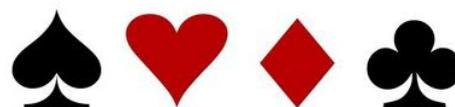


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



August 2021

Vol. 8 No 8

President's Report

We had an extremely successful Graded Teams Congress at the end of last month, and as you will see in the results later in this newsletter, BBC members figured predominantly amongst the winners. As always there are many thanks to be offered – Lynne Henley, Peter Burke, Neil Hansen, Rob Swann, Judith Bennett, Tomas Corney, Chris Larter, Marie Buckley and Janette Hiatt helped with the preparations. Thanks also to those many players who remained afterwards and assisted in the clear-up at the end. (Apologies to anyone I missed). Janette, as usual, did a wonderful job in ensuring there was a continuous supply of hot drinks and nibbles and Julie Clark came in early in the morning to help with the catering preparations. Tomas did a splendid job convening the congress and we were very lucky to get Alan Gibson at short notice who did a brilliant job as Director. Richard Wallis also came in at short notice and directed downstairs with his usual efficiency. Thank you to everyone involved.

The AGM occurs in a month's time and I would like as many people as possible to attend. Nominations forms are available for anyone who would like to join the committee in any capacity. This year the AGM coincides with the Medieval Society's annual fair, and South's Rugby Club is having a major afternoon event. This will mean that if you wish to play that day you will need to be at the Club by the start of the AGM (11.45), or your chances of parking will

be remote. Please listen to Club announcements for up to date news. This is part of a two week red point event, following the previous Saturday (11th September) which will also be a red point event in place of the cancelled Ekka pairs. Thanks again to Julie Jeffries for rescuing all of us bridge players during the short recent lockdown with her excellent sessions on BBO.

Elaine

WHEN YOU'RE DEAD,
YOU DON'T KNOW
YOU'RE DEAD. THE PAIN
IS ONLY FELT BY
OTHERS.

THE SAME THING
HAPPENS WHEN
YOU'RE STUPID.

Tom's Administrators Corner

Annual General Meeting

The BBC Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 18 September, 11.45am. This meeting is for all the membership, so everyone is encouraged to attend. Committee Nomination Forms are currently available from the blue notice board at the club. Forms must be submitted by Friday 3 September, 9am. Information regarding the AGM will be emailed out in early September and mailed to those without email.

September Red Point Sessions

- Friday AM September Red Point Pairs (3 & 10 September, 9:45am)
- Saturday PM September Red Point Pairs (11 & 18 September, 1pm)

Due to the recent lockdown, we have had to postpone our session of Ekka pairs. This session will be moved to the Saturday the week before the AGM Pairs, turning it into a two session event.

No prior entry is required for any of these sessions, however to qualify for the combined sessions' overall placing result, you need to play both weeks with the same partner. The cost will be a coupon for members and \$10 for visitors.

GNOT (Grand National Open Teams) Brisbane Zone Final

Good luck to the five BBC teams who qualified earlier this year for the GNOT Brisbane Zone Final. The final is being held on Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 August at QCBC.

1. Ross Murtagh, Barbara Kent, Sheila Wills, Wolf Stuthe
2. Peter Evans, John Kelly, Elaine Jonsberg, Carol Loth
3. Arne Jonsberg, Alan McKenna, Chris Larter, John Lahey

4. Alan Hamilton, June Glenn, Helen Chamberlin, Jennifer Vickers
5. Sue Herbert, Judith Milliner, Unis Suliman Steven Parkes

Cold & Flu Season

As we are still in the midst of the cold and flu season, please continue to follow basic hygiene practices listed below.

- If you are sick, or have cold/flu symptoms please think twice before coming to bridge. We would rather you get well than sharing your cold or the flu with others at the bridge table.
- If you do need to cough at the bridge table, please cough into a tissue, handkerchief or your shoulder. Do not cough into the playing cards or on your hands.
- As per advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) it is preferred the minimum interval between influenza vaccine and a dose of COVID-19 vaccine is 7 days.

Thursday Supervised Play

Our supervised play session on Thursdays will resume 19 August. Richard Wallis will be taking over this session after a hiatus and we are very happy to see him directing at BBC again. Sincere thanks go out to David O'Gorman for stepping up to direct our Thursday sessions for the past 5 months.

Masterpoint Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received a masterpoint promotion.

