

# ACROSS THE BOARD



New Zealand's Cicely Bruce, Overall winner of the recent 2026 Scrabble New Zealand Women's Championship, Australian Invitees Joanne Craig, Jane Taylor and Carmel Dodd also featured in the prize pool. (Story Inside).

The Official Newsletter of the  
Australian Scrabble® Players Association  
March 2026 ~ Issue No. 162

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**Youth Coordinator:** John Hamilton **ACT**

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**Youth Coach:** Karen Richards **QLD**

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**Treasurer:** John Hamilton **ACT**

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**Rules Officer:** CASPA Coordinator (*Carol Johnsen*) **VIC**

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Closing date for  
contributions to next  
issue of **Across the Board**  
**7 May 2026**

## CASPA AGM

*The National AGM is held on Good Friday at the Nationals in Canberra. If you have any business please contact your State President beforehand.*

## World (WESPA) Championship, Accra, Ghana, Nov 2025

Congratulations to Adam Logan from Canada, the new World Scrabble Champion) defeating the GOAT Nigel Richards in the play-off games.

Four Australians competed - Russell Honeybun (16th), Paul Richards (78th), Karen Richards (101th) and Kashi Thiris (108th). We thank them for their efforts in travelling to Accra, Ghana and participating as a representative of Australia. It will need to be seen if Australia retains its quota base of 14 spots based on our low numbers of players.

## WESPA Biennial General Meeting

As is the custom, the BGM was held in conjunction with the World Championship in Accra, Ghana. Lukeman Owolabi (Ireland) was elected unopposed as the Chair, with previous Chair Chris Lipe (USA) defeating yours truly for the position of Secretary, and Sudhir Kamath (India) defeated Jason Broersma (Canada) to become the new Treasurer. Congratulations to Karen Richards (Australia) who was elected onto the 8-member Executive Committee.

Many new changes have been touted and Facebook and Tik Tok can keep you up to date or view the WESPA website at <https://wespa.org>.

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## WESPA Members

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*Starting in 2026, WESPA is establishing a landmark Titles system to honor the highest achievements in competitive Scrabble.*

WESPA will now issue titles of Master (M), International Master (IM), and Grandmaster (GM) to players whose sustained performance merits recognition. Details on the process can be found in the linked document below.

WESPA has also analyzed tournaments dating back to 1 January 2007, and is awarding titles to players who have achieved them retroactively. A listing of titled players can be found in the second link below.

Additionally, WESPA announces an annual Awards program for achievement within a Scrabble year (1st October through 30th September). Annual WESPA awards will commence in 2026. WESPA will also officially recognize a system of badges that players can attain for their online profiles – all the details can be found at the link below.

**WESPA Titles, Awards, and Badges:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L\\_gLMJwCO34mOAIODE27QZbo80q9O4X7/view?pli=1](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L_gLMJwCO34mOAIODE27QZbo80q9O4X7/view?pli=1)

List of WESPA Titled Players as of 1 Jan 2026. Note that \* denotes one norm earned toward the next title and \*\* denotes two norms toward the next title.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_XymBg7\\_GWPCg7nXggLzyR-wsJz5rLK\\_/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_XymBg7_GWPCg7nXggLzyR-wsJz5rLK_/view)

More information will come soon on the 2026 WESPA Awards and the qualification process for WESPA Most Valuable Player Award.

*For the WESPA Committee,  
Chris Lipe  
WESPA Secretary*

**For Australians, as of 1 Jan 2026**

Grandmasters (GM): Andrew Fisher;  
Chris May; David Eldar

# Around the States

## ACT

### **2025 AGM**

The ACT 2025 AGM was held during a break in our July tournament.

Tim Reddan's President's Report commended the committee the activities of the outgoing committee during the year. The club's funds have been used to maintain up-to-date resources (eg word lists, computers etc) and to support the growing youth scrabble community in the ACT. Much of the committee's work has been focused on preparing to host the Australian Championship in 2026. The Australian Junior Scrabble Championship and the Women's Championship will also be held in the ACT next year.

The newly elected committee comprises: Tim Reddan (President), Terry Horan (Treasurer), Lexia Smallwood (Secretary), and player representatives, Noel Barrett and Rebecca Hill.

### **2026 Tournaments**

The first ACT Tournament comprised 8 games and was held on 17 January. The first three placegetters were Tony Hunt with 7 wins (margin 913); Owen Randall with 7 wins (margin 28) and John Spaan with 6 wins (margin 887). High game went to John Spaan (587) and High word to Tim Reddan for **HAZINESS** (140).

Future tournaments are planned for 21 February, 7 March, 16 May and 27 June.

Registration and enquiries should be directed to Tim Reddan: [treddan@iinet.net.au](mailto:treddan@iinet.net.au) 02 6179 5000

### **Youth-friendly Tournaments**

In recent months, John Hamilton has facilitated a series of youth-friendly tournaments to encourage young players in Canberra. These games see a mix of adult and youth players and are of shorter duration than a regular tournament. It is pleasing to see the improvements in average games scores in our young players, and to see growing confidence in word knowledge and strategy.

A Little Tuggers Tournament, comprising 4 games was held on 28 September. From a field of 12 participants, Andrea Twell took 1st place, especially notable as it was Andrea's send ever tournament, Rebecca Hill was placed 2nd, and John Hamilton was 3rd. The high game went to Junior player Sam Pizzano for his solid score of 557, and Sam also had the highest word score – 90 points for **SOUNDING**.

The Gungahlin Mini Tournament consisting of 5 games, was held on 1 November. First place went to John Hamilton, 2nd to Sam Pizzano and 3rd to Alex Boiko. Terry Horan's game score of 570 was highest for the day, and John Hamilton's **OVERSIZE** for 98 was the highest scoring word played on the day.

The ACT Youth Champs + ACT Youth Wrap Up Tournament was held on 7 December with a small number of keen competitors. The competition was won convincingly by Sam Pizzano with 5 wins out of 6 games, with Marcus Robertson 2nd with 4 wins, and Hugh Boveington 3rd with 3 wins.

During the year a youth scrabble club met on the weekend in the north of Canberra, and a weekly after-school scrabble club was held on the southside. Our expectations are that these clubs will continue and grow with the start of the 2026 school year.

### **Upcoming Tournaments**

March 7 ~ Canberra Southern Cross Club ~  
Tim Reddan ~ 02 6179 5000 ~  
[treddan@iinet.net.au](mailto:treddan@iinet.net.au)

April 4-6 (3 days) Australian Championship and Plate ~ Canberra Southern Cross Club ~  
Tim Reddan ~ 02 6179 5000 ~  
[treddan@iinet.net.au](mailto:treddan@iinet.net.au)

Check website for more details:

[www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml](http://www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml)

## New South Wales

### **Club News**

A new club at Blacktown has been started by Jean Noonan (see *Club Directory*). There are other known social groups operating in the area but this new club is primarily for people who wish to play seriously. It meets on

Wednesdays from 10am at the Blacktown Town Centre in Campbell Street. Finola Border is still intending to start a club in Cooks Hill, a suburb of Newcastle. Meanwhile the Wollongong WORDS club is no longer meeting at Balgownie on Thursdays, concentrating their play on Monday nights at Collegians. Lyn Reitano has taken over the convening of the Sydney Club from Cherly Michler who was at the helm for many years. The Sydney Club meets monthly at the Clontarf cottage, with an unrated competition format.

## **New Member Packages**

Convenors of affiliated clubs are being sent New Member Packages in an effort to join as many regular players in affiliated clubs as possible as social members at least. Social membership of club players ensures those players are kept in the loop, both by receipt of the quarterly magazine and subscription to the Scrabble NSW email list. The New Member Packages are comprised of a welcome letter, a sheet of scrabble tips and information for new players, a two and three-letter word sheet, a Scrabble NSW bookmark and a handy reference card. This represents good value, especially combined with the other benefits membership brings. New members joining through the website and by other means are also sent a package in the mail

## **Event Reports**

### ***JanBoree***

The first tournament of the year was the Janboree. A record 58 players were in attendance at Club Burwood RSL, including 8 in a Social Division which only played 7 games while the rest of us played 9 in Groups of 10. Divisional winners were Esther Perrins (A), Greg Pinchbeck (B), Ivor Zetler (C), Harry Hubber (D) and up and comer Sam Pizzano from ACT (E). Youngster James Lo was the winner in the Social Division, also recording a high games score of 667. Tony Hunt recorded the high word score with **AVIANISE** for 158 in his 602 game. Edward Okulicz played his first tournament back as a NSW player, coming runner-up in A Division on spread with 7 wins.

### ***City of Sydney International Masters***

A healthy field of 44 players gathered in the Lawson Room of the Revesby Workers Club

for this year's CSIM. The 5 points per word challenge rule kept a few away, while there was consensus that 9 plus 9 games was a better format than 10 plus 8 games. Howard Warner made the trip over from New Zealand and was the early leader. A series of losses on the second day saw him fall out of contention for first place and his loss to Carmel Dodd (QLD) in the last game saw Carmel steal third place from Howard. The winner was Andrew Fisher from Victoria who played consistently throughout, with Edward Okulicz the runner up after a slow start. Oscar Ivanovski from Victoria was fourth with local Joanne Craig coming in fifth. The highest rating gain went to 18 year old Shukanyi Prachi from Queensland with 121 points. 16 year old Nathan Tang was the second highest rating gainer with 73 points.

### ***Inaugural Macarthur Championship***

Tony Hunt was the main organiser of the inaugural Masters Championship on 8th February, in the Campbelltown district of Sydney's South-West. The tournament was divided into two divisions, an Open Division comprising 38 players and a special division for players rated under 700 and novices. The new venue being the Wests Leagues club in Leumeah was superb, with the playing area capable of holding well over 100 players. In the Open Division, Edward Okulicz led all day before being pipped on the post in the 7th and final game on spread, in going down to the eventual winner, veteran and Campbelltown local John Holgate. Rod Talbot, with a much larger spread but one less win finished in third place. In the special division, the top three places were taken by Juniors, with Phi Long Ma being the winner on spread from Eric Phan, with 5 wins from their 6 games.

## **Upcoming Events**

### ***Chris May Winter Masters***

Singaporean scrabble entrepreneur Michael Tang is an early entry for the WESPA Rated Chris May Winter Masters. The upstairs rooms in Revesby Workers Club have been booked for the weekend of 25th and 26th July and a healthy attendance is anticipated.

### ***Other Upcoming Events***

Matchplay Qualifier 28th February  
Bomaderry 15th March



*Youth players at the inaugural Macarthur Tournament*

Lake Macquarie Autumn 21st March  
 The Epping Club 14th June  
 Wodonga Open June 11th & 12th

Check website for more details:  
[www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml](http://www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml)

## Queensland

Scrabble Queensland resumed events in the new year with a Mindsport event held on Friday 16th January. The morning session had coaching for new and existing players followed by a rated 5 game tournament with sections for experienced players and beginners. There was also an unrated 3 game round robin of four 7- to 9-year-olds. 21 people attended, which included 18 novices and one player returning after a 30-year absence from tournament Scrabble. It was pleasing to see the parents of the youth players also joining in. The novices (adults and youth) came from various sources including school scrabble club, Facebook advertising, contacts made at the MENSA convention, and interstate family members involved following the Scout Jamboree last year.

The Mindsport event was followed on Sunday 18th January with the Logan Clovers

tournament. 9 people (mainly the experienced players) at the Friday event also attended the Sunday event (who says we are addicted?) Logan Clovers had 33 players. The winners were Cameron Farlow (A), Arnold Appelhof (B) and Karen Woodhead (C). The high word for the day was **STIFFEST** for 177 points played by Ryan Gray, who is relocating to Canberra. We are sorry to see him go but are sure he will be an asset to the ACT Scrabble community.

Eight Queenslanders competed at the City of Sydney International Masters. Thank you to Bob Jackman and Scrabble NSW for running this excellent event. Queenslanders managed a couple of prizes with Carmel Dodd finishing third and Shukanya winning the high rating gain award (rating gain of 121).

Queensland is reviving the Matchplay tournament with the qualifying tournament being held on 15th February. There will be sections above and below 1300 rating, with the best 8 in each group progressing to the matchplay stage. Games in the matchplay stage can be played online if needed, allowing people from all over the state (and elsewhere) to take part. 2 places in the Matchplay have been reserved for Townsville players.

The Southport Scrabble Club has relocated and now meet at the Southport Library, corner of Lawson and Garden Streets, Southport from 1pm to 4pm on Wednesdays.

To find out more about Scrabble in Queensland, go to our webpage – [www.queensland.scrabble.org.au](http://www.queensland.scrabble.org.au).

*Paul Richards  
President, Scrabble Queensland*

## Upcoming Tournaments

### South Australia

#### The Mel Leckie Trophy

On January 18, South Australia ran its annual tournament to honour the memory of Mel Leckie. “Wheelchair Mel” as she was happy to be called, died tragically at a young age in 2022. Mel was an active member on the SA Scrabble committee. We miss the energy and flair she brought to SA Scrabble.

A trophy was donated to SA Scrabble by Mel’s mother. Each year we award this trophy to the player with an established rating who achieves the highest rating gain for the tournament. This year the deserving winner of the Mel Leckie Trophy was Rowena Vnuk. Rowena won all 6 games in Division A after starting as one of the lower rated players in that division.

