



Bridge: A MindSport For All
Connects People, Challenges Minds

Bridging Academia, Policy and Practice Monday 28 June – Thursday 1 July 2021 (online)

Welcome to the BAMSAs Conference 2021

At the end of June 2021, BAMSAs is hosting **Bridging Academia, Policy and Practice**, an online international bridge conference that brings together more than 60 presenters and panelists from 20 countries. We are grateful to the University of Stirling, the American Contract Bridge League Educational Foundation, the Scottish Bridge Union and the Leisure Studies Association for their support.

The conference is designed for academics, practitioners and policymakers. The sessions will provide a forum for presenters and participants to exchange ideas, review case studies and share good practice.

The event is open to anyone that cares about bridge and the sustainability of the game. Academics, bridge players, teachers and organisers are all welcome.

The conference will highlight the latest findings from BAMSAs's research network. It will showcase the ways in which academic research can inform policy and influence the grass-roots development of bridge as a mindsport.

The programme is varied in terms of format and participant engagement, balancing academic rigour with practical examples. The overall aim of the conference is to push the boundaries of current academic thinking and shape a future research agenda.

Broadly speaking, the sessions on the first and third day are theoretical in focus, and those on the second and fourth day are practical. Having said that, there will be academics and non-academics at every session, and presentations will be tailored to a mixed audience.

In addition to the live sessions, speakers and panelists have prepared recorded presentations in advance. The recordings are available to view on the BAMSAs website from May 2021. We strongly recommend participants watch the videos beforehand.

We very much hope you will join us for the BAMSAs 2021 Conference. The success of the event will depend on the engagement of a wide range of people from the world of academia and the world of bridge.

Professor Samantha Punch & the BAMSAs team

<https://bridgemindsport.org/bridging-academia-policy-practice-conference/>



DAY 1 – Bridge as a Mindsport

Mindsports in Academia and Society

Monday 28 June 2021 - Session 1A

13:00-15:00 (BST UK)

14:00-16:00 (CEST)

08:00-10:00 (EDT)

Welcome

Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

Opening Address

Gianarrigo Rona, President of the World Bridge Federation

Presentations

Bridge as a Mindsport in Research, in the Bridge World, in Society

Professor Samantha Punch, Dr Miriam Snellgrove and Zoe Russell (BAMSA)

Mind, Body and Confidence: Sociological Approaches to Emotion and the Physicality of Bridge

Dr David Scott (Sport and Exercise Sciences, Abertay University, Scotland)

Panel

Professor David Scott (Recreation, Parks and Tourism Services, Texas A&M University, USA)

Kim Frazer (Author of *Gaining the Mental Edge at Bridge*, 2019, Australia)

Dr Liat Hen-Herbst (Health Sciences, University of Ariel, Israel)

Dr David Scott (Sport and Exercise Sciences, Abertay University, Scotland)

Zoe Russell (BAMSA)

Advance Recorded Presentations

Studying Bridge: Lessons Learnt ►

Professor David Scott (Recreation, Parks and Tourism Services, Texas A&M University, USA)

The Growth of Contract Bridge as a Mindsport in China ►

Professor Shuxiang Zhao (School of Sport Science, Beijing Sport University, China)

Characteristics of Bridge Players in Israel: The Role of Motivation and Use of Cognitive Strategies ►

Liat Hen-Herbst, Yael Fogel and Sonya Meyer (Health Sciences, University of Ariel, Israel)

and Liron Lamash (Welfare and Health Sciences, University of Haifa, Israel)

Gaining the Mental Edge at Bridge ►

Kim Frazer: Interview with a Shooting Champion (Australia)

Playing with Emotions: The Management and Complexity of Emotion in an Elite Mindsport ►

Zoe Russell and Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

The Professional Bridge Player and Devotee Work ►

Dr Ian McIntosh (Sociology, University of Stirling), Zoe Russell and Sam Punch (BAMSA)

(Per)forming Identity in the Mindsport Bridge: Self, Partnership and Community ►

Professor Samantha Punch, Zoe Russell, Beth Cairns (academic paper)

