



**Bridge: A MindSport For All**  
*Connects People, Challenges Minds*

## **BAMSA Conference 2021: Bridging Academia, Policy and Practice** Monday 28 June – Thursday 1 July 2021 (online)

### **Conference Programme**

In June 2021, BAMSA is hosting **Bridging Academia, Policy and Practice**, an online international bridge conference that brings together 55 presenters and panelists from 20 countries. We are grateful to the University of Stirling, 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 BAMSA'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 BAMSA website. We strongly recommend participants watch the videos beforehand.

We very much hope you will join us for the BAMSA 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.

*Samantha Punch & the BAMSA team*

**UNIVERSITY of  
STIRLING**



**LEISURE  
STUDIES  
ASSOCIATION**



# DAY 1 - Bridge as a Mindsport

## Mindsports in Academia and Society

Monday 28 June 2021 - Session 1A

13:00-15:00 (BST)

14:00-17:00 (CEST)

08:00-10:00 (EDT)

### Welcome

Professor Samantha Punch

### 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*, 2019, Australia)

Professor Piotr Błajet (Pedagogical Studies, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Poland)

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

### 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* ►

Dr Liat Hen-Herbst (Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Ariel, Israel),

Dr Liron Lamash (Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Haifa, Israel),

Dr Yael Fogel and Dr Sonya Meyer (Dept of Occupational Therapy, University of Ariel, Israel)

*Gaining the Mental Edge at Bridge* ►

Kim Frazer: Interview with a Shooting Champion

*Playing with Emotions: The Management and Complexity of Emotion in an Elite Mind-Sport* ►

Zoe Russell and Samantha Punch (BAMSA)

*The Professional Bridge Player and Devotee Work* ►

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

## 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)

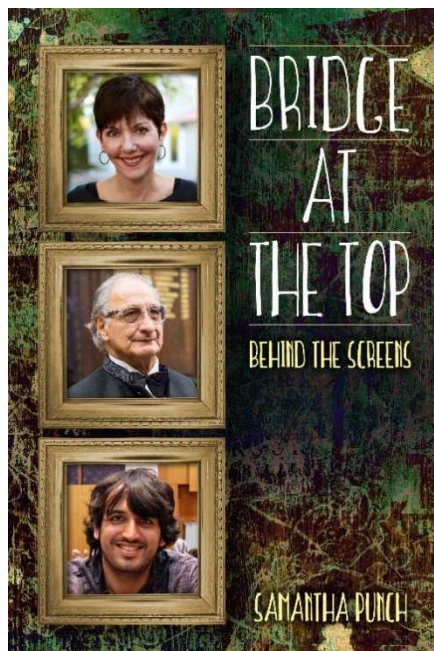
#### Welcome

Professor Samantha Punch



#### Keynote Address

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

USA bridge world champions Chip Martel and Jill Levin (tbc)

Ray Lee of Master Point Press

## 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 (Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Stirling, Scotland)

*The New Normal: Bridge Club Perspective*

Nicky Bainbridge (Bridge for Pleasure)

*Ongoing and Future Impacts of Covid*

Patrick Shields (English Bridge Union)

*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, England)

#### Workshop

Small group discussion in break-out rooms

#### Advance Recorded Presentations

*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)

*EBU Membership Campaign* ►

Tim Anderson (English Bridge Union, England)

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

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

## DAY 2 – Practical Session 1

### Conference Pairs Tournament (16 boards)

Tuesday 29 June 2021

15:00-17:00 (BST UK)

16:00-18:00 (CEST)

10:00-12:00 (EDT)

#### Tournament Directors

Julia Palmer (Chief TD)

Heritage Coast Bridge Club TD Team

Partnership Desk: Contact [bamsa@stir.ac.uk](mailto:bamsa@stir.ac.uk) if you need a partner for the tournament

### Tournament Prize-Giving and Q&A with RealBridge Developers

Tuesday 29 June 2021

17:00-17:30 (BST UK)

18:00-18:30 (CEST)

12:00-12:30 (EDT)

Graham Hazel (Platform Developer) and Shireen Mohandes (Commercial Director)

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## 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)