Also notable in the tournament was the win by new player Nathan Bennett. Nathan won Division B after only having played 29 tournament games.

The novelty prizes were based on Mel’s surname. High words starting with **L, E, C, K** and **I** won chocolates. The high word ending in E also won chocolates. The winners were Antony Kimber (**LOANERS** 73), Baheej Al Kassem (**ENTRIES** 79), Judy Mansfield (**CRONIES** 79), Francoise Finlayson (**KNOTTIER** 66), Rowena Vnuk (**ISLANDER** 76) and Tim Guidera (**TRICKLE** 86)

The division prize-winners were:

Division A: First: Rowena Vnuk; Second: Daniel Piechnick; Third: Antony Kimber; High Game: Daniel Piechnick (535); High Word: Daniel Piechnick (**OVERTOIL** 158)

Division B: First: Nathan Bennett; Second: Baheej Al Kassem; Third: Susan Roberts; High

Game: Emanuel Atsas (484); High Word: Emanuel Atsas (**JITTERS** 123)

## Upcoming Tournaments

Check website:

[www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml](http://www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml)

### Tasmania

We’re focused on growing the Scrabble community across Tasmania in the lead-up to the 2027 National Championships, with an exciting push to welcome more players of all ages and abilities into the game. As part of this effort, two new Hobart-based clubs have launched at Midway Point and Bellerive, creating opportunities for new and returning players to get involved, improve their skills, and enjoy the social side of competitive Scrabble.

Tasmania’s playing strength continues to rise. Jon Ford-King has been in outstanding form, climbing the Scrabble ratings with three consecutive tournament victories in recent Tasmanian events and firmly establishing himself as the player to beat in the state.

*Stephen Mooney-Purcell*

## Upcoming Tournaments

Check website:

[www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml](http://www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml)

### Victoria

The Scrabble year has commenced in Victoria and there are already some great news stories to share!

The first event of the year – The Bil Rose Aestival – was well supported and we saw division wins for Naweena Fernando, Carol Johnsen, and Janet Bau. We had one new and one returning player take part: it is always good to welcome new and returning players.

Our Friday Night Scrabble series in Doncaster also had two new players take part and saw Lainie Mercieca take home the prize that evening. These events are great for players either starting out or those who enjoy a more relaxed event style whilst still giving competitive rating points. It is a testament to the Australian rules that we can offer this flexibility, especially as we attempt to grow our membership base.



*Competitors at the Ulverstone Tournament in February 2026.*

In between, four Scrabble Victoria members ventured up to Sydney for the City of Sydney International Masters. Congratulations to Andrew Fisher and Oscar Ivanovski for coming home with prizes on the long weekend.

By the time you read this, our first Bayside event will have been run and won. This event structure has returned in 2026, along with other “regional” events designed to look after our non-metropolitan based members.

Support for our regional members continues with discounted entry into our flagship event, The Victorian Championship.

This year, we move just up the road from our previous regular venue to the Novotel in Preston. We look forward to seeing many players venture to Melbourne to take part. In 2026, we have been fortunate to be in a position to have a significant prize pool for this event. Around \$5000 has been allocated to the prize pool, which sees the winner take home \$1500 and good cash prizes paid down to 7th. In addition to rating band prizes, it is

anticipated a good proportion of players will be in contention for prizes this year.

Stay tuned for other events where prize pools have been increased.

Victoria continues to remain a state which offers our players to chance to play Scrabble when they want in a manner they want to. Online, club, relaxed competition, and long form competition events feature throughout 2026.

We remain a place to come to for great times and word play.

If you are in Victoria, take up the opportunities for game play... and if you are not from Victoria and want to take in what we offer... well, I look forward to welcoming you to our state!

### **Upcoming Tournaments**

Check website

[scrabble.org.au/victoria/calendar.htm](https://scrabble.org.au/victoria/calendar.htm)

## Western Australia

Since the last issue of ATB, a Bisection tournament occurred on 9 November 2025 that attracted sixteen avid players. Howard Rayner and Louise Love dominated the top division with six wins out of seven and placing first and second respectively. Howard played three bingos in three games while Louise played three bingos in one game and two consecutive bingos in another game. John Salmon gets a cameo on the top division podium finishing third with four wins. Faye Williams claimed High Game with 532, while also playing the highest non-bonus word with 92 for **ZINE**, and playing three bingos in a game – one of which was **KUMQUATS**. Joanna Moss claimed the High Word with 135 for **BRONZER** which was played on a Double-Double. Naomi Zion cleaned up all the categories in the lower division, scoring 442 for High Game, **PROVIDE** for 92 for High Word, and winning five games with +398 margin for first. Chris Sanders and Marge Roberts also won five games to finish second and third respectively.

The fourth edition of the Graham Bell Memorial Open was held on 7 December 2025. Graham was a stalwart for Scrabble in Western Australia who tirelessly strove for excellency in the Scrabble scene. His efforts have been missed by many of us. Twenty eager players vied for the Graham Bell Memorial Trophy in 2025. Claiming the title of the Graham Bell Memorial Open champion for the second time in three years was Ian Ting, who did not want to wake up to play on that day after committing to a Christmas concert with an orchestra on the evening prior. Benjamin Lee was the runner-up and Louise Love finished third, while defending champion David Vanzyl claimed High Game (597) and Ian also claimed High Word (**RAMBLING** for 98, which occurred against the defending champion). There were several games that featured players scoring three bingos in a game: Benjamin Lee, Anne Zion and Alan Mathews scored three bingos in two of their games, while Ian Ting scored three bingos in one game.

The first tournament in 2026 was the January Open which attracted twenty-two enthusiastic players. Howard Rayner smashed the field

with seven out of seven with an enormous +959 margin to be the clear winner. Jegatheva Jegathesan was the runner-up with six out of seven and -20 margin (did your 'helicopter' break down Jay Jay?). Susan Rayner ensured the couple would be entirely featured on the podium with five wins and +239 margin for third. Howard also claimed High Game with 560, while Judy Godfrey scored 115 for **FOXIEST** to take High Word (go Judy). There were other plays scoring above 100 which were **JINGLERS** for 114 played by Anne Zion and **REZONES** for 111 played by Carol Hudson. While out of the podium, Geoff Shephard scored the most bingos in one game with four bonuses. Special mentions to Thanu Sriskantharaja for returning to these tournaments while having limited tournament experience and to Maureen Gill for returning after an extended period away from the tournament scene. Well done to all the players and volunteers who are involved in the Scrabble scene – you know who you are!

*Ian Ting  
Press and Publicity Officer  
Scrabble WA*

## Upcoming Tournaments

Check website:

[www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml](http://www.scrabble.org.au/events/calendar.shtml)

## Reverse Puzzle

*This list of allowable words, has a common theme, anagrams of other words or Names. These are the answers, the questions are revealed on page 25*

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. ALATION  | 9. PANIERS   |
| 2. ALPINE   | 10. RAINCOAT |
| 3. ARGININE | 11. REGALIAN |
| 4. EMBRUES  | 12. SANDHI   |
| 5. ENATIONS | 13. SHINGLE  |
| 6. HIMSELF  | 14. SWISHED  |
| 7. MANGER   | 15. RETAINER |
| 8. OMNIVORA | 16. VALIANT  |

# AUSTRALIAN SCRABBLE CHAMPIONSHIP 2026

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory  
4th, 5th, and 6th of April 2026

Eastlake Football Club:  
3 Oxley St, Griffith ACT 2603

[eastlakefc.com.au](http://eastlakefc.com.au)

**CSW24 ~ 24 games ~ 25 minutes**  
**\$150**

**Arrive around 8:30 am for a 9:00 start each day of the tournament.**

**RATINGS:** Players rated at **1300** or above at time of registration will play in the Championship Division. International players with an equivalent WESPA rating will also play in this division. All other players will qualify for the Plate Division.

FEES: Registration fee is **\$150** and must be remitted to ASPA(ACT) no later than registration deadline Monday, 23rd of March 2026 to:

Account Name: AUSTRALIAN SCRABBLE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION ACT  
BSB: 062-914 Account Number: 10135330

Please provide surname and initial in payment text of the bank transfer. To ensure that you are registered properly, email [aspa.act@gmail.com](mailto:aspa.act@gmail.com) with the details of your payment, registration division, whether you will bring a rotating board/clock, dinner numbers, and any dietary requirements.

The venue can only accommodate 120 players so early registration is encouraged.

Awards will be presented at a dinner on Monday night 6th of April 2026 and prizes will be remitted to participant's bank. The dinner will be an additional \$50 per person and spouses and friends are welcome. Please ensure payment for the dinner is made by the registration deadline.

*Note that each day tea and coffee will be available all day, along with morning and afternoon teas. Club rules do not permit food and drink from outside the club being consumed on premises. Lunch can be purchased from the club bistro or from a number of eateries at the nearby Kingston and (if you walk quickly) Manuka shops.*

# 2026 Australian Women's Scrabble Championships



**Dates:** Wednesday April 1 & Thursday April 2 2026

**Venue:** Eastlake Football Club Kingston  
3 Oxley Street, Griffith ACT 2603  
Same venue as the Australian Scrabble Championships

**16 Games** Wednesday 8:30AM- for 9AM start  
**WESPA rated CSW 24** Thursday 8:30AM- for 9AM start  
**Costs** \$100

**Direct Deposit Preferred** (*please include your name*) Susan MacGillivray  
**BSB:** 325185  
**Account:** 03419910

**International payment** **Bank name:** Beyond Bank  
**Bank address:** 100 Waymouth St Adelaide  
SA 5000 AUSTRALIA  
**Branch No:** 325185  
**Account No and IBAN:** 32518503419910  
**Account Name:** Susan MacGillivray  
**SWIFT code:** CUSCAU2SXXX  
**Contact and questions:** [susan.macgillivray@gmail.com](mailto:susan.macgillivray@gmail.com)  
0401 117 739

Please advise of dietary requirements at registration



Registration: <https://forms.gle/XBPmbTqBdpEHgKf29>

# 2026 SNZ Inaugural Australasian Open

*Join us in lovely Mt. Eden, Auckland for the debut of a brand new international open tournament!  
We guarantee that the winner's purse will top \$1000 - the largest in New Zealand in quite some time.*

**Venue:** 📍 **Mt Eden Village Centre** 449 Mount Eden Road, Mount Eden, Auckland

**Dates and Times:** 20-21 June, 2026: Report at 8:40am for a 9am start both days.

We expect to wrap up, including the prize ceremony, by 5:30pm on Sunday at the latest.

**Format:** 15 games - 8 Saturday, 7 Sunday. **One grade.** Swiss pairing system with KOTH for the last 2 rounds.

**Rules:** [Scrabble New Zealand Constitution and Rules of Play](#) **Lexicon:** **CSW24**

**Rating:** This tournament will be rated by Scrabble New Zealand and WESPA

**Early Registration:** Players that pay their entry fee before **20 April 2026** will be eligible to win back \$60 in a lottery draw. Capacity is limited, so register early to guarantee your spot!

**Entry:** Payment of **NZ \$115** entry fee is payable by **13 June 2026**

**NZ Players:** Please pay via direct bank transfer: Account Name: **NZ Association of Scrabble Players**

**Kiwibank 38-9010-0771416-00** - Include the name of the Entrant as the reference.

**International Players:** Pay your **NZ \$115** entry fee here via **Wise:** <https://wise.com/pay/me/christophert3852>

Download **Wise** to create an account if you don't have one: <https://wise.com/invite/dic/christophert3852>

Cash on the Day may be accepted as a last resort - please enquire if you are having difficulty with payment.

**Notify Tournament Convenor:** Chris Tallman, SNZ Secretary: [chrishtallman@gmail.com](mailto:chrishtallman@gmail.com) with your entry details:

Full Name of Entrant and whether you are bringing a board and/or a clock

*For international entrants, please also indicate your Home Scrabble Organisation and Current WESPA rating*



## PLACE PRIZES FOR TOP OVERALL FINISHERS, PERFORMANCE PRIZES & SPOT PRIZES

**The Overall Winner is guaranteed at least NZD \$1000**

(At least \$500 is being added to the prize pool over and above entry fees via private donations)

**Performance Prizes:** Top Finishers with ratings below certain thresholds will win performance prizes TBD depending on entries.

Eligibility for these prizes as follows:

"B Grade" - NZ Rating of 1900 or below. WESPA rating of 1700 or below if an entrant has no NZ rating.

"C Grade" - NZ Rating of 1500 or below. WESPA rating of 1300 or below if an entrant has no NZ rating.

**Refreshments:** Morning and afternoon teas provided. BYO lunch, or buy it from several nearby cafes. There are many great options for food and coffee right outside the venue. Microwaves are available on site to heat up lunches.

There will be a group dinner on Saturday night - for those interested, email [chrishtallman@gmail.com](mailto:chrishtallman@gmail.com)

**Parking:** There is 60 minute max parking right outside the venue (suitable for dropping off gear) - afterwards, there is free parking further down Ngauruhoe St. or on Poronui St. (across Mt. Eden Road).

