



Kalamunda Club Congress 2019

Many thanks, many times over, to Kalamunda club for our successful 2019 Congress.

Thank You!

When Elizabeth, the new editor for BTG, emailed me requesting a list of the people who contributed towards our very successful congress this year, I cringed. I have been involved with our congress for eight years now, and every year I find the “thank you” my most difficult task, for a good reason: there are so many members who contribute leading up to and during the congress that it would be easy to overlook someone.

On reflection I decided that it would be better to describe what takes place to present our successful congress.

Eight years ago, we used to start with a sub-committee who met 3 or 4 times to organise and delegate tasks. In recent years this has not been necessary.

As convenor, in November, I approach a state director to direct our congress. Bill Kemp has retired from state directing (yes, retirees can retire!) so Dave Parham accepted the role for this year. Dave is very approachable and was easy to liaise with to monitor entries for both days, including finding a team willing to enter the teams event at the eleventh hour after there was a late withdrawal on the Wednesday prior to our congress. The director also orders the dealt playing boards and arranges their delivery and return. This is necessary for the integrity of the competition.

In January I ask BAWA to open the congress for entries on their website. Always popular, and limited to 22 tables, entries fill up quickly. This year the teams competition filled up within 2 hours of being opened, and the pairs competition was filled in about 8 hours!

Our club rooms require regular maintenance. Leading up to the congress: windows and chairs were cleaned, a leaky tap was replaced, new air-conditioners were installed, the outdoor area was upgraded and tidied, and honour boards were removed and replaced with updated winners for 2018.

Scoring booklets and envelopes to collect players' entry money were printed. These were placed on tables at the end of the Friday's club session. Bidding boxes were collected and sorted as they mysteriously have odd pass cards and missing alert cards from regular club use. (Perhaps we could aim to be more careful of bidding boxes?)

The management committee ordered extra water bottles, hired extra outdoor tables and chairs, and arranged all food and catering supplies including fresh fruit from local orchards. Club members contributed food for tea/coffee breaks, and their time in the kitchen over the two days of the congress.

The management committee arranged raffle hampers, with contributions from club members, for both days, and a ticket sales table set up near the entrance.

Each morning of the congress, club members arrived early to set up tables and chairs in the outdoor area, prepare salad in the kitchen, and collect fresh bread rolls. The hired chairs and trestle tables are stacked and carried inside at the end of each day: quite late after wine and presentation of prize money, and the visitors have all left.

A high standard of fresh food is available throughout the congress, and the atmosphere for the two day event is a credit to our club.

Two club members shared the task of serving the director, Dave Parham, as a caddie. Caddies are kept busy ferrying boards around the room, so that players are not penalised due to slow play at other tables.

Unexpected issues dealt with on the day included a power outage that caused the printer to change its paper size and lost the website password.

Winners in the Swiss pairs event:

1 st Place	David Schokman / Dave Munro (2)
2 nd Place	Nigel Dutton / Marie-Fran Merven (1)
3 rd Place	Maura Rhodes / Rick Rhodes (6)
4 th Place	Wendy Harman / Joan Valentine (5)
5 th Place	Joe Louis / Joseph Gaudet (23)
6 th Place	Ross Blakey / Gill Blakey (34)
Best Kalamunda Pair	Stephen Thyer / Peter Clarke (20)

Winners of the teams event:

1 st Place	WOOD (2) Viv Wood - Ron Cooper - Renee Cooper - Andy Hung
2 nd Place	SCHOKMAN (1) David Schokman - Dave Munro - Cynthia Belonogoff - Val Biltoft
3 rd Place	CLARKE (14) Peter Clarke - Joseph Gaudet - Joe Louis - Nicolas Moniodis
Best Kalamunda Team	PRYCE (13) Sheila Pryce - Gordon Brown - Stephen Thyer - Catherine Gabites

See the club website for a complete list of results.

In addition to the familiar high-flying players we normally see at our club Congress, this year we had the Wood team entered. These players regularly compete at international bridge competition level.

Congratulations to our club members who appear on the winning lists! Their playing numbers indicate their commencing placement across the field of players entered. Joe Louis and Joseph Gaudet were placed 23rd in the Pairs before coming 5th, and placed 14th in the teams with Peter Clarke and Nicolas Moniodis before coming 3rd overall are outstanding results. Similarly, the final results for the players in the best Kalamunda pair and team (not receiving any other placement) show they also placed higher than their commencing place.

Congratulations and once again heartfelt thanks to EVERYONE who supporting our club in presenting a fantastic congress. (And that feels like a lame understatement for all the work done!)

Thank you. The event and the catering is a shared undertaking with all of our club members contributing towards its success. Thank you, thank you everyone!

Denise Borger
Congress Convenor (which means task delegator)



First placed pair: David Schockman and Dave Munro.



Best Kalamunda pair: Peter Clarke and Stephen Thyer



Second placed pair: Nigel Dutton and Marie-Fran Merven.



First placed team: Ron Cooper, Viv Wood, Andy Hung and Renee Cooper.



Second placed team: Val Biltott, Cynthia Belonogoff, David Schokman and Dave Munro.



Third placed team: Joe Louis, Nicolas Moniodis, Joseph Gaudet and Peter Clarke

Eleanor's cake day



Eleanor Rowley celebrated a discrete cake day in January, with zero candles. We suspect that there may indeed have been a zero involved! Happy birthday, Eleanor.

Marriage is like a deck of cards. It starts with two hearts & a diamond. But eventually you wish for a club and a spade.



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