

**THE
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED**

243 YOUNG ST UNLEY 5061

**TELEPHONE 8373 3995
MOBILE 0448 381 249**

EMAIL manager@sabridgeassoc.asn.au

INTERNET <http://www.sabridgeassoc.asn.au>



2021

PROGRAM

MISSION STATEMENT

“To be a successful bridge club by providing a congenial, fair and competitive environment for the enjoyment of bridge at all levels”

PROGRAM CONTENTS

SECTION	Page
Welcome	3
Bridge Program Overview	4
Teaching Program	4
Session Times and Locations	5
Information about Programmed Competitions	6
Monday Daytime Program	7
Monday Evening Program	9
Tuesday Morning Program	11
Tuesday Evening Program	13
Wednesday Morning Program	15
Thursday Morning Program	17
Thursday Evening Program	19
Friday Program	21
Saturday Afternoon Program	23
Special Club Events	25
State Special events	26
ABF Alert Regulations	27
ABF Masterpoint system	29

WELCOME

Welcome to the South Australian Bridge Association. Our club runs regular walk-in bridge sessions, and special events, at a number of venues across Adelaide. You can play bridge on Monday to Saturday every week, and there are also special events on some Sundays.

We also provide classes for beginners and for more experienced players, Supervised Play sessions, and pre-game tutorials before some sessions to assist our players to develop their bridge.

For most sessions, players can simply turn up and play with their partner, however there are a few events where pre-entry is required. These are described in this program.

For our Supervised sessions, members are welcome to turn up on their own and we will arrange a partner for that session. For our regular sessions, members arrange their own partners, however if you are new to the club we will assist you to find a partner. In addition, we will endeavour to find you a partner, if your scheduled partner is unavailable at short notice. Contact the Manager if you need assistance.

All members are encouraged to use the Pre-pay system for their table fees. This is beneficial for the club as it means there is minimal cash handling. It is also a convenient and easy-to-use system for our members. Members make a deposit in advance and the account is debited when they play a session, the club will advise you when your account is getting low.

In 2020, our program was interrupted on two occasions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are hoping that 2021 will be more a more settled year for everyone, but any necessary changes will be announced on our website. We are following all the Government requirements to provide an environment that is as safe as possible for our members. We ask that if you are unwell, please do not come to the club to play.

We hope that you enjoy your bridge in 2021. If you have any queries or concerns please contact the Manager, the Director or Tutor of your session or any member of the Committee.

2021 PROGRAM

1. BRIDGE WEEK Monday 4th to Monday 11th January

Start the year with a week of bridge events for beginner, intermediate & established players. It is held at our Unley site and includes:

- Introductory Classes – a concentrated five day course starting on Monday 4th January and run daily from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.
- A free tutorial at 10:00 am before daytime sessions on Monday 4th January to Thursday 7th January (≈ 20 minutes).
- A Festival of Bridge – a 2-session Pairs event on Friday 8th January, a 2-day teams event on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th January and a one day ‘Board a Match’ teams on Monday 11th January.

2. GENERAL TEACHING PROGRAM

Beginners’ classes are of eight weeks duration (one session per week). Encourage your family and friends to come along and learn how to play with our experienced and fun teachers and tutors. These are held at Unley and terms commence as follows:-

Tuesday 7.30 pm		Friday 1.30 pm	
Term 1	2 nd February		5 th February
Term 2	27 th April		30 th April
Term 3	20 th July		23 rd July
Term 4	12 th October		15 th October

Intermediate tutorials are free of charge and are held at:

- Unley on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9.50am, Tuesday evening at 6.50pm and Friday afternoons at 12.50pm
- Glenelg North on Tuesdays at 9am
- Walkerville on Monday and Thursday at 12 noon.

The monthly topics are set out on the website.

3. SUPERVISED SESSIONS

Supervised sessions are available as follows:

- Unley – on Tuesday evenings, and Friday and Saturday afternoons.
- Walkerville – Thursday afternoons
- Glenelg North – Tuesday mornings

SESSION TIMES

Members have a great selection of session times and venues to choose from. These are summarised in the table below

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Unley	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10am	1.00pm	
					1.30pm		
	7.30pm	7.30pm		7.30pm			
Walkerville	1.00pm			1.00pm			
Glenelg Nth		9.30am					
Campbelltown					10.00am		
Mt Barker	1.30pm						

At **Unley**, most sessions offer multiple sections to accommodate many levels of play. Thursday evening mostly has events run by our State Body, the SA Bridge Federation. These are run over a number of weeks and prior entry is required. Entry can usually be done at our Unley site, or on the SABF website. Friday afternoon is supervised play only.