**Live Streaming:** One game per round will be live streamed. Please indicate if you do NOT want to play on stream upon entry. Organisers will avoid putting players that opt-out on stream, except for those on the top board in the final KOTH round. By entering this tournament, you agree to play on stream if you are in contention to win in round 15.

The inaugural New Zealand Women's Scrabble Championships were held at Mt Albert Bridge Club over the cloudy, warm and humid weekend of January 10th & 11th 2026. Many of the New Zealand women had attended the Townsville Festival of Scrabble in August 2026 which combined the 3rd Australian Women's Championships and the Queensland Championships with 2 half day tournaments on Magnetic Island thrown in for good measure. These Kiwis were inspired to commence their own Women's Championships.

Twenty competitors, including one brave novice, Clarita and two and a half Australians (myself, Jane Taylor from South Australia, Carmel Dodd from Queensland and Joanne Craig from New South Wales/New Zealand) played sixteen games over two days. Draws were predetermined for the first fourteen games which kept the tournament moving along nicely. The last two games after afternoon tea on the Sunday were Queen of the Hill.

It was lovely to have so many New Zealand men support the tournament, including Chris on data entry, Jason on streaming and the gorgeous George on catering both days. He

makes the best chocolate/ plum brownie I have ever tasted! Many other men popped in to see how it was going and stayed to play a few games with each other.

An interesting but not allowed word played was **\*AUSSIES** by Joanne Morley,

Anderina Mclean took an early lead being undefeated until after lunch on the Sunday but experienced a bad afternoon coming 2nd on 13 games. Cicely Bruce experienced a strong day on Sunday to take over the lead and win the tournament with a two-game advantage on 15 games. Joanne Craig came 3rd on 13 games, and Jane Taylor and Carmel Dodd took out 4th and 5th places on 12 games each. Jane also won the prize for the highest number of bingos, scoring 28 seven letter words over the tournament. The highest game score was 597 won by Cathy Casey and the prize for the highest aggregate game was 982 won by Cathy Casey and Val Mills.

A good idea was to include a questionnaire in the score book to gain feedback on the tournament in terms of what could be better, timing and location. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive from volunteers, commentators, technical crew alike.



*The players with place getters in first row, from left Joanne Craig (3rd) Anderina McLean (2nd) Cicely Bruce (1st) Jane Taylor (4th) Carmel dodd (5th) liz Fagerland (7th)*

# Scrabble History Now On YouTube

Some of you may recall Scrabble NSW producing twin DVDs entitled *Australian Scrabblers At Home and Abroad* which encapsulated the history of Scrabble in Australia up to 2007 as seen on TV News reports and various other special productions.

This priceless footage is now in the process of being transferred to You Tube with the first seven discreet items transferred, and a further eight to follow.

Josh Watt has set up a You Tube channel called Scrabble Australia where this footage is being archived. It is hoped that suitable content will be continually added. Submissions from other States will always be welcome.

The historical segments added so far are:

- TV News Reports of Australian Championships 1990-2007
- TV News Reports of International Tournaments 1993-2002
- TV News Reports of NSW Tournaments
- Scrabble Tidbits
- Today Show Report of 1997 Sydney Winter Masters

- 7.30 Report of 1999 World Championship in Melbourne
- Special feature on 2005 Ulladulla Championship

To access this footage on your device type in <https://www.youtube.com/@ScrabbleAustralia>

If you then subscribe to Scrabble Australia you will then be able to easily locate all segments added in future.

Or scan QR Code below>



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## COLLINS SCRABBLE DICTIONARY 2024

*Harper Collins Publishers Australia*

Hardcover \$37.99

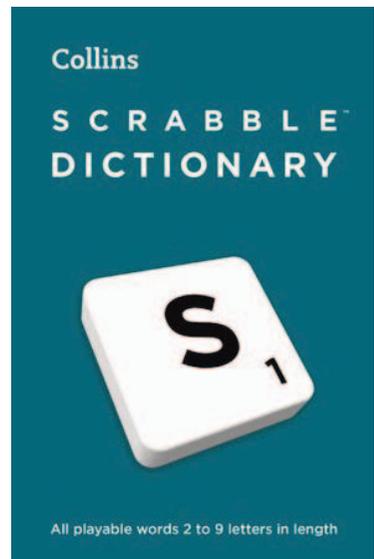
Paperback \$28.50

### *AMAZON website*

Hardcover \$28.50

Paperback \$27.99

*eBay* \$27.98



# MINDSPORT

**\*YOUTH SCRABBLE**

**MINI-COMPETITION**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026**

(\*aged under 18 as at 3/4/2026)

**IBIS STYLES Canberra**

203 Goyder St, Narrabundah ACT 2604

1pm to 5pm

5 games, 25 mins per player, CSW24

**ENTRY FEE:** \$10 covers room hire plus levy payments for Australian and International (WESPA) Scrabble Ratings.

**PRIZES** (eg shirts) for Places, High Word/ High Game)

**REGISTER:** Karen,

email [karen.d.richards@gmail.com](mailto:karen.d.richards@gmail.com)

or Paul 0419 031 369

**Number if running late on the day 0419 031 369**

**ADULT OPTION:** also \$10 entry - If space permits, a 5-game side tournament will also be run - groups of 6 in Round Robins.

**Certificates in lieu of prizes:**

\*If numbers are odd, an adult player may be included to even numbers.

# Townsville Scrabble Tournaments 2026



After a successful festival in 2025 and requests for "more" from many southern and New Zealand players we have scheduled our annual tournaments for Saturday 19 September – Thursday 24 September, which is the week before the Trans-Tasman tournament which will be held in Brisbane in 2026.

All tournaments will be CSW24 Australian and WESPA-rated.

We experience 29 sunny days and an average daily maximum temperature of 28° in September, making it a great time to spring into spring!

There are direct flights to Townsville from Cairns, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide, as well as overnight train trips from the Gold Coast and Brisbane.

The Townsville tournaments will be held in the CBD within walking distance of a range of accommodation and restaurant options. The Magnetic Island Bowls Club and Arcadia Hotel are both on the bus route and within easy walking distance of each other. If you would like to play in either or both Magnetic Island tournaments, you can catch a ferry from Townsville each day or book accommodation on the island.

## **TOWNSVILLE SCRABBLE TOURNAMENTS**

**Venue:** Townsville CIC Meeting Rooms, 280 Flinders St, Townsville

**Dates:** Saturday 19 September and Sunday 20 September 2026

**Format:** individual one day open tournaments, lagged Australian draw

## **MAGNETIC ISLAND TOURNAMENTS**

**Venue:** Magnetic Island Bowls Club,

18 Marine Parade, Arcadia Bay

**Dates:** Wednesday 23 September and Thursday 24 September 2026

**Format:** individual half day tournaments, round robin sections

## **MAGNETIC ISLAND PUB TRIVIA NIGHT**

**Venue:** Arcadia Hotel, Arcadia Bay

**Date:** Thursday 24 September 2026

Please contact Julie Brice on [juliebrice@bigpond.com](mailto:juliebrice@bigpond.com) for more information or to register your interest.



### Need a missing tile?

We may have what you want — no cost to you.

Contact Carol Johnsen  
[caroljscrabble@gmail.com](mailto:caroljscrabble@gmail.com)

**0476 639 195**

A photo of a tile from the set would assist.



## FOLLOW SCRABBLE VICTORIA ON WHATSAPP

We now maintain a channel on WhatsApp to keep our members informed. It is open to any member of the public.

1. Scan QR Code
2. Click to Go to Channel  
(or Download  
WhatsApp)
3. Join Channel
4. Stay up to date 😊



## Receiving ATB

Our magazine, *Across the Board (ATB)* is produced as a PDF. If you wish to receive a hard copy (ie printed) please contact your State Membership Officer to discuss delivery options.

If your membership is up-to-date, you will receive your copy every quarter emailed to you by your State's Membership Officer.

If you wish to receive the ATB via email, please notify your State Membership Officer.

Contacts for Membership Officers appear on page 2 of this magazine and on the website:  
<http://www.scrabble.org.au/about/states.htm>

Editor: Richard Birch [richardbirch@me.com](mailto:richardbirch@me.com)

# Club Directory

Any changes to this club directory should be made to the Editor [editor@scrabble.org.au](mailto:editor@scrabble.org.au) as well as your State representative. Club information should contain name of club, times of operation, address and contact phone number with an optional email address. Full details can be obtained by visiting <http://www.scrabble.org.au/clubs/index.htm>

## ACT

**Woden Night:** Wed 7pm

Southern Cross Club, Woden

Tim Reddan **02 6179 5000**

[treddan@inet.net.au](mailto:treddan@inet.net.au)

**WODEN Day:** Thu 9am

Southern Cross Club, Woden

Terry Horan **0424 229 254**

[horanfamily@optusnet.com.au](mailto:horanfamily@optusnet.com.au)

## NSW

### Greater Sydney Clubs

**Baulkham Hills:** Tuesdays from 7.00 pm

Private Home, Baulkham Hills

Chris Ostrowski **0410 448 286**

[chrilstrowski41@gmail.com](mailto:chrilstrowski41@gmail.com)

**Blacktown:** Wednesday 10:00am to 4:00pm

Blacktown Town Centre

Unit 106, 32 Campbell Street, Blacktown

Jean Noonan **0420 723 132**

[jeaniest44@gmail.com](mailto:jeaniest44@gmail.com)

**Bondi:** Wednesday from 7.00pm

COA Krygier Centre

25 Rowe Street, Woollahra

Owen Fisher **0412 931 440**

[owenfisher@tpg.com.au](mailto:owenfisher@tpg.com.au)

**Inner West Day:** Tuesdays 9.30am to 1.30 pm

Marrickville Library.

Cnr Marrickville & Livingstone Rds

Sue Tuckett **0401 644 096**

[suetuckett@yahoo.com.au](mailto:suetuckett@yahoo.com.au)

**Lane Cove:** Thursdays 5.30pm to 9.00pm

Lane Cove Bowling & Recreation Club

151 Burns Bay Road, Lane Cove

Julie Bailey **0427 035 465**

[juliesimonds7@gmail.com](mailto:juliesimonds7@gmail.com)

**Macarthur:** 1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 7pm

Western Suburbs League Club

10 Old Leumeah Road, Leumeah

Tony Hunt **0417 470 167**

[audiolifeportrait@gmail.com](mailto:audiolifeportrait@gmail.com)

John Holgate **0413 168 548**

[john.holgate@ozemail.com.au](mailto:john.holgate@ozemail.com.au)

**Petersham:**

1st and 3rd Mondays from 7pm

Petersham RSL Club

30 Trafalgar Street, Petersham

Steven Savona **0411 815 981**

[steven.savona@gmail.com](mailto:steven.savona@gmail.com)

**Revesby:** Tuesday Evenings from 6.45pm

Picnic Point Bowling Club

124 Lambeth St, Panania

Peter Griffiths **0432 638 994**

[phgriffiths60@gmail.com](mailto:phgriffiths60@gmail.com)

**St George:** Tuesdays 10am - 3pm

Oatley RSL Club, 23 Letitia St, Oatley

Jo Anne Deady **0431 624 970**

[peterdeady@optusnet.com.au](mailto:peterdeady@optusnet.com.au)

**Sydney:** First Sunday each month

From 11.30am, Competition

Clontarf Cottage, Wallace St, Balmain

Lyn Reitano **0423478 278**

[Lynreitano@hotmail.com](mailto:Lynreitano@hotmail.com)

**Waverley:** Tuesdays, from 1pm

Waverley Community Centre

31-33 Spring St, Bondi Junction

Devorah Ullman **0434 190 396**

[devorah@aptitude.com.au](mailto:devorah@aptitude.com.au)

### South Coast Scrabble Clubs

**Bomaderry:** Wednesdays 10.30am to 5pm

Bomaderry Bowling Club

cnr Meroo & Cambewarra Rds, Bomaderry

Margaret Neal **0428 429 077**

[margcneal@bigpond.com](mailto:margcneal@bigpond.com)

**Nowra:** Saturdays from 12.30pm

Bomaderry Bowling Club

cnr Meroo & Cambewarra Rds, Bomaderry

Greg Hopson **0438 897 540**

[greghopson604@gmail.com](mailto:greghopson604@gmail.com)

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**Wollongong:** WORDS: (Evening)

Monday from 6:30 pm

Collegians Rugby League Club

Flinders St, Wollongong

Melissa Millwood **0419 446 997**

[dogawash@gmail.com](mailto:dogawash@gmail.com)

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## Central Coast Clubs

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**Empire Bay:** See Non-Affiliated Clubs

[janconsoli@optusnet.com.au](mailto:janconsoli@optusnet.com.au)

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**Ourimbah:** Thursdays 10am - 2pm

Ourimbah RSL Club

Sandra Elliott **0410 438 525**

[sandee1@iinet.net.au](mailto:sandee1@iinet.net.au)

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**Toukley:** Fridays 10am - 2pm

The Ary, 35 Holmes Avenue, Toukley

Sandra Elliott **0410 438 525**

[sandee1@iinet.net.au](mailto:sandee1@iinet.net.au)

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**Woy Woy:** Thursdays 12 noon - 4pm

CWA Hall, cnr Ocean Beach Rd

and Sydney Ave, Umina

Denise Smith **02 4365 5645**

[rladms@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rladms@bigpond.net.au)

