** No refunds once a voucher has been purchased. Coffee, Tea and Water can be individually purchased via EFTPOS.

TEACHING

Any Celebrity Teaching Session held will be publicized in the Bulletin so look for details in the daily bulletin. Refer to [Celebrity Speakers](#)

TEAM CATEGORIES

All teams should have nominated their categories when submitting their entry. The lists of categories received will be published at various points around the Convention Centre. Please check to see you are entered correctly into the various categories as once winners are announced no correspondence will be entered into.

TEAM CATEGORY PRIZE POLICY

Special category prizes (awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category.

THEME

We encourage all players to Coast Annual Theme for Session. The theme is "**SPORTS**" year and wear your sporty gear.



when play finishes and the parade from 2:00pm to 2:15pm Wednesday 21st February. Prizes will be available for some combination of groups, pairs or individuals.

dress in keeping with the Gold Wednesday afternoon Teams **DAY**". Please celebrate our 62nd The photography will commence

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Tournament Organiser:	Tim Runting - 0458 448 765
Chief Tournament Director:	Dr Laurie Kelso – 0412 559 171
Bulletin Editor:	Stephen Lester sleksix@gmail.com Ph or SMS – 0468 459 351
Chief Scorer:	Matthew McManus
Reviewers:	Russell Harms and Nick Hughes
Review Consultants:	David Appleton, Shane Harrison, Kim Morrison and David Stevenson
Recorders:	Richard Ward, David Beauchamp, Jodi Tutty and Bob Sebesfi
ABF on site representatives:	Peter Reynolds (Pairs) Warren Lazer (Teams)

TRANSPORT TO BROADBEACH

Transport to Broadbeach from Brisbane Airport:

Train and tram is the cheapest way to get to Broadbeach - approximately \$45 per person - Airtrain.com.au

Door to Door shuttle service - approximately \$55 per person - Con-X-ion

Transport to Broadbeach from Gold Coast Airport:

Taxi is approximately \$55-\$65 depending on time of arrival

Public Transport information may be found at Gold Coast Airport website
Con-X-ion Shuttle service and Link Transfers offer Door to Door service

UNDER 1500S ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 1500 MP's as at 30 September 2023.

UNDER 50S ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 50 MP's as at 30 September 2023.

UNDER 50s HELP BEFORE PLAY

Help will be on hand one hour before the start of play for all 0-50 and Rookie players; and half an hour before start of play for Novice players. Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

Tue 20th Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.15am

Wed 21st Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.15am

Thursday 22nd Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.15am

[Gold Coast Congress Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL
TROPHIES and SPONSORSHIP

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OR DONATING TO THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS,
PLEASE CONTACT TOURNAMENT ORGANISER – TIM RUNTING**

EVENT (at 29th August 2023)	TROPHY DEDICATION / SPONSOR / NAME OF TROPHY
Open Pairs Championship	Trophy is in the memory of Bobby Richman.
Open Pairs Championship – Women’s	Trophy is in the memory of Gerda Stern. Prize money is donated by David Stern.
Intermediate Pairs Championship	Trophy
Restricted Pairs Championship	Trophy
Novice Pairs Championship	Shield is in the memory of Tony Jackman.
Open Teams	StepBridge Trophy – Prize money is partially sponsored by StepBridge.
Under 1500 Teams	Trophy
Intermediate Teams	Two Men and a Truck
Restricted Teams	Trophy is in the memory of Pauline Evans. Prize money is partially sponsored by Jim Evans.
Novice Teams	Therese Tully Trophy
Open Butler Pairs/Intermediate/Restricted/Novice	Ivy Dahler Shield – dedicated to the memory of Ivy Dahler
Sunday/Monday/Friday Butler – Open	No Trophy
0-50 Events	No Trophy
Rookie Events	No Trophy – Prize money donated by Annette Maluish
Reg Busch Trophy	Overall from Sunday/Monday/Friday Butler

UNIFORMS

Administrative Staff - Shirt with Gold Coast Logo or Black Admin Jacket
Floor Managers – Light Blue Jacket
Directing –Blue shirts Navy Directors Jackets
Scoring – Black shirts with Gold Coast Logo
Caddies – Purple shirts with Gold Coast Logo

WALK-IN PAIRS AT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS

Walk In events mean you do not have to pre-register. You turn up with your partner and pay at the tables designated for walk ins. Walk ins are master pointed with redpoints.

Youth Walk-Ins - Unless you have the appropriate token, there will be no free places at the Walk Ins. Tokens can only be obtained from the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon or Kim Ellaway. Youth can only claim half price regardless of date of birth. Youth definition for Walk-ins is born on or after 01/01/1999.

All walk in pairs sessions are sponsored by Broadbeach Restaurants and Paul Lavings Bridge Supplies.

