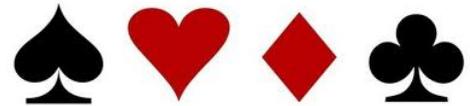


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



June 2018

Vol. 5 No 6

President's Report

We had a very successful Butler Pairs Congress late last month. Thanks to Chris for all his organisational work and to Janette and her kitchen volunteers for their catering work. Clive Carter did a great job with the BBQ. Thanks also to our directors Chris Snook and Julie Jeffries for the smooth running of the bridge sessions.

John Kelly and Peter Evans continued their winning form by taking out the A grade pairs. This gives them a very impressive trifecta having previously won the club championships and Easter pairs.

In the B grade pairs Judith Bennett and Narelle McIver came third.

In the C grade pairs it was very pleasing to see a number of our club members participating. The

best performed pair were Rod Wilson and Bernard Trefeu who came second.

Congratulations to Edwin Clarke and Rod Wilson for winning this month's red point event which was held over the last two Mondays. The Tuesday evening red point event is still in progress.

The roofing and drainage project is slowly coming to an end. Indoors the beam has now been plastered and needs painting as does the landing in the stairwell nearest Ipswich Rd. Outdoors the car park needs to be sealed. Until this work is completed members are asked to exercise caution after rain to not carry mud inside.

Peter Burke

Chris's Administrator's Corner

Building Maintenance Update

This last month has been very busy with cleaning up after the improvements and repairs to the roof, guttering, downpipes and stormwater drainage work at the club.

The contractors are in the progress of repairing water damage parts of the building and placing turf / sealing the grounds which were dug up for the laying of the stormwater drains.

Members may have noticed that the office counter window has been removed. This was removed following an engineer's report which was organised by the council. Basically, a window underneath a beam with no other support is very unsafe. The way to make it safe was to remove the counter window and brick the area of the wall which had the window.

Saturday 1pm Green Point Teams - 30 June

I will be trialling another green point teams session on Saturday 30 June at 1pm.

Feedback from the April teams session was that players missed scoring up after each match instead of scoring up at the end of the session. Therefore, the plan is to change the format to scoring up after each match.

Prior entry will be 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. You can enter either as a team or a pair to be placed into a team.

NOTE: There will be a normal pair's session for those who don't want to play in the teams on Saturday 30 June. However, there will be NO guaranteed game if you walk-in without a partner on this day.

Red Point Sessions

Our next red point sessions are Saturday 7 & 14 July @ 1.00 pm. 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.

BBC Graded Teams Congress (Sunday 22 July)

Our next congress is coming up on Sunday 22 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.

Cold and Flu Season Reminder

- If you are sick, please think twice before coming to bridge. Sitting at a bridge table can be an ideal environment for spreading a cold or the flu.
- 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.

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Arne Jonsberg - Bronze Life
- Neil Hansen - State
- Judy Hempel - Local
- Patsybeth Ridgway - Local
- Nicky Denholm - Graduate

New Member

The Committee welcomes Kathleen Lilley as a new member and wishes her a long and happy association with BBC.

Chris Larter

BBC Butler Pairs Congress

On Sunday 27 May, BBC held its Butler Pairs Congress. Numbers were up from the previous few years with 60 pairs / 30 tables, divided into 3 grades of 20 pairs / 10 tables. Thank you to all involved in the congress in any way.

Chris Larter

Results:

- 1st A Grade – Peter Evans & John Kelly
- 2nd A Grade – Richard Ward & Neville Francis
- 3rd A Grade – Jill Magee & Terry Strong
- 1st B Grade – Cora Taylor & Jim Taylor
- 2nd B Grade – Alan Boyce & Ian Barfoot
- 3rd B Grade – Narelle McIver & Judith Bennett
- 1st C Grade - Sandra Mulcahy & Fiona Hosier
- 2nd C Grade – Bernard Trefeu & Rod Wilson
- 3rd C Grade – Sumant Handa & Eugene Pereira



1st A Grade – Peter Evans & John Kelly



Chris Snook (Director)



3rd B Grade – Narelle McIver & Judith Bennett (absent) with Peter Burke (BBC President).



David O’Gorman with Julie Jeffries (director).