- Arne Jonsberg – Silver Life
- Rob Swann – Silver Local

Tomas Corney

BBC GRADED TEAMS SUNDAY 25 JULY 2021

Thanks and congratulations to Tomas Corney and all the volunteers for their hard work in putting this event together under trying covid circumstances.

Congratulations to the BBC members who made it into the winners' circle: Nanette Hinsch (part of the C Grade winning team), Arne Jonsberg/Graham Baker/Chris Larter/John Lahey (the B Grade winning team) and Geoffrey Toon, Terry O'Dempsey, Gheorghi Belonogov and Ewa Kowalczyk (the A Grade winning team).

Playing in these events, you become aware that the very strong players sacrifice very aggressively when non-vulnerable against vulnerable. And in general bid the spots off the cards.

Dealer: N
Vul: EW

	♠ 984		
	♥ 872		
	♦ AKJ1042		
	♣ 7		
♠ Q72		♠ AKJ63	
♥ KQ106		♥ AJ953	
♦ 863		♦ 5	
♣ J83		♣ A10	
	♠ 105		
	♥ 4		
	♦ Q97		
	♣ KQ9654		
N	E	S	W
2D	X	5D!	P
P	X	P	P
P			

My South opponent didn't flinch in bidding 5D. The critical elements in this bid are a shortage somewhere and the favourable vulnerability. In the East seat, I have an awkward guess when the 5D comes back to me. 5H or 5S could be right but they might be wrong too. My second

double only netted us +300 (♠AK, ♥A and ♣A) and was a very poor substitute for a vulnerable game in hearts or spades for +650 or +680. We can make slam in hearts but it's not an easy find.

Partner and I have since agreed that 4D over the 2D weak 2 opening is a big hand with both majors. This would have allowed partner an easy 5H bid over the 5D bid given he has 3 tricks in the form of the ♥KQ and ♠Q for me.

Dealer: N
Vul: Nil

	♠ A108		
	♥ K64		
	♦ 952		
	♣ Q964		
♠ 2		♠ 63	
♥ 95		♥ Q832	
♦ K873		♦ AQJ1064	
♣ AKJ1032		♣ 5	
	♠ KQJ9754		
	♥ AJ107		
	♦		
	♣ 87		

In the East hand, over North's pass, I elected to pass given that I have a 4 card major which might be a better spot to play and my partner is yet to speak. This allowed my opponents to bid and make an easy 4S. My opposite number at the other table had no such qualms and didn't just bid 2D but bid 3D with my hand. If you are going to speak, this is the right bid non-vulnerable when you have a 6-4 shape.

This allowed West to bid 5D. Our teammates soldiered on to 5S and West bravely bid 6D and the +300 wasn't adequate compensation for our -450. I must admit I wouldn't have bid 6D as West, fearing we might have 2 club tricks and one diamond on the defence and be able to put 5S down.

Dealer: S
 Vul: EW

	♠ A62		
	♥ QJ105		
	♦ 3		
	♣ A9843		
♠ KJ9743		♠ Q8	
♥ K643		♥ A7	
♦ 764		♦ AK85	
♣		♣ J10765	
	♠ 105		
	♥ 982		
	♦ QJ1092		
	♣ KQ2		
S	W	N	E
P	2S	P	2NT (1)
P	3C (2)	P	4S
P	P	P	

- (1) Relay inquiry
- (2) Club shortage

We managed to inflict some damage back on this hand. Generally, you shouldn't open a weak 2 with a void as it often makes the hand too strong. Never mind the business about not having 4 of the other major with an unpassed partner in case it's a better spot to play. Here, partner decided the unfavourable vulnerability (vul vs non-vul) and the tatty spade suit meant the void didn't take the hand beyond the bounds of a weak 2, and was a necessary safety measure.

I'm often asked how many points you need to bid on to game after partner has opened a weak 2. It's usually around the 15 total point mark I start to worry ("total points" are the sum of high card points plus distribution points) and 17 total points that I unilaterally bid the game. Both assume a trump fit. However, it's more a case of visualising a standard hand for partner and working out what is likely to make. Give partner ♠AKxxxx, and we have 6 spade tricks, ♦AK, ♥A and clear opportunities to ruff a heart or set up diamonds.

