

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



March 2021

Vol. 8 No 3

President's Report

We enjoyed a splendid day for the club Championship, and congratulations to the winners Peter Evans and John Kelly. Many thanks to Chris Snook our excellent director, and thanks also to Chris Larter and Julie Jeffries for their hard work in organizing the day. Peter Evans has contributed an entertaining report of some of the hands played in the championship later in this newsletter.

As most of you know the Easter Congress is only a couple of weeks away and Covid has put a limit to the number of tables that we are able to offer. We are approaching the maximum for the teams but there are still quite a few vacancies in the pairs. I would like to see as many members as possible supporting this event so please get your entries in quickly. The Easter Congress is always a very enjoyable event and will continue to be so, even without catering.

Chris Larter and David O'Gorman have started up the popular supervised sessions again, so if

you know of any bridge player who needs a gentle return to the game, this is an excellent and stress-free way to do it. Please see Tom's section for details of these sessions.

I was very sad to hear that Jill O'Malley-Jones is unwell. All her friends at the club wish her well, and are thinking of her.

The dreadful rugby season is upon us again causing aggravation on Saturday mornings. For the last several years Arne has come in to the Club at 7am, and put out the bollards and tapes to ensure that members have secure parking for the Saturday session. The poor old boy would like a respite from this job so I am asking for volunteers to do this on an occasional basis – there are probably only around eight rugby home games per season – so a small roster would make this reasonably painless.

Elaine

Tom's Administrator's Corner

BBC Easter Congress, Sun 4 & Mon 5 April

Each day will be starting at 9:30am, please arrive by 9:15am. Please do not come if you are feeling unwell or have any Covid symptoms including: fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose,

headache, fatigue, difficulty breathing, loss of taste and/or smell.

Please also *bring your own lunch/snacks, cup/thermos, pen and mask.*

The entry fee is \$30 per player (\$60 per pair), however our numbers are limited so if you are interested please enter quickly. Entries close Tuesday 30 March, only online and prepaid entries will be accepted at this time. You can find

Please note: We are looking for spare players. If you are available and keen to be a spare player for the upcoming Easter Congress, please let me know.

Easter Play Weekend

- Good Friday (2 April) – Usual 9:45am Session
- Holy Saturday (3 April) – Usual 1pm Session
- Easter Sunday (4 April) – Congress [Graded Matchpoint Pairs]
- Easter Monday (5 April) – Congress [Graded Teams]

There will be *no 9.30am duplicate session on Easter Monday* due to the Easter Congress Graded Teams.

Wednesday Morning Autumn Pairs (Red Points) 7 & 14 April

9.30am start each morning. No prior entry is required. Everyone plays in the red point sessions.

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 or \$7 for members and \$10 for visitors.

Saturday 1pm Green Point Teams – 24 April

Our next Green Point Teams session is coming up soon on Saturday 24 April at 1pm. The aim of these afternoons is for players to experience teams in a friendly club atmosphere. Prior entry is required.

To enter, there is an entry list on the blue noticeboard near the front door at the club. Alternatively, you can enter via the BBC website or email the club. Entry can be as a team or a pair to be placed into a team. Note: There will be no normal pairs session on 28 March. The teams will be the only session.

Supervised Play Resuming

BBC supervised play sessions have returned. You are not required to turn up with a partner if you are joining supervised play however please still arrive 15 minutes before the session start time.

Supervised play sessions are as follows:

- Tuesday Nights, 7.15pm
- Thursday Mornings, 9.30am
- Saturday Afternoons, 1pm

The Thursday virtual session will wrap up on 25 March.

