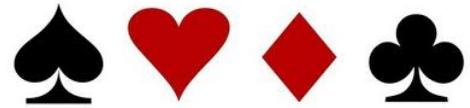


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



July 2019

Vol. 6 No 7

President's Report

Our next Congress will be held Sunday 28 July. It is a teams event and I hope that many of our members are planning to enter. Teams events are really good fun and a bit more relaxed than pairs and the event is graded so you can play at your level.

If not playing please consider adding your name to the list of kitchen volunteers. As always food donations would also be greatly appreciated.

Some members may have noticed that our lift is currently out of order. We are very hopeful that it will be up and running in time for the Congress.

In club news John Lahey and Arne Jonsberg won

our recent red point session held over the last couple of Saturdays. Congratulations to the winners.

After several weeks absence due to illness it is great to have Kathleen Nagrodzki back at the club and being her normal cheeky self.

Congratulations to Nanette Hinsch who passed the recent club directors exam. Well done Nanette.

As we are experiencing one of the worst flu seasons on record I ask if you are unwell please don't attend bridge. Stay home, rest up and recover.

Peter Burke

Chris's Administrator's Corner

Rugby @ Souths

The last two rugby home games at Souths Rugby are **Saturdays 20 & 27 July**.

The Saturday session on 20 & 27 July will start at 12.30pm. This is 30 minutes earlier than usual. The change of times for these two days is due to the increasing problems with parking and congestion when Saturday rugby is held at

Souths. The change has been approved by the Committee.

Players are asked to arrive between 11.45am and 12.15pm and are welcome to BYO lunch to eat at the club prior to the session.

When arriving, please approach the turn off into the car park slowly and use your indicator.

Cold and Flu Season

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

1. If you are sick, please think twice before coming to bridge. We rather you get well than sharing your cold or the flu with others at the bridge table.
2. 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 your hands.
3. Consider washing your hands with soap & water and dry them thoroughly or use the hand sanitiser bottles available on the kitchen bench. Doing so helps to prevent the spread of bacteria.

Friendly Reminder

Please tidy up your table at the end of the session before leaving. This includes:

- Pushing your chairs in
- Placing paper and rubbish (including crumbs & toothpicks) in the appropriate bins outside the kitchen
- Placing the pens along one side of the bidding pad holder (placing them in the bidding pad holder prevents the holder being topped up with more bidding paper)



BBC Graded Teams Congress

Our next congress is coming up on Sunday 28 July which will be Graded Teams.

Entry forms are now out on the noticeboards at the club and the entry link is also available on the BBC website.

Entries close on Wednesday 24 July.

Food donations and kitchen volunteers are also appreciated. Lists are on the noticeboard near the front door.

Red Point Sessions

Our upcoming red point sessions are ...

- Tuesday Mornings 6 & 13 August @ 9.30am

To qualify for the overall, you need to play both weeks with the same partner. Members pay the usual \$7 or coupon and visitors pay \$9.

Club Sponsorship

One area in our club where I would like to see an improvement is in finding businesses who could be sponsors. Sponsorship can go towards an advertisement in our yearly diary, a logo on our coupons or bidding pads, or contribute towards prize money for a congress or event. If you know of any businesses the committee and I could approach, please let me know.

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Joan Gentner – **National
- Richard Spelman – **National
- Kath Reeve – Regional
- Christie Campbell – **Local
- Fenna Cooper – **Local
- Lynne Anderson – *Local
- Bernadette Dwyer – *Local
- Jimmy Smith – *Local
- Bev Wilde – *Local
- Tom Goodwin – Club
- Fran McDonald – Graduate

New Members

The Committee welcomes the following new members and wishes them a long and happy association with BBC

- Vanessa Brewis
- Jenny McGowan
- Mark Penman
- Ron Ward
- Zoe Ward
- Paul Wright

Chris Larter

Bridge Hand

The QBA Graded Swiss Teams was held on Sunday 7 July at QCBC. My team (Me, Tony Treloar, Charlie Lu and Martin Qin) hit the front in the Open after round 3 and we weren't caught from there. Ross Murtagh and Barbara Kent were part of the team that ran third in the B section.