At **Walkerville**, Monday has 2-3 sections of differing levels and on Thursday there is both a Supervised and non-Supervised section.

At **Mount Barker** and **Campbelltown**, there are relaxed single-section sessions catering to all levels.

Our locations are:

- **Unley** - 243 Young St, Unley
- **Walkerville** - Walkerville Bowling Club, Cnr Smith & Church St, Walkerville
- **Glenelg North** - Scouts Adventure Centre, Anderson St, Glenelg North
- **Campbelltown** - Uniting Church, 607 Lower North East Rd, Campbelltown
- **Mt Barker** - Mt Barker Community Centre, 3 Dumas St, Mount Barker

INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMMED COMPETITIONS

PAIRS EVENTS

The majority of sessions at Unley are graded (walk-in) duplicate match-pointed pairs, with competitions generally played over a calendar month.

Graded Events: Graded sessions have between two and four grades, depending on the number of pairs playing and the spread in the standard of the players. For example, Tuesday evening has A and B grades, while Monday morning has A, B, C and D grades. Pairs are generally permitted to grade themselves, but if a pair consistently does very well in their grade, they are expected to move up a grade. If they average 60% over a month, the director will move them up, at least for the next month.

Monthly Eclectic Competition: Unless otherwise stated in this program, monthly pairs competitions are eclectic. This means that if a pair plays in all the competition sessions, their worst score is dropped when calculating their aggregate score for the competition.

In general, pairs from any grade can win the overall monthly competition, but a pair cannot win the following month in the same or lower grade (except in A grade, where there is no such restriction).

For a small number of events, shown in the program, the winners are to be the highest finishing A Grade pair.

Masterpoint Awards: For pairs events, session masterpoints are awarded to the top half of the field. Also, the overall winners and the top half of the field will receive additional masterpoints

OTHER TYPES OF EVENTS AT SA BRIDGE ASSOC.

As well as matchpoint pairs, there are Teams and Butler Pairs events in the program, mainly on Thursday nights, but also on Wednesday mornings, and on Monday nights. These events require pre-nomination and representation at each session of the event for which you nominate. (This means you must attend each session yourself, or find a substitute to send in your stead if you are unable to play in one or more sessions). If you are interested in trying one of these “different” events, talk to the Club Manager or a Director.

If there is a problem or an issue at your table,
please call the Director who will sort things out.
Remember, only directors are permitted to give rulings.

MONDAY

UNLEY

Tutorial 9.50 am, Play 10.30 am - Green & Red Master Points

Walk-in graded duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional tutorial on different aspects of the game before play.

January Pairs

4/1 11/1 18/1 25/1

On 11th January there is also a one-day special 'Board a Match' teams

Frank Coyle Pairs (Red)

1/2 8/2 15/2 22/2

March Pairs

1/3 8/3 (Adelaide Cup holiday) 15/3 22/3 29/3

April Pairs

5/4 (Easter Monday) 12/4 19/4 26/4

May Pairs

3/5 10/5 17/5 24/5 31/5

June Pairs

7/6 14/6 (Queen's Birthday holiday) 21/6 28/6

George Roper Pairs (Red)

5/7 12/7 19/7 26/7

August Pairs

2/8 9/8 16/8 23/8 30/8

September Pairs

6/9 13/9 20/9 27/9

October Pairs

4/10 (Labour Day holiday) 11/10 18/10 25/10

November Pairs

1/11 8/11 15/11 22/11 29/11

December Pairs

6/12 13/12 20/12 27/12

Mt Barker

Mt Barker Community Centre

Monday 9.30am to 12.30pm (Closed on Public Holidays)

Regular walk-in pairs (no grading). Enjoy a pleasant morning at the Mt Barker Community Centre every Monday morning. Free coffee and tea.

Walkerville

Walkerville Bowling Club, Cnr Smith & Church Sts, Walkerville.

Monday 1.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Regular walk-in pairs (no grading). Enjoy a pleasant afternoon at the Walkerville Bowling Club every Monday afternoon. Free coffee and tea. A free optional tutorial for intermediate players is held at 12:00 pm before play. There will also be a red masterpoint event.

The George Roper Pairs

in July is a Red masterpoint event in memory of George who left the club a bequest in his will.

