



Dublin North Region March Newsletter

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Dia Dhaoibh

This year has been terribly busy, so apologies for the delay in getting out this edition.

This year has been off to a flyer with congresses, national, regional and local competitions taking place.

As always, the first quarter of the year has a full calendar, with a wide range of important events, not least among these is a number of coaching seminars.



Michael O'Keeffe
DNR President

Some of these were aimed at developing up and coming players, while others focused on more experienced and more senior players.

This is in line with the objectives of this year's presidency, where the emphasis is on improving and developing the game. With this in mind, the Dublin North Region has hosted a number of Training Seminars, which targeted Novice and Intermediate B players, while coming up shortly is another bridge Workshop with Ranald Milne.

In addition to the focus on education, there has been a lot of things happening on the international scene, and, thankfully, it's not just in the rugby that were doing well.....more of that later.

Until we talk again, hope you have a great month, and of course, Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh go léir.



McLoughlin Cup

The McLoughlin Cup was resurrected a couple of years ago and has been a great success. Confined to Intermediate B and Novice Players, it gives relatively inexperienced bridge players the opportunity to play in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

With nearly 50 people competing, this took place on Saturday 17th January - in Malahide Regional Bridge Club - with players from 7 different clubs in the region taking part, including Malahide Regional, Foxhall, Glasnevin, Lusk, St. Anthony's, the Teacher's Club and Swords.

All participants deserve to be congratulated for making it such an enjoyable event. A big thank you as always to Malahide Bridge Club for providing the venue and to our tournament director Anne Doyle for running the competition so smoothly and efficiently.

Congratulations to the winners, Maria and Carol photographed below with our President.



Winners: Maria Concannon & Carol Madden (MRBC) with Michael O'Keeffe

With competitions for all grades, this attracted an excellent and talented entry for all sections., with the following results:

Masters:

1. Billy Ronan, Pat Cassidy, Pat Kelly, John Murray and Dave Terry
2. Patricia Quigley, Ann Duffy, Frances Gill and Denis Gill
3. Mary Conlon, Charlie O'Hanlon, Davida Pendleton and Jean Newell



Michael O'Keeffe with winning captain, Billy Ronan

Intermediate A - Purcell Cup

1. Michael O'Keeffe, Richard Kiernan, John Treanor and Joe Keating
2. Irene Ellis, Margaret Cure, Patricia Evers and Tom Cassidy
3. Michael O'Mahony, Noel Murphy, Michael Haverly and Florrie McElroy



Intermediate EPurcell Cup Winners

DNR Regional Teams

Taking place on the last day on January, these are the qualifiers for the national teams championships being held in Athlone at the end of April.



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1. Linda Garland, Patricia Brennan, Celia Andrews and Catherine Andrews
2. Rachel King, Joan White, Barry Ryan and Maggy Steel
3. Mary Aird, Irene Donovan, Margaret Mason and Juergen Schweiss



**Intermediate B Winners with DNR
President, Michael O'Keeffe**

Holmes Wilson Trophy - National Teams

This is one of the most prestigious competitions of the year, with the stars of the Irish Bridge game playing for the honour and bragging rights in the teams competition.

Following a titanic competition, the team from Galway Ciaran Coyne, David Walsh, Donal MacAonghusa and Enda Glynn just managed to edge ahead and win by 0.24 of a victory point from Tom Hanlon, Tommy Garvey, Nick Fitzgibbon and Adam Mesbur.

The results were as follows:

1. Ciaran Coyne, David Walsh, Donal MacAonghusa and Enda Glynn
2. Tom Hanlon, Tommy Garvey, Nick Fitzgibbon and Adam Mesbur
3. Karel De Raeymaeker, Kelan O'Connor, Anna Onishuk and Peter Clifford

National Pairs & Teams

Every year, towards the end of January, the National Pairs and Team Titles are held each year in Westmanstown Sport and Conference Centre, near Lucan.

These national championships are some of the most prestigious competitions of the year. With many national players competing, as well as many international players, the standards are always extremely high, with this year being no different.

Men's Pairs: The Revington Cup

With a good representation from the Dublin North Region, we were hoping for great things.....and we were not disappointed. Martin Walsh & Jimmy Given, (CRC Bridge Club) gave an inspired performance, coming in an incredible 16th Place in the Nationals and winning the prize for best Area Masters.....although they were entered as Inter A players.

For the record....the following were the results:

1. Gay Keaveney & Martin Jones
2. Karel De Raeymaeke & Kelan O'Connor
3. David Jackson & BJ O'Brien



**Revington Winners with CBAI
President, Fearghal O'Boyle**

Ladies Pairs, the Jackson Cup

Not to be outdone, in the Ladies National Competition, the Jackson Cup, Catherine Quinn and Nora Wayte, (CRC Bridge Club), held up their part by winning the prize as the best Inter A pairing.



