

**THE  
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED**

**243 YOUNG ST UNLEY 5061**

**TELEPHONE 8373 3995**

**EMAIL** [generalmanager@sabridgeassoc.asn.au](mailto:generalmanager@sabridgeassoc.asn.au)

**WEB** [sabridge.com.au](http://sabridge.com.au)



**2024**

**PROGRAM**

*Enjoyed 90 years of bridge*

# PROGRAM CONTENTS

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Page</b>
Welcome	3
Bridge Program Overview	4
Teaching Program	4
Session Times and Locations	5
Information about Programmed Competitions	6
Monday Daytime Program	7
Monday Evening Program	9
Tuesday Morning Program	11
Tuesday Evening Program	13
Wednesday Morning Program	15
Thursday Morning Program	17
Thursday Evening Program	19
Friday Program	20
Saturday Afternoon Program	22
Special Club Events	24
State Special events	26
ABF Alert Regulations	27
ABF Masterpoint system	29

# WELCOME

Welcome to the South Australian Bridge Assoc. We expect that 2024 will be another good year for members of our club as we move into our 91<sup>st</sup> year.

Our club runs regular walk-in bridge sessions, and special events, at a number of venues across Adelaide. You can play bridge on Monday to Saturday every week, and there are also special events on at least one Sunday each month. Our bar is open for members' enjoyment at the end of most sessions. We will often have special sessions on Monday nights and all members are encouraged to come along and try something different. We will be holding 'Venue Championships' for players who regularly play at one of our satellite venues.

We provide classes for beginners and for more experienced players, Supervised Play sessions, and pre-game tutorials before some sessions to assist our players to develop their bridge. Last year, we introduced a 2 hour 'short bridge' session on Monday at 2pm, for those members who have limited time available. This has proven to be quite popular and is ongoing.

For most sessions, players can simply turn up and play with their partner, however there are a few events where pre-registration is required. These are described in this program.

For our Supervised sessions, members are welcome to turn up on their own and we will try to arrange a partner for that session. For our regular sessions, members are expected to arrange their own partners, however if you are new to the club we will assist you to find a partner. In addition, we will endeavour to find you a partner, if your scheduled partner is unavailable at short notice. Complete the *Find a Partner* form on the website if you need assistance.

All members are encouraged to use the secure pre-payment system via Hello Club for their table fees, event registrations and course bookings. This is beneficial for the club as it means there is minimal cash handling. It is also a convenient and easy-to-use system for our members. Members make a deposit in advance and the account is debited when you play a session or book a course, the club will advise you when your account is getting low.

We hope that you enjoy your bridge in 2024. Please help your fellow members to enjoy their bridge as well by being friendly, welcoming and polite to partner and all players. If you have any queries or concerns please contact the General Manager, the Director or Tutor of your session, or any member of the Management Committee.

# 2024 PROGRAM

## 1. INTENSIVE BEGINNERS COURSE

Learn bridge in five days, choose between January or May intensive courses:

- Monday 8 January to Friday 12 January, 10.30am to 2.30pm each day
- Monday 6 May to Friday 10 May, 10.30pm to 2.30pm each day

## 2. GENERAL TEACHING PROGRAM

**Beginners' classes** are split into 2 sessions, each of 6 weeks. In the first 6-weeks you will learn and consolidate the basics of bridge with the following 6-weeks introducing additional concepts to give you the skills to move to Supervised Play at the club. Encourage your family and friends to come along and learn how to play with our experienced and fun teachers and tutors. These classes are held at Unley and term dates are as follows:-

	<b>Tuesday 7.30pm to 10.00pm</b>	<b>Friday 1.30pm to 4.00pm</b>
Term 1	Part 1: 30 Jan – 5 Mar Part 2: 12 Mar – 23 Apr	Part 1: 2 Jan – 8 Mar Part 2: 15 Mar – 26 Apr
Term 2	Part 1: 4 June – 9 July Part 2: 16 July to 20 Aug	Part 1: 7 June – 12 July Part 2: 19 July – 23 Aug
Term 3	Part 1: 3 Sep – 8 Oct Part 2: 15 Oct – 19 Nov	Part 1: 6 Sep – 11 Oct Part 2: 18 Oct – 22 Nov

**Pre-session tutorials** are free of charge and are held at:

- Unley on Mondays and Tuesdays at 9.30am, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10.00am, Friday afternoons at 1.00pm and Saturday afternoons at 12.30.
- Glenelg North on Tuesdays at 9.00am
- Walkerville on Monday and Thursday at 12.00pm.

