

VIOLET MARY FERNANDO (1926 – 2023)

Violet Fernando passed away peacefully in her sleep on 24 April 2023 at the ripe old age of 97 years. She was the oldest active bridge player in Malaysia and certainly one of the oldest in the world. She was the oldest member of the Malaysian Contract Bridge Association, an active player since the 1970's, and very well known amongst the bridge players in Malaysia. She served as Hon. Secretary of the Malaysian Contract Bridge Association 1976/1977 and several times in the Management Committee. She was also Hon. Secretary for the Singapore Contract Bridge Association for a short stint whilst working there.

Violet won the National Teams three times and the National Individuals event once. She was the second ranked lady players in Malaysia and fourth ranked player in the Malaysian Master Points Ranking at the end of 2022.

She represented Malaysia twice in the World Bridge Teams, and 10 times in the Ladies teams in the Asia Pacific Bridge Championships, the most of any Malaysian lady player. Her crowning achievement was winning the Ladies Team event in the 1989 Asean Bridge Club Championships.

In particular, her main contribution to the Malaysian bridge scene was running the popular Thursday morning duplicate at the Royal Selangor Club since time memorial. Anyone who has played there during the last thirty or more years will remember her outgoing personality and friendly yet firm manner. She also partook and enjoyed the social “after-bridge” events organised by the section. The Royal Selangor Club Bridge Section was very much part of her life as she was part of it.

The Managing Committee extends their condolences to Violet's daughter Kim and other family members.

We shall miss her very much but have no doubt she is now enjoying a great game in the vast Open room up there.