George was a long serving committee member and played in our first interstate event, when a local foursome played against a Victorian team which included the renowned Victor Champion

MONDAY EVENING

7.30 - 11.00 p.m. Green and Red Master Points

Walk-In duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played (does not apply to the State Singles Championship). There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 6:50 pm before play.

President's Pairs

4/1 11/1 18/1 25/1

February Pairs

1/2 8/2 15/2 22/2

Vin & Margaret Moriarty Pairs

1/3 8/3 (Adelaide Cup holiday) 15/3 22/3 29/3

Open Trials Final

1/3 SABF Open Trials final – 1 match only

April Pairs

5/4 (Easter Monday) 12/4 19/4 26/4

Pax Lusk Pairs (Red)

3/5 10/5 17/5 24/5 31/5

Supervised Play Teams Championship (New event)

10/5 17/5 24/5

June Pairs

7/6 14/6 (Queen's Birthday holiday) 21/6 28/6

July Pairs

5/7 12/7 19/7 26/7

Wally Roll Pairs (Red)

2/8 9/8 16/8 23/8 30/8

SABF State Singles Championships (Red)

6/9 13/9 20/9 27/9

October Pairs

4/10 11/10 18/10 25/10

State Teams Finals

11/10 25/10 1/11 8/11 15/11 6/12 13/12

John & Nora Martin Mixed Pairs (Red)

This is a sponsored event with additional prize money.

1/11 8/11 15/11 22/11 29/11

State Pairs Final

22/11

Fred Madsen Pairs

6/12 13/12 20/12 27/12

John and Nora Martin Mixed Pairs

Held in November is a Red masterpoint event.

It was established by John, after Nora's death, in memory of the many hours of enjoyment they had at the club and of the lasting friendships with other couples they made at the club.

The family has continued to sponsor the event following John's death.

TUESDAY MORNING

10.30 a.m. Green and Red Master Points

Walk-in graded duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 9:50 am before play.

January Pairs

5/1 12/1 19/1 26/1

February Pairs

2/2 9/2 16/2 23/2

Rio Clarke Pairs (Red)

2/3 9/3 16/3 23/3 30/3

April Pairs

6/4 13/4 20/4 27/4

Gavin McEwin Pairs (Red)

4/5 11/5 18/5 25/5

June Pairs

1/6 8/6 15/6 22/6 29/6

July Pairs

6/7 13/7 20/7 27/7

August Pairs

3/8 10/8 17/8 24/8 31/8

September Pairs

7/9 14/9 21/9 28/9

Jean McEwin Pairs (Red)

5/10 12/10 19/10 26/10

November Pairs

2/11 (Melbourne Cup) 9/11 16/11 23/11 30/11

December Pairs

7/12 14/12 21/12 28/12

SA BRIDGE ASSOC - Glenelg North

Scouts SA Centre for Adventurous Activities
Anderson St, Glenelg North,
9.30am to 12.30pm every Tuesday

Regular walk-in session for Supervised/Intermediate players

Gavin and Jean McEwin Pairs

*Held in May and October are Red masterpoint events.
Gavin set up a bequest to name a Tuesday event after his
beloved wife. Following his death in 1999, the bequest was
extended in his will to include a second event in his name.*

TUESDAY EVENING

7:30 – 11:00 p.m. Green Master Points

Walk-in graded duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. Supervised play available. There is a free tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 6:50 pm before play.

January Pairs

5/1 12/1 19/1 26/1

February Pairs

2/2 9/2 16/2 23/2

March Pairs

2/3 9/3 16/3 23/3 30/3

Ted Hilson Pairs

6/4 13/4 20/4 27/4

May Pairs

4/5 11/5 18/5 25/5

June Pairs

1/6 8/6 15/6 22/6 29/6

July Pairs

6/7 13/7 20/7 27/7

August Pairs

3/8 10/8 17/8 24/8 31/8

September Pairs

7/9 14/9 21/9 28/9

Paddy Haydon Pairs

5/10 12/10 19/10 26/10

November Pairs

2/11 9/11 16/11 23/11 30/11

December Pairs

7/12 14/12 21/12 28/12

Patron's Cup

*The 2021 Patron's Cup will be held on Friday afternoons
at Unley in November.*

*It is awarded to the pair that finishes first in the monthly
competition. It is available to all Supervised players.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING

10.30 a.m. Green and Red Master Points

Prior nomination is required for the Daytimes Teams Championship (SABF Event).