The monthly topics are set out on the website.

### **Additional training and development**

Throughout the year, our experienced teachers conduct a range of lessons and tutorials – details are shown on the website and on noticeboards at the clubrooms. These are very popular and often fill up quickly, so express your interest early. We have also introduced a series of 'Mentoring Mondays' to help members who have recently completed their beginner's course.

## 3. SUPERVISED SESSIONS

Supervised sessions are available as follows:

- Unley – on Tuesday evenings; Friday and Saturday afternoons.
- Walkerville – Thursday afternoons
- Glenelg North – Tuesday mornings

## SESSION TIMES

Members have an extensive selection of session times and venues to choose from. These are set out in the table below:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<b>Unley</b>	10.00am	10.00am	10.30am	10.30am	10.00am	1.00pm	
	2.00pm-4.00pm				1.30pm		
	7.15pm	7.15pm		7.15pm			
<b>Walkerville</b>	12.30pm			12.30pm	10.00am		
<b>Glenelg Nth</b>		9.30am					
<b>Mt Barker</b>	12.30pm						

At **Unley**, most sessions offer multiple sections to accommodate different levels of play. Thursday evening mostly has events run by our State Body, the SA Bridge Federation. These are run over a number of weeks and pre-registration is required. Entry to SABF events can be made on the Unley noticeboard, or on the SABF website. Friday afternoon is supervised play only. Pre-session lectures are at 9.30am on Mondays and Tuesdays, 10am on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1pm on Fridays and 12.30pm on Saturdays. On the last Sunday of most months, we have a 'Pleasant Sunday' afternoon of bridge (in March this will be on 24<sup>th</sup>).

At **Walkerville**, Monday has 2-3 sections of differing levels (graded, walk-in pairs); Thursday has both a Supervised and non-Supervised section and Friday has a relaxed single section session.

Our locations are:

- **Unley** - 243 Young St, Unley
- **Walkerville** - Walkerville Bowling Club, Cnr Smith & Church St, Walkerville
- **Glenelg North** - Scouts Adventure Centre, Anderson St, Glenelg North
- **Mt Barker** - Mt Barker Community Centre, 3 Dumas St, Mount Barker

We sometimes add extra sessions during the year, please call the club if you want to find out about different sessions.

# INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMMED COMPETITIONS

## PAIRS EVENTS

The majority of sessions at Unley are graded (walk-in) duplicate match-pointed pairs, with competitions generally played over a calendar month.

**Graded Events:** Graded sessions have between two and four grades, depending on the number of pairs playing and the spread in the standard of the players. For example, Tuesday evening has A and B grades, while Monday morning has A, B, C and D grades. Pairs are generally permitted to grade themselves, but if a pair consistently does very well in their grade, they are expected to move up a grade. If they average 60% over a month, the director will move them up, at least for the next month.

**Monthly Eclectic Competition:** Unless otherwise stated in this program, monthly pairs competitions are eclectic. This means that if a pair plays in all the competition sessions, their worst score is dropped when calculating their aggregate score for the competition.

For a small number of events, shown in the program, the winners are to be the highest finishing A Grade pair.

**Masterpoint Awards:** For pairs events, session masterpoints are awarded to the top half of the field. Also, the overall winners and the top half of the field will receive additional masterpoints

## OTHER TYPES OF EVENTS AT SA BRIDGE ASSOC.

As well as match point pairs, there are Teams and Butler Pairs events in the program, mainly on Thursday nights, but also on Wednesday mornings, and on Monday nights. These events require pre-nomination and representation at each session of the event for which you nominate. (This means you must attend each session yourself or find a substitute to send in your stead if you are unable to play in one or more sessions). If you are interested in trying one of these “different” events, talk to the General Manager, a Director or Tutor.

If there is an issue at your table,  
please call the Director who will resolve it.  
Remember, only directors are permitted to give rulings.

# MONDAY MORNING

## UNLEY

### **Tutorial 9.30 am, Play 10.00 am - Green & Red Master Points**

Walk-in graded duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional tutorial on different aspects of the game before play.