Playing your Life: Developing Strategies and Managing Impressions in the Game of Bridge ►

Professor Samantha Punch, Dr Miriam Snellgrove (academic paper)

DAY 1 – Bridge as a Mindsport

Wellbeing and Bridge

Monday 28 June 2021 - Session 1B

16:30-18:30 (BST UK)

17:30-19:30 (CEST)

11:30-13:30 (EDT)

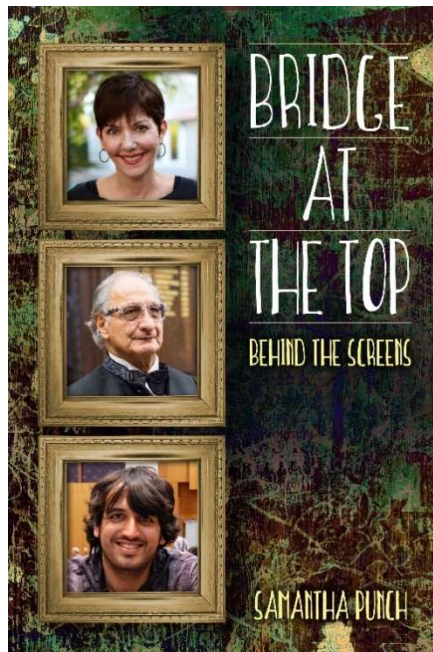
Welcome

Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)



Keynote Address: Wellbeing and Bridge

Professor Martin Seligman (Zellerbach Family Professor of Psychology and Director, Positive Psychology Center, at the University of Pennsylvania, USA)



Book Launch

Bridge at the Top: Behind the Screens (Master Point Press)

featuring

Author Samantha Punch

Bridge world champions Jill Levin and Chip Martel (USA)

Ray Lee (Master Point Press, Canada)

DAY 2 – New Bridge Normal: Opportunities and Challenges

Impact of a Global Pandemic on Bridge

Tuesday 29 June 2021 - Session 2A

11:30-13:30 (BST UK)

12:30-14:30 (CEST)

06:30-08:30 (EDT)

Presentations

Reconnecting with The Bridge Club: A Critical Understanding of Social Capital and Play during a Pandemic Kevin Judge (Sociology, University of Stirling, Scotland)

The New Normal: Bridge Club Perspective

Nicky Bainbridge (Bridge for Pleasure)

Ongoing and Future Impacts of Covid

Patrick Shields (Gloucestershire County Bridge Association and English Bridge Union)

Reflections on Covid Impacts from South Pacific Bridge Federation

Ben Thompson (President, SPBF)

Covid 19: From the Perspective of an International Bridge Organisation

Jan Kamras (President, European Bridge League)

The Digital and Face-to-Face Hybrid

Dr Miriam Snellgrove (BAMSA)

Panel Q&A

Christina Ballinger (Heritage Coast Bridge Club, England)

Paul Meyer (Essex Contract Bridge Association, England)

Espen Gisvold (Manchester County Bridge Association, England)

Tim Anderson (English Bridge Union)

Workshop

Small group discussion in break-out rooms

Advance Recorded Presentations

The ACBL Response to Lockdown ▶

Joe Jones (Executive Director, American Contract Bridge League)

Collaboration between Bridge Clubs in Suffolk Coastal during Lockdown ▶

Christina Ballinger (Heritage Coast Bridge Club, England)

A Survey of Bridge Players in Lockdown ▶

Paul Meyer (Essex Contract Bridge Association, England)

MCBA Lockdown Survey ▶

Espen Gisvold (Manchester County Bridge Association, England)

Digital Bridge during the Coronavirus Pandemic ▶

Dr Miriam Snellgrove (BAMSA)

How to Help Bridge Clubs Grow: The EBU's Membership Campaign ▶

Tim Anderson (English Bridge Union)

The Impact of Covid on Bridge Players: A Study of Some UK-Based Players ▶

Tony Hasler (Masters Student, University of London, England)