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Trish Alldridge – Club
- Philip Argyris – Bronze Local
- Allie Hays – Graduate
- Jenny McGowan – Local
- Devi Thillainathan – Silver Local
- Bronwyn Turner – Bronze Regional

New Members

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

- Julie Forster
- Paula McMahon
- Carmel Wikman

Tomas Corney

Competition Results

BBC Newnham Pairs Championship:



Winners - Peter Evans & John Kelly



Category B winners – Unis Suliman and Steven Parkes



Second overall – Neil & Judith Hansen



Under 50 Masterpoint winners – Don Weerheim & Lilly Jia

Toowong Novice Pairs:

BBC members Rod Wilson & Leith Cameron were second in the Championship.

Vanessa Brewis & Jenny Mc Gowan won the Consolation.

Congratulations to all.

Covid Update

Just on 12 months ago on the 18 March 2020 we closed our doors for 4 months because of the corona virus pandemic.

BBC made a gradual return to face2face at club play from July 2020 under a Covid Safe Return to Play Plan in accordance with Queensland Health Restrictions. The good news is that all

our pre-covid sessions will be up and running with the return of Thursday morning supervised play on 18 March - exactly 12 months later. Table numbers haven't quite returned to pre-covid numbers, but they are slowly increasing with the weekly average around 51 tables.

Unfortunately, life has not yet returned to pre-covid times. Although there has been an easing of Queensland Health Restrictions, restrictions still apply. For example, we are limited to 75 people in the downstairs playing space – 18 ½ tables. Social distancing still applies when we are not on the “field of play” actually playing bridge. Regular hand washing and sanitising continues.

You may not be aware that buffet type service is not allowed and that any self-serve items must be individually packaged. You will have noticed

that we now have individually packaged tea bags and sugar and that Janette Hiatt is doing a great job in providing individually packaged bikkies with your cuppa before play. Thank you Carol Loth for donating 1000 small zip lock bags. The committee has agreed to continue tea and coffee before play until a further easing of restrictions.

It may be some time before things return to what they were pre-covid. In the meantime, we will keep up to date with the latest Queensland Health restrictions and review our covid protocols accordingly, so that BBC continues to be covid compliant.

The health and welfare of our members is a number one priority.

Julie Jeffries

2021 BBC Club Championship

This year's club championship open field attracted 24 pairs. It was ably directed by Chris Snook, and thanks also go to Convener Chris Larter and Julie Jeffries for helping to ensure the event ran smoothly.

I often hear at the end of a session how weird the hands were today, but in the championship's case big fits and voids abounded.

Dealer: S
Vul:EW

♠ 8 6 5 3	♦ K Q 10 5 2	♣ K Q 8	♣ 10 2
♠ 10 4 2	♦ A	♦ 10 9 7 5 4 2	♣ K J
♥ A 9 8 3	♣ K J 8 6 3	♥ 10 9 7 5 4 2	♦ A Q 9 5 4
♦ A	♣ A Q 9 7	♦ K J 7 6 4	♣ 7
♣ K J 8 6 3	♦ J 6 3	♦ 7	

S *W* *N* *E*
1H 2C 2H 5C!
All Pass



Playing against John Kelly and me, Julie Jeffries in the East seat on seeing her partner's 2C bid had little trouble bidding 5C. On the losing trick

count, her 5 loser hand added to what should be at least an 8 loser in her partner's hand gave the equation $24 - (8+5) = 11$ tricks. Further, she knew there was at least a 10 card club fit coupled with a void in her hand in South's opening bid. North understandably led a heart and a spade went away on the $\heartsuit A$ and 12 tricks were easily made.

Julie inflicted further pain on this hand:

Dealer: W

Vul: ALL

$\spadesuit K 9$	$\spadesuit Q J 2$
$\heartsuit Q 6 4$	$\heartsuit A J 10 9 7 3 2$
$\diamond A Q 4$	$\diamond 7 5$
$\clubsuit Q 8 7 4 2$	$\clubsuit A$
$\spadesuit A 10 5 3$	$\spadesuit 8 7 6 4$
$\heartsuit K 8$	$\heartsuit 5$
$\diamond 10 6 3 2$	$\diamond K J 9 8$
$\clubsuit J 5 3$	$\clubsuit K 10 9 6$

W	N	E	S
P	1C	1H	X
P	1NT	2H	P
P	P		

From South, I led the $\spadesuit 7$ which was finessed to John's $\spadesuit K$. Realising from my highish $\spadesuit 7$ that Julie at East must have the missing spade honours, John knew he had to get busy in the other side suits before losers went away on the spades.

