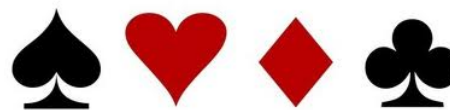


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



April 2022

Vol. 9 No 4

President's Report

Our Easter Congress was a great success and this was due to the efforts of a number of people.

I want to congratulate and thank Tomas Corney for the fabulous job he did as Convenor. There are a number of important tasks that have to be performed and Tom diligently worked his way through those. Well done Tom.

As always Janette Hiatt excelled as Providor and worked tirelessly before, through, and after the Congress. Players were well nourished throughout the day and the pizza after play was well received and enjoyed by all. A big thank you to those members who donated food and also to those members who donated their time as kitchen volunteers (Hazel Lahey, Colleen Stanley, Lynn Kelly, Patti Fomiatti, Phyll Roxborough, Joy Kiffel, Marion Swann, Robyn Brady). To those players who assisted with the stacking of tables and chairs upstairs after play many thanks.

Marie Buckley did a great job in meeting QBA regulations with regards to proof of double vaccination for covid. Thank you Marie.

Thanks also to our directors, Chris Snook and Jo Neary, who ran the events with their usual expertise.

All these efforts are greatly appreciated.

As one of the 3 people who got stuck in the lift Easter Monday I am pleased to report that the project for replacing the lift is well under way. The removal of the old lift happened last week and this coming week the new slab will be poured. Towards the end of next month the new lift will be installed.

Our next Congress the Butler Graded Pairs is being held Sunday 29 May. Please support this event so it can be a great success as well.

Peter Burke

Tom's Administrator's Corner

BBC Graded Butler Pairs (Sunday 29 May, 9:30am)

Even though we have barely recovered from the Easter Congress, our next congress is coming up on Sunday 29 May. It is Graded Butler Pairs and

by the time you read this, the entry form will be available on the noticeboards at the club.

So what is Butler scoring? The Butler scoring method uses IMP's, which is how Teams are scored, instead of Matchpoints which we play at

our usual sessions. In Butler scoring the Declarer's top priority is to make their contract while the Defender's priority should be to defeat the contract rather than simply trying to limit the amount of overtricks. The cost is \$30 per player (\$60 per pair). The entry link is available online via the BBC website. Entries close after Wednesday 25 May, so please get your entries in.

Please Note: We are also after spare players for the Butler Pairs Congress. Please phone Tom on 0450510196 or email bbridgecentre@bigpond.com if you can help out.

Wednesday Morning May Pairs – Red Points (4 & 11 May, 9:30am)

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 must play both weeks with the same partner. The cost will be a coupon for members and \$10 for visitors.

Cold & Flu Season

With the cooler weather beginning, here is your reminder to get the seasonal flu vaccine. During play it is important to remember the following ...

- If you are sick, or have cold/flu symptoms 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.
- 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.

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Vanessa Brewis – State
- Jenny McGowan – State
- Don Weerheim – State

Tomas Corney

Bridge hand: A Lesson In Hand Evaluation

Dlr: E

Vul: N-S

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

At the recent Gold Coast Congress, in the Open Butler Swiss Pairs event, my partner and I held

the N-S hands shown above. As South I had a nice 14 count and naturally was getting ready to bid. But then dealer East opened the bidding with 1♥.

Two questions for you to ponder before you read further:

1. Would you have opened the East hand or would you have passed since it "only has 10 hcp"?
2. What would you bid with my hand after the 1♥ opening on my right?

Most good players, using the Rule of 20 (or better yet, the Rule of 22) would have no problems opening this East hand. The Rule of 20 says add your hcp to the length of your two

longest suits and if the answer is 20 or more, open. Here you have 10hcp plus two 5-card suits, thus $10 + 10 = 20$.

A better guideline is the Rule of 22 where you add your hcp, length of two longest suits, AND the number of quick tricks. [Quick tricks: A = 1, Kx = $\frac{1}{2}$, AK = 2, AQ = $1\frac{1}{2}$.] Here you have 10 hcp plus two 5-card suits, plus 2 quick tricks (Kx and AQ), which equals 22, therefore open. The reason the Rule of 22 is better is that when you open the bidding, partner expects you to have some defensive values if the opponents compete too high. Quick tricks provide better defensive values than a bunch of scattered queens and jacks (“quacks”).

The other good feature about this East hand is that *all* the hcp are in the two long suits, which improves the quality of the hand markedly. Plus, it has a good rebid available.