For the record....the following were the results:

1. Deirdre Tuckey - Helen Sheridan
2. Sandra Newell - Carol Ann Cummins
3. Dolores Gilliland - Rita O'Neill



**Jackson Winners with CBAI
President, Fearghal O'Boyle**

Men's Teams, the Geraldine Trophy

A special congratulations to Gay Keaveney and Martin Jones who came first in BOTH Mens competitions

In addition to this, the Glasnevin Bridge Club, were the DNR stars, picking up the Best Area Master Prize. The team was made up of:

- Aidan Synnott, Tom Heary, Richard Trehy & John Moyles.

The results were as follows:

1. Gay Keaveney, Martin Jones, BJ O'Brien, Terry Walsh
2. Conor O'Hara, Ray McConville, Jim McAndrew, Michael McGloughlin
3. John Phelan, Diarmuid Reddan, Fred Barry, Paul Porteous



**Geraldine Winners with CBAI
President, Fearghal O'Boyle**

Women's Teams, the Menamin Trophy

The big news here was the excellent performance of the players from the Dublin North Region, with a number of members of DNR in action.

A huge congratulations to Eileen McCann, Mary Kelly Rogers, Ann Fitzpatrick & Hilary Ferguson, from Malahide Regional Bridge Club who were overall winners in this Competition.



**McMenamin Winners with CBAI
President, Fearghal O'Boyle**

The other results were:

1. Eileen McCann, Mary Kelly Rogers, Ann Fitzpatrick, Hilary Ferguson
2. Petra O'Neill, Patsy Meehan, Pat Ryan, Pat MacMahon
3. Mary Finn, Ciara Burns, Louise Mitchell, Lucy Phelan
3. Hilary McDonagh, Gilda Pender, Valerie Hand, Aileen O'Keefe (3rd place tie)















Camrose Trophy

The first weekend kicked off recently in Edinburgh. This is the Home Internationals for Bridge, with Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England competing for the honour.

To make up the numbers, the home team in the final weekend can enter a team from the association. As the final weekend is in Belfast, the NIBU made up the 6th team.

While the competition was red hot, the Irish Team played superbly, finishing in second place, 0.3 pts behind Scotland and hopefully poised for victory. Roll on Belfaststarting on the 6th March. And if you're sad like me, you'll start watching the games live on Vugraph on www.bridgebase.com At the moment the tables are as follows:

							Total	Rank
 Wales		10.86	11.86	15.37	18.21	15.37	71.67	1
 Republic of Ireland	9.14		17.31	14.24	11.67	18.97	71.33	2
 England	8.14	2.69		16.57	11.86	18.45	57.71	3
 Northern Ireland	4.63	5.76	3.43		5.76	16.35	35.93	4
 Scotland	1.79	8.33	8.14	14.24		0.00	32.50	5
 NIBU	4.63	1.03	1.55	3.65	0.00		10.86	6

Camrose at the Mid Point

A double perhaps.....bridge and rugby ?

Regent Congress

As many of you may be aware, the Regent Bridge Club are celebrating their 90th anniversary this year, and celebrated this august event with a Congress from the 1st - 4th January.

Despite our best attempts to participate and bring the prizes, money and trophies back to the Northside, it was not to be.

However, congratulations to our Dublin South colleagues for an excellent congress, with was an enormous and well deserved success.



Fearghal O'Boyle explains to DNR President Elect, not to give up the day job !

IBU Senior Congress

This year's IBU Senior Congress will be held in Belfast, on March 17th - 19th in the La Mon Hotel

The term "seniors" refers to the age restriction for the congress - ie one must be over 60 in 2015 to partake in the main events - the pairs and the teams. There will be prizes for inter As and Bs in all events, entries permitting. The event begins on Tuesday 17th March, with a free drinks reception for participants at 7pm. Bridge commences at 7.30pm. This is the Gala pairs and is open to all, regardless of age.

On Wednesday 18th at 1.30pm, the IBU seniors' congress pairs begins. This is a 2 session event but open pairs (again not age restricted) will be held alongside both sessions for those not wishing to play a 2 session event. This will be a very sociable event, with a complimentary light supper and live music after play concludes. On thursday 18th, the congress concludes with the 2 session congress teams, starting at 11 am to facilitate an early departure. We should be finished at 6.30 - 7pm.

People are coming from all over Ireland, scotland and England and it would be great to have as much local support as possible.

For entries, contact Anne Hassan 0044-28-90862179 - Email: hassan.anne@gmail.com or Paul Porteous 01-4929666 - Email: paul@cbai.ie

Education & Classes

We have been talking to a number of the bridge teachers, to look at some options for improving.