### **Short Bridge Play 2.00 pm – 2-hour session with up to 18 boards**

Walk-in relaxed duplicate. Occasional themed hands and post play discussion on hands by an experienced player.

### **January Pairs**

1/1 8/1 15/1 22/1 29/1

### **February Pairs**

5/2 12/2 19/2 26/2

### **March Pairs**

4/3 11/3 (Adelaide Cup holiday) 18/3 25/3

### **April Pairs**

1/4 (Easter Monday) 8/4 15/4 22/4 29/4

### **May Pairs**

6/5 13/5 20/5 27/5

### **SABF event – final of the Autumn National Teams 6/5**

### **George Roper Pairs (Red)**

3/6 10/6 (King's Birthday holiday) 17/6 24/6

### **July Pairs**

1/7 8/7 15/7 22/7 29/7

## **August Pairs**

5/8 12/8 19/8 26/8

## **September Pairs**

2/9 9/9 16/9 23/9 30/9

## **October Pairs**

7/10 (Labour Day holiday) 14/10 21/10 28/10

## **November Pairs**

4/11 11/11 18/11 25/11

## **December Pairs**

2/12 9/12 16/12 23/12 30/12

## **Mt Barker**

Mt Barker Community Centre

Monday 12.30pm to 3.30pm (Closed on Public Holidays)

Regular walk-in pairs (no grading). Enjoy a pleasant morning at the Mt Barker Community Centre every Monday morning. Free coffee and tea.

## **Walkerville**

Walkerville Bowling Club, Cnr Smith & Church Sts, Walkerville.

Monday 12.30 pm to 4.00 pm

Regular walk-in pairs (no grading). Enjoy a pleasant afternoon at the Walkerville Bowling Club every Monday afternoon. Free coffee and tea. A free optional tutorial for intermediate players is held at 12:00 pm before play. There will also be a red masterpoint event.

## ***Satellite Venue Championships***

*A single session red masterpoint club championship will be held at Walkerville and Mt Barker on Monday 29 April, and at Glenelg on Tuesday 30 April. This is for players who regularly play at that venue. Prizes will be awarded to the champions.*



## **MONDAY EVENING**

### **Play 7.15 p.m. Green and Red Master Points**

Special events are often held on Monday evenings. Walk-In duplicates will be held on other nights. Special events may not finish until 10.30pm.

### **January Pairs**

Closed New Years Day and on 8/1 and 15/1 for Summer Festival in Canberra  
Open on 22/1 29/1

### **President's Pairs**

5/2 12/2 19/2 26/2

### **Open Trials Final (SABF event)**

26/2 SABF Open Trials final – 1 match only

### **Butler Pairs Championship – Open, Restricted and Novice Sponsored Event with generous prize money (Red) Pre-entry is required.**

4/3 11/3 (Adelaide Cup holiday) 18/3 25/3

### **Annual Butler Pairs - a new event being held on the first Monday in April to December. Sponsored Event with prize money.**

Open to everyone and pre-entry is not required. The pair with the best 5 scores over the year will be declared the annual champion.

1/4 6/5 3/6 1/7 5/8 2/9 7/10 4/11 and 2/12

### **April Pax Lusk Pairs**

8/4 15/4 22/4 29/4

### **May GNOT Selection event (pre-entry required)**

Held on 13, 20 and 27 May. Open to all players, but the team with **all** players having less than 1500 masterpoints will represent our state at the National Final. **Gold masterpoints**. Teams event for 4, 5 or 6 people – the team must play all 3 weeks.

## **June Pairs**

10/6 (King's Birthday holiday) 17/6 23/6 30/6

**Beginners Pairs Championship** a new event being held on 1 July and is open to any player who took Beginners lessons at Unley in 2023 or 2024. A small trophy will be awarded to the winners.

## **July Pairs**

8/7 15/7 22/7 29/7

## **August Wally Roll Pairs**

12/8 19/8 26/8

## **September – Red masterpoints**

**SA Bridge Assoc. Teams Championship (pre-registration required)**  
**Sponsored event with generous cash prizes**

16/9 23/9 30/9

9/9 Walk-in pairs

## **October**

14/10 21/10 Walk-in pairs

28/10 Teams with a mentor

**Teams with a mentor, a very popular event in 2023, will be held on 28 October. Enter as a team of 3-players. Aimed at relatively new players, with a separate section for very inexperienced. Prizes for successful teams.**

## **State Teams Finals (SABF event)**

4/11 18/11 25/11 9/12

## **November Pairs**

11/11 18/11 25/11

## **December Pairs**

9/12 16/12 23/12

# **TUESDAY MORNING**

## **Play 10.00 a.m. Green and Red Master Points**

Walk-In duplicate graded pairs, and a monthly winner on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 9:30 am before play.