He played the $\diamond A$ and, playing low encourage, my $\diamond 8$ unfortunately didn't look low enough. John switched to a club which Julie won. Knowing John must have the $\heartsuit Q$ for his NT bid, she crossed to the $\heartsuit K$, finessed the $\heartsuit Q$, drew trumps and threw a diamond on the 4th spade for 11 tricks and a shared top.

Dealer: E

Vul: EW

$\spadesuit A Q 10 9 8 5$	$\spadesuit 7 6$
$\heartsuit K 10 9$	$\heartsuit J 5 4 3$
$\diamond J 5 2$	$\diamond K 10 7 4$
$\clubsuit K$	$\clubsuit Q 8 2$
$\spadesuit 4$	$\spadesuit K J 3 2$
$\heartsuit 7 2$	$\heartsuit A Q 8 6$
$\diamond Q 9 3$	$\diamond A 8 6$
$\clubsuit A J 10 7 5 4 3$	$\clubsuit 9 6$

Perhaps one of the worst bridge maxims is, "Cover an Honour With an Honour". Complete rubbish. You should only cover an honour if you will promote another card in your or partner's hand or are likely to do so.

I was South and in 4S on the above hand. East led the $\clubsuit A$ and then switched to a diamond which I won with the $\diamond A$. I drew trumps and led the $\heartsuit 10$ from the North hand. When you want an opponent to play an honour, you always lead the largest card possible (10 here not 9) as a psychological ploy to try to induce a cover. East duly obliged with the $\heartsuit J$ and I could now run 4 hearts and throw a diamond away for 11 tricks and a shared top.

East should have looked carefully at dummy and realised with the $\heartsuit 9$ present there was little chance of promoting anything helpful in the defensive hands and withheld the $\heartsuit J$. From my perspective, with 3 losers in the form of the $\spadesuit A$ and 2 diamonds, I can't afford to finesse in hearts and possibly manufacture a further loser and go down. So, I will just play hearts from the top and duly be held to 10 tricks and a good score for EW.

This hand emphasises just how important it is to play for overtricks in these situations, and to not give them away. 11 tricks split the matchpoints 15-7 in my favour. 10 tricks split the

matchpoints 3-19 in EW's favour. A single overtrick due to an incautious cover makes an enormous difference.

Dealer: W

Vul: ALL

♠ AK 8 6	♠ A Q J 10 7 3 2
♥ 6	♥ 5 3
♦ A K J 7 3	♦ 10 4
♣ 8 7 5 2	♣ 6 4
♠ 9 5	♠ 4
♥ K Q J 9 2	♥ A 10 8 7 4
♦ Q 5	♦ 9 8 6 2
♣ Q J 9 3	♣ A K 10

W	N	E	S
P	1D	1S?	2H
P	3C	3S?	4D
P	P	4S??	X
P	P	P	

When bidding, you should try to do 2 things:

1. Give partner as much information as possible as succinctly as possible, and
2. Once partner has all the information, leave further decisions to them and don't repeat yourself.

On this hand, East should bid 3S over the 1D opening. This tells partner you are less than an opening hand, have about 7 spades and 6 tricks if spades are trumps – a very accurate description. West can see that they have one or two tricks to contribute in hearts but that is all, and 3S is as high as EW want to get.