I got to reel out my new favourite gadget in the 2NT shortage ask. It's definitely superior to Ogust or anything else currently on the market. After 2NT, partner responds:

New suit = shortage
 3 of our suit = minimum, no shortage
 3NT = maximum, no shortage

I was intending to pass 3S (minimum, no shortage) but the club response was perfect. Given I have very little in clubs, I knew our points were pulling their weight in the other suits and I bid the 4S.

With two heart ruffs in dummy and the ♠10 coming down doubleton, you lose just ♠A and one diamond for 11 tricks.

Dealer: E
 Vul: ALL

	♠ A98		
	♥ 4		
	♦ 986		
	♣ AKJ854		
♠ 42		♠ KJ763	
♥ 875		♥ AQ102	
♦ KQ7542		♦ 3	
♣ 76		♣ Q93	
	♠ Q105		
	♥ KJ963		
	♦ AJ10		
	♣ 102		
E	S	W	N
1S	P	1NT(1)	2C
2H	P	2S	P
P	2NT	P	3NT
P	P	P	

- (1) "Forcing" 1NT 5-11 HCPs

This hand caused some grief for defenders around the room where NS bid an aggressive 3NT game. What should West lead? Those who

led ♦5 gave an easy diamond trick to declarer, who immediately takes the club finesse. With 8 tricks in the bag (5 clubs, 2 diamonds and ♠A) it's impossible for East to avoid giving declarer at least one more in hearts or spades.

A spade lead from West does put the contract down: East takes the ♠K and returns a spade. When East wins the club finesse with the ♣Q, a further spade clears the suit. Declarer has only 8 tricks on top (5 clubs, ♠AQ and ♦A) and East will get back in with the ♥A and cash 2 further spades for one down.

Against an opposition NT contract, you are

usually trying to run a long suit. Always remember, it might not be YOUR long suit but partner's that needs to be set up. Usually, it's the defender with the points whose suit should be set up because they can get back in again to run the long suit.

However, here South's bidding does muddy the waters somewhat. When a good player passes over opposition bidding and then reappears with NT bids, they often have a penalty pass of the opposition suit. This might sway West against leading a spade, fearing South is ready for such a lead.

Peter Evans

BBC Graded Teams Results

A Grade

1. Geoffrey Toon, Terry O'Dempsey, Gheorghii Belonogov and Ewa Kowalczyk
2. Kuldip Bedi, Maha Hoenig, Janeen Soloman and Alison Dawson
3. Watson Zhou, Eileen Li, Martin Qin and Charlie Lu

B Grade

1. John Lahey, Chris Larter, Graham Baker and Arne Jonsberg
2. Alan Hamilton, June Glenn, Peter and Valerie Robbins
3. Winny Chan, Dewi Eastman, Trevor Dwerryhouse and Raeline Clark

C Grade

1. Daria Williams, Nanette Hinsch, Tom and Peter Lyons
2. Eugene Pereira, Martin Wu, Vesna and Voyko Markovic
3. Kevin Hamilton-Reen, Mary Simon, Kathy Males and Wendy Cuthbert

Congratulations to all!

Having some states lock down and some states not lock down is like having a peeing section in a swimming pool.

Heard at the Bridge Table

Too bad partner. It was an unlucky grand slam you bid. The ace of trumps was on the wrong side.

The difference between an excellent bridge player and an incompetent bridge player is that excellence has its limits.

The average woman would rather have beauty than brains, because the average man can see better than he can think.

Bridge is the most fun a person can have without laughing.

Bridge wisdom does not necessarily come with practice. Sometimes practice is all you are ever going to get.

Clever of you not to miscount the Spades, partner. What a pity you did not show the same advance technique with the Diamonds.

It takes a good bridge player to readily admit when he is wrong and even a better player to keep his mouth shut when he is right.

Bad cards, like the common cold, must run its course.

If you are always making your contract, you are not bidding high enough.

Count your losers and count your winners. If the total doesn't come to 13, count your cards.

A Bridge Expert is a person who can tell you more about the game than you really care to know.

Funnies from Lynn Kelly and Neil Hansen

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says:

'Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?'

Slim says, 'I feel just like a newborn baby.'

'Really!? Like a newborn baby!?!'

'Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants.'

Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can prevent florist friars.

Scientists got together to study the effects of alcohol on a person's walk, and the result was staggering.

I'm trying to organize a hide and seek tournament, but good players are really hard to find.

I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness.

If a man is tickled to death, is it manslaughter or man's laughter.



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Endgame

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