2nd C Grade – Bernard Trefeu & Rod Wilson

Photos taken by Bronwyn Turner.

Director's Corner

ARRIVING WITHOUT A PARTNER

I think BBC provides an excellent service by guaranteeing a partner if you turn up without one on Tuesday morning, Tuesday night supervised, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, however there are a few things you need to remember when arriving without a partner.

- You must arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time as the Director needs to know table numbers in order to set up the best movement for players. In fact, as a courtesy to the Director, all players should be seated 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. If you are unavoidably running late please phone that information through.
 - If another player arrives without a partner the Director will ask you to play together. This may mean that you are asked to sit NS when you would rather be EW, or EW when you prefer NS. Assist the Director by moving as asked. The Director will usually have a good reason for this. The other player may have a mobility problem or it may be better for the movement or perhaps you were last to arrive.
 - If you play with the Director, the Director may prefer to sit NS at a table with a view of the clock and across the room. A playing Director is very busy setting up the best movement for the number of tables, collecting table fees, distributing the change, completing the session balance sheet, printing the hand records, taking your calls, checking for anomalies, watching the time and may prefer not to move to a different table each round
- The Director may occasionally need to ask other players to move to another table.
- The Director usually arrives early and keeps an eye on the tables as players arrive. For example, if at the start of the session the Director finds that there are 2 half tables, both with pairs sitting NS it's only logical that one pair will be asked to move and sit EW at the other table. This should happen without question. Perhaps one of the other pair has a serious mobility problem or perhaps the pair asked to move was the last to arrive.
 - Some players prefer to sit EW because they like to move between rounds. However there may be an occasion when the Director asks one of these players to move NS. A player who prefers to sit EW can sit NS occasionally. There's nothing to stop the player standing up at the end of each round, moving about and placing the boards at the next table.
- The Director is attuned to players' needs and won't have asked you to move except in the best interest of the movement and other players. Please cooperate by moving graciously if asked.

Julie Jeffries

Winning Leads Against Suit Contracts

With the advent of computer simulations, a lot of the guesswork has gone out of choosing the best opening lead against a suit contract. In their 2011 book, *Winning Suit Contract Leads*, David Bird and Taf Anthias ran 5000 deal simulations on each hand to find what was the most effective lead. Here are some of their findings:

The bidding has gone 1S 3S 4S and you hold:

♠ 94 ♥ 95 ♦ A9762 ♣ J754

Here are the percentages that the particular lead defeated the contract:

♠ 4 - 12.7%
♥ 9 - 17.6%
♦ A - 16.3%
♣ 4 - 14.7%

Note the lead of the doubleton was most successful. This was a very strong repeated finding on hands in the book. **Leads from doubletons and of singletons are red hot.** The reasons are that not only might you get a ruff, but because you are not leading away from an honour you are not finessing yourself and giving away a free trick.

Note the old adage of "if in doubt, lead a trump" was wrong and was the least successful lead. This was also a general finding in the book.

The bidding has gone 1S 2S 4S and you hold:

♠ 742 ♥ Q95 ♦ K865 ♣ 1063

The successful percentages were:

♠ 2 - 13.7%
♥ 5 - 11.6%
♦ 5 - 11.9%
♣ 3 - 12.9%

The trump is now the best lead but there is another factor at work here – the best leads (the trump and the club) were away from nothing, rather than way from a K or Q by themselves. **Better to lead a suit with no honour, than a suit with a K or Q by itself.**

The bidding has gone 1S 2S 4S and you hold:

♠ 7 ♥ K974 ♦ Q983 ♣ J862

The percentages were:

♠ 7 - 29.4%
♥ 4 - 27%
♦ 3 - 29.1%
♣ 2 - 29.7%

If you have an honour by itself, generally it was better to lead away from a jack than a queen, and from a queen than a king.

The bidding has gone 1S 3S 4S and you hold:

♠ – ♥ K108 ♦ K1076 ♣ K108542

Yes, you have been sent to bridge hell for your sins. Which K do you lead away from?

♥ 8 - 16.2%
♦ 6 - 18.8%
♣ 2 - 20.4%

If you have to lead away from an honour by itself, the longer the suit the less risk that you will give a trick away.