The 3S bid should also get NS into serious trouble. I had the South hand and would have bid 4H over the 3S bid. Even though I know there is a diamond fit our way, the hearts are worth more and the game is one level less. 4H would not have been a success, and if North bids 5C and South converts to 5D, the 5D contract is a difficult one to make. Instead, the 1S bid leaves West in doubt as to whether East has an opening hand and doesn't get across the extra length in spades. It allowed me to bid 2H and thus realise we don't have a heart fit when John declined to support hearts from the North hand.

The 3S bid was a big overbid. "Never go to 3 unless you hear from me". If you bid and rebid at the 3 level with partner silent, you are showing about an 8 trick hand. The 4S bid was suicidal. With 3 quick tricks in the South hand (♣AK, ♥A) opposite an opening bid (which shows at least 1½ - 2 quick tricks) I knew the 4S contract was in serious trouble. The double netted us +1100.

Peter Evans

Heard at the Bridge Table

A well-balanced player makes up for his inadequacy in the bidding with his ineptitude in the play.

You know you're in trouble when you are the declarer and the opponents start drawing trumps.

A Woman's Viewpoint

Life with Men is like Bridge
You need a Heart to love them;
A Diamond to marry them;
A Club to beat them
And a Spade to bury them.

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

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

A two-day bridge tournament was invented because it is impossible to cram all the bad luck into one day.

Remember to show humility when you win a tournament and are congratulated for your efforts. For those of you who don't know what humility is, it is the ability to look appropriately shy while explaining to people how wonderful you are.

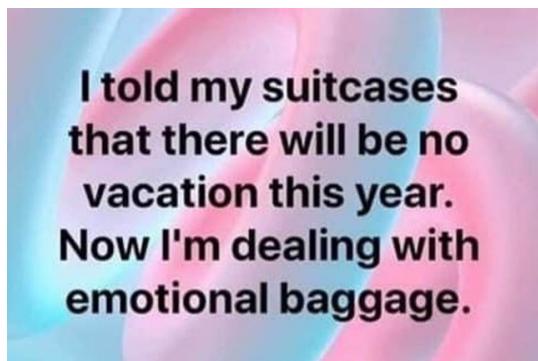
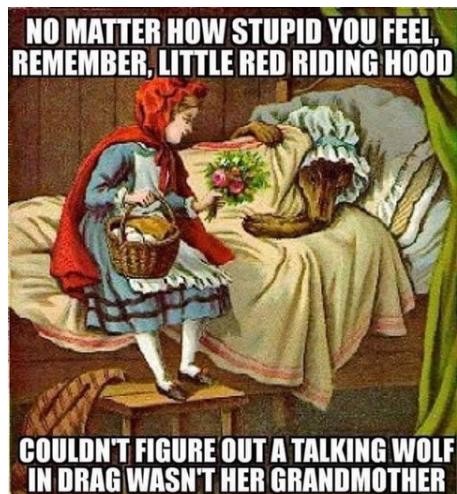
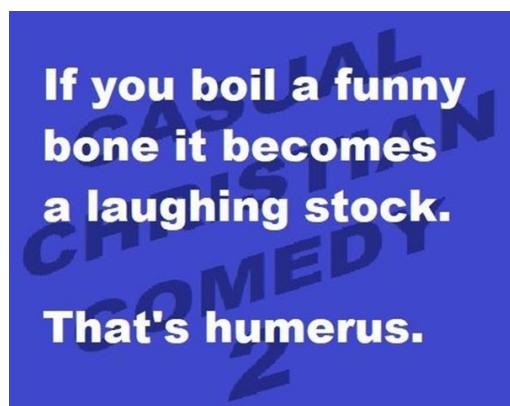
Blessed is a partner who has nothing bad to say and cannot be persuaded to say it.

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

All the bridge tournaments I have participated in have 3 things in common – an optimistic beginning, a tough middle and a lousy end

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

Neil's Funnies



Orion's belt is a big waist of space

Someone removed the 5th month from my calendar.

I am dismayed.

What do you call a dead magician?
Abracadaver

Yes – Neil is very sorry.

Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arnejuser2@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