### **January Pairs**

2/1 9/1 16/1 23/1 30/1

### **February Pairs**

6/2 13/2 20/2 27/2

### **March Pairs**

5/3 12/3 19/3 26/3

### **April Pairs**

2/4 9/4 16/4 23/4 30/4

### **May Pairs**

7/5 14/5 21/5 28/5

### **Gavin McEwin Pairs (Red)**

4/6 11/6 18/6 25/6

### **July Pairs**

2/7 9/7 16/7 23/7 30/7

### **August Pairs**

6/8 13/8 20/8 27/8

### **Jean McEwin Pairs (Red)**

3/9 10/9 17/9 24/9

### **October Pairs**

1/10 8/10 15/10 22/10 29/10

### **November Pairs**

5/11 (Melbourne Cup) 12/11 19/11 26/11

### **December Pairs**

3/12 10/12 17/12 24/12 31/12

### **SA BRIDGE ASSOC – Glenelg North**

Scouts SA Centre for Adventurous Activities  
Anderson St, Glenelg North,  
9.30am to 12.30pm every Tuesday

Regular walk-in session for Supervised/Intermediate players

### ***Gavin and Jean McEwin Pairs***

*Held in June and September are Red masterpoint events.  
Gavin set up a bequest to name a Tuesday event after his  
beloved wife. Following his death in 1999, the bequest was  
extended in his will to include a second event in his name.*

## **TUESDAY EVENING**

### **Play 7.15 p.m. Green and Red Master Points**

Walk-in graded duplicate, and a monthly winner on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. Supervised play available. There is a free tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 6:50 pm before play.

### **January Pairs**

2/1 9/1 16/1 23/1 30/1

### **February Pairs**

6/2 13/2 20/2 27/2

### **March Pairs**

5/3 12/3 19/3 26/3

### **Ted Hilson Pairs**

2/4 9/4 16/4 23/4 30/4

### **Paddy Haydon Pairs (Red)**

7/5 14/5 21/5 28/5

### **June Pairs**

4/6 11/6 18/6 25/6

### **July Pairs**

2/7 9/7 16/7 23/7 30/7

### **August Pairs**

6/8 13/8 20/8 27/8

### **September Pairs**

3/9 10/9 17/9 24/9

### **October Pairs**

1/10 8/10 15/10 22/10 29/10

### **November Pairs**

5/11 12/11 19/11 26/11

### **December Pairs**

3/12 10/12 17/12 (Closed 24/12 Christmas Eve and 31/12 New Years Eve)

## ***MAC Trade Services***

*MAC Trade Services is one of our sponsors.*

*They utilise state-based Government energy savings schemes to provide subsidies, making top-quality energy solutions more accessible to our members.*

*Keep an eye out for offers on energy saving appliances, solar and batteries for your home, saving you hundreds of dollars.*

# **WEDNESDAY MORNING**

## **10.30 a.m. Green and Red Master Points**

**Prior nomination is required for the Daytime Teams Championship (SABF Event).**

There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 10:00 am before play.

## **January Pairs**

3/1 10/1 17/1 24/1 31/1

## **SABF Daytime State Teams Championship – Qualifying (Red)**

31/1 7/2 14/2 28/2

## **February Pairs (Concurrent with Daytime State Teams)**

7/2 14/2 21/2 28/2

## **SABF Daytime State Teams Championship – Final & Plate (Red)**

6/3 13/3 20/3 27/3

## **March Pairs (Concurrent with Teams Final & Plate)**

6/3 13/3 20/3 27/3

## **April Pairs (Red)**

3/4 10/4 17/4 24/4

## **May Pairs**

1/5 8/5 15/5 22/5 29/5

## **Kath George Pairs Championship (Red)**

5/6 12/6 19/6 26/6

### **July Pairs**

3/7 10/7 17/7 24/7 31/7

### **August Pairs**

7/8 14/8 21/8 28/8

### **John Zollo Pairs (Red)**

4/9 11/9 18/9 25/9

### **October Pairs**

2/10 9/10 16/10 23/10 30/10

### **Keith McNeil Pairs (Red)**

6/11 13/11 20/11 27/11

### **December Pairs**

4/12 11/12 18/12 (Closed Christmas Day)

