

President's Report 2007

1 April 2006 through 31 March 2007

The second and final year of this committee has come to a close. It has again been a very eventful year with lots of success in the bridge world and for the SCBA as an organisation.

The biggest news of the year was the success of the Singapore's Junior (under 26) Team (Poon Hua, Loo Choon Chou, Kelvin Ng, Tan Li Yu, Fabian Tan, and Alex Loh). Not only did they win the 2006 Pacific Asia Bridge Federation (PABF) Youth Championships without losing a single match but they also finished 3rd in the 11th World Youth Team Championships held in Bangkok in July 2006, the highest any Singapore team has ever placed. Even more amazing was their very, very narrow loss (only by the carryover from the round robin) to a very strong US team who were the eventual winners.

Though not strictly within the period covered by the report, I am very happy that Singapore's Schools (under 21) team (Ivan Mok, Wang Peiyi, Yeo Yong Hui, Perry Chen, Kelvin Ong, and Desmond Oh) has again done us proud by continuing what we hope will become a tradition of success at the PABF youth levels by winning the PABF Schools (under 21) Championships in June this year.

In December Singapore held the Saniva 28th ASEAN Bridge Club Championships at Novotel Clarke Quay Singapore. Singapore achieved several firsts for these championships. These included the first prize money for the Open and Ladies team events (\$5,000 and \$3,000 respectively). This was also the first ASEAN event where throughout the event matches were presented live on BBO internet VuGraph. At one time there were several hundred spectators. In addition, Mr Richard Grenside, WBF Assistant Chief Tournament Director, attended as Chief Tournament Director and conducted a TD refresher course after the event. Thanks to our very generous sponsor, Mr V Murli, to the support from the Singapore Sports Council, and all paid and unpaid volunteers. SCBA made a profit of \$15,000 from this event (our best result in a long time).

The year 2006 also marked the first time that SCBA has had a Marketing Manager, Mr Sng Tze Cheow. He started in September and started several initiatives which have added new members to the club and supported the marketing programs designed by Ms Lam Ze Ying and Ms Chan Yiu Lin. Unfortunately, Mr Sng resigned in June 2007 and the association is looking for a new Marketing Manager. Having a Marketing Manager is a huge help as promoting bridge requires time and all of our committee members are very busy with their jobs and families.

The association has also succeeded in keeping the same level of funding for our activities as last year (minus, of course, the subsidy for the Saniva 28th ASEAN Bridge Club Championships). Developing a successful yearly major international event for Singapore remains a priority. Yearly events make it much easier to secure long term funding and the ongoing nature of the event facilitates building up a strong overseas participation. Unfortunately the association was unable to secure a sponsor

to build on last year's success at the ASEAN Championships. This will be a continuing target of future committees.

In 2006 the SCBA participated in a comprehensive audit of our activities. This required a lot of work by all committee members and we achieved a reasonable result. There is still a lot to do to improve the association's governance but we have come a long way.

I would like to thank my committee members for their tireless support over the last two years. This has been one of the hardest working committees in my memory.

- Dr Wong Choo Wai who has worked long and hard to make the Singapore Inter-club Bridge League a success, trained and promoted our youth programs, and improved our fund raising skills;
- Ms Chan Yiu Lin whose organisational skills and know-how have made her the best Honorary Secretary ever, not to mention her contribution to our marketing efforts;
- Mrs Foo Yoke Lan for her tireless efforts to promote attendance at the weekly games and her continuing support for tournament logistics;
- Dr A K Heng and Mr S Thiagarajan who have greatly improved the professionalism of the association's financial services and made many valuable suggestions to improve our processes and procedures;
- Ms Lam Ze Ying who has created a wonderful new style newsletter and has pushed for effective marketing of the bridge in the wider community;
- Dr Derrick Heng who has conducted a professional club directors course and created the association's first directing course material. Derrick also improved the association's standard of directing and made many valuable suggestions to improve the associations operations;
- Ms Seet Choon Cheng for lending her auditing support and taking on lots of activities to support and promote bridge.

I would also like to thank our club directors and volunteers: Mrs Jane Choo and Mrs Emily Hee for Thursday morning games, Mr Wong Chee Wai and Mrs Franciska Ho for the Sunday afternoon games, Mrs Greta Chai for the Monday evening games, and Mrs Jane Choo for the Friday evening games.

I want to give a special note of appreciation to Ms Lilio Ho who rejoined as Club Manager and continues to make a key contribution to making our club games and tournaments a success by her tireless work.