This is the hand everyone remembers as it caused some carnage around the room:

Dlr: S
Vul: Nil

	♠ 8		
	♥ AQ1062		
	♦ AJ6		
	♣ 7652		
♠ 4		♠ J7653	
♥ J9		♥ K843	
♦ KQ109432		♦ 875	
♣ J109		♣ 3	
	♠ AKQ1092		
	♥ 75		
	♦		
	♣ AKQ84		

S	W	N	E
2C	2D	2H	P
2S	P	3C	P
5D	P	5S	P
6C	P	P	P

What do you do with the South monster? I think you have to open 2C as you could well have 4S or 5C opposite nothing in partner's hand. The danger with opening 2C with 2 suited hands is that the second suit can go missing in the bidding because the bidding gets too high before the second suit is introduced. However, when you have game in your own hand you simply have to take the risk and open with a 2C force.

I held the South hand. We were fortunate in that we got some tame bidding from the

opposition. I would unhesitatingly overcall the 2C opening with 3D rather than 2D – there is no reason not to bid your normal pre-empt. I would also raise this pre-empt to 5D by the East hand and give NS a guess as to what to do next. 5DX is 4 light for -800 and a better score than the small slam NS have.

When partner's positive 2H bid came, I was immediately thinking small or grand slam. I nearly fell off my chair when partner bid a natural 3C. However, I was now in a quandary as to which gadget to use from the toolkit. If I use Roman Keycard Blackwood, I could get back 1 keycard and not know whether this is the ♦A or the ♥A. We could be off ♥AK.

Given I only have 18 points and partner might only have 8 points for his positive bid, I decided there was too much potential for missing important cards and that it was better to be assured of a small slam. So I selected 5D Exclusion Blackwood. This says I am void in diamonds and want you to ignore the diamond ace in your Blackwood answer. Partner's 5S told me he had one ace (obviously the ♥A) and I fumed.

6C now seems certain, but I now had no way of finding out if partner had the ♦A or the ♥K to take away the second heart loser for a grand slam. Partner was pretty likely to hold one of these cards for his 2H positive bid, but it was possible he held ♦K and ♥AQ or the like for his bidding. So I took the low road and bid 6C.

I regretted it when I saw dummy, but after drawing trumps you can't avoid a spade loser (unless you psychically finesse for the spade jack on the first round which no rational individual is going to do). Hence, I luckily avoided the disaster of a grand slam going down.

It was unlucky if you only had Roman Keycard Blackwood to use as this told you North had 2

aces and it looked like you could get the second loser away on the ♦A. A number of pairs were in the grand slam going down.

On our bidding system, it wouldn't have helped if I'd tried to cue bid to the grand slam with 4C (setting the suit and forcing) over the 3C bid as our cuebids are first or second round control. Partner becomes aware I have a problem in hearts and thinks the grand slam could depend on a heart finesse. He unfortunately won't be aware that the second heart can go away on the ♦A.

This hand confirmed my thinking about a certain area:

Dlr: E
Vul: All

♠ KQ42	
♥ J9764	
♦ AK	
♣ 96	
♠ A73	♠ 106
♥ K3	♥ AQ52
♦ QJ752	♦ 1094
♣ A43	♣ KJ85
♠ J985	
♥ 108	
♦ 863	
♣ Q1072	

Where EW bid a light 3NT, what should North lead from the tatty 5 card major or the better quality 4 card major? I've seen this situation a number of times, and the better quality 4 card major is usually right. And it was here. A spade lead nets 3 spades and ♦AK to put the contract down while repeated heart leads allow the West declarer to set up diamonds for the contract.

