

March 2026

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From the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition of the SABF Newsletter, the first under my tender care.

It is my intention to produce the Newsletter early in each month, from material received by the 28th of the previous month. I'd like to hear from all the Clubs about what they're doing, what milestones have been achieved and any special events or results. Don't forget pictures, they make articles more interesting. I'll try to include as much as I can.

Final note: a reminder that the Early Bird discount for the Autumn Nationals ends at the end of March - get your entries in soon!

Jinny

PS I saw a proverb in Welsh on the weekend, which at the time seemed very appropriate:

Am y tywydd, gorau tewi

(It is best to be silent about the weather)

Of all the things we have to concern ourselves with, managing people can be the most testing. We don't get to choose the people who want to join our club and for the most part, we all get along well together, and this is what makes a happy club.

Recently, I have had a situation where two personalities clashed, emotions became elevated, as did the noise level. One of the parties was inclined to be sarcastic, and the other was in no mood to be addressed in that fashion.

I have previously seen a club torn apart by another such person who was a complete stranger to tact and compassion, and that club went from being a happy 10 tables right down to 2 -3 tables. This time I was the President of the Club so it

fell to me to find some leadership qualities that I didn't know I had. The first thing I did was to take the offender aside and tell him that the kind of behaviour that had been evident was the sort that tore social clubs apart and could not be tolerated. I told him that I would be strictly neutral between the parties, but that the outcome would favour what was best for the Club.

I mentioned that the person offended was going to put in a written complaint and I suggested that he submit his own account of what happened. That duly happened and it was very apparent that one of them would have to cease being a member of our club. I thought it would be fair to each party that they should know what

the other one was saying, but my committee took the opposite view, that the parties should not know what the other said. They also opined that I should not have acted alone in dealing with the situation. It didn't seem to matter that I had been trying to take the heat out of the dispute.

The committee hoped that the offender would voluntarily cease to play with us. That has been the final outcome.

The process tested my leadership and taught me a few lessons about people management. It called upon all my powers of self-control and diplomacy, finding the right words to put my point across, and humility in accepting criticism.

[Editor's note: author's name omitted intentionally]



Bertie Morgan and Fletcher Davey, two of our younger players, have been selected in the Under 26 Youth Team to represent Australia at the World Youth Transnational Championships in Hefei, China, in August. Mike Doecke is the non-playing captain of the team.

Congratulations to them.

SA has had many Australian representatives in the past, and we confidently expect to have many more in the future.

**THE SA BRIDGE FEDERATION
INVITES YOU TO PLAY
PAIRS WITH AN EXPERT
ON
THURSDAY 19TH MARCH 2026**

**7.15PM TO 10.30PM
AT
SA BRIDGE ASSOC.
243 YOUNG STREET, UNLEY**

**COST:
\$25 per player (experts free)**

**TO ENTER:
Please enter via MyABF
or text Barbara Travis on 0437 919 928
or send an email to barbara.travis@hotmail.com**

**FORMAT:
You will play the whole session with your expert partner.
Between rounds and after the session, learn from your partner.**

**All players must be members of the SABF.
Restricted to players with fewer than 150 MPs.**

**COME ALONG AND LEARN FROM THE INSIGHTS OF
PLAYING WITH AN EXPERT PARTNER**



AUTUMN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wednesday 29th April to Sunday 3rd May 2026

Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showground, Wayville

WHAT'S NEW:

- New format: Teams (Wed, Thurs) then Pairs (Fri, Sat, Sun)
- New event: Australian Blue Ribbon Pairs (matchpoints)
Masterpoints awarded for all scores of 46+%
- New daily starting time: 10am
- PQPs awarded for Open Teams and ABRP Open Pairs
- \$20,000 in prize money
- Under Life Master events capped at 400 masterpoints,
Under Grand Master events capped at 1,100 masterpoints

Chief Director: Laurie Kelso

Organiser: Barbara Travis
Email: anot@sabf.asn.au

Early Bird Discount ends on 31st March 2026



THE SA BRIDGE FEDERATION
INVITES YOU TO PLAY IN THE

STATE SENIORS' TRIALS

restricted to players born before 1st January 1962

Dates:
**Friday evening 13th March
Saturday 14th March
Sunday 15th March 2026**

Venue:
SA Bridge Association

Time:
**7.15pm Friday 13th March
9.30am Saturday 14th & 10.00am Sunday 15th March**

Cost:
\$150.00 per pair
BYO lunch

Director:
Josh Tomlin

Enter and pay using MyABF.
Limited to 12 pairs.



THE SA BRIDGE FEDERATION
INVITES YOU TO PLAY IN THE

STATE WOMEN'S TRIALS

Dates:
**Friday evening 27th March
Saturday 28th March
Sunday 29th March 2026**

Venue:
SA Bridge Association

Time:
**7.15pm Friday 27th March
9.30am Saturday 28th March
10.00AM Sunday 29th March**

Cost:
\$150.00 per pair
BYO lunch

Director:
Rex Whitford

Enter and pay using MyABF.
Limited to 12 pairs.