This year the association introduced two new School events. This is in keeping with the new WBF trend to separate Juniors (under 26) from Schools (under 21) and our objective of promoting bridge in the JCs and schools. We held both events (the National Schools Bridge Teams Championships and the Student Pairs Championship) in June during the 4 week school holidays.

I want to thank members and bridge friends for their generous donations to the PABF fundraising event on 4 May 2007.

SCBA acknowledges its thanks to Ms S S Chang for her gift of 24 Corelle porcelain cups.

SCBA raised \$1,020.00 for Singapore Children's Society at its New Year Day Charity Pairs event on 1 January 2007.

Master Point Winnners

2006 marked the third year of the Master Point competition. I'm pleased to announce the following winners for 2006.

Category	Winner	Award
Open		
Non-classified		\$150
Club Master		\$150
Local N	TO BE ANNOUNCED	\$100
State M		\$100
Master		
Bronze Master (1-2 Star)		
Silver Master (3-5 Star)		
Gold Master (National & Life)		

Committee Attendance

The following table lists the attendance of all officers at Committee Meetings during the period of 1 July 2006 through 30 June 2007.

Officer	Name	Meetings Attended
President	Steve Robinson	11
Vice President	Dr Wong Choo Wai	9
Treasurer	Dr A K Heng	9
Hon. Secretary	Chan Yiu Lin	10
Competition Secretary	Foo Yoke Lan	8
Committee Member	Seet Choon Cheng	8
Committee Member	Thiagarajan*	5
Committee Member	Dr Derrick Heng	9
Committee Member	Lam Ze Ying	5

* During the period October 2006 through January 2007, Thiaga had resigned from the committee. Fortunately, we were able to convince him to rejoin the committee where he has made major contributions to the financial management.

Also, there were 7 ASEAN meetings held last year at which the committee members all played key roles.

Membership

The membership of the association is as follows:

Date	Junior Members	Ordinary Members	Corporate Members
April 1, 2006	60	130	12
March 31, 2007	70	130	9

The membership reported to the World Bridge Federation is computed by adding ordinary members plus members of our corporate members (after removing duplicates) and student members are derived from the bridge club membership at the JCs.

World Bridge Federation Membership Report			
Date	Adult Members	Junior Members	School Members
January 1, 2006	306	84	110
January 1, 2007	306	84	120

International Events

I would now like to report on the winners of last year's events focusing first on Singapore's international tournaments.

Easter Congress, 14-16 April 2006	
Event	Winners
Mixed Pairs	C K Toh, Kiyoko
Open Pairs	Krishnan Rajendra, Christopher Gregory
Open Team Finals	Youth Team – Poon Hua, Loo Choon Chou, Fabian Tan, Alex Loh, Kelvin Ng, Tan Li Yu
Flight B Team	Raffles JC – Goh Shih Hsien, Petrina Leo, Lim Xueli, Liu Ziming, Matthew Tay, Emmaline Thor
Open Team Consolations	Ambassador - Zhu Junyi, Patrick Choy, Lawrence Lau, Li Feng, Xing Likun, Xing Chao Ping

Pesta Sukan was again held at Novotel Clarke Quay Singapore. Overseas guests from Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand participated in the event. This event marked the first time that a Singapore event was presented on BBO (internet) vu-graph. Many thanks to Dr Derrick Heng and Gerald Tan as well as the team of operators for making this event a great success.

Pesta Sukan, 4-6 August 2006	
Event	Winners
Open Pairs	H S Ho, A K Heng
Mixed Pairs	Fong Kien Hoong, Tan Sock Ngin
Open Team Finals	The NU Alumni – L L Wong, C P Chua, Chu Nyit, C K Toh

Flight B Team	NTU 1 – Joseph Tan, Raymond Chan, Chiang Feng, Ng Yong Hao
Open Team Consolations	Ambassador - Patrick Choy, Ke Jia, Zhu Junyi, Xing Likun, Li Feng, Lu Xiliang

Because of scheduling conflicts no Inter-Port Challenge event was held with KL in 2006.

The 44th PABF Championships were held from 20 August to 30 August in Shanghai, China. The Singapore Open Team (Steve Robinson, Dr Wong Choo Wai, Dr A K Heng, K T Liao, Patrick Choy, and Ke Jia) finished near the bottom of the pack. The Ladies Team (Jane Choo, Greta Chai, Seet Choon Cheng, Foo Yoke Lan, Lam Ze Ying and Soh Siew Luie) had a better result finishing sixth.