Cost is \$15.00 per player – pay at the table. Voucher Prizes for each Session Winner.

Saturday 17 th February	6.00pm No Frills Walk In Pairs – BYO water
Sunday 18 th February	Sage Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Hideaway Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Monday 19 th February	Sage Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Hideaway Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Tuesday 20 th February	Sage Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Hideaway Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Wednesday 21 st February	Sage Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Sage Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Thursday 22 nd February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Friday 23 rd February	Paul Lavings Bridge Gear Walk In Pairs 10.00am and 2.00pm
Saturday 24 th February	Paul Lavings Bridge Gear Walk In Pairs 10.00am

***No Frills Walk Ins – 6.00pm – No Frills means exactly that. No Outlets opened, no coffee, no water, no food.

WEB DRAW FOR NEXT ROUND PAGE

The draw for the next round in the Teams and Swiss Pairs events will be published on the web at the same time it is displayed on the projector screens at the venue. So, if you are “[connected](#)” you can check your standings and the draw online.

WEBSITE

The Gold Coast Congress website is on MyABF.

<https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/780>

WITHDRAWALS

Players are permitted to withdraw from all divisions of the Championship Pairs (Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice) Finals (Monday 19th February) at the end of the qualifying rounds, provided that they notify the Chief Director or Bridge Administration Desk within **ONE HOUR** of the qualifying scores being posted. No portion of the entry fees will be refunded.

YOUTH ELEGIBILITY

Must be born on or after 1 January 1999

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

YOUTH & OTHER CONCESSIONAL ENTRY FEES

ADVISE DOB WHEN ENTERING

Courtesy of the Gold Coast Congress, players born on or after 1 January 2006 are entitled to free entry. In accordance with Australian Bridge Federation policy, all players born on or after 1 January 1999 (under 25) are entitled to a 50% discount on entry fees.

Courtesy of the Gold Coast Congress, all players born before 1 January 1924 are entitled to free entry except for Walk-Ins.

Youth Walk-Ins - Unless you have the appropriate token, there will be no free places at the Walk Ins. Tokens can only be obtained from the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon or Kim Ellaway. Youth can only claim half price regardless of date of birth. Youth definition for Walk-ins is born on or after 01/01/1999.

YOUTH PLAYERS ACCOMMODATION

Regretfully, we will no longer be offering subsidised youth accommodation.

YOUTH - PRIZES

If a youth player has paid no entry fee and he/she wins a prize over \$150, half price entry fee to be taken out of the prize.

ZEPHYR FOUNDATION (GCC Charity)

My name is Carmel Martin, co-founder and treasurer of Zephyr Education Inc. For the few who don't know, Zephyr helps those affected by domestic and family violence to resume their education – usually within 24 to 48 hours of receiving a request for assistance.

We provide (mostly) children in Domestic Violence shelters, Family Service organisations and outreach services with some or all of their school needs - as and when required – on approval only, which approval is frugally and carefully assessed. We don't pay into any private accounts. The range of what Zephyr pays for includes: the full book list specific to the child's year and school; full uniform including shoes, socks and hats; swimwear; lunchbox and water bottle; resource fees, iPads and laptops - expensive, yet indispensable learning tools.

Our aim is solely to have that child - the saddest and most vulnerable victim of domestic violence, look like every other school child, so they do not feel out of place, nor appear less valuable than others, nor attract the eye of a potential bully. This is all in the hope that they can resume their education successfully.

11 years ago, Isabella Bevan, Zephyr's President and my sister, read Kathleen Noonan's article about children arriving at school from shelters without shoes or school bags... and Zephyr was born. On that memorable day, she informed me that "she thought WE – she and I and our poor long-suffering husbands, could do something about it". For many reasons, I groaned (inwardly, I hope).

She thought that she and David, Terry and I could fund this enterprise, and with my reluctant acquiescence, which she mistook for enthusiasm, she set out to approach domestic violence refuges to ascertain exactly what their needs were and if anyone else was fulfilling them. They weren't according to the model she had in mind i.e IMMEDIATE, PRACTICAL, UNCOMPLICATED

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

access to assistance -all provided ENTIRELY BY VOLUNTEERS with MINIMAL OVERHEADS AND EXPENSES.

Zephyr very quickly became an ACNC registered charity with tax deductible status – and I'll say it again - run entirely by volunteers and with overheads of less than 1% making virtually all of your tax deductible donation work for our cause. This is how we started, and this is how we've continued.

The bridge community, starting with my home club QCBC, has been right beside us from the very beginning. The wider bridge community continues to support Zephyr with club charity days and individual donations. The QBA again has Zephyr as its charity at the 2024 Gold Coast Congress. The value of this exposure is incalculable and I can't begin to thank you for your unstinting support.