Boye Brogeland (World Champion Bridge Player, Norway)

Dr Tihana Brkljačić (Psychologist, Croatia)

Jordan Maclean (BAMSA)

#### Advance Recorded Presentations

*Card Confessions: Deviance and Digital Bridge during Lockdown* ►

Jordan Maclean and Michael Xu (BAMSA)

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

### Ageing, Intergenerationality and Bridge

Wednesday 30 June 2021 - Session 3A

10:00-12:00 (BST UK)

11:00-13:00 (CEST)

05:00-07:00 (EDT)

#### Welcome

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)

*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

*Mind Sports 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)

*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)

*Building Bridges: Developing Community and Intergenerationality through Bridge* ►

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

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### Scottish National Bridge Congress 2-4 July 2021

The Scottish National Bridge Congress will take place online on the weekend after the conference. Conference participants and contributors are welcome to play in the congress.

More details and registration: to follow

## 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* - 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)

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

Mary Kelly Rogers (Irish Player and European Bridge League)

#### Panel 2: Sexism within the Game – Solutions?

Laura Woodruff (Bridge Player, Wales)

Tracy Bauer (American Contract Bridge League, USA)

#### 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 Mind-Sport* ►

Professor Samantha Punch, Elizabeth Graham, Dr Charlotte McPherson and Dr Miriam Snellgrove (BAMSA)

*Bridging Sexism: (Un)Equal Play in a Mind-sport* ►

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

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## 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

*Minibridge as a Way into Bridge*

Fiona Greenwood (Scottish Bridge Union)

## 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)

14:00-17:00 (CEST)

08:00-10:00 (EDT)

#### 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)

#### 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 (Junior Player, USA)

Patty Tucker (Bridge Teacher, USA)

#### Advance Recorded Presentations

*Pedagogy and Teaching Bridge* ►

Mary Sharp (Bridge Teacher, England)

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

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

*Teaching Bridge* ►

Rob Barrington (Bridge Teacher, USA)

*Road to Bridge: Nurturing Young Champions* ►

Pritesh Chheda and Amaresh Deshpande (Adhyayan Education, India)

*Expanding Bridge in Schools* ►

Sue Johnson (New Tricks, England)

*Top Tips for Teaching Bridge to Children* ►

Patty Tucker (Bridge Teacher, USA)

*Introducing Bridge into the School Curriculum* ►

Norma Irwin and Norman Lacey (Northern Ireland Bridge Union)

*Youth Teaching Youth Bridge* ►

Michael Xu (Junior Player, USA)



## DAY 4 – Learning, Education and Development in Bridge

### Marketing Bridge

#### Thursday 1 July 2021 - Session 4B

16:30-18:00 (BST UK)

17:30-19:00 (CEST)

11:30-13:00 (EDT)

#### Presentation

*Bridging Insights: Developing a Typology of Serious and Social Bridge Players*

Esme Nicholson and Christina Ballinger (Bridge to Bridge, England) and  
Jordan Maclean (BAMSA)

#### Focus Groups

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

#### Advance Recorded Presentations

*Bridge Players: Social or Serious?*

Esme Nicholson and Christina Ballinger (Bridge to Bridge, England) and  
Jordan Maclean (BAMSA)

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## DAY 4 – Learning, Education and Development in Bridge

### Conference Close

#### Thursday 1 July 2021 - Session 4C

18:00-18:30 (BST UK)

19:00-19:30 (CEST)

13:00-13:30 (EDT)

*Conference Reflections: Future Research and Implications for Bridge*

#### Panel

Dr Tihana Brkljačić (Croatia)

Dr Marek Malysa (Poland)

Members of the BAMSA team

#### Closing Remarks and Thanks

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to all the participants, presenters and panelists, the chairs, facilitators and note-takers. Thanks also to the individuals and organisations who helped make this conference possible, including: Scottish Bridge Union for financial support; Leisure Studies Association for financial support; University of Stirling for administrative, technical and general support; RealBridge for advice on technology; Heritage Coast Bridge Club for organising the tournament; BridgeCloud for publishing the tournament results; and the volunteer teaching assistants at the taster session.