

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



October 2020

Vol. 7 No 9

President's Report

Greetings to all members and friends, I hope you and your families are safe and well. There appears to be reason for optimism this month as the Covid threat in Queensland seems to be waning even further. Whilst there is no room for complacency the club has been able to relax some of its stringent, but necessary, regulations with regard to cleaning cards, tables etc.

There also appears to be a slow but very welcome return by some of our old and very valued members; welcome back, it is lovely to see you, and please tell your friends and fellow members that BBC is a safe club in which to play. As the warm weather approaches I know that all our players will be happy to know that the use of air conditioning is permitted, and the water cooler is back in use, though for the time being you will have to use your own water bottle or disposable paper cup and wipe the operating button after each use.

I think we will all be glad to see the back of the Covid-inflicted Club regulations, particularly those members who have played with 12 cards,

only realizing at the end that the card they played at trick two was stuck fast to another one. Then we have the recurring problem of West bidding before South (who is recording the bids). All good fun, but we'll all be happy when it's confined to history.

We have the GNOT competition this Sunday - this has been supported to the maximum and we have a full house with 12 teams. I'm sure that this will be a fun day for all concerned. Bring your own lunch and drinks for the full Sunday session.

Sadly, this year there will not be a Melbourne Cup function, just a red point normal session. So for those of you who want to do the lunch, sweeps, and race cheering, you will have to wear your best race day gear to the club then migrate to another venue for the partying.

Weekly mini-lessons by Peter Evans will commence on Saturday 24th October at 10am via Zoom (see Tom's Administrator's Corner for details). This is a fabulous opportunity to learn from an expert whilst still wearing your PJ's, so please join in and enjoy the lessons!

Elaine

**If It's Not About
BRIDGE
Don't Ask Me.**

Tomas' Administrator's Corner

Club Mobile Phone

As some of you may be aware, the club is having some trouble with the phone connection. Currently the phone line is disconnected and we are unable to receive calls. We're trying (with no success) to get this fixed.

The club will be purchasing a mobile phone in the next week. The club's new phone number will be announced via Pianola email and a note on our website.

Until then, if you have a very urgent message, please call the director for the day (whose contact number can be found in your club diary) or the president (Elaine Jonsberg), or email bbridgecentre@bigpond.com.

Mini-Lesson Recommencement

Until now, the club has not been able to continue the popular Friday morning mini-lessons due to problems with lack of social distancing under the Covid restrictions. Peter Evans will be restarting mini-lessons over Zoom starting on Saturday 24 October at 10am and subsequent Saturdays at the same time.

Lessons will be aimed at the same level as the past Friday lessons i.e. a relatively simple intermediate level. The first set of lessons will explain the 4 basic declarer play plans and then move to more complex hands. The aim is to get attendees to the point where they can virtually look at a hand and know in 95% of cases what their general approach/plan should be.

If you send your email details to Peter at peterwevans@optusnet.com.au, he will include you in the talks and send you the Zoom link 15 minutes before the scheduled talk time.

Members' Contact Details Update

It is that time of year when I ask members to confirm that their contact details are correct. Landline and mobile phone numbers are published in the yearly diary.

A list is available on the noticeboard at the club. Check the list to see that your details are correct.

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Anne Duncanson – Club
- Colleen Stanley – Regional
- Rob Swann – Local*

New Members

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

- Jan Argent
- Janine Budgeon
- Eliza Hemphill.
- Margaret Price
- Rosemary Thomson

Tomas Corney



Bridge hand:

Partners of mine frequently find themselves in contracts that are perilous at best and hopeless at worst. This hand is a case in point:

Dlr: S
Vul: E-W

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

South opened the bidding with a testosterone-laden 4D, a bid only Alan McKenna would regard as an underbid. North compounded the felony by pushing to 5D and there the optimistic South resided.

Of course West could immediately have defeated the contract by three tricks via the lead of a heart or a club, but instead he led the three of spades. South saw the ghostly hint of survival. Without optimism he ran the spade lead to his singleton Queen. Next he led a trump to finesse the jack and then threw his heart on the Ace of spades. He led the King of Hearts for a ruffing finesse and held his breath. East covered the King with the Ace and South ruffed. He got back to dummy with a trump and pitched a club on the Queen of Hearts. He lost only 2 Club tricks – contract made. I dread to think how East/West must have felt at this *tour de force* of good fortune for South, but to be fair to South he saw the possibility and took it.

Moral: Apart from keeping your bidding, if not within the bounds of reason, at least within the bounds of sanity, the moral here is that no matter how desperate a contract appears there may well be a distribution of cards that allow the contract to make. Play for that distribution and, like me, go 4 off.

Arne

Heard at the Bridge Table

Unfamiliar partnerships often can reap big rewards. The reason? No understanding -- no misunderstanding!

My partner is as sharp as a kilo of wet liver

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

Has your Dummy play finally reached the dizzy heights of mediocrity?

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

If you can't be kind to your partner, at least be vague

Incomprehensible good luck beats skill anytime.

Winning is how high you have bounced after you hit bottom.

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.

The difference between a bridge enthusiast and a bridge fanatic is night and all night.

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.

Some more jokes from Neil

The urge to sing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight " is just

.....

A whim away, a whim away, a whim away

Recently I had a dream that I wrote Lord of the Rings.

Must have been Tolkien in my sleep.

I went off to a yodeling class. There were a lot of people there.

The instructor told us to line up in an orderly orderly orderly manner.

Did you know that crackers recently returned to popularity after being a wafer a while.

What washes up on tiny beaches?

Micro waves

I have a pen that can write underwater.

It can also write other words

What rhymes with orange.

No it doesn't.

Dad are we pyromaniacs?

Yes we are son

(Arson)

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