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## Hunter Region Clubs

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**Lake Macquarie:** Thursdays, 9:30am to 1pm

Bay Hotel Motel

330 Fishery Point Road, Bonnells Bay

Richard Birch **0418 428 459**

[richardbirch@me.com](mailto:richardbirch@me.com)

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**Newcastle:** Saturdays 12 Noon

NEX Club

309 King St, Newcastle

Christine O'Neill **0407 484 851**

[christinejoneill@gmail.com](mailto:christinejoneill@gmail.com)

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## Mid-North Coast

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**South West Rocks:** See Non-Affiliated Clubs

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## Southern Highlands Clubs

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**Bowral:** 2nd & 4th Fridays of month

10am to 4pm

Private Home, Bowral

Sylvia Carless **0419 165 293**

[sylvia.carless@bigpond.com](mailto:sylvia.carless@bigpond.com)

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**Tahmoor:** Monday from 1pm Taara Gardens

23 Estonian Road, Thirlmere

Bev Batros **0409 913 679**

[bevbatros@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bevbatros@yahoo.com.au)

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## Non-Affiliated Scrabble Groups

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The following are known serious and social groups that are not affiliated with Scrabble NSW. If you know of such a group and want it included here, email details to [Bob Jackman](mailto:Bob Jackman)

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**Belmont:**

Bob Burr

**0413 887 087**

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**Blacktown Healthwise:** Social

Val Haggett

**0438 212 219**

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**Brunswick Heads:** Serious

Steve Bellerby

**0407 8447188**

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**Bundanoon:** Social

Sandy McKenzie

**0423 518 947**

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**Coffs Harbour:**

Keith Bancroft

**0421 334 216**

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**Empire Bay:**

Jan Consoli

**0402 246 427**

---

**Ettalong:**

Pam Tuckwell

**0404 045 360**

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**Kiama:**

Marie Dalton

**02 4233 2778**

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**Lismore:**

Taran Tula

**0434 053 925**

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**Maitland:** Tuesdays 9.30am - 2pm

Telerah Bowling Club

Pam Rowlands

**0421 111 253**

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**Mittagong:**

George Khamis

**0405 201 552**

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**Oatlands:** Social

Lauraine Overton

**0412 300 137**

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**Orange:** Social

Audrey Ferris

**02 6362 0068**

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**Port Macquarie:** Social

Wayne Willis

**0415 572 017**

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**Quakers Hill (Full):** Serious

Lauraine Overton

**0412 300 137**

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**Ramsgate:** Social

Dea Holland

**02 9588 3415**

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**Sanctuary Point:** Social

Anne Reid

**0410 012 642**

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**South West Rocks:** Alt Thursdays

Shirley Winkler

**02 6566 7220**

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**Sutherland:** Social

Ann Fiddler

**02 9589 0128**

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**Terrigal:**

Mary-Michal Oxby

**0402 846 485**

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**Tumut:**

Bev Sutton

**02 6947 6505**

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**Wagga Wagga:**

Norm Byng

**0418 293 453**

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# QLD

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**Bargara:** Thursday 1.30pm  
Carlisle Gardens  
Virginia Christian **07 4159 1935**  
**0408 278 236**

[barginhere@bigpond.com](mailto:barginhere@bigpond.com)

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**Brunswick Valley:** Tuesday 1-4pm  
Brunswick Heads Bowls Club  
Old Pacific Highway  
Brunswick Heads  
Steve Bellerby **0407 844 718**

**Bundaberg:** Brothers Sports Club  
Liz Blanch **0435 018 364**

**Coorparoo:** Tuesday 8 am - 1 pm  
Queen Alexandra Home  
347 Old Cleveland Rd  
Benita O'Neill **0407 434 855**

**Dalby:** Wednesday 6:30 pm  
Kathleen Maher [mzeemaher@gmail.com](mailto:mzeemaher@gmail.com)

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**Logan City:** Tuesday 12-4:30pm  
2nd and 4th of month  
Marsden Park Library,  
Chambers Flat Rd, Marsden Park  
Karrin Henderson **07 3133 3204**  
[kahendos@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kahendos@optusnet.com.au)

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**Logan Day:** Wednesday 12-5pm  
1st and 3rd of month  
Meeting room, Hyperdome Library  
Olga Visser **07 3801 1362**  
[visser@optushome.com.au](mailto:visser@optushome.com.au)

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**Logan Night:** Monday 5-8pm  
McDonalds meeting room  
Bryants Road, Loganholme  
Olga Visser **07 3801 1362**  
[visser@optushome.com.au](mailto:visser@optushome.com.au)

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**Noosa:** Friday 10am-12pm  
Noosa Library.  
Megan Marks  
[megan\\_marks1@hotmail.com](mailto:megan_marks1@hotmail.com)

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**Redcliffe:** Wednesday 1-4pm  
Thursday 6:30-10pm  
Trish Brighton **0402 736 532**  
[brist@optusnet.com.au](mailto:brist@optusnet.com.au)

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**Southport:** Wednesday 1-5pm  
Some Sunday afternoons  
SOPUS Club,  
Scarborough Street  
Diana McManus **0419 022 520**  
[dianamcmanus4@gmail.com](mailto:dianamcmanus4@gmail.com)

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**Sunshine Coast:** Friday 1-3:30pm  
Nambour RSL  
14 Matthew St  
Trevor Sauer **07 5445 7770**  
[sauer.1@bigpond.com](mailto:sauer.1@bigpond.com)

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**Tangara BSBS after school:** Mon 3:30-5pm  
Private venue  
Tangara, West End  
Roberta Tait **0431 640 874**  
[taitroberta@hotmail.com](mailto:taitroberta@hotmail.com)

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**Toowoomba:** Thursday 4 pm  
Newtown School Library  
24 Albert St, Newtown  
Jane Brown **0417 903 079**  
[jb.edits@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jb.edits@bigpond.net.au)

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**Townsville:** Alt Fridays and Saturdays at 3 pm  
Unit 1105/106 Denham St, Townsville  
Julie Brice **0409 748 323**  
[juliebrice@bigpond.com](mailto:juliebrice@bigpond.com)

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# SA

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**Blackwood:** Wednesday 12:45-4:00  
Blackwood Uniting Church  
266 Main Street Blackwood  
(Enter from Coromandel Parade)  
Raelene Nicholls **0416 203 515**  
[nicholsraelene@gmail.com](mailto:nicholsraelene@gmail.com)

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**Brighton:** Thursday 12:30pm  
Brighton Senior Citizens Club  
376 Brighton Road Hove  
Julie Hockley **0410 053 973**  
[jhock2@bigpond.com](mailto:jhock2@bigpond.com)

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**Henley & Grange:** Friday 1:00 pm  
Ngutungka Community Centre, -  
9 Charles St, West Lakes.  
Jacqui Pearce **0439 806 309**  
[jacquap47@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jacquap47@yahoo.com.au)

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**Noarlunga:** Wednesday 7:30pm  
Church of Christ Hall,  
165 Beach Road, Noarlunga  
Robyn Davill **0401 364 019**  
[davills@internode.on.net](mailto:davills@internode.on.net)

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**Plympton:** Monday 6:00pm  
Sachiez Kitchen, 295 Anzac Highway, Plympton  
Tony Miller  
[www.meetup.com/adelaide-pub-scrabble/](http://www.meetup.com/adelaide-pub-scrabble/)

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**Port Adelaide:** Monday 2:30-5:30  
Port Adelaide Library  
2 Church St, Port Adelaide  
Sarah Antoniw **08 8405 6584**  
[sarah.antoniw@cityofpae.sa.gov.au](mailto:sarah.antoniw@cityofpae.sa.gov.au)

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**Prospect:** Tuesday 1:30pm  
128 Prospect Road, Prospect  
Louisa Atsas **0432 907 646**  
[atsas\\_tribe@yahoo.com](mailto:atsas_tribe@yahoo.com)

## TAS

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**Bellerive:** Friday 1.00pm  
Margaret Bishop 0455 134 060

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**Glenorchy:** Tue 1pm  
Jill Norton **03 6228 1861**

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**Kingborough:** Tues 7.30pm  
Khen Meerding **03 6229 5840**

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**Launceston:** Mon 2.00pm  
Diana Diffey **0410 447 099**

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**Midway Point:** Every 2nd Thurs 6.00pm  
Stephen Mooney-Pursell **0452 116 082**

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**Ulverstone:** Wed 9.30am  
Jan Hill **03 6425 5415**

## VIC

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**Ballarat:** Tuesday 10am - 3pm  
Russell Square Community Centre  
Cnr Humfray St & Stawell St, Brownhill  
Kristine Howat **0418 373 253**  
[KristineHowat@yahoo.com](mailto:KristineHowat@yahoo.com)

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**Bayswater/Kilsyth:**  
Last Thursday of Month 7.00pm  
Kilsyth Club, 1/15 Canterbury Rd  
Bayswater North ~ Free to play  
Justin Moyle **0477 774 701**  
[justin\\_mo@yahoo.com.au](mailto:justin_mo@yahoo.com.au)

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**Balwyn:** Monday 1.00pm  
Balwyn Community Centre  
412 Whitehorse Road  
Surrey Hills  
Marj Miller **03 9850 2366**  
[mjwm9@bigpond.com](mailto:mjwm9@bigpond.com)

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**Bentleigh:** 1pm-4pm Wednesday  
Godfrey Street Community Centre  
9 Godfrey Street, Bentleigh  
Carol Johnsen **0476 639 195**  
[caroljscrabble@gmail.com](mailto:caroljscrabble@gmail.com)

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**Box Hill:** See **Surrey Hills**

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**Brunswick:** Every Thursday 6pm-9pm  
Joey Smalls  
313-315 Sydney Rd, Brunswick  
Rob York **0417 512 535**  
[tryerbrook@gmail.com](mailto:tryerbrook@gmail.com)

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**Essendon:** Tuesday 7pm ~ 10pm  
Essendon Senior Citizens Centre  
5 Kellaway Ave, Moonee Ponds  
Rob York **0417 512 535**  
[tryerbrook@gmail.com](mailto:tryerbrook@gmail.com)

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**Fairfield And Northcote:** *Scrabble Club (FaNS)*  
Monday 7.00pm ~ 9.00pm  
Darebin U3A  
26 Railway Place, Fairfield  
Rob York **0417 512 535**  
[tryerbrook@gmail.com](mailto:tryerbrook@gmail.com)

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**Fitzroy:** 1st Wednesday of month 7pm-10pm  
Boardies Bar  
189 Smith Street, Fitzroy  
Nick Ivanovski **0412 175 251**  
[nicksfbemail@gmail.com](mailto:nicksfbemail@gmail.com)

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**Geelong:** Saturday 1.00pm  
Christ Church Anglican, Geelong,  
cnr Moorabool & McKillop Streets  
Pauline Young **0429 829 773**  
[paueliyo@yahoo.com.au](mailto:paueliyo@yahoo.com.au)

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**Greensborough:** Wednesday 1-4 pm  
Watsonia Community Hall  
35 - 47 Lambourn Rd, Watsonia  
Angie Winkler **0410 443 095**  
[acwinks@yahoo.com.au](mailto:acwinks@yahoo.com.au)

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**Langwarrin:** Tuesday 1 - 4 pm  
Langwarrin Community Centre,  
cnr Warrandyte & Lang Rds  
Langwarrin  
Alan Burn **0407 524 797**  
[monty.moo.mm@gmail.com](mailto:monty.moo.mm@gmail.com)

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**Maryborough:** Saturday 10am - 12 pm  
Maryborough Library  
Chris Scholten  
[maryboroughscrabbleclub@gmail.com](mailto:maryboroughscrabbleclub@gmail.com)

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**Mount Martha:** Tuesday 1.00pm  
Room 5, Mt Martha House,  
cnr Dominion Rd & The Esplanade  
Heather ? **0418 562 529**

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**Mount Waverley:** Weds 9.30am - 12.30pm  
Golden Age Senior Citizens' Centre  
47 Miller Crescent  
Mount Waverley  
Lynne Goodinson **0402 164 329**

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**Paynesville:** Tuesday 10am - 3pm  
Sylvia Galloway **0407 046 463**  
[sylgal1938@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sylgal1938@optusnet.com.au)

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**Rosanna:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays 6.30 - 9.30pm  
Watsonia Library, 4/6 Ibbotson St,  
Rob Hutchinson **0407 533 525**  
[rh\\_slash@yahoo.com.au](mailto:rh_slash@yahoo.com.au)

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**Surrey Hills:** *Previously Box Hill*  
Tuesdays fortnightly 1pm - 4pm  
Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre,  
157 Union Road, Surrey Hills  
Judith McNaughtan **0447 387 493**  
[mcnaughtan43@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mcnaughtan43@optusnet.com.au)

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**Warburton:** Wednesday, 10am-Noon &  
1st Saturday of the month 1pm-4pm  
Warburton Community Space  
25A Dammans Rd, Warburton  
Lay-Hoon Ng **0408 802 207**  
[lay-hoon@bigpond.com](mailto:lay-hoon@bigpond.com)

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**Wodonga:** Saturday 10am-Noon  
Hyphen Wodonga Library,  
126 Hovell St Wodonga  
Luke Breen **0424 841 438**  
[l.t.breen@outlook.com](mailto:l.t.breen@outlook.com)