The Saniva 28th ASEAN Bridge Club Championships were held in Singapore from 9 December through 13 December 2006. The Open Pairs was won by A K Heng and K T Liao. A Singapore Youth team, Blue Moon won the Youth Team event. A Singapore team, D’Coup finished 2nd in the Consolation event

Saniva 28th ASEAN Bridge Club Championships, 9-13 December 2006	
Event	Winners
Open Pairs	A K Heng, KT Liao
Mixed Team	Geologi Banpu, Indonesia
Ladies Team	Japan (top ASEAN team – Geologi Banpu, Indonesia)
Youth Team	Blue Moon - Fabian Tan, Alex Loh, Marvin Lai, Lim Yen Wen, Gu Bangjuan and Zhang Yukun
Open Team Finals	Garuda, Indonesia
Team Consolations	Pattaya Bridge Club, Thailand

Major Events

The following is a list of the winners of the major Singapore domestic events.

Singapore Open Team, 20, 21, 27 and 28 May 2006

Singapore Open Team, 20, 21, 27 & 28 May 2006	
Category	Winners
Finals	G(i)jzels - Greta Chai, Jane Choo, Lam Ze Ying, Selene Tan, Foo Yoke Lan, and Seet Choon Cheng
Consolations	NTU 1 - Ng Yong Hao, Raymond Chan, Chiang Feng, Terence Koh, Adrian Lim, Joseph Tan

20th Singapore Inter-Club Bridge League, 2006

20 th Singapore Inter-Club Bridge League	
Category	Winners
Division 1	Friends of Sheep
Division 2	NTU Staff
Division 3	Blue Moon
League Cup	The Bridge Bears

H S Ho Teams Challenge Championships 2005/2006

D-Coup – Poon Hua, Loo Choon Chou, Kelvin Ng, Tan Li Yu, Selene Tan

Singapore Mixed Pairs Championship, 15 July 2006

Steve Robinson – Greta Chai

Match Point Teams Championships, 16 September 2006

Don't Ask – Jason Chew, Gu Bangjuan, Soh Siew Luie, Zhang Yukun

Singapore IMP Pairs Championship, 1 October 2006

L L Wong – Ng Yong Hao

Singapore Open Pairs, 3-4 March 2007

Fong Kien Hoong - Kelvin Ng

Major Youth events

The following events were held for our Youth (under 26) players and players from the Junior colleges and schools. The National Youth Teams Championships were held in conjunction with the ASEAN bridge clubs championships and have been reported above.

National Schools Bridge Teams Championships, 6 - 7 June 2006

New event in 2006

EF, Hwa Chong Institution (Chen Weijun, Lam Cheng Yen, Elon Law, Kenny Phua)

Student Pairs Championship, 10 June 2006

New event in 2006

Kenneth Lim - Liang Zhen

Youth Pairs Championship, 24 June 2006

Julian Lim - Justin Png

Other Local Events

The results of other events held by the Association starting in April 2006.

Labour Day Special Game, 1 May 2006

Franciska Ho – Wong Chee Wai

Vesak Day Special Game, 12 May 2006

J J Murugasu – Ng Chun Tat

The 20th World Wide Bridge Contest, 2 June 2006

Chua Gang – Kelvin Seach

National Day Special Game, 9 August 2006

Liu I Nan – Lilio Ho

Double '8' Senior Pairs, 7 October 2006

C K Toh – Seet Choon Cheng

Deepavali Special Game, 21 October, 2006

Greta Chai – Ni Xiaoxuan

Hari Raya Puasa Special Game, 24 October 2006

Ivan Mok – Kelvin Ong

National Bridge Handicap Teams Championships, 2 – 3 December 2006

Finals: Harbingers – J J Murugasu, Nancy Chan, A K Heng, H S Ho, Trevor Li, T P Wu

Consolations: Blue Moon – Fabian Tan, Charles Leong, Loh Boon Hwee, Shi Jicheng, Sim Kian Ming, Zhang Yuanfeng

Christmas Pairs, 18 December 2006

Emily Hee – Jane Choo

New Year Day Charity Pairs, 1 January 2007

Li Feng – Xing Likun

Hari Raya Haji Special Game, 2 January 2007

Emily Hee – Jane Choo

Hong Bao Pairs, 23 February 2007

Chua Gang – Liu I Nan

Monday Evening Snowball Jackpot Pairs

Series #5 (24 April – 19 June 2006):

Foo Yoke Lan

Series #6 (26 June – 21 August 2006):

Foo Yoke Lan

Series #7 (4 September – 30 October 2006):

Nancy Chan

Series #8 (6 November 2006 – 5 February 2007):

Nancy Chan and Ng Chun Tat

Series #9 (12 February – 9 April 2007):

Jane Choo