Australia – The Post Covid Experience ▶

Peter Cox (Head of Marketing, Australian Bridge Federation)

DAY 2 – Practical Session 1

Conference Pairs Tournament (16 boards)

Tuesday 29 June 2021

15:00-17:30 (BST UK)

16:00-18:30 (CEST)

10:00-12:30 (EDT)

Tournament Directors

Julia Palmer (Chief Tournament Director, Scottish Bridge Union)

José Júlio Curado (Registered European Bridge League Tournament Director)

Dilys Hall, Graham Evans, Christina Ballinger (Heritage Coast Bridge Club Tournament Directors)

Partnership Desk: Email bamsa@stir.ac.uk if you need a partner for the tournament

RealBridge Q&A

This live session will take place after the tournament prize giving

Graham Hazel (RealBridge Developer)

Shireen Mohandes (RealBridge Commercial Director)

DAY 2 – New Bridge Normal: Opportunities and Challenges

Digital Bridge and Cheating

Tuesday 29 June 2021 - Session 2B

19:30-21:30 (BST UK)

20:30-22:30 (CEST)

14:30-16:30 (EDT)

Presentations

Dishonest Behaviour in Online Bridge Tournaments during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dr Tihana Brkljačić (Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar in Zagreb and Catholic University of Croatia)

Cheating at Digital Bridge: Revisiting Moral Panics

Jordan Maclean (BAMSA)

Panel

Jan Kamras (President, European Bridge League)

Eric Laurant (World Bridge Federation Investigation Committee)

Boye Brogeland (World Champion Bridge Player, Norway)

Steve Weinstein (World Champion Bridge Player, Bridge Winners Partner, Professional Poker Player, USA)

Dr Tihana Brkljačić (Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Sciences, Zagreb, and Catholic University of Croatia)

Jordan Maclean (BAMSA)

Advance Recorded Presentations

Card Confessions: Unravelling Digital Bridge during Lockdown ►

Jordan Maclean and Michael Xu (BAMSA)

DAY 3 – Gender, Age and Intergenerationality in the Bridge Community

Bridging Generations

Wednesday 30 June 2021 - Session 3A

10:00-12:00 (BST UK)

11:00-13:00 (CEST)

05:00-07:00 (EDT)

Welcome

Ageing Well: An Introduction

Professor Alison Bowes

(Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Stirling, Scotland)

Presentations

Bridge Research with Older People and in Schools

Dr Marek Malysa (Bridge to the People Foundation, Poland)

Between Loneliness and Connection: Older Adults' Leisure during a Pandemic

Dr Miriam Snellgrove and Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

Social Identity, Ageing and the Role of Third-Places: Updates and Reflections

Polly Fong (Psychology, University of Queensland, Australia)

Inclusivity and Bridge

José Júlio Curado (Global Studies, Open University of Portugal, Madeira)

Intergenerationality and Bridge

Chris Panagiotaros (Social Work, Western Sydney University, Australia)

Advance Recorded Presentations

There's a bit of a ripple-effect: A Social Identity Perspective on the Role of Third-Places and Ageing in Place ►

Polly Fong, Professor Catherine Haslam, Dr Tegan Cruwys and Professor S A Haslam (Psychology, University of Queensland, Australia)

Mindsports in Competition: Globalisation and Socio-political Influence at the Local Level – the Case of Bridge ►

José Júlio Curado (Global Studies, Open University of Portugal, Madeira)

Building Bridges: Developing Community and Intergenerationality through Bridge ►

Chris Panagiotaros (Social Work, Western Sydney University, Australia)

Visit the BAMSA website

<https://bridgemindsport.org/bridging-academia-policy-practice-conference/>

Before the conference

Advance recorded presentations and additional resources are available to view on the BAMSA website

After the conference

Recordings of the conference sessions and slides of presentations will be posted on the BAMSA website after the event