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## WA

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**Albany:** Monday 9am–12pm  
Albany Bridge Club,  
Mill Street  
Sue Reynolds **0432 059 566**  
[suerey23@bigpond.com](mailto:suerey23@bigpond.com)

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**Bassendean:** Wednesday 9:30am–4pm  
Bassendean Community Centre,  
Lesser Hall,  
48 Old Perth Road  
Anne Stewart **0410 346 849**  
[asteckel42@gmail.com](mailto:asteckel42@gmail.com)

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**Hamersley (Tuesday):** Tues 1pm–4:30pm  
Stirling Leisure Centre,  
20 Belvedere Road,  
Hamersley  
Joan Dye **0400 761 356**

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**Hamersley (Saturday):** Sat 12:30–4:30pm  
Stirling Leisure Centre,  
20 Belvedere Road,  
Hamersley  
Mike Clarke **0438 606 617**  
[mikec@ans.com.au](mailto:mikec@ans.com.au)

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**Melville:** Monday 10am–3pm  
Melville Bowling Club,  
582 Canning Highway,  
Alfred Cove  
Delys Carbon **0416 502 268**  
[Delcarbon@inet.net.au](mailto:Delcarbon@inet.net.au)

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**Nedlands:** Tuesday 9:30am–12:30pm  
Dalkeith Baptist Hall,  
Waratah Avenue,  
Dalkeith  
Chris Hassell **0428 846 325**  
[cehassell@bigpond.com](mailto:cehassell@bigpond.com)

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**Perth:** Thursday 9:30am–4pm  
Senior Citizens Centre,  
Perth Railway Complex,  
Wellington Street  
Anne Stewart **0410 346 849**  
[asteckel42@gmail.com](mailto:asteckel42@gmail.com)

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**Spearwood:** Tuesday 10am–3pm  
Senior Citizen's Centre,  
Spearwood  
Vera Ruddick **0438 803 823**

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# Results Roundup

## ACT

### 01.11.2025 Gungahlin Mini

**OPEN:** 1 John Hamilton; 2 Sam Pizzano; 3 Alex Boiko; **HG** Terry Horan 570; **HW** John Hamilton  
**OVERSIZE** 98

### 08.11.2025 ACT Championship

**OPEN:** 1 John Spaan; 2 John Hamilton; 3 Ronnie Bennett; **HG** John Spaan 645; **HW** John Hamilton  
**QUOTIENT** 194

### 07.12.2025 ACT Youth Championship

**OPEN:** 1 Sam Pizzano; 2 Marcus Robertson; 3 Hugh Boveington; **HG** Sam Pizzano 492

### 17.01.2026 ACT Jan 26

**OPEN:** 1 Tony Hunt; 2 Owen Randall; 3 John Spaan; **HG** John Spaan 587; **HW** Tim Reddan  
**HAZINESS** 140

## NSW

### 02.11.2025 EPPING COMPETITION 2

**A:** 1 Victor Tung; 2 Esther Perrins; 3 Ryan Sutton; **HG** Tony Hunt 589; **HW** Victor Tung  
**RENEWAL** 108

**B:** 1 John Barker; 2 Eddi Kewley; 3 Oliver Klistorner; **HG** Oliver Klistorner 559; **HW** Charlotte Middleton  
**TOMMIES** 96

**SOCIAL:** 1 Katherine Boniadian; 2 Estrella Iletto; 3 Phi Long Ma; **HG** Phi Long Ma 555; **HW** Phi Long Ma  
**BLAZERS** 102

### 15.11.2025 LAKE MACQUARIE

**OPEN:** 1 Rod Talbot; 2 Bob Jackman; 3 Greg Pinchbeck; **HG** Bob Jackman 580; **HW** Bob Jackman  
**ANTINODE** 131

### 06.12.2025 SUTHERLAND SHIRE

**A:** 1 Tony Hunt; 2 Joanne Craig; 3 Rod Talbot; **HG** John Holgate 694; **HW** Tony Hunt  
**WAINAGES** 158

**B:** 1 Yvonne Edwards; 2 John Barker; 3 Krystyna Batten; **HG** Yvonne Edwards 544; **HW** Harry Hubber  
**REZONES** 105

**C:** 1 Lucas Luu; 2 Ann Fiddler; 3 Dorothy Fields; **HG** Dorothy Fields 488; **HW** Justin Eng  
**WHISTLE** 106

### 13.12.2025 BUNDANOON

**OPEN:** 1 Rod Talbot; 2 Ryan Sutton; 3 Tony Hunt; **HG** Noel Barrett 574; **HW** John Spaan  
**ALIENERS** 131

### 10.01.2026 JANBOREE

**A:** 1 Esther Perrins; 2 Edward Okulicz; 3 Jyoti Chandna; **HG** Tony Hunt 602; **HW** Tony Hunt  
**AVIANISE** 158

**B:** 1 Greg Pinchbeck; 2 Nathan Tang; 3 Peter Griffiths; **HG** Peter Griffiths 525; **HW** Phillip Hamilton  
**NARTJIES** 110

**C:** 1 Ivor Zetler; 2 Ryder Lo; 3 Janine Whittaker; **HG** John Barker 562; **HW** John Barker  
**REMAILER** 149

**D:** 1 Harry Hubber; 2 Vincent Nguyen; 3 Dorothy Fields; **HG** Dorothy Fields 487; **HW** Dorothy  
**ZANIEST** 104

**E:** 1 Sam Pizzano; 2 Oliver Klistorner; 3 Eddi Kewley; **HG** Eddi Kewley 490; **HW** Chi Wai Lo  
**REDATING** 131

**SOCIAL:** 1 James Lo; 2 Jayco Lo; 3 Nancy Hargrave; **HG** James Lo 667; **HW** Jayco Lo  
**FIGURES** 102

### 20.01.2026 Lansvale January

**OPEN:** 1 Tony Hunt; 2 Kelvin Korn; 3 Sam Pizzano; **HG** Sam Pizzano 539; **HW** Huy Lam  
**FAWNERS** 97

### 25.01.2026 CITY OF SYDNEY MASTERS

**OPEN:** 1 Andrew Fisher; 2 Edward Okulicz; 3 Carmel Dodd; **HG** Andrew Fisher 616; **HW** 158  
Tony Hunt  
**INTERCOM** 158

## QLD

### 01.11.2025 Noosa

**A:** 1 Sheryl Davidson; 2 Ryan Gray; 3 Carmel Dodd; **HG** Paul Richards 503; **HW** Ryan Gray  
**EQUALIZE** 122

**B:** 1 Olga Visser; 2 Kerry Reimers; 3 Brenton Gray; **HG** Kerry Reimers 538; **HW** Josef Peeters  
**HURRIED** 89

**C:** 1 Warren Hancock; 2 Anna Palmer; 3 Fiona Meredith; **HG** Lucy Dodd 511; **HW** Megan Marks  
**PAINTERS** 99

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### 23.11.2025 November Nonsense

**A:** 1 Cameron Farlow; **2** Carmel Dodd; **3** Karen Richards; **HG** Cameron Farlow 577; **HW** Cameron Farlow **VIBRANCE** 98

**B:** 1 Brenton Gray; **2** Liz Blanch; **3** Ashwin Page; **HG** Ashwin Page 491; **HW** Ashwin Page **OVERLORD** 89

**C:** 1 Jenny Schafer; **2** Jill Paterson; **3** Roslyn Murphy; **HG** Diana McManus 437; **HW** Margaret Bougie **EQUINES** 101

**D (HALF DAY):** 1 Yannick Theriault; **2** Samuel Sedgman; **3** Danira De Silva; **HG** Samuel Sedgman 443; **HW** Danira De Silva **FASHION** 100

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### 07.12.2025 Southport Christmas

**A:** 1 Carmel Dodd; **2** Cameron Farlow; **3** Paul Richards; **HG** Cameron Farlow 549; **HW** Roslyn Murphy **TELLINGS** 131

**B:** 1 Patti Ashwin; **2** Tracey Michel; **3** Margaret Bougie; **HG** Patti Ashwin 498; **HW** Diana McManus **QUALITY** 96

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### 14.12.2025 Last Chance

**OPEN:** 1 Cameron Farlow; **2** Brenton Gray; **3** Elize Plaganyi; **HG** Cameron Farlow 556; **HW** Karrin Henderson **SHIFTERS** 113

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### 16.01.2026 3 Game Beginners

**OPEN:** 1 Irene Poh; **2** Mischa Beecham; **3** James Connor; **HG** Mischa Beecham 451

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### 16.01.2026 Mindsport

**OPEN:** 1 Ryan Gray; **2** Brenton Gray; **3** Elize Plaganyi; **HG** Arnold Appelhof 508; **HW** Arnold Appelhof **ZEATINS** 118

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### 18.01.2026 Logan Clovers

**A:** 1 Cameron Farlow; **2** Karen Richards; **3** Carmel Dodd; **HG** Cameron Farlow 593; **HW** Ryan Gray **STIFFEST** 177

**B:** 1 Arnold Appelhof; **2** Kerry Reimers; **3** Ashwin Page; **HG** Arnold Appelhof 514; **HW** Yvette Copley **TRASHIER** 140

**C:** 1 Karen Woodhead; **2** Ruth Jones; **3** Elize Plaganyi; **HG** Jeanette Hansen 469; **HW** Samuel Sedgmen **SHITTER** 89

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## SA

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### 30.11.2025 Civil War

**OPEN:** 1 Daniel Piechnick; **2** Tony Miller; **3** Jane Taylor; **HG** Julie Krieg 556; **HW** Dieter Jedamski **SQUARER** 131

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### 27.12.2025 SA Xmas

**A:** 1 Daniel Piechnick; **2** Tony Miller; **3** Jane Taylor; **HG** Wendi Symes 572; **HW** Oliver Jenner-O'Shea **AURELIAS** 122

**B:** 1 Dieter Jedamski; **2** Susan Roberts; **3** Karyn Crease; **HG** Karyn Crease 507; **HW** Dieter Jedamski **RESTABLE** 149

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### 18.01.2026 Mel Leckie

**A:** 1 Rowena Vnuk; **2** Daniel Piechnick; **3** Antony Kimber; **HG** Daniel Piechnick 535; **HW** Daniel Piechnick **VERTOIL** 158

**B:** 1 Nathan Bennett; **2** Baheej Al Kassem; **3** Susan Roberts; **HG** Emanuel Atsas 484; **HW** Emanuel Atsas **JITTERS** 123

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## TAS

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### 22.11.2025 Ross Comp

**OPEN:** 1 Jon Ford-King; **2** Margaret Griggs; **3** Margaret Bishop; **HG** Marion Merickel 560; **HW** Margaret Griggs **ZESTIER** 108

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### 13.12.2025 Summer Slammer

**OPEN:** 1 Jon Ford-King; **2** Stephen Mooney-Pursell; **3** Margaret Webb; **HG** Stephen Mooney-Pursell 614; **HW** Margaret Webb **TORNADES** 131

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### 20.01.2026 Kingston Night

**OPEN:** 1 Jon Ford-King; **2** Stephen Mooney Pursell; **3** Cindy Brunniche; **HG** Stephen Mooney Pursell 573; **HW** Stephen Mooney Pursell **REVIEWED** 94

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## VIC

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### 07.11.2025 FNS 071125

**OPEN:** 1 Michael Hornung; **2** Oscar Ivanovski; **3** Rob Hutchinson; **HG** Michael Hornung, Oscar Ivanovski 525

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### 23.11.2025 Sunday Sessions 4

**A:** 1 Fadlan Satria; **2** Oscar Ivanovski; **3** Trevor Halsall; **HG** Trevor Halsall 568

**B:** 1 Barry Harridge; **2** Lainie Mercieca; **3** Bobby Malela Hutagal; **HG** Barry Harridge 476

**C:** 1 John Rider; **2** Paula Messer; **3** Glen Chandler; **HG** Ben Munson 474

**D:** 1 John Minas; **2** Annette Casey; **3** Jithuni Vidana; **HG** John Minas 471; **HW** Jithuni Vidana  
**JIBBERS** 131

**E:** 1 James Stark; **2** Rena Aitken; **3** Elaine McGinnes; **HG** Rena Aitken 422

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### 07.12.2025 Sunday Sessions 5

**A:** 1 Oscar Ivanovski; **2** Fadlan Satria; **3** Geoff Wright; **HG** Fadlan Satria 542; **HW** Oscar Ivanovski **OVERSIZE** 101

**B:** 1 Jenny Brysha; **2** Rob York; **3** Frank Csarics; **HG** Rob York 496; **HW** Jenny Brysha **OXIDIZE** 114

**C:** 1 Mardi Healy; **2** Paula Messer; **3** Mark Gillespie; **HG** Angie Winkler 463; **HW** Glen Chandler **FUNSTER** 93

**D:** 1 Fintan Conway; **2** Annette Casey; **3** Rosie Whalen; **HG** Annette Casey 441

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### 28.12.2025 Decathlon 2025

**OPEN:** 1 Edward Okulicz; **2** Trevor Halsall; **3** David Eldar; **HG** David Eldar 608; **HW** Sumbul Siddiqui **CHANTERS** 140

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### 18.01.2026 2026 Bil Rose Aestival

