

Bridge Victoria April Club Update

This is a busy time of year both for bridge events and bridge club administration. Please find the key items for your attention below including our Presidents' Day and apologies this is such a lengthy read.

Presidents Days 2025.

After the success of Presidents' Day last year, we are enthusiastic about continuing the conversation with clubs. Many indicated that it would be easier to come to Melbourne for this if it could include a bridge component afterwards. To make this happen we have scheduled Presidents Day prior to the first event in the Victorian Festival of Bridge calendar.

We will be touching on the initiatives that are underway and give club representatives a chance to talk with us about their areas of concern and update priorities. Presidents Day 2025 will start after lunch at 1pm and continue through till 5pm. The formal part of the day will finish at approximately 5 pm.

After this there is an opportunity to mingle over drinks and nibbles. That evening we encourage participants to register for the red-point event at 7.00 pm that kicks off the Victorian Festival of Bridge. You could play with a partner as a warmup for the Festival of Bridge or names will go into a hat prior to play so cross club partnerships may be found. Presidents and/or club contacts are welcome. We look forward to your participation and please link here to register your attendance.

VBA Affiliation Fees.

VBA Affiliation Fees for home members of Affiliated Clubs for the Year from 1 April 2025 have been set at \$20.00. This is an increase of \$3.50 from \$16.50 in 2024. You should be receiving an invoice very soon. Clubs will be aware that the governing bodies in NSW and Queensland have pegged their State Affiliation fees to the schedule adopted by the ABF. The ABF Affiliation Fees will be increasing from \$20 in 2024, to \$23.30 in 2025, \$26.60 in 2026 and \$29.90 in 2027. BV will be considering this when we go through our budget review process in June.

The Victorian Festival of Bridge.

It is now less than two months to go until the Victorian Festival of Bridge. There is something for everyone at this event - from players starting their bridge journey to our elite players. Link here for more details.

Spread the word and join in the Festival fun! Please email Laura Ginnan (VFoB Tournament Organiser) at vcc@abf.com.au with any questions.

Club Matters

Director Training.

- Bridge Victoria held a director's course for new and inexperienced directors on the 12th of April 2025. This course was led by Leigh Gold and was regarded as very successful by those attending.

- The next course will be run by Laurie Kelso, the Chief Tournament Director for Victoria (likely in May), called PROBLEM SOLVING FOR DIRECTORS. Targeted at experienced directors and covering the usage and functionality of BRIDGEMATES and COMPScore.
- Director Hub. Our new one stop shop for directors at the Bridge Victoria website is in development. This can be found under Resources for Clubs or the Education tabs - link [here](#).
- Please contact operations@bridgevictoria.au for more information.

Teacher Training.

- Teacher materials for beginners have been completed and are being piloted.
- After reviewing, these materials will be published on our website and a deployment program announced to help new teachers use these materials.

· **A BV MyABF for Clubs Seminar** was held on the 27th March and was well received. There is likely to be a follow up webinar due to interest expressed in the seminar.

· **Social Media.** A Bridge Victoria social media Facebook presence has been launched, please join in [here](#).

· **Web Updates:** For any updates to the website, including club changes, please contact us at clubs@bridgevictoria.au.

Upcoming Congresses:

[Sale Congress](#)

[Enter](#)

Sat, 17 May 2025 to Sun, 18 May 2025

[Bendigo Congress](#)

[Enter](#)

Sat, 24 May 2025 to Sun, 25 May 2025

[Moonee Valley Super Congress](#)

[Enter](#)

Fri, 30 May 2025 to Sun, 01 Jun 2025

Update on Bridge Victoria representatives for 2025.

The representative for your region are shown below. Make sure you keep them informed of good things happening in your area and things that could be improved. We are sad to say that Sally Foster has stepped down and we are looking for a representative for Metro Central & North. Sally was always a positive and enthusiastic member for Bridge Victoria, bringing a touch of realism to all decisions. She is still willing to help with our new Gold point event 'Gold in the Gold Fields' in 2026. Thanks Sally!

Region	2024	2025
Western Region	John Walsh	John Walsh
Metro-South & Peninsula	Colin Jasper	Heather Lindsay
Metro Central & North	Sally Foster	
Eastern	John Haylock	John Haylock
Northern	Kerry Delcourt	Derek Poulton
Metro-East	Andre Krolikowski	Andre Krolikowski

There is one vacancy in the skills-based area as Graham Morris has decided to step down. He demonstrated much patience and skill as an objective mediator called upon by our clubs to assist with internal issues. He is still available to help clubs providing mediation services contact him at mediation@bridgevictoria.au. Please contact the chair at bridge Victoria if you have a skill that you think could be useful chair@bridgevictoria.au.

Skills Based	Current	Future
Finance	Gordon McRobert	Gordon McRobert

Marketing/Growth	Phil Young	Phil Young
Strategy and Communication	Jan van Riel	Jan van Riel
Vacancy		

Please share where appropriate with you members.

Jan van Riel Chair, Bridge Victoria chair@bridgevictoria.au