Now we get to question 2) from above. What do you do as South if RHO opens 1♥ on your right? If you said double just because you have an opening strength hand, go to the bottom of the class! You should just pass smoothly and wait to see what happens with further bidding. To make a takeout double you need support for *all* the unbid suits (either 4 cards, or at least 3). Here you would be embarrassed if you doubled and partner then bid diamonds and had to play in a 4-2 fit.

After 1♥ - Pass, West bids 1NT (showing 6-9p, denying 3-card ♥ support and less than 4 ♠s. Now, my partner, a naturally aggressive bidder, bid 2♠. Ostensibly this shows 10+ points, but given that his 9hcp are all clustered in his two longest suits, that the opponents are likely short in ♠s, implying I have some support in that suit. At matchpoints, especially vulnerable, this would be considered a bit of a dangerous bid, but at IMP scoring, partner knew the opponents would be extremely reluctant to risk doubling us into game. Now RHO bids 3♦, her second suit.

It was then back to me. In the space of one round of bidding my hand had improved dramatically! My ♠ holding was magic, as was my ♥ holding sitting over RHO's 1♥ opening, and now even my K♦ looks to be having full value as the A♦ is likely with East. Given that we were vulnerable at IMP scoring, I, with the hand that had at first passed when everybody else was bidding, then jumped straight to 4♠, which partner made easily. Only 10 out of the 39 NS pairs in the event bid and made this ♠ game, so we got a good score.

This deal is illustrative of hand evaluation on multiple levels – how points placed in long suits improve a hand, and how the value of a hand is not fixed at the time you pick it up and first evaluate it, but instead it is quite dynamic changing depending on partner's bids and the opponents' bids.

John Kelly



Easter Congress Results

Pairs: A Grade

First: Richard Fox, Andrew Woollons (Pictured)



Second: John Kelly, Peter Evans

Third: Ewa Kowalczyk, Gheorghi Belonogov

Pairs: B Grade

First: Peter Burke, Rod Wilson (No picture available)

Second: Sarah Huntington-Wynne, Tim Sayer

Third: David Earnshaw, Daniel Chua

Teams: A Grade

First: Peter Evans, Paul Hooykaas, Tony Treloar, Ralph Parker (Pictured)



Second: Geoffrey Toon, Jim Evans, Charlie Lu, Watson, Zhou

Third: Joan Jenkins, Alan Boyce, Jack Rohde, Lex Ranke

Teams, B Grade

First: Lilly Jia, Dennis Sullivan, Mary Simon, Kevin Hamilton-Reen (Pictured)



Second: Barry Williams, Neville Williams, Ross Shardlow, Peter Gruythuysen

Third: John Lahey, Arne Jonsberg, Alan McKenna, Judith Milliner

Teams, C Grade

First: Martin Wu, Wendy Cuthbert, Kathleen Clifford, Eugene Pereira (pictured)



Second: Kerry Pope, Peter Burke, Marie Buckley, Nanette Hinsch

Third: Rob Swann, Philip Argyris, Jane Tagney, Robin Bishop

Congratulations!

The 12 Laws of Bridge

LAW 1: No matter how bad your last hand was, the worst is yet to come. This law does not expire on the last hand of the match, since it has the supernatural tendency to extend well over the course of a tournament ... actually your lifetime.

LAW 2: Your best game of bridge will be followed almost immediately by your worst ever. The intensity of the latter increases with the number of people you tell about the former.

LAW 3: Finesses never work. If one does, the law of the universe has been broken and life as we know it will come to an end ... and it is your fault.

LAW 4: As soon as you fail to make your contract, your partner will look to the ceiling and shake his head. It is totally irrelevant that your partner supported your suit with a void.

LAW 5: Incompetence has no correlation to years of experience. You will go downhill without ever reaching the top.

LAW 6: The more points or trumps you hold in your hand, the worse the distribution will be. This bridge law mocks the law of statistics. When you have an 8-card trump fit, not only will the split be (at least) 4-1, but the opponent with the singleton will get a ruff.

LAW 7: A smiling opponent is the most painful torture known to man. Pretending that you did not see the smile quadruples the pain.

LAW 8: You will always forget whether a critical card has been played when it matters the most. No matter how you decide, it will always be wrong. Law 7 will immediately follow this.

LAW 9: No matter how well you shuffle the cards, the Ace will sit behind your King. (see Law 3)

LAW 10: The person you would most hate to lose to will always be the one who beats you. Law 7 will immediately follow this.

LAW 11: No matter how well you are doing, the last three hands will automatically drop your score to what it really should be.

LAW 12: Bridge should be given up at least twice per month and whenever Law 7 occurs.

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