

FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING 5 OCTOBER 2021

Return to Bridge: Port Stephens Council have not as yet indicated we are able to access the EWFR to enable a return to bridge. There is also the issue of the Department of Education sequestering the room for the HSC which is to be held 9 November – 3 December. Council have indicated they will advise availability as soon as possible.

a) Conditions of return. Obviously, we will be required to observe government regulations regarding eligibility to enter the premises and play. This will include:

Proof of full vaccination (or medical exemption) and logging in with QR code (or signing in if no mobile).

Observing the 4 square metre rule (allowing for 60 people in the main room and 7 only in the kitchen at any one time).

Wearing of masks.

b) Number of boards. As previously, 27 boards should be played if masks are worn. Once masks are no longer required, we can revert to 33 boards.

c) Tea breaks. It was agreed that 'tea on the run' would be encouraged, especially in light of the restricted numbers allowed in the kitchen at any one time. However, it was also agreed there would be a 10-minute break half-way through the afternoon.

Lessons (intermediate): Ian Spight has offered his skills to provide members with a series of nine lessons. He was prepared to begin these in November, but given the uncertainty around date of return and the HSC, these will be postponed until next year. There will be a fee of \$5 per person per lesson.

Hunter Region Bridge Association: John McIlrath, Alan Bustany and Peter Clarke (a member at Toronto Bridge Club and the new Hunter representative for the NSWBA replacing Paul Rooms) have formed this association to promote bridge in the Hunter Region. The committee agreed Tomaree Bridge Club should join this group. To see what is being offered go to <https://hunterregionbridge.com>

Christmas/New Year break: Again, Ian Spight has offered his services to run games during our usual two-week break (provided we will have access to EWFR). It will be necessary for intending players to contact Ian and register with him to ensure there are enough players to open the club house. This will be noted on the website if it is to go ahead.

State Veterans Pairs: This has now been programmed for 2-5 August 2022.

State-wide Pairs: Warren Lazer has advised this event will not happen this year.