## *Travelrite International*

*This October, OzBridge Travel is offering a bridge cruise in partnership with Travelrite and Celebrity Cruises. The focus is on making the experience your 'trip of a lifetime'.*

*The bridge program is extensive but casual. You play only when you want, and a partner is guaranteed. Details on website [sabridge.com.au](http://sabridge.com.au)*



# **THURSDAY MORNING**

## **Play 10.30 am Green and Red Master Points**

Walk-in graded duplicate, and a monthly winner on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 10:00 am before play.

### **January Pairs**

4/1 11/1 18/1 25/1

### **February Pairs**

1/2 8/2 15/2 22/2 29/2

### **Reg Gooley Pairs (Red)**

7/3 14/3 21/3 28/3

### **April Pairs**

4/4 11/4 18/4 25/4

### **May Pairs**

2/5 9/5 16/5 23/5 30/5

### **June Pairs**

6/6 13/6 20/6 27/6

### **July Pairs (Red)**

4/7 11/7 18/7 25/7

### **August Pairs**

1/8 8/8 15/8 22/8 29/8

### **September Pairs**

5/9 12/9 19/9 26/9

## **October Pairs**

3/10 10/10 17/10 24/10 31/10

## **J & S Rundle Pairs (Red)**

7/11 14/11 21/11 28/11

## **December Pairs**

5/12 12/12 19/12 (Closed 26/12 Boxing Day)

## **SA BRIDGE ASSOC Walkerville**

Thursday 12.30 pm to 4.00 pm

Walkerville Bowling Club, Cnr Smith & Church St, Walkerville.

### *J and S Rundle Memorial Pairs*

*The Jack Rundle Memorial Pairs was established by Shirley following Jack's death.*

*It is a red masterpoint event played in November.*

# **THURSDAY EVENING**

## **7.15 p.m. Red, and Gold Masterpoints**

Events played on Thursday nights are State Championships or Qualifying events which are open to all members of our Club. Table fees are set by the SABF. All teams and Butler Pairs events require prior nomination and representation at every session.

### **Open Trials Final**

1/2 8/2 15/2 29/2 7/3 14/3 (also one match on Monday 26 February)

### **Open Trials Plate**

1/2 8/2 15/2 29/2 7/3 14/3

### **SABF GNOT Qualifying (GOLD)**

21/3 28/3 4/4 11/4 18/4

### **State Swiss Butler Pairs Championship**

9/5 16/5 23/5 30/5 13/6

### **State Teams Phase I**

20/6 27/6 4/7 25/7 1/8

### **Open Trials Qualifying**

8/8 15/8 22/8 29/8 5/9

### **State Teams Phase II**

12/9 19/9 26/9 3/10 10/10

### **State Pairs Qualifying**

17/10 31/10 7/11

### **State Pairs Final and Consolation**

21/11 28/11 5/12

### **State Teams Final and Awards Night**

12/12

# **FRIDAY**

## **Play 10.00 a.m. Green and Red Master Points**

Walk-in graded duplicate, and a monthly winner on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional lecture at 1.05 pm (inbetween the morning and afternoon sessions).

### **January Pairs**

5/1 12/1 19/1 26/1

### **Jean Harbison Pairs (Red)**

2/2 9/2 16/2 23/2

### **March Pairs**

1/3 8/3 15/3 22/3 (Closed 29/3 Good Friday)

### **April Pairs**

5/4 12/4 19/4 26/4

### **May Pairs**

3/5 10/5 17/5 24/5 31/5

### **June Pairs**

7/6 14/6 21/6 28/6

### **July Pairs**

5/7 12/7 19/7 26/7

### **August Pairs**

2/8 9/8 16/8 23/8 30/8

### **September Pairs**

6/9 13/9 20/9 27/9

### **October Pairs (Red)**

4/10 11/10 18/10 25/10

### **November Pairs**

1/1 8/11 15/11 22/11 29/11

### **December Pairs**

6/12 13/12 20/12 27/12

### **Unley & Walkerville**

Friday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Regular walk-in session (no grading).

