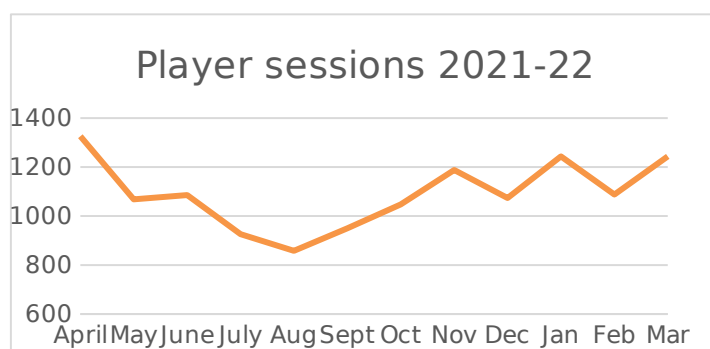


Bridge Committee report for the Annual Report for the year ending March 2022.

At the start of April 2021 we were running 7 online sessions per week – 4 on BBO, and 3 on RealBridge. Sadly, by the end of the month the Friday evening session had to be dropped due to lack of support. Over the next few months we gradually moved all of the BBO sessions onto RealBridge, completing the transition by the end of September.

Overall numbers attending club sessions were higher than the previous year (13,100 versus 11,632), but still considerably lower than earlier years (for comparison, the total number of player sessions in 2019-2020 was 16,795). There was a marked seasonal effect, with numbers dropping over the summer as people took the opportunity to go on holiday when Covid restrictions eased.



During the summer, as vaccination rates increased, we discussed the possibility of re-opening the clubhouse for face-to-face bridge, and at the end of August we started a hybrid session (with one section at the clubhouse, and the other online) on Friday mornings, with a second one starting on Tuesday mornings in October. In December we introduced a monthly Friday evening teams session.

In addition to regular sessions we were able to run most of the club's annual competitions, plus 5 simultaneous pairs events. The final season of the online teams league was run over the summer of 2021.

The club fielded 7 teams in the main Wessex League competition, with the A team coming second in Division 1, and the F and E teams coming 1st and 2nd in Division 4 respectively. We fielded 5 teams in the Daytime Wessex League. Three teams represented the club in the NICKO.

The Bridge Committee met 7 times during the year, all via video conference.