The Dublin North Region bridge teachers have offered to run "in-club" classes. If enough people are interested, one of the accredited DNR Teachers will use a club night to give a course in a given topic, and use the evening to play and put these into practice with pre-set hands. There would be no cost for this, apart from the regular table money

Sounds like a great idea and should be be enjoyable. If you interested, email me at martinmcmahon01@gmail.com



**Dublin North Region
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Tournament Directors

This is something all aspiring players should consider. With nearly 3,000 registrations in Dublin North, there is an ongoing shortage of TD's and it would be great to see more people taking the TD Courses. Understanding how such tournament operate is a great step in becoming a better and more competent player

And of course, TD's get paid ! If you've any interest, let us know and we'll get you the details.

Development of Bridge

While our game is growing at all levels, the DNR and CBAI are supporting the growth of bridge at all grades....and ages. At a recent update from the CBAI

- The DNR Region has done well.....gold star and front of the class.....subs for 100% of our clubs - all 27 - have been submitted to the CBAI. We now have 2,622 registered players in the region, an increase of 106 on last year.
- There a number of unaffiliated clubs. It would be great to bring these into the CBAI Family and avail of the various advantages and benefits available
- Junior Bridge: a large number of starter packs have been sent out to schools and teachers. It would be great to see a larger take up among young people. Please feel free to encourage any of your younger acquaintances. Remember, this is the future of our game
- The Development Committee in the CBAI are looking at range of important initiatives, Schools Competitions, Novice Clubs, Mentoring etc

Any thoughts or ideas you might would be gratefully received

European Bridge League: Women's Committee

As many of you know, Mary Kelly Rogers, ex-DNR and CBAI President was appointed to this committee last year.

The EBL Women Committee was established in 1985 by an Italian lady, Anna Maria Torlontano, EBL Women Chairman Emeritus and Chair of the WBF Women Committee. Sevinc Atay from Turkey now chairs the EBL Women Committee and Heather Dhondy (England), Silvia Valentini (Italy) and I were appointed to join Sevinc and Anna Maria for a four year period. Chairman Sevinc is an executive member of the EBL along with CBAI's own Paul Porteous.

Anna Maria had the foresight to form the EBL Women Committee at the time when Bridge was recognised as a sport by the IOC (International Olympic Committee) and the resulting designation of the WBF (World Bridge Federation) as an International Bridge Federation. Foremost in her mind was that Women would not only be well represented in Sports but also on executive Bridge Unions throughout Europe.

To her credit and the credit of past EBL Women Committees the number of women participating in International events has grown and the object of the current committee is to work with representatives of unions throughout Europe to further support the interests of women playing Bridge and to give support to women in countries where serious competition is still dominated by men.

The Committee is small. Mary Kelly Rogers originally worked with Chairman Sevinc and Silvia in Registration, Hospitality and Prizegiving for **Europeans 2012**.

Mary's appointment to the EBL Women Committee can be attributed to Ireland's successful running of Europeans 2012 helped in no small part by the support of CBAI members and indeed members throughout the island of Ireland. Irish Bridge did the country proud



Sunday Bridge

Over the next few weeks, Malahide Regional Bridge Club will continue to hold Sunday Bridge in their club.

Continuing this Sunday, the bridge starts at 4.30pm, and caters for all grades and abilities. All members and visitors are welcome and should be a great way to spend a wet Sunday afternoon.

Bridge Etiquette

Something that has arisen in various local and national competitions, which we were asked to bring to the attention of our players:

- **Pointing out mistakes:** Not everyone wants to hear how they could have....or should have played the cards. If your opponents want your advice, wait for them to ask !
- **Pausing:** If you pause for a long period and then pass, this could be viewed as conveying information to your partner, and therefore is deemed to be illegal. This has come up in regional competitions.
- **Informing Opposition of Conventions:** It is the duty of the non-bidding player to alert. At no point should a player provide an explanation for a bid, unless expressly asked, in that case, it is the responsibility of the non-bidder to explain the bid without any assistance or intervention from the bidder.

Bankers Congress

For those interested in raiding across the Liffey, the 47th Bankers Bridge Congress, will be hosted by the Club from Friday 7th, to Sunday 15th March 2015 at our club in Stephens Street, Dublin. A warm welcome awaits all

Entries by email (bankersbc@gmail.com) or text (087 996 8901). Confirmation will be sent within 24 hours

Obituary: Pat Kelly

Many of us heard the recent sad news of the passing of "The Great Pat Kelly" who was an active and regular player in Malahide.

As far as I can remember Pat was active in Portmarnock Tuesday Bridge club when I went there in the late 1980s as an inter B player. However, while, I cannot be certain when I first encountered Pat, I know in the 1990s he became active in Malahide Regional being a regular winner in most of the Monday and Thursday competitions partnering Dave Terry and John Murray.