There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 9:50 am before play.

January Pairs

6/1 13/1 20/1

SABF Daytime State Teams Championship - Qualifying (Red)

27/1 3/2 10/2 17/2

February Pairs (Concurrent with Daytime State Teams)

3/2 10/2 17/2 24/2

SABF Daytime State Teams Championship – Final & Plate (Red)

24/2 3/3 10/3 17/3

March Pairs (Concurrent with Teams Final & Plate)

3/3 10/3 17/3 24/3 31/3

April Pairs

7/4 14/4 21/4 28/4

Kath George Pairs Championship (Red)

5/5 12/5 19/5 26/5

Lyndoch Lavender Farm Pairs (Red)

2/6 9/6 16/6 23/6 30/6

July Pairs

7/7 14/7 21/7 28/7

John Zollo Pairs (Red)

4/8 11/8 18/8 25/8

Len Thompson Pairs

1/9 8/9 15/9 22/9 29/9

Gus & Gusti Gilbert Pairs (Red)

6/10 13/10 20/10 27/10

Keith McNeil Pairs (Red)

3/11 10/11 17/11 24/11

December Pairs

1/12 8/12 15/12 22/12 29/12



Corner Hoffnungsthal and Tweedies Gully Roads, Lyndoch

Well worth a visit

Call Jill & Evan Allanson on 8524 4538

www.lyndochlavenderfarm.com.au

Email: llf@lyndochlavenderfarm.com.au

THURSDAY MORNING

Play 10.30 am Green and Red Master Points

Walk-In graded duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. There is a free optional tutorial for intermediate and supervised players at 9:50 am before play.

January Pairs

7/1 14/1 21/1 28/1

February Pairs

4/2 11/2 18/2 25/2

March Pairs

4/3 11/3 18/3 25/3

April Pairs

1/4 8/4 15/4 22/4 29/4

Reg Gooley Pairs (Red)

6/5 13/5 20/5 27/5

June Pairs

3/6 10/6 17/6 23/6 30/6

Dorothy Saies Pairs (Red)

1/7 8/7 15/7 22/7 29/7

August Pairs

5/8 12/8 19/8 26/8

September Pairs

2/9 9/9 16/9 23/9 30/9

October Pairs

7/10 14/10 21/10 28/10

J & S Rundle Pairs (Red)

4/11 11/11 18/11 25/11

December Pairs

2/12 9/12 16/12 23/12 30/12

SA BRIDGE ASSOC Walkerville

Thursday 1.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Walkerville Bowling Club, Cnr Smith & Church St, Walkerville.

J and S Rundle Memorial Pairs

The Jack Rundle Memorial Pairs was established by Shirley following Jack's death.

It is a red masterpoint event played in November.

THURSDAY EVENING

7.30 - 11.15 p.m. Green, Red, and Gold Masterpoints

Most events played on Thursday nights are State Championships or Qualifying events which are open to all members of our Club, and other clubs affiliated with the SABF. Table fees are set by the SABF for state events. All teams and Butler Pairs events require prior nomination and representation at every session.

January Pairs (Walk-in Pairs, no booking required)

7/1 14/1 21/1

Open Trials Final

28/1 4/2 11/2 18/2 25/2 4/3 (also one match on Monday 1 March at 7.30)

Open Trials Plate

28/1 4/2 11/2 18/2 25/2 4/3

Under Life Butler

28/1 4/2 11/2

SABF GNOT Qualifying (GOLD)

11/3 18/3 25/3 8/4 15/4

Walk In Pairs

1/4 (Thursday before Easter)

State Swiss Butler Pairs Championship

22/4 6/5 13/5 20/5 27/5

Autumn Nationals

29/4 CLOSED

Walk In Pairs

3/6 (VCC)

State Teams Phase I

10/6 17/6 24/6 1/7 8/7

Walk In Pairs

15/7 22/7 (ANC)

Open Trials Qualifying

29/7 5/8 12/8 19/8 26/8 2/9

State Teams Phase II

9/9 16/9 23/9 30/9 7/10

Walk In Pairs

14/10 (Spring Nationals)

State Pairs Qualifying

21/10 28/10 4/11 11/11

State Pairs Final

18/11 22/11 (Monday) 2/12

State Pairs Consolation

18/11 25/11 2/12

SABF Christmas Party

9/12

Walk-in Pairs

16/12

Closed

23/12

FRIDAY

Play 10am – 1pm Green and Red Master Points

Walk-In graded duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played.