Giving your partner count when defending is a very important part of doing well at bridge. On this hand, partner I were able to take a 4S contract off:

Dlr: S
Vul: All

	♠ J1094	
	♥ 73	
	♦ A653	
	♣ 543	
♠ Q2		♠ AK7653
♥ A		♥ KQ
♦ 10984		♦ KJ2
♣ KQ10872		♣ J6
	♠ 8	
	♥ J10986542	
	♦ Q7	
	♣ A9	

I led the ♥J from the South hand and declarer won with the ♥A and correctly led a club to the ♣J immediately. There is an old saying of "set your suit up before you draw trumps". If I clumsily take the ♣A now, declarer can draw all the trumps and still has a club to get back to the club suit winners and make the contract.

On the club lead, partner played the ♣5. This reverse shows an odd number of cards in clubs. North can't have 5 clubs (as declarer would be void) so North must have 3. Knowing declarer has 2 clubs, I held my ace up once, cutting an important link to dummy. Declarer can still get home if he discards one diamond on the third round of clubs and then leads a diamond rising with the ♦K, but that was too many guesses for our declarer and he lost ♣A, ♠J and ♦AQ for one off.

Peter Evans

The response to last months quiz was underwhelming to put it mildly. This was a pity since the Committee had decided to increase the prize for best entry to a round the world first class cruise for a family of four, with \$20,000 spending money plus 1000 gold points. Oh well Stiff!

Bridge Quiz Answers:

1. Which comparatively recent Oscar-winning film contain the lines
'*Did you pick mum up from bridge*' and '*Myrtle's at bridge*'?

The King's Speech

2. Which British High Court judge invented a system of bridge that was named after him?

Leo Baron

3. Which card is referred to as "The Devils bedposts"?

4 of Clubs

4. What is the Rabbi's Rule?

States that when the King is singleton play the Ace

5. What card is referred to as the Curse of Scotland?

9 of Diamonds

6. What rule describes the humorous suggestion that an opening lead out of turn should generally be accepted, and what is the rationale?

Goldwater's Rule. The rationale being that a player who does not whose lead it is, probably doesn't know what to lead either.

Heard at the Bridge Table

Bridge – once you're hooked, it's like a disease.

"Young man! You do not play bridge? What a sad old age you reserve for yourself.

One gets used to abuse at the bridge table. It is waiting for it that is so trying.

Bridge is essentially a social game but unfortunately it attracts a substantial number of antisocial people.

Good bidding makes for dull bridge.

Playing a hand can be routine but getting to the right place is more difficult.

The ultimate in bridge is learning to play with poor cards.

The more often I encounter complicated artificial systems, the more strongly I feel about their futility.

The average defender operates in a fog of uncertainty.

Did You Know? – Playing Cards

The Chinese invented playing cards in AD1000 – so here are some interesting facts and observations about playing cards.

Did you know that the traditional deck of cards are a strikingly coherent form of a calendar?

There are 52 weeks in the year and there are 52 playing cards in a deck.

There are 13 weeks in each season and there are 13 cards in each suit.

There are 4 seasons in a year and 4 suits in the deck.

There are 12 months in a year and there are 12 court cards (ie Jack, Queen, King).

The red cards represent day, while the black cards represent night.

Jacks = 11, Queens = 12 and the Kings = 13, then add up all the sums of 1+2+3 to 13 = 91. Multiply this by 4 for the 4 suits and you have 364. Add 1 that is the Joker and you have 365 being the days in the year.

Is this construct a mere coincidence or the sign of great intelligence?

Of added interest is the sum of the letters of all the names of the cards, Ace, 2, 3 to Jack, Queen and King adds up to 52.

Spades indicated ploughing or working.

Hearts indicated love for the crops.

Diamonds indicated reaping the wealth.

Clubs indicated protection and growth.

Neil Hansen

Joke for July

A teacher wanted to teach her students about self-esteem, so she asked anyone who thought they were stupid to stand up. One kid stood up and the teacher was surprised. She didn't think anyone would stand up so she asked him, "Why did you stand up?" He answered, "I didn't want to leave you standing up by yourself."

Thought for July

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."

George Bernard Shaw

Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arneuser2@bigpond.com, or contact Arne by phone at 3342-0105. Current and past newsletters available for viewing and download on BBC's web-site: www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org