**ASTER:** 1 Naweem Fernando; **2** Andrew Fisher; **3** David Eldar; **HG** Andrew Fisher 559; **HW** Edward Okuliz **LACQUERS** 131

**BEGONIA:** 1 Carol Johnsen; **2** Bobby Malela Hutagal; **3** Dianne Davis; **HG** Carol Johnsen 540; **HW** Frank Csarics **BRISKED** 120

**CLEMATIS:** 1 Janet Bau; **2** Kris Howat; **3** John Rider; **HG** Kris Howat 536; **HW** John Rider **INQUIRED** 104

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## WA

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### 09.11.2025 November Bisection

**A DIVISION:** 1 Howard Rayner; **2** Louise Love; **3** John Salmon; **HG** Faye Williams 532; **HW** Joanna Moss **BRONZER** 135

**B DIVISION:** 1 Naomi Zion; **2** Chris Sanders; **3** Marge Roberts; **HG** Naomi Zion 442; **HW** Naomi Zion **PROVIDE** 92

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### 07.12.2025 Graham Bell Memorial

**OPEN:** 1 Ian Ting; **2** Benjamin Lee; **3** Louise Love; **HG** David Vanzyl 597; **HW** Ian Ting **RAMBLING** 98

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### 11.01.2026 January Open 2026

**OPEN:** 1 Howard Rayner; **2** Jegatheva Jegathesan; **3** Susan Rayner; **HG** Howard Rayner 560; **HW** Judy Godfrey **FOXIEST** 1150

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## CASPA Office Holders

*All National (CASPA) Officer positions become vacant each year at the AGM held on Good Friday. If you would like to stand as a candidate for any position, please submit your proposal to the CASPA Coordinator.*

*The positions are:*

- **CASPA Coordinator;**
- **Newsletter Editor ATB;**
- **Trademark (Mattel) Liaison Officer;**
- **Youth Coordinator;**
- **Youth Coach;**
- **Treasurer;**
- **Rules Officer;**
- **Web Coordinator and Ratings Officer**

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## Reverse Puzzle Reveal

*From page 9*

*The list of words anagram from languages or national identities. (Asterisk \* indicates not allowable).*

1. **LAOTIAN\*** ➔ **ALATION**
2. **NEPALI\*** ➔ **ALPINE**
3. **NIGERIAN\*** ➔ **ARGININE**
4. **BURMESE\*** ➔ **EMBRUES**
5. **ESTONIAN\*** ➔ **ENATIONS**
6. **FLEMISH** ➔ **HIMSELF**
7. **GERMAN** ➔ **MANGER**
8. **MONROVIA\*** ➔ **OMNIVORA**
9. **PERSIAN\*** ➔ **PANIERS**
10. **CROATIAN\*** ➔ **RAINCOAT**
11. **ALGERIAN\*** ➔ **REGALIAN**
12. **DANISH** ➔ **SANDHI**
13. **ENGLISH** ➔ **SHINGLE**
14. **SWEDISH\*** ➔ **SWISHED**
15. **ERITREAN\*** ➔ **RETAINER**
16. **LATVIAN\*** ➔ **VALIANT**

*If you have an idea for future puzzles please let us know –  
[editor@scrabble.org.au](mailto:editor@scrabble.org.au)*

# National Ratings

at 15 February 2026

*Every player currently financial, active and with a rating in Australia is listed here.  
This is how the ratings stand on the date above as taken from the website.*

1	David Eldar	VIC	2087	56	Alan Burn	VIC	1500
2	Andrew Fisher	VIC	2018	57	Garth van Vliet	NSW	1493
3	Jakob Teitelbaum	NSW	2000	58	Martin Rose	TAS	1491
4	Edward Okulicz	NSW	1970	59	Benjamin Lee	WA	1490
5	Cameron Farlow	QLD	1956	60	Paul Richards	QLD	1488
6	Peter Kougi	VIC	1923	61	Jane Brown	QLD	1484
7	Naween Fernando	VIC	1907	62	Guy Newsham	QLD	1482
8	Ayorinde Saidu	VIC	1889	63	Karen Richards	QLD	1480
9	Josh Watt	NSW	1871	64	Jyoti Chandna	NSW	1478
10	Esther Perrins	NSW	1860	65	Ray Alford	VIC	1478
11	Sam Amarasinghe	QLD	1848	66	Rocky Sharma	NSW	1477
12	Trevor Halsall	VIC	1810	67	Liz Blanch	QLD	1465
13	Michael Hornung	VIC	1797	68	Greg Pinchbeck	NSW	1461
14	Victor Tung	NSW	1760	69	Phillip Hamilton	NSW	1461
15	Bob Jackman	NSW	1755	70	Antonios Syrigos	SA	1458
16	Joanne Craig	NSW	1753	71	Carol Johnsen	VIC	1453
17	Russell Honeybun	WA	1753	72	Bobby Malela Hutagal	VIC	1452
18	Daniel Piechnick	SA	1753	73	Antony Kimber	SA	1435
19	Ryan Sutton	NSW	1744	74	Helen Hynes	QLD	1434
20	David Vanzyl	WA	1740	75	Marianne Bentley	VIC	1421
21	Adam Kretschmer	SA	1733	76	Karrin Hendersson	QLD	1417
22	Noel Barrett	ACT	1722	77	Therese Nichols	NSW	1414
23	John Spaan	ACT	1717	78	Gwen Lampre	VIC	1410
24	Nick Ivanovski	VIC	1715	79	Steven Savona	NSW	1409
25	Oscar Ivanovski	VIC	1710	80	Susan Rayner	WA	1409
26	Max Mason	SA	1708	81	Jegatheva Jegathesan	WA	1408
27	Rod Talbot	NSW	1706	82	Rex Shakespeare	VIC	1406
28	Fadlan Satria	VIC	1700	83	Khen Meerding	TAS	1404
29	Stephen Mooney-Pursell	TAS	1696	84	Tony Williams	ACT	1399
30	Carmel Dodd	QLD	1693	85	Peter Shaw	NSW	1397
31	John Holgate	NSW	1689	86	Geoff Shepheard	WA	1395
32	John Hamilton	ACT	1688	87	Margaret Webb	TAS	1395
33	Ronnie Bennett	ACT	1682	88	Rob Hutchinson	VIC	1387
34	Tony Miller	SA	1650	89	Dianne Davis	VIC	1385
35	Tony Hunt	NSW	1648	90	Kashi Thiris	VIC	1374
36	Ian Ting	WA	1631	91	Edie Mueller	WA	1373
37	Graeme Lock Lee	NSW	1613	92	Arnold Appelhof	QLD	1373
38	Ryan Anderson	QLD	1606	93	Sheryl Davidson	QLD	1372
39	Sally Martin	WA	1598	94	Kerry Constable	NSW	1367
40	Geoff Wright	VIC	1591	95	Madeleine Emerson	ACT	1366
41	Julie Brice	QLD	1587	96	Faye Williams	WA	1365
42	Jon Ford-King	TAS	1573	97	Michael Vnuk	SA	1354
43	Howard Rayner	WA	1568	98	Barry Harridge	VIC	1352
44	Chris Hall	WA	1554	99	Louise Love	WA	1351
45	Dianne Brumby	NSW	1550	100	Brenton Gray	QLD	1346
46	Dianne Ward	WA	1548	101	Alex Leckie-Zaharic	VIC	1345
47	Malcolm McAnulty	SA	1547	102	Craig Murdoch	VIC	1344
48	Jane Taylor	SA	1540	103	Neil McLean	VIC	1344
49	Nat Podesser	VIC	1539	104	Diyath Visidagamage	NSW	1344
50	Oliver Jenner-O'Shea	SA	1519	105	Ivor Zetler	NSW	1343
51	Anne Zion	WA	1518	106	Tim Reddan	ACT	1341
52	Chris Scholten	VIC	1517	107	Lainie Mercieca	VIC	1341
53	Nathan Tang	NSW	1511	108	Peter Griffiths	NSW	1340
54	Heather Long	VIC	1505	109	Jenny Brysha	VIC	1337
55	Ryan Gray	QLD	1502	110	Ashwin Page	QLD	1324

111	Rowena Vnuk	SA	1323	171	Yvette Copley	QLD	1188
112	Alex Boiko	ACT	1322	172	Tracy Bui	NSW	1187
113	Shaun Donnelly	VIC	1320	173	Julie Krieg	SA	1179
114	Mardi Healy	VIC	1318	174	Penny Wells	TAS	1178
115	Olga Visser	QLD	1316	175	Finola Carey	NSW	1178
116	Judy Godfrey	WA	1316	176	Ryder Lo	NSW	1173
117	Tracey Kneebone	SA	1316	177	Tei Ngatai	SA	1173
118	Martin Waterworth	QLD	1313	178	Linda Weiss	VIC	1167
119	Ian Tsoi Yin	SA	1313	179	Marion Miller	NSW	1165
120	Chris Ostrowski	NSW	1309	180	Wendi Symes	SA	1165
121	Vinh Nguyen	NSW	1308	181	Stephen Saunders	ACT	1161
122	Pam Bennett	NSW	1302	182	Fiona Braendler	SA	1159
123	John Linney	NSW	1296	183	Yvonne Edwards	NSW	1157
124	Frank Csarics	VIC	1293	184	Oliver Podesser	VIC	1156
125	Margaret Neal	NSW	1292	185	Susan Roberts	SA	1152
126	Roberta Tait	QLD	1291	186	Karen Woodhead	QLD	1147
127	Moana Nepia	NSW	1287	187	Heather Bernstein	NSW	1147
128	Caroline Polak Scowcroft	ACT	1281	188	David Grounds	NSW	1144
129	Justin Moyle	VIC	1281	189	Pat Hudson	SA	1142
130	John Salmon	WA	1279	190	James Connor	QLD	1140
131	Margaret Griggs	TAS	1278	191	Dieter Jedamski	SA	1139
132	Julie Pampling	QLD	1278	192	Rhonda Reynish	WA	1139
133	Irene Poh	QLD	1277	193	Kim Grayson	NSW	1138
134	Francoise Finlayson	SA	1275	194	Vicki Russell	QLD	1137
135	Owen Randall	ACT	1274	195	Betty Smith	TAS	1136
136	Colleen Birch	NSW	1269	196	Kay Anderson	QLD	1135
137	Kris Howat	VIC	1265	197	Ben Munson	QLD	1129
138	Richard Birch	NSW	1264	198	John Minas	VIC	1127
139	John Rider	VIC	1255	199	Yannick Theriault	QLD	1127
140	Judy Mansfield	SA	1250	200	Helen Jones	SA	1125
141	Monica Dwyer	NSW	1249	201	Jan Irwin	QLD	1125
142	Angie Pearse	SA	1240	202	Tony Kalayzich	NSW	1122
143	Tim Walton	QLD	1239	203	Bernadette Donehue	TAS	1122
144	Glenys Logan	QLD	1233	204	Stephen Morrow	NSW	1121
145	Sandy McConnell	TAS	1233	205	Josie Mally	NSW	1120
146	Rob York	VIC	1232	206	Alex Timpano	NSW	1119
147	Hailey Sutton	NSW	1230	207	Glen Chandler	VIC	1118
148	Victoria Gates	SA	1230	208	Jenny Schafer	QLD	1115
149	Janet Bau	VIC	1230	209	Cheryl Michler	NSW	1114
150	Lexia Smallwood	ACT	1229	210	Jill Paterson	QLD	1114
151	Kerry Reimers	QLD	1227	211	Donna Sekkouah	WA	1113
152	Teresa Dean	SA	1221	212	James Ives	ACT	1111
153	Margaret Bishop	TAS	1217	213	Cori Lodder	WA	1110
154	Rob Marotta	SA	1217	214	Lexie Neale	NSW	1106
155	Janine Whittaker	NSW	1216	215	Karyn Crease	SA	1102
156	Jeffery Lam	NSW	1213	216	Vincent Nguyen	ACT	1100
157	Bill Doherty	VIC	1211	217	Gail Hamilton	QLD	1100
158	Christie Godby	VIC	1206	218	Kelvin Korn	NSW	1099
159	Keri Heart	NSW	1204	219	Baheej Al Kassem	SA	1096
160	Yan Rui Ko	QLD	1204	220	Natalie Tadday	NSW	1093
161	Ros Wilkinson	TAS	1202	221	Sandra Elliott	NSW	1093
162	Maureen See	QLD	1200	222	Anne Hough	QLD	1088
163	Harry Hubber	NSW	1200	223	Julie Robins	SA	1086
164	Jan Hill	TAS	1198	224	Josef Peeters	QLD	1086
165	Sharon Sorensen	NSW	1196	225	Jessica Richards	VIC	1086
166	Katie Rowe	WA	1195	226	Alan Mathews	WA	1085
167	Anne Stewart	WA	1192	227	Khwanjai Thammaaping	VIC	1085
168	Paula Messer	VIC	1189	228	Michael Sacco	VIC	1084
169	Noel Coulter	VIC	1188	229	Kara Eddington	NSW	1083
170	Nancy Sparling	SA	1188	230	Fiona Meredith	QLD	1083