### **Unley - Supervised Play 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

Walk-in supervised play, with monthly winner awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional lecture for intermediate and supervised players at 1.05 pm before play.

### ***TBIB Travel Insurance***

*Working in partnership with the Australian Bridge Federation,  
TBIB have created a comprehensive travel insurance package  
especially tailored to suit our bridge members.*

# **SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

## **1.00 p.m. Green Masterpoints**

Walk-In duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. A supervised duplicate is also conducted. There is a free optional lecture for intermediate and supervised players at 12:30 p.m. before play.

## **Nationwide Pairs**

The Nationwide Pairs is conducted on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month. These will be Red Point events. Normal table fees apply.

## **January Pairs**

6/1 13/1 20/1 27/1

## **Paddy Naylor Pairs (Red)**

3/2 10/2 17/2 24/2

## **March Pairs**

2/3 9/3 16/3 23/3 30/3 (Easter Saturday)

## **April Pairs**

6/4 13/4 20/4 27/4

## **May Pairs**

4/5 11/5 18/5 25/5

## **June Pairs**

1/6 8/6 15/6 22/6 29/6

## **July Pairs**

6/7 13/7 20/7 27/7

### **August Pairs**

3/8 10/8 17/8 24/8 31/8

### **September Pairs**

7/9 14/9 21/9 28/9

### **October Pairs**

5/10 12/10 19/10 26/10

### **November Pairs**

2/11 9/11 16/11 23/11 30/11

The Patron's Cup will be played in November and all Supervised players are welcome.

### **December Pairs**

7/12 14/12 21/12 28/12

### ***Patron's Cup***

*The 2023 Patron's Cup will be held on Saturday afternoons at Unley in November.*

*It is awarded to the pair that finishes first in the monthly competition. It is available to all Supervised players.*

## **SA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Swiss Pairs Congress**

Sunday 4 February

### **Butler Pairs Championship**

Monday evenings on 4, 11, 18 and 25 March. A sponsored event with generous prize money for Open, Restricted and Novice pairs.

**Annual Butler Pairs, a new event being held on the first Monday night in April to December. Sponsored Event with prize money.**

Open to everyone and pre-registration is not required. The pair with the best 5 scores over the year will be declared the annual champion.

### **Satellite Venues Championships**

Single session event at Walkerville and Mt Barker on Monday 29 April and at Glenelg on Tuesday 30 April for players who regularly play at that venue.

### **GNOT selection for Under 1500 masterpoints**

Monday evenings on 13, 20 and 27 May. Open to **all** players, but top team with all members having less than 1500 mp will be able to compete in the national final. **Gold** masterpoints will be awarded.

### **Rotary Pairs Congress**

Sunday 26 May

### **Winter Swiss Teams Congress**

A special event on Sunday 23 June. A separate competition will be held for teams whose members have less than 100 masterpoints. Prizes for Open and Restricted, dependent upon entries.

### **Beginners Pairs Championship**

Monday 1 July at 7.15 at Unley, for players who took Beginners' lessons at Unley in 2023 or 2024.

### **SA Bridge Assoc. Teams Championships**

Monday evenings on 16, 23 and 30 September. A sponsored event with generous prize money for Open, Restricted, and Novice teams.



### **Teams with a Mentor**

Monday evening 28 October, enjoy the opportunity for restricted players to play with a more experienced player. Separate section for very inexperienced players

### **Melbourne Cup Luncheon**

Tuesday 2 November

### **Pleasant Sundays at Unley**

Sunday 28 January

Sunday 25 February

Sunday 24 March (instead of Easter Sunday)

Sunday 28 April

Sunday 30 June

Sunday 28 July

Sunday 25 August

Sunday 29 September

Sunday 27 October

Sunday 24 November

Come and have some fun, a bit of bridge and lot of laughs. We have a Pleasant Sunday on (generally) the last Sunday of every month. So, why not make it a day where you can relax and enjoy yourself?

Bring a plate - Bar Open - 1:00 - 4:00 PM followed by afternoon tea.