So to win stuff in Malahide one had to pass out "The Great Pat Kelly " and his supply of good partners. I must have made some progress as I ended up winning a Kelbourne Cup with Pat Kelly Dave Terry and Paul Delaney. I recall we had to reel in a 25 VP deficit against a powerful team including Michael and Pdraig O'Briain, Peter Pigot and Thomas McCormac.

In later years when I was mainly a director the tall Pat Kelly would arrive and put his arm around me and then list out some hand which had misfired for him and he would hope I would agree with him.

I recall Michael McDonagh telling me that Kelly and Terry were a top pair in the past. This was a few years ago while standing outside the Bridge place in Templogue. I also recall Pat Kelly and Ramin Sai qualifying to represent Ireland maybe in the early 90s.

I remember Dave Terry admonishing me for arguing with Pat Kelly over some bridge hand just after Pat suffered a bereavement. However I was only attempting to treat Pat as a normal bridge player so if we could not beat the opponents then we beat up partner. I meant to get Pat going on the computer bridge but we never got round to it and we won't now. I did not realise he was going to be gone so soon.

Eamon Galligan



**Dublin North Region
March, 2015**

The Gathering

The Gathering has been scheduled for March 28th the same day as the DNR workshop being presented by Ranald.

We intend to start at 2.15 and finish around 5.30pm. All current students are invited - prepared hands and analysis, tea/coffee and prizes. The DNR President is of course invited to open the event as usual and any information regarding clubs seeking new members should be available on the day or at least names and telephone numbers of club secretaries. The usual fee of €10 applies, collected on the day.

The profits (if any) of this year's Gathering are going to be presented to Malahide Regional Bridge Club for their generosity through the years - the use of the premises and its facilities, which will be used to provide prizes for a confined Novice competition.

The organisers of the Gathering are providing their time and energies for the success of the event and will not be receiving any payment.

Please let me know well in advance the number of students you have managed to convince to come along for the event.

Bridge Workshop

As we mentioned recently, the Dublin North Region, with the CBAI are holding a Bridge Workshop in Malahide Regional Bridge Club.

This is primarily aimed at players of A1 and Area Master standard. Taking place on Saturday 28th March, it starts at 10:00, it lasts for 3 hours. We are delighted to have Ranald Milne giving the Workshop, and is planning to concentrate on Cue Bidding and Slam Bidding.

At only €15 for the day, it is likely to be a full house, so make sure you book early by contacting either Kay [087 245 3782](tel:0872453782) or Mary [086 101 0698](tel:0861010698)



Events Calendar

Over the next few months, there are a number of important events coming up.

March 2015

6-8 Camrose
6-8 Torc Congress
7-15 Bankers Congress
17-19 IBU Seniors congress
21-22 National Pairs Championships
27-29 Clonmel Congress

April 2015

3-6 Galway Congress
11-12 Moylan Cup
12-17 Rosapenna Congress
17-19 JJ Murphy, Lambert & Cooper Cups
25 Paddy English Trophy (Novice Teams)
25-26 National Teams Championships
25-26 NIBU Spring Congress

May 2015

1-3 Carlow Congress
16 Kirwan's League Final Day
15-17 IBU Club Pairs
15-17 Senior Camrose
9-17 Killarney Congress
22-24 Yeats County Congress

Follow Us !

You can catch up with regular updates on

Our website :
www.dnrbridge.com/

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/DublinNorthRegion?ref=hl

Twitter :
[@DNRBridge](https://twitter.com/DNRBridge)

We'd love to have you follow us and give us feedback.. and please be patient, we're learning !



*Dublin North Region
March, 2015*

Dublin North Region Committee

Your committee is working hard to help and support all of the activities in the Region. Please feel free to contact any of us, if you feel we can assist or support your club in any way.

Our committee members are as follows:

Michael O'Keefe (Foxhall) *President*
Martin McMahon (C.R.C)
Mary Reid (Swords)
Kay McDonald (Raheny)
Teriona Rogan (Whitehall Regional)
Liz Sherlock (St. Gabriel's)
Margaret Rowland (Whitehall Regional)
Phil Brohoon (Malahide Regional)
Gerry McHugh (Foxhall)
Aidan Synnott (Glasnevin)
Norma Madden (Glasnevin)

We'd be especially interested in hearing what you'd like to see in our newsletter and how we can make it more interesting and relevant to you, your clubs and your members. If you have any news, events or information please let me know and we'll publish it on line

You can contact us at either :

- martinmcmahon01@gmail.com or
- secretary@dnrbridge.com
- dnrbridge01@gmail.com

And Finally.....

**There is no need to psyche
against weak opponents. They
are quite capable of getting
into trouble without assistance**

- Richard Lederer



With thanks to Bridge Bandit