<b>231</b>	Ruth Jones	QLD	1081	<b>291</b>	Terry Horan	ACT	973
<b>232</b>	Jayanthi Viswanathan	VIC	1080	<b>292</b>	David Eddington	NSW	973
<b>233</b>	Tony Patterson	NSW	1078	<b>293</b>	Ted De Boer	QLD	973
<b>234</b>	Julie Carr	VIC	1078	<b>294</b>	Mischa Beecham	QLD	970
<b>235</b>	Gerard Imer	NSW	1076	<b>295</b>	Cherry Chapman	VIC	968
<b>236</b>	Zachary Young	NSW	1076	<b>296</b>	Neal Whibley	SA	965
<b>237</b>	Roslyn Murphy	QLD	1071	<b>297</b>	Valerie Beck	WA	962
<b>238</b>	Julie Walder	QLD	1070	<b>298</b>	Aaron Tran	NSW	961
<b>239</b>	Sherie Brown	QLD	1068	<b>299</b>	Mark Gillespie	VIC	960
<b>240</b>	Michael Smitheram	VIC	1068	<b>300</b>	Kenn Rawlings	SA	958
<b>241</b>	Nathan Bennett	SA	1066	<b>301</b>	Tracey Michel	QLD	955
<b>242</b>	Graham Bradley	QLD	1063	<b>302</b>	Neil Leow	NSW	955
<b>243</b>	Lynne Jarvis	TAS	1062	<b>303</b>	Janet Kirk	WA	951
<b>244</b>	Joanna Moss	WA	1062	<b>304</b>	Joanne Mujic	VIC	946
<b>245</b>	Pam Thomas	TAS	1061	<b>305</b>	Henny Yates	WA	942
<b>246</b>	Cecilia Khoo	NSW	1060	<b>306</b>	Sam Pizzano	ACT	939
<b>247</b>	Suzanne Healey	SA	1056	<b>307</b>	John Halim	NSW	935
<b>248</b>	Nicholas Chin	QLD	1056	<b>308</b>	Julie Bingham	TAS	931
<b>249</b>	Krystyna Batten	NSW	1051	<b>309</b>	Shruthi M Suresh	QLD	925
<b>250</b>	Delys Carbon	WA	1051	<b>310</b>	Sunny Wright	NSW	923
<b>251</b>	Carol Mascitti	VIC	1050	<b>311</b>	Margaret Sella	SA	921
<b>252</b>	Marion Merickel	TAS	1048	<b>312</b>	Eddi Kewley	NSW	916
<b>253</b>	Susan MacGillivray	ACT	1045	<b>313</b>	Chris Sanders	WA	915
<b>254</b>	Angie Winkler	VIC	1043	<b>314</b>	Oscar Thompson	NSW	915
<b>255</b>	Rebecca Hill	ACT	1038	<b>315</b>	Louisa Atsas	SA	914
<b>256</b>	Tim Guidera	SA	1036	<b>316</b>	Jeanette Hansen	QLD	912
<b>257</b>	Elize Plaganyi	QLD	1035	<b>317</b>	Megan Marks	QLD	908
<b>258</b>	Sue Fullerton	NSW	1035	<b>318</b>	Charlotte Middleton	NSW	903
<b>259</b>	Emmanuelle Pratt	SA	1034	<b>319</b>	Kelvin Nguyen	NSW	903
<b>260</b>	Sheela Sree Kumar	NSW	1033	<b>320</b>	Julie Szabo	QLD	901
<b>261</b>	Lola Smith	QLD	1033	<b>321</b>	Cecilia Willis	ACT	900
<b>262</b>	Anna Palmer	QLD	1032	<b>322</b>	Lynne Goodinson	VIC	898
<b>263</b>	Andrew Smith	NSW	1032	<b>323</b>	Maree Swanson	TAS	896
<b>264</b>	Mal Eden	VIC	1030	<b>324</b>	Shukanya Prachi	QLD	896
<b>265</b>	Virginia Christian	QLD	1028	<b>325</b>	Pepita Ridgeway Nich	QLD	896
<b>266</b>	Denise Smith	NSW	1026	<b>326</b>	Bronya Todd	QLD	895
<b>267</b>	John Barker	NSW	1021	<b>327</b>	Liz Jackman	NSW	890
<b>268</b>	Jean Noonan	NSW	1020	<b>328</b>	Devorah Ullman	NSW	890
<b>269</b>	Warren Hancock	QLD	1019	<b>329</b>	Annette Casey	VIC	888
<b>270</b>	Dorothy Barraclough	VIC	1018	<b>330</b>	Lucas Luu	NSW	885
<b>271</b>	Arlene Williams	ACT	1018	<b>331</b>	Jenny Coetzee	WA	881
<b>272</b>	Kathryn Tiffen	NSW	1013	<b>332</b>	Naomi Zion	WA	879
<b>273</b>	Greg Hopson	NSW	1010	<b>333</b>	Elizabeth McKean	VIC	873
<b>274</b>	Kerri Friend	NSW	1010	<b>334</b>	Oliver Klistorner	NSW	871
<b>275</b>	Donna MacDonald	NSW	1008	<b>335</b>	Isabelle Levantard	NSW	871
<b>276</b>	Angela Thomson	VIC	1003	<b>336</b>	Marge Roberts	WA	870
<b>277</b>	Patti Ashwin	QLD	1002	<b>337</b>	Diana McManus	QLD	868
<b>278</b>	Linda Gomes	QLD	1001	<b>338</b>	Kathleen Maher	QLD	868
<b>279</b>	David Duyzer	QLD	1000	<b>339</b>	Andrea Twell	ACT	866
<b>280</b>	George Papp	QLD	999	<b>340</b>	Jenny Templeton	NSW	861
<b>281</b>	Sean Hector	NSW	997	<b>341</b>	Menchie Lowe	NSW	860
<b>282</b>	Margaret Berliner	NSW	988	<b>342</b>	James Stark	VIC	856
<b>283</b>	Adi Idham Siregar	VIC	988	<b>343</b>	Menschie Lowe	NSW	855
<b>284</b>	Maureen Gill	WA	984	<b>344</b>	Dean Clohesy	VIC	852
<b>285</b>	Cindy Brunniche	TAS	982	<b>345</b>	Ildiko Plaganyi	QLD	851
<b>286</b>	Liz Catchpole	QLD	982	<b>346</b>	John Freeman	VIC	850
<b>287</b>	Julie Hanson	VIC	982	<b>347</b>	Sean Daly	ACT	850
<b>288</b>	Carol Rollmann	VIC	981	<b>348</b>	Chi Wai Lo	NSW	848
<b>289</b>	Jane Li	SA	980	<b>349</b>	Jithuni Vidana	VIC	848
<b>290</b>	Dorothy Fields	NSW	975	<b>350</b>	Julie Banister	NSW	846

<b>351</b>	Thanu Sriskantharaja	WA	836	<b>411</b>	Jimmy Nguyen	NSW	709
<b>352</b>	Nick Belloff	QLD	836	<b>412</b>	Robyn Davill	SA	707
<b>353</b>	Etty Meerding	TAS	835	<b>413</b>	Maureen Harrison	QLD	699
<b>354</b>	Samuel Sedgman	QLD	833	<b>414</b>	Tristan Hon	NSW	697
<b>355</b>	Katherine Boniadian	NSW	832	<b>415</b>	Fintan Conway	VIC	694
<b>356</b>	Carol Hudson	WA	831	<b>416</b>	David Bergman	QLD	693
<b>357</b>	Leonie Balsley	TAS	825	<b>417</b>	Henry Connor	QLD	691
<b>358</b>	Estrella Ilete	NSW	824	<b>418</b>	Jonathan Lans	QLD	687
<b>359</b>	Anthony Yap	QLD	823	<b>419</b>	Arlene Smith	VIC	685
<b>360</b>	Hen Ridgeon	QLD	823	<b>420</b>	Kevin Lam	NSW	684
<b>361</b>	Elaine Killen	QLD	820	<b>421</b>	Mary Wilmott	QLD	682
<b>362</b>	Elana Jaremyn	SA	819	<b>422</b>	Ngun Hre	VIC	676
<b>363</b>	Warren Payne	NSW	819	<b>423</b>	Harrison Tran	NSW	676
<b>364</b>	Vera Etherton	WA	817	<b>424</b>	Maxine Baker	WA	675
<b>365</b>	Eileen Mills	VIC	814	<b>425</b>	Tessa Knight	VIC	671
<b>366</b>	Margaret Bougie	QLD	812	<b>426</b>	Erica O'Connor	QLD	668
<b>367</b>	Huy Lam	NSW	811	<b>427</b>	Gia Pylris	SA	667
<b>368</b>	Jayden Hall	VIC	811	<b>428</b>	Kieran Phinith	NSW	666
<b>369</b>	Carol Crawford	WA	809	<b>429</b>	Danny Evers	NSW	659
<b>370</b>	Paula Brown	SA	804	<b>430</b>	Raymond Tri	NSW	653
<b>371</b>	Emanuel Atsas	SA	797	<b>431</b>	Peter Bailey	NSW	652
<b>372</b>	Meighan Hall	QLD	791	<b>432</b>	Sam Lee	NSW	652
<b>373</b>	Jacinta Smith	QLD	789	<b>433</b>	Jeff Danaher	ACT	650
<b>374</b>	Megan Allford	QLD	788	<b>434</b>	Margaret Inglis	QLD	649
<b>375</b>	Clare Millar	VIC	787	<b>435</b>	Janelle Seal	NSW	647
<b>376</b>	Ann Fiddler	NSW	786	<b>436</b>	Jaelene Mesa	NSW	629
<b>377</b>	Vincent Nuon	NSW	783	<b>437</b>	Rena Aitken	VIC	626
<b>378</b>	Rachel Telfer	SA	782	<b>438</b>	Arham Shenhzad	NSW	626
<b>379</b>	Pauline Coulter	WA	780	<b>439</b>	Rendra Yap	QLD	624
<b>380</b>	Diana Hilly	NSW	774	<b>440</b>	Karam Idwer	NSW	619
<b>381</b>	Marcus Robertson	ACT	772	<b>441</b>	Mary Camilleri	NSW	617
<b>382</b>	Bryson Johnson	QLD	767	<b>442</b>	Ross McDougall	SA	612
<b>383</b>	Jo Anne Deady	NSW	766	<b>443</b>	Charley Rouse	NSW	611
<b>384</b>	Roland Page	QLD	766	<b>444</b>	Sonya Froment	NSW	608
<b>385</b>	Alvin Korn	NSW	765	<b>445</b>	Wara Rizvi	ACT	603
<b>386</b>	Bettina Tonkin	WA	749	<b>446</b>	Gaile Clark	QLD	602
<b>387</b>	Tricia Quinn	QLD	749	<b>447</b>	Rita van Lieshout	QLD	602
<b>388</b>	Lyn Reitano	NSW	747	<b>448</b>	Hugh Boveington	ACT	601
<b>389</b>	Graham Murphy	QLD	747	<b>449</b>	Althea Wright	VIC	601
<b>390</b>	Brendan Tia	NSW	745	<b>450</b>	Maureen Heslop	ACT	598
<b>391</b>	Michael Smith	WA	740	<b>451</b>	June Lewis	WA	597
<b>392</b>	Ethan Tenaglia	TAS	740	<b>452</b>	Danira De Silva	QLD	596
<b>393</b>	Cheryl Lockwood	QLD	740	<b>453</b>	Anne Barron	NSW	595
<b>394</b>	Pauline Young	VIC	738	<b>454</b>	Jayco Lo	NSW	593
<b>395</b>	Christine Fuoco	NSW	738	<b>455</b>	Stephanie Agius	VIC	592
<b>396</b>	Del Stitz	VIC	737	<b>456</b>	Nick Johnson	NSW	590
<b>397</b>	Lucy Dodd	QLD	726	<b>457</b>	Wendy Drake	SA	589
<b>398</b>	Rosie Whalen	VIC	725	<b>458</b>	Jan Wibrow	QLD	589
<b>399</b>	Rosemary Luyendyk	QLD	722	<b>459</b>	Kaye Campbell	VIC	584
<b>400</b>	Cora Cikaric	NSW	720	<b>460</b>	Heather Bowles	VIC	584
<b>401</b>	Nancy Hargrave	NSW	720	<b>461</b>	Angelina Nguyen	NSW	583
<b>402</b>	Rudolf Puntschuh	NSW	719	<b>462</b>	Carmel Payne	VIC	577
<b>403</b>	James Lo	NSW	717	<b>463</b>	Olwen Steel	VIC	577
<b>404</b>	Phi Long Ma	NSW	716	<b>464</b>	Justin Eng	NSW	573
<b>405</b>	Eric Phan	NSW	716	<b>465</b>	Anne Pragnell	QLD	568
<b>406</b>	Val Martin	VIC	714	<b>466</b>	Rebecca Hughes	QLD	568
<b>407</b>	Laiken Lam	NSW	714	<b>467</b>	Nicole Lowe	VIC	567
<b>408</b>	Suraj Kolarkar	QLD	713	<b>468</b>	Luke Brattoni	NSW	567
<b>409</b>	Emil Makara	VIC	711	<b>469</b>	William Tran	NSW	566
<b>410</b>	Emily Robertson	VIC	709	<b>470</b>	Tiara Huynh	NSW	562

