



A Newsletter from  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Greetings from the NCBA committee at the start of the summer holidays. We hope that the sun shines on you.

Remember that as a member of an affiliated club, you are eligible to play for Northants county teams and in county competitions. We very much hope that you get involved.

Our **Annual General Meeting** took place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April. The meeting was held via Zoom. The minutes may be viewed on the county website. Click [here](#) to read them.

Northants fields 3 teams, each of 4 pairs, in matches against other in the **Eastern Counties League (ECL)**. These matches are played on the RealBridge platform on Sunday afternoons. It's a great opportunity to play friendly but competitive bridge.

County selector, Trevor Thrower is keen to hear from partnerships that would like to put their names forward for selection. The new season began with a match against Hertfordshire on the 28<sup>th</sup> April. Our next match is against Essex on 1<sup>st</sup> September. You can email Trevor to express an interest at [trevor.j.thrower@gmail.com](mailto:trevor.j.thrower@gmail.com). Click [here](#) to see the full calendar of county events and matches.

30 pairs competed in our **Green pointed Swiss Pairs** on the 18<sup>th</sup> May.

This was an excellent event superbly directed by Nicky Bainbridge with her husband Jim as scorer. Thanks to Northampton BC for hosting and, in particular, to Ross Stacey for leading the organisation. The event was won by Kettering pair Rob Miller and Dan Baines. Full results may be viewed [here](#).

**Bridge – it's a big deal.**

The EBU's festival of bridge – a week of events from the 9th to the 15th of September to raise awareness of this great game. They have partnered with Cancer Research and aim to raise £60,000.

As part of the festival we intend to run a **county wide simultaneous pairs** on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. The same boards will be played at sessions across the county on that day and the results from each will be uploaded to ECATS who will then produce a ranking of all the pairs who competed. Star player, Rob Miller, has agreed to write a commentary on the boards so you can compare what happened at your table with Rob's expert view. There will

be a surcharge applied to your usual table fee to cover the ECATS fee and to contribute to Cancer Research. To date the following clubs have agreed to run a simultaneous session: Heart of England, Kettering, Northampton, Orton, Oundle, Spalding, Stamford and Wellingborough.

Lincolnshire have agreed to join us and will invite their clubs to run a session so, hopefully, we will have a large field and raise a considerable sum for Cancer Research.

**Inter club leagues for teams of four** have now been completed. You can see the final league tables [here](#). Stamford completed a double with their A team winning division 1 and their C team division 2. We are indebted to Gary Upton, chair of Kettering BC, for his organisation of these leagues. Gary plans to start new leagues in September so get your team together ready to enter through your club.

Having won the Lakeland, Kettering represented us in the Garden Cities Regional Final. Unfortunately they did not make it through to the national final. You can see the results [here](#).

The Broke Cup winners represented us in the Pachabo Cup and finished 18<sup>th</sup> out of 29 teams. Results are [here](#).

Two pairs travelled to Stone in Staffordshire having qualified, via the Eden Cup, to represent us in the Corwen Trophy. Full results are [here](#)

Keep up to date with the county news by visiting our **website**. You will find us [here](#)

We'd love to hear from you if you have any questions, thoughts or a good bridge story to share. Meanwhile have a great summer and may your opponents' suits always break evenly.

Bill Chadwick

NCBA chair

[Billchadwick33@icloud.com](mailto:Billchadwick33@icloud.com)