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE SPECIAL EVENTS**

Seniors State Teams Trials	22 - 24 Mar
Women's State Teams Trials Qualifying	20 Apr
Women's State Teams Trials Finals	26 - 28 Apr
Autumn National Swiss Pairs	2 – 3 May
Autumn National Open and Restricted Teams	4 – 5 May
Autumn National Teams final	6 May
Under Grand, Life and Rookie Pairs	28 July
Regional GNOT Final	25 Aug
State Mixed Pairs Championship	29 Sep

## **Australian Bridge Federation (ABF)** **ALERT and ANNOUNCING REGULATIONS**

Bridge is not a game of secrets - if you or your partner use a call that has an agreed meaning within your partnership then the opponents are entitled to know exactly what that bid means.

In the early days of bridge, alerts would have been unnecessary since everybody played a similar system. Even the emergence of new systems such as Acol, with its lower no trump range, wouldn't have been a problem - the opponents sat down, announced their system, and the auction would then be entirely apparent to both pairs.

In recent years a wide range of new bidding systems has emerged. Whilst calls such as 1♠ and 1♥ are usually consistent in what they promise, there can be a wide range of meanings for the other opening calls.

Doubles have a particularly wide range of interpretations, with the possible meanings now including penalty, takeout, card-showing, responsive, or even a transfer to an unspecified suit!

To help ensure that the players are able to understand the opponent's bids, the ABF adopts an 'Alert' system. Simply put, if a bid has an unusual meaning, their partner says "Alert", and uses the Alert card if bidding boxes are being used. The opponents then know that they might need to ask about that bid.

There are also bids that are 'Self-Alerting'. These are bids where there is generally no common meaning, so players should expect to ask about them. If a self-alerting call has been made by an opponent, e.g. a double of your 1NT opening, then you should act as if the call has been alerted, and inquire of its meaning in the same manner as you would if an alert had been given.

You can ask about an alerted, or self-alerted, bid when it is your turn to bid. Explanations should be as complete as possible. If you become declarer you should offer to give a full explanation of your auction to the opponents if it contained any alerted (including self-alerted) calls, or calls they may not fully understand.

Before you start play, it is beneficial to check with your opponents:

- Their basic system.
- The strength and style of their 1NT openings.
- Their carding agreements.

The opponents should also advise you of any unusual bids or carding methods before starting, this is referred to as 'pre-alerting'.

The ABF also requires 'Announcements'. This means that when you open 1C or 1NT your partner should 'announce' to your opponents what the bid is about. When you open 1NT, your partner should announce the strength range, e.g. "12-14" or "15-17" (or whatever the range is).

If you open 1C, your partner should automatically announce the essential meaning of the bid. For a natural system, the announcement is the minimum number of clubs, "4+ clubs" or "3+ clubs" or "2+ clubs". For Precision 1C openings, you would say "artificial, 16+ HCP". For other artificial systems, your partner announces "UNUSUAL" and the opponents can clarify.

Your opponents will still be able to ask questions, but the basics should have already been supplied.

The ABF has very detailed information about Alerting on its website. If you want to obtain a full understanding of the Alerting Regulations, please visit [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au).

## MASTERPOINT RANKINGS

Masterpoints won by players, over their lifetime, are used to determine each player's master ranking. There are currently 21 different ranks ranging from Graduate Master to Diamond Grand Master. Players receive an official certificate with each Scheme promotion. Masterpoint ranks may be used to determine seeding in tournaments. In addition, events are held that are restricted to players of a certain masterpoint ranking. This provides an opportunity for players to play others of a similar standard, particularly for those players who are new to bridge.

Rank	Minimum Requirements		
	Total	Red & Gold	Gold
Graduate	2		
Club	5		
Local	15		
Bronze Local	25		
Silver Local	35		
Regional	50		
Bronze Regional	100		
State	50	25	
Bronze State	100	50	
National	150	75	
Bronze National	200	100	
Silver National	300	150	
Life	300	180	30
Bronze Life	400	240	40
Silver Life	500	300	50
Gold Life	750	450	75
Grand	1000	700	200
Silver Grand	2500	1900	600
Gold Grand	5000	4000	1400
Emerald Grand	10000	8500	3000
Diamond Grand	15000	13000	5000

When a player earns a total of 1,000 masterpoints they become members of the One Thousand Club. There are no red or gold requirements.

If you want to look up how many masterpoints you have, you can do this on the ABF website, [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au).