471	Tim Whiting	NSW	558	531	Carole Ruggiero	VIC	500
472	Celina Liu	NSW	558	532	Kate Black	QLD	500
473	Rizwan Lotia	VIC	557	533	Lewis Otto	QLD	500
474	Anne Talbot	NSW	555	534	Janice Young	VIC	500
475	Babette Urban	QLD	553	535	Ana Rose Palatty	ACT	500
476	Andrew Thorpe	WA	552	536	Jacqui Olsen	QLD	500
477	Albert Wang	NSW	552	537	Hannah Wood	NSW	500
478	Debbie Hedrick	QLD	551	538	Shindy Oluwole	ACT	500
479	Robert Paxton	NSW	550	539	Marion East	VIC	500
480	Vanessa Pham	NSW	545	540	Ibrahim Khan	VIC	500
481	Sabrina Luton	QLD	543	541	Ryan Cuninghame	NSW	500
482	Amy Sedgman	QLD	542	542	Anne Choy	NSW	500
483	Keena Tri	NSW	540	543	Giselle Hargrave	NSW	500
484	Edrick Long	NSW	540	544	Gary Roberts	NSW	500
485	Amy Ngo	NSW	540	545	Randi Hidayat	VIC	500
486	Divine Nillos	NSW	537	546	Virsa Aka	VIC	500
487	Tisa Ng	NSW	534	547	Jennifer Jarrard	VIC	500
488	Geoff Watts	QLD	534	548	Hayden Campbell	VIC	500
489	Ashley Korn	NSW	533	549	Nary Sinh	NSW	500
490	Carolyn Miller	VIC	532	550	Lyn Hall	QLD	500
491	Angela Ngo	NSW	531	551	Jenny Whitehead	QLD	500
492	Micaiah Lam	NSW	530	552	Jill Sandberg	QLD	500
493	Lucas Hogan	WA	527	553	Judith Bone	QLD	500
494	Martin Yousif	VIC	524	554	Marian Batley	QLD	500
495	Elly Spiteri	VIC	523	555	Rosa Westrup	QLD	500
496	Ros Haines	WA	521	556	Sarah Clark	QLD	500
497	Elaine McGinnes	VIC	520	557	Muntaha Humayrah	NSW	500
498	Helen Giblett	NSW	517	558	Ryan Phantharangsy	NSW	500
499	Anne Bates	NSW	515	559	Sunaira Sadi	NSW	500
500	Jay-Hanz Mesa	NSW	505	560	Thomas Hanna	NSW	500
501	Rebeccah Booth	WA	502	561	Rosalie Young	NSW	500
502	Julie Bailey	NSW	500	562	Michael Spiteri	VIC	500
503	Faye Burt	NSW	500	563	Hamish McPherson	NSW	500
504	Claire Choong	NSW	500	564	Daniel Bouten	VIC	500
505	Eva Kharouni	QLD	500	565	Khai Nguyen	NSW	500
506	Pat Borrett	QLD	500	566	My Huynh	NSW	500
507	Louise Player	QLD	500	567	Micah Cheung	NSW	500
508	James Dinh	SA	500	568	Paul Vlassopoulos	VIC	500
509	Selena Kuch	NSW	500	569	Lexi Steinberg	ACT	500
510	Nayu Vuppala	ACT	500	570	Daniel Fu	QLD	500
511	Felix Pham	NSW	500	571	Lachlan Randolph	QLD	500
512	Victoria Louis	NSW	500	572	Simon Wilson-Ahap	QLD	500
513	Henry Szulc	SA	500	573	Darius Zarghami	QLD	500
514	Kalani Hettiarachchi	QLD	500	574	Marion Slattery	QLD	500
515	Rose Cuninghame	NSW	500	575	Anne-Marie Howarth	QLD	500
516	Kevin Boun	NSW	500	576	Heather Peall	QLD	500
517	Edward Hung	SA	500	577	Kay Goatham	QLD	500
518	Zachary Soutanich	NSW	500	578	Naida Illes	NSW	500
519	Alice Alzohayri	NSW	500	579	Katherine Johnson	NSW	500
520	Tofarati Oluwole	ACT	500	580	Clara Markoulis	NSW	500
521	Kathryn Edney	VIC	500	581	Andrei Ofrim	QLD	500
522	Natalie Page	QLD	500	582	Iti Connor	QLD	500
523	Tunmi Olupona	QLD	500	583	Henry Lam	NSW	500
524	Joy Enevers	QLD	500	584	Maggie Quach	NSW	500
525	Ilona Smith	QLD	500	585	Cath Sweeney	QLD	500
526	Marita Costello	QLD	500	586	Yenny Ng	NSW	500
527	Sarah Klistorner	NSW	500	587	William Sim	NSW	500
528	Deyana Rizvi	ACT	500	588	Rand Low	QLD	500
529	Ryan Zheng	NSW	500				
530	Adam Al-Quroufuli	NSW	500				

# Records 2026 so far...

at 7 February 2026

<i>High game score</i>	<b>616</b>	Andrew Fisher 616 against Joanne Craig 372 at 25.01.2026 CITY OF SYDNEY MASTERS
<i>Large game margin</i>	<b>375</b>	Cameron Farlow 593 against Brenton Gray 218 at 18.01.2026 Logan Clovers
<i>High drawn game</i>	<b>437</b>	Susan MacGillivray and Dorothy Fields at 25.01.2026 CITY OF SYDNEY MASTERS
<i>High combined score</i>	<b>1003</b>	Edward Okulicz 550 and Garth Van Vliet 453 at 10.01.2026 JANBOREE
<i>High average score</i>	<b>507.5</b>	(8 games) Cameron Farlow at 18.01.2026 Logan Clovers
<i>High average spread</i>	<b>214.2</b>	(8 games) Cameron Farlow at 18.01.2026 Logan Clovers
<i>High losing score</i>	<b>489</b>	Daniel Piechnick 489 lost to Rowena Vnuk 491 at 18.01.2026 Mel Leckie
<i>Long winning streak</i>	<b>11</b>	(7+4) Esther Perrins at 10.01.2026 JANBOREE and 25.01.2026 CITY OF SYDNEY MASTERS
<i>High word</i>	<b>177</b>	<b>STIFFEST:</b> Ryan Gray at 18.01.2026 Logan Clovers
<i>Games this year</i>	<b>39</b>	Tony Hunt (39), Karen Richards (35), Paul Richards (35), Edward Okulicz (34)
<i>High opening score</i>	<b>0</b>	No record received
<i>High play, not bonus</i>	<b>0</b>	No record received
<i>High play, not triple triple</i>	<b>0</b>	No record received
<i>Long word</i>	<b>0</b>	No record received
<i>Many bingos</i>	<b>0</b>	No record received
<i>Many consecutive bingos</i>	<b>0</b>	No record received

Generated by records using archived data plus a small data file.

Can you better these? Let us know.

## Malta Scrabble Report

I'd heard plenty of good things about the annual Malta scrabble tournament and I'd always wanted to visit Malta. My fellow West Australian Sally Martin said she was planning to enter in 2025 so I jumped at the opportunity to play as well. I travelled to Germany first to visit my sister and brother-in-law for nearly 2 weeks. They live right on the Rhine in a little Reisling producing town called Bacharach which is REALLY nice.

Sally and I flew in separately on the same day 3 days before the main Malta tournament, which allowed us to recover and do some sightseeing. There are actually 3 tournaments: a pre-tournament, the main event (Fri-Sun) and a post tournament. There is also a guided tour of Malta on the Monday immediately following the main event. The tournament was run in a venue in the heart of Valletta, the capital.

For someone coming from WA, Malta is really small (316 km<sup>2</sup>) but it is packed with history. It has been occupied by various countries in many conflicts over the centuries but it has

also famously resisted occupation (WWII). The harbours are defended by impressive forts which you can visit (I did). Malta is now a fully independent country in the European union. Its main industry is tourism and its tourism has expanded greatly even in just the last 10 years.

I didn't bother hiring a car, intending instead to get around by ferry or bus. On Wednesday we looked around Valletta and toured Fort st Elmo. On the Thursday I took the ferry to the 3 cities of Vittoriosa (Birgu), Senglea (Isla) and Cospicua (Bormla). Malta is a very undulating and rocky country (even the ploughed fields have rocks in them) so you have to be prepared to walk up and down hills – plenty of steps.

The tournament itself was a 25 game event (9 games on the first 2 days and 7 on the last). The players were split into 2 divisions, the top division having 22 players. There were some aspects to the tournament that were not very organised. Things were complicated when a player withdrawal meant that the organiser (and tournament director) Nicky Vella Laurenti



*View of the town Bacharach taken from amongst the vines*



*City of Valetta taken from the port*

ended up playing. Issues such as the draws not being displayed or printed anywhere and the website updates not working on the first day meant it was tricky to know who you were playing. Simple things like player nametags might have assisted here. But overall, I found these organisational issues to be endearing. Just the quirkiness of Malta.

Personally, I gave a pretty uninspiring tournament performance and finished second last in the A section, winning only 8 of my 25 games. Sally didn't fair much better with 8.5 wins. Here are the final results;

### **MISO17 Main Event**

But I can't say I was disappointed, I was just playing a bunch of good players. I made some mistakes, particularly around which words to challenge and which not to. The 5 point challenge penalty was still pretty new to me – the tournaments in Australia generally not having this rule. The tournament was won by Brit Mark Nyman a repeat Malta competitor who has won the event previously. The winner of the B section was American Lisa Mueller.

On the Monday after the tournament a bunch of the competitors were treated to a tour of the island by locals Dom Borg and his wife (Anna), including taking a ferry to the island Comino. We did get drenched there after being hit by unexpected rain, but had a most enjoyable day, getting to better know our hosts and the other players.

On subsequent days in Malta Sally and I visited the town of Rabat and the cojoined old city of M'dina with many buildings dating from the 16th century. We also went to the catacombs in Rabat, where some of the burial chambers have been dated to the 2nd century. Rabat and M'dina are both elevated so there are some good views to be had of other parts of Malta. And of course it is a bit hilly (did I mention steps?).

We then travelled to Sicily and spent several days in Catania and Syracuse with its neighbouring island city Ortigia. Ortigia is particularly picturesque.

This was my first international tournament and I certainly intend to do more. I would like to play in Malta again in the future. I'd certainly encourage you to do the same.

A group of Australians travelled to Berlin in November 2025, to compete against 56 international "oldies-but-goodies". World Seniors events are for those turning 55 in the year of the event. Overall Champion (26 wins) was Mark Nyman, 1993 World Champion and also former Seniors World Champion in 2023. Runner-up was Mike Baron, who is famous in North America for producing word study books. It was a first foray into playing Collins dictionary (CSW24) for Mike.

Carmel Dodd was the highest-finishing Australian (20 wins) but missed out on the Champion award for 75 to 79 age group to Mike Barron. Karen Richards was Champion in the 70 to 74 age group (19.5 wins). Other Australians who competed honourably were Joanne Craig (19), Paul Richards (18), Arnold Appelhof (15), Françoise Finlayson (10) and Elize Plaganyi (7 wins). It was serendipitous

for Megan Marks (10.5 wins), who had a house-sitting job in Berlin at that time. Despite being a few months short of the age requirement, she was allowed to be the reserve player (preventing a Bye).

After this event, a large group of players trained it to Budapest, Hungary, where we enjoyed playing the Continental Championship. That event was tightly contested by two Australians, Russell Honeybun (WA, but currently working in the Middle East) and Esther Perrins (NSW). It came down to their final game, where Esther prevailed. Arnold Appelhof (Qld) snatched a sizable monetary reward for performance within his rating band.

Seniors World Championship 2026 will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 11 to 13 September. This year, it is for anyone born 1971 or earlier.



Donna Stanton (UK) Karen Richards (Aust) Marlon Prudencio (Sing) Paul Richards (Aust) Megan Marks (Aust) Seniors having fun!

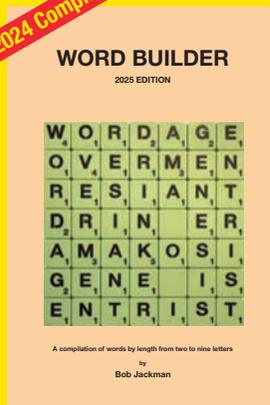
So this happened yesterday (27 January)! Thank you so much Helen Hynes, Gail H d'Ville Julie Walder and anyone else that may have been involved in nominating me. It's a real honour that you think that I am worthy – I'm not because there were so many amazing people there! They, and your regard for me, have inspired me to try and do more for the community (but not yesterday – I had to come home and have a nap after all the excitement).



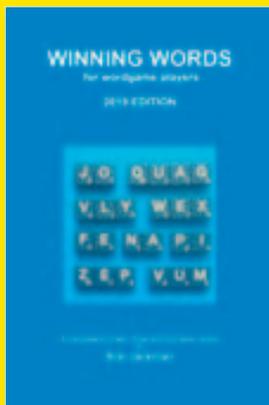
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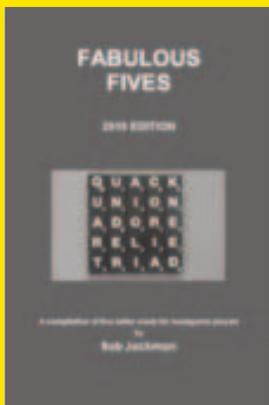
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