I've given up believing Isabella that she'll stop registering shelters and outreach organisations. Last year the number was 170. As I write this in late January 2024, the number has grown to 208.

We now support 139 organisations in QLD, 12 in Tasmania, 29 in WA, 23 in NSW, 3 in the ACT, 1 in Darwin and 1 in SA.

In the 2022-2023 financial year, Zephyr Education paid for uniforms for 1379 children and resource fees for 355 children.

Some of what we also supplied were:

- 396 laptops and iPads;
- 2712 school bags; and
- 1999 pairs of school shoes

School stationery expenditure was \$146343 up from \$116114 in 21/22.

We also provide swimwear, pay camp fees etc, so that child is not missing out.

In the 2022-2023 financial year, the total expenditure including cost price stock, uniforms and resource fees amounted to \$745,061 which was an increase of 33% on the \$560,124 spent in 21/22 which was an increase of 19.6% on the previous year. Yes, heartbreakingly our numbers are increasing.

Zephyr now supports more than 3000 children each year and has become an acknowledged game changer in the sector. The best evidence of Zephyr's impact is receiving unsolicited praise, so I've again set out some excerpts as follows:

Hi Isabella, how are you? Thank you for your phone call this morning, it was lovely to speak with you and hear about the wonderful work that Zephyr does. It is so great that we have wonderful people in our community who think about and really understand what our kids go through when they experience DFV and are forced to suddenly leave their homes and come into a crisis refuge away from other family, friends, pets and forced to change schools and not know anyone. It is so important for them to try and fit in and feel part of it all as quickly as possible so thank you for what you do, it is absolutely amazing.

Another: ***Just a brief line Isabella to thank you so much for meeting our request this morning and so promptly too. We are left breathless by the abilities and generosity of Zephyr. Please thank your team.'***

Another: ***A Mother said her kids had never had new uniforms before and that they "won't know themselves in new uniforms." She then broke down and cried.***

Another: *I hope this short piece can support you to continue make big things happen, we all appreciate you and everything Zephyr does to support our work and clients.*

Our partnership with Zephyr Education has been blossoming for 2 years now. In that time Zephyr Education has provided support with an enormous amount of generous materials and resources that assist a child escaping DFV return to school with the equipment and uniforms they need to remove some of the barriers children experience during this unfortunate and often unpredictable journey.

Beyond the materials though is the social and emotional wellbeing that is improved for families thanks to the assistance of Zephyr Education.

And I love this one which has stuck with me and which I know I told you about last year:

Thanks Barb, for everything. Kelsey, Isabella and yourself have been amazing. Myself and the family have been very grateful. Wish you could have been there to see the smile of the youngest girl when she tried on her uniforms.

I hope you could feel it though, I'm sure it beamed all around the world

I read somewhere that 'great things can be accomplished when no one wants to take credit'. Zephyr personifies this ideal and is the closest thing to 'egoless' that I have had the privilege to be a part of.

The heart of Zephyr is an incredibly selfless, generous, motivated team of over 50 volunteers working daily to ensure that we are responding to and completing every request as quickly as possible, raising funds, delivering to all corners of the country (thank you Followmont Transport and all the suppliers who deliver free of charge) and attending to the myriad logistics which come with operating what is now a sizeable business.

Zephyr wouldn't exist without the hugely compassionate contribution of these tireless good men and women some of whom you will find as partners or opposition at this very congress. On top of all this is the support and motivation received from everyone who supports Zephyr's vision – you're an indispensable part of the team.

Our focus is, and always has been, on the children and their education. But this, of course, also assists the carers of all children who fall within our scope, including Mothers, Fathers, Grandparents, foster carers and guardians.

We weren't looking for something to do – we stumbled on the need and thought we could do something. You've all got behind us and huge numbers of children have felt less alone and a little more loved.

If you would like to make a donation, we will be rattling collection boxes and have Eftpos machines on hand. Kim Ellaway in the main office has kindly volunteered to accept donations as well.

All donations are tax deductible and for those of you who may wish to donate by bank transfer – Zephyr's bank account details are:

NAB Zephyr Education Inc **BSB: 084-004; ACC: 15-629-0526**
Please Reference Your Name and send your email address to
admin@zephyreducation.com.au so I can forward your receipt.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

And to repeat what I said last year - have a safe, brilliant congress. We're so lucky to have this fabulous game in our lives - non bridge players have no idea what they're missing.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Carmel Martin

Co-founder and Treasurer

Zephyr Education Inc

ABN 47 805 738 577 ARBN 615 454 227

PO Box 6096 Fairfield Gardens Qld 4103

Tel: 0438873620 admin@zephyreducation.com.au www.zephyreducation.com.au

2024