January Pairs

8/1 15/1 22/1 29/1

Jean Harbison Pairs (Red)

5/2 12/2 19/2 26/2

March Pairs

5/3 12/3 19/3 26/3

April Pairs

2/4 (Good Friday) 9/4 16/4 23/4 30/4

May Pairs

7/5 14/5 21/5 28/5

June Pairs

4/6 11/6 18/6 25/6

July Pairs

2/7 9/7 16/7 23/7 30/7

August Pairs

6/8 13/8 20/8 27/8

John Pick Pairs (Red)

3/9 10/9 17/9 24/9

October Pairs

1/10 8/10 15/10 22/10 29/10

November Pairs

5/11 12/11 19/11 26/11

December Pairs

3/12 10/12 17/12 24/12

Campbelltown

Campbelltown Uniting Church, 607 Lower North East Rd, Campbelltown,
Friday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.
Regular walk-in session (no grading).

Unley

Supervised Play 1.30pm to 4.30 pm

Walk-in supervised play, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. The Patron's Cup will be played in November and all Supervised players are welcome.

Supervised Play Teams Championship

All Supervised players are invited to play in the inaugural teams championship which will be held on Monday evenings on 10, 17 and 24 May. It is a relaxed and friendly introduction to teams play.

The winning team will be awarded the Leonie Clarke trophy.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

1.00 to 4.30 p.m. Green and Red Masterpoints

Walk-In duplicate, with prizes awarded on the basis of monthly aggregate. The worst score is dropped if all sessions are played. A supervised duplicate is also conducted.

Nationwide Pairs

The Nationwide Pairs will be conducted on the 1st Saturday of each month. These will be Red Point events, with appropriate master points also being allocated. Normal table fees apply.

January Pairs

2/1 9/1 16/1 23/1 30/1

Paddy Naylor Pairs (Red)

6/2 13/2 20/2 27/2

March Pairs

6/3 13/3 20/3 27/3

April Pairs

3/4 (Easter Saturday) 10/4 17/4 24/4

May Pairs

1/5 8/5 15/5 22/5 29/5

June Pairs

5/6 12/6 19/6 26/6

GNOT Restricted Qualifying event 1 (Gold)

12/6 19/6 26/6

July Pairs

3/7 10/7 17/7 24/7 31/7

August Pairs

7/8 14/8 21/8 28/8

September Pairs

4/9 11/9 18/9 25/9

October Pairs

2/10 9/10 16/10 23/10 30/10

November Pairs

6/11 13/11 20/11 27/11

December Pairs

4/12 11/12 18/12 Closed 25/12 (Christmas Day)

Grand National Open Teams Qualifying events for Restricted teams

The SABF will be selecting an under 1500 masterpoints team and an under 500 masterpoint team to represent South Australia at the National final.

We are running two qualifying events, the first on Saturdays 12, 19 and 26 June and the second on Sunday 25 July.

Teams who do well in these events will represent our club at the State final.

Gold masterpoints will be awarded in the qualifying events.

SA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION SPECIAL EVENTS

Bridge Festival

Friday 8 January – 2 session Pairs

Saturday 9 January and Sunday 10 January – 2 day teams event

Monday 11 – 2 session ‘Board a Match’ teams event

Swiss Pairs Congress

Sunday 14 February

Pleasant Sundays

Sunday 8th August

Sunday 17th October

SA BRIDGE ASSOC Golf & Bridge Biathlon

Sunday 28th March @ South Lakes Golf Club

Supervised Play Teams Championship

Monday evenings 10/5 17/5 24/5

Rotary Pairs Congress

Sunday 30th May

GNOT Restricted Qualifying events (Gold points)

Event 1 – Saturdays 5/6 19/6 26/6 (pre-entry required)

Event 2 – Sunday 25/7 (pre-entry required)

SA BRIDGE ASSOC Teams Championships

Friday 7.30pm 24/9 1/10 8/10

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Tuesday 2nd November

SA BRIDGE ASSOC AGM

Sunday 5th Dec

SA BRIDGE ASSOC New Year’s Eve Congress

Friday 31st December

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE SPECIAL EVENTS

Womens Trials Qualifying	14 Mar
Womens State Finals	19 - 21 Mar
Seniors State Teams Trial	9 - 11 Apr
Autumn National Women's Swiss Pairs	29 - 30 Apr
Autumn National Restricted Swiss Pairs	29 - 30 Apr
Autumn National Open Swiss Pairs	29 - 30 Apr
Autumn National Open and Restricted Teams	1 - 2 May
ANOT Final and Consolation	3 May
Under 500 (Regional) GNOT Final	8 Aug
Under 1500 GNOT Final	22 Aug
State Mixed Pairs Championship	19 Sep
State Seniors Pairs Championship	31 Oct

We would normally publish details of major ABF events, however due to the uncertainties surrounding COVID-19 this information is not yet available.

Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) **ALERT and ANNOUNCING REGULATIONS**

Bridge is not a game of secrets - if you or your partner use a call that has an agreed meaning within your partnership then the opponents are entitled to know exactly what that bid means.

In the early days of bridge, alerts would have been unnecessary since everybody played a similar system. Even the emergence of new systems such as Acol, with its lower no trump range, wouldn't have been a problem - the opponents sat down, announced their system, and the auction would then be entirely apparent to both pairs.

In recent years a wide range of new bidding systems has emerged. Whilst calls such as 1♠ and 1♥ are usually consistent in what they promise, there can be a wide range of meanings for the other opening calls.

Doubles have a particularly wide range of interpretations, with the possible meanings now including penalty, takeout, card-showing, responsive, or even a transfer to an unspecified suit!

To help ensure that the players are able to understand the opponents bids, the ABF adopts an 'Alert' system. Simply put, if a bid has an unusual meaning, their partner says "Alert", and uses the Alert card if bidding boxes are being used. The opponents then know that they might need to ask about that bid.

There are also bids that are 'Self-Alerting'. These are bids where there is generally no common meaning, so players should expect to ask about them. If a self-alerting call has been made by an opponent, e.g. a double of your 1NT opening, then you should act as if the call has been alerted, and inquire of its meaning in the same manner as you would if an alert had been given.

You can ask about an alerted, or self-alerted, bid when it is your turn to bid. Explanations should be as complete as possible. If you become declarer you should offer to give a full explanation of your auction to the opponents if it contained any alerted (including self-alerted) calls, or calls they may not fully understand.

Before you start play, it is beneficial to check with your opponents:

- Their basic system.
- The strength and style of their 1NT openings.
- Their carding agreements.

The opponents should also advise you of any unusual bids or carding methods before starting, this is referred to as 'pre-alerting'.

The ABF also requires 'Announcements'. This means that when you open 1C or 1NT your partner should 'announce' to your opponents what the bid is about. When you open 1NT, your partner should announce the strength range, e.g. "12-14" or "15-17" (or whatever the range is).

If you open 1C, your partner should automatically announce the essential meaning of the bid. For a natural system, the announcement is the minimum number of clubs, "4+ clubs" or "3+ clubs" or "2+ clubs". For Precision 1C openings, you would say "artificial, 16+ HCP". For other artificial systems, your partner announces "UNUSUAL" and the opponents can clarify.

Your opponents will still be able to ask questions, but the basics should have already been supplied.

The ABF has very detailed information about Alerting on its website. If you want to obtain a full understanding of the Alerting Regulations you should visit www.abf.com.au.

MASTERPOINT RANKINGS

Masterpoints won by players, over their lifetime, are used to determine each player's master ranking. There are currently 21 different ranks ranging from Graduate Master to Diamond Grand Master. Players receive an official certificate with each Scheme promotion. Masterpoint ranks may be used to determine seeding in tournaments. In addition, events are held that are restricted to players of a certain masterpoint ranking. This provides an opportunity for players to play others of a similar standard, particularly for those players who are new to bridge.

Rank	Minimum Requirements		
	Total	Red & Gold	Gold
Graduate	2		
Club	5		
Local	15		
Bronze Local	25		
Silver Local	35		
Regional	50		
Bronze Regional	100		
State	50	25	
Bronze State	100	50	
National	150	75	
Bronze National	200	100	
Silver National	300	150	
Life	300	180	30
Bronze Life	400	240	40
Silver Life	500	300	50
Gold Life	750	450	75
Grand	1000	700	200
Silver Grand	2500	1900	600
Gold Grand	5000	4000	1400
Emerald Grand	10000	8500	3000
Diamond Grand	15000	13000	5000

When a player earns a total of 1,000 masterpoints they become members of the One Thousand Club. There are no red or gold requirements.

If you want to look up how many masterpoints you have, you can do this on the ABF website, www.abf.com.au.