DAY 3 – Gender, Age and Intergenerationality in the Bridge Community

Gender, Sexism and Bridge

Wednesday 30 June 2021 - Session 3B

15:00-17:00 (BST UK)

16:00-18:00 (CEST)

10:00-12:00 (EDT)

Introduction

Gender Inequalities and Bridge: An Overview of the Research

Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

Panel 1 Women's Bridge: Segregation Pros and Cons

Dr Ashley Rogers (School of Business, Law and Social Sciences, Abertay University, Scotland)

Sofie Græsholt Sjødal (Norway Under-26 Bridge Team Player and Bridge Teacher)

Mary Sharp (Bridge Teacher, England)

Mary Kelly Rogers (Bridge Player, Ireland, and European Bridge League Women's Sub-Committee)

Jan Kamras (European Bridge League)

Panel 2 Sexism within the Game: Solutions?

Laura Woodruff (Bridge Player, Wales)

Tracy Bauer (President of District 21, American Contract Bridge League)

Mitch Dunitz (Treasurer, American Contract Bridge League Educational Foundation)

Advance Recorded Presentations

Why we Need the Under-26 Women Category ►

Sofie Græsholt Sjødal (Norway Under-26 Bridge Team Player and Bridge Teacher)

Bridging Brains: Exploring Gendered Attitudes and Inequalities in a Mindsport ►

Samantha Punch, Liz Graham and Charlotte McPherson (Sociology, University of Stirling)

Bridging Women's Spaces: (Un)Equal Play in a Mindsport ►

Dr Ashley Rogers (School of Business, Law and Social Sciences, Abertay University) and Dr Miriam Snellgrove (BAMSA)

DAY 3 – Practical Session 2

Bridge Taster for First-timers

Wednesday 30 June 2021

18:30-20:30 (BST UK)

19:30-21:30 (CEST)

13:30-15:30 (EDT)

Presentation

Mini Bridge as a Way into Bridge

Fiona Greenwood (Scottish Bridge Union)

Advance Recorded Presentations

Bridge Basics ►

Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

DAY 4 – Learning, Education and Development in Bridge

New Approaches to Teaching and Recruitment

Thursday 1 July 2021 - Session 4A

13:00-15:00 (BST)

14:00-16:00 (CEST)

08:00-10:00 (EDT)

Introduction

Digital Learning: Opportunities and Challenges

Dr Terrie-Lynn Thompson (Digital Media and Professional Education, University of Stirling)

Panel 1 - Learning and Teaching Bridge

Rob Barrington (Bridge Teacher, USA)

Mary Sharp (Bridge Teacher, England)

Milan Macura (Bridge Player and Coach, Czech Republic)

Akiko Yanagisawa (Research Institute for Sports Business, Waseda University, Japan)

Stephanie Threlkeld (Marketing and Education Manager, American Contract Bridge League)

Panel 2 - School and Youth Bridge: Engaging and Retaining Learners

Sue Johnson (New Tricks, England)

Morten Bilde (Bridge Player, Denmark)

Marianne Harding (Norwegian Bridge Federation, Norway)

Michael Xu (Youth Bridge Association, USA)

Patty Tucker (Atlanta Junior Bridge, USA)

Reese Koppel (American Contract Bridge League Educational Foundation)

Advance Recorded Presentations

Pedagogy and Teaching Bridge ►

Mary Sharp (Bridge Teacher, England)

*Promotion of Contract Bridge as a MindSport:
Learning from the World's Expert Nations* ►

Akiko Yanagisawa (Waseda University Graduate
School of Sports Science, Japan)

Teaching Bridge ►

Rob Barrington (Bridge Teacher, USA)

Top Tips for Teaching Bridge to Children ►

Patty Tucker (Atlanta Junior Bridge, USA)

Expanding Bridge in Schools ►

Sue Johnson (New Tricks, England)

*Online Bridge Education: Teaching Teachers and
Teaching Beginners* ►

Stephanie Threlkeld (American Contract
Bridge League)

The YBA Enticing Young People to Learn Bridge ►

Michael Xu (Youth Bridge Association, USA)

Bridge It Up: Free Bridge Intro for Youth ►

Reese Koppel (Bridge It Up and ACBLEF)

Introducing Bridge into the School Curriculum ►

Norma Irwin and Norman Lacey (Northern Ireland Bridge Union)

Tools for Learning & Development

Road to Bridge: Nurturing Young Champions ►

Pritesh Chheda and Amaresh Deshpande
(Adhyayan Education, India)

and Deborah Drysdale (Planet Hool, USA)

Introducing the Bidding App bid72 ►

Jan van Cleeff and Team bid72 (Netherlands)

Tricky Bridge ►

Scott Hoffer (Tricky Bridge, USA)

DAY 4 – Learning, Education and Development in Bridge

Marketing Bridge & Conference Round-Up

Thursday 1 July 2021 - Session 4B

16:30-18:30 (BST UK)

17:30-19:30 (CEST)

11:30-13:30 (EDT)

Presentation

Developing a Marketing Strategy for Mindsport: Bridging Insights and Motivations
Esme Nicholson and Christina Ballinger (Bridge 2 Bridge) and Jordan Maclean (BAMSA)

Focus Groups

This interactive session will include live opinion polling and small group discussion

Advance Recorded Presentations

Thinking Outside the 'Bidding Box': Marketing Bridge to New Players ►
Esme Nicholson, Christina Ballinger and Professor Maurice Biriotti (Bridge 2 Bridge) and
Jordan Maclean and Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

*Serious Leisure Experience in A Mindsport: Elite Player Motivations and Participation in
Tournament Bridge* ►
Zoe Russell and Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

ACES & KNAVES: Images of Bridge ►
Jackie Paré (Filmmaker, USA) in conversation with Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

Refreshing the ACBL Brand ►
Mary Stratton (Director of Marketing, American Contract Bridge League)

The Marketing Challenges facing Bridge after Covid ►
Peter Cox (Head of Marketing, Australian Bridge Federation)

Conference Close

Reflections

Future Research and Implications for Bridge
Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

Panel

Dr Tihana Brkljačić (Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Sciences, Zagreb, and Catholic
University of Croatia)

Dr Marek Malysa (Bridge to the People Foundation, Poland)

Members of the BAMSA team

Closing Remarks and Thanks

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all the participants, presenters and panelists, the steering group, chairs, facilitators and note-takers. Thanks also to the individuals and organisations who helped make this conference possible including: Scottish Bridge Union, Leisure Studies Association and American Contract Bridge League Educational Foundation for financial support; University of Stirling for administrative, technical and general support; RealBridge for advice on technology; the tournament directors for organising the tournament and taster session; BridgeCloud for publishing the tournament results; the volunteer teaching assistants at the taster session; Ying Piper for the English transcript for the Chinese video; Francesca Canali for photographs used on the conference web pages

Conference Organising Committee

Professor Samantha Punch (BAMSA Project Lead), Christina Ballinger (BAMSA Mindsport Officer), Stephanie McConnell (Conference Administrator), Fred Phillips (IT), Tim Rees (Steering Group) and Stephen Peterkin (Steering Group)

BAMSA Team Members

Dr Miriam Snellgrove (BAMSA Research Fellow), Zoe Russell (Research Assistant), Jordan Maclean (Research Assistant), Dr Camilla Barnett (Research Assistant)



Scottish National Bridge Summer Congresses

Bronze Congress (Saturday 26 June & Sunday 27 June 2021)

Saturday: [Swiss Pairs](#) – **More information and to register** ►

Sunday: [Swiss Teams](#) – **More information and to register** ►

Main Congress: Summer Congress Pairs (Friday 2 July – Sunday 4 July 2021)

More information and to register ►

Friday evening and Saturday morning: Qualifying sessions run as Swiss Pairs

Saturday afternoon: Pairs Finals and Consolation Finals

Sunday morning: Swiss Teams Qualifier

Sunday afternoon: Swiss Teams Final

All of these events are red-pointed