The bidding has gone 1S 3S and you hold:

♠ KQ42 ♥ KJ4 ♦ 10984 ♣ A7

Interesting dilemma – the ♦10 looks safe and sensible. The club is doubleton, but it means playing an unsupported A.

- ♠ 2 - 17.8%
- ♥ 4 - 21%
- ♦ 10 - 23.3%
- ♣ A - 31.4%

The doubleton lead was still the strongest by a big margin despite the A by itself. The fact your opponents haven't gone to game increases the number of points partner is holding and increases the chances that they have the CK and can give you a ruff.

The bidding has gone 1S (2H) 2S (3H) 3S and you hold:

♠ A10 ♥ AJ9543 ♦ K64 ♣ 97

- ♠ A - 28.7%
- ♥ A - 38.6%
- ♦ 4 - 32.8%
- ♣ 9 - 43.7%

Leading away from a king was predictably bad. However, most people would unhesitatingly play the ♥A given that their partner has raised their suit. I know from bitter experience that declarer shows up with the K of our suit surprisingly frequently, and the lead of the A has just given declarer a free trick. It is usually better to wait for partner to lead the suit through. The doubleton wins again.

The bidding has gone 1S 2S 4S and you hold:

♠ 1043 ♥ Q106 ♦ K10986 ♣ Q5

- ♠ 3 - 19.9%
- ♥ 6 - 16.5%
- ♦ 10 - 17.3%
- ♣ Q - 17.9%

If your side suit holdings require leading away from kings and queens by themselves, a passive trump lead might be best.

Peter Evans



The Mississippi Heart Hand

Imagine you were dealt, as South, the following hand:

♠ A K Q
 ♥ A K Q J 10 9
 ♦ ---
 ♣ A K Q J

This is without doubt the best hand you will ever hold and you therefore open 7H, which is surely a laydown.

You are both surprised and delighted when West doubles, and so, like shooting fish in a barrel, you re-double.

West as expected leads the Ace of diamonds, North apologises for his paucity of points, and you smile smugly and say "no worries".

The outcome of this hand is that declarer makes only his six trump tricks, going down seven for a score of minus 4000.

Full hand:

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

Opening lead ♦A

Every time West ruffs he leads another diamond, forcing declarer to ruff and lose control.

This hand is obviously rigged and is known as the Mississippi Heart hand, because it was widely used, in the days of whist, by 19th century cardsharps on Mississippi River steamboats.

(Taken from "*Points Schmoints*" by Marty Bergen)

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.

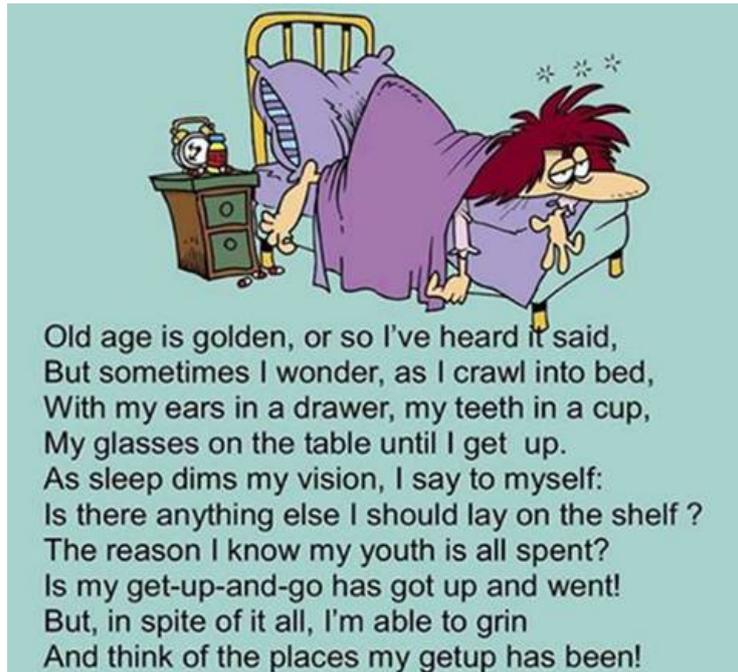
LAW 8: You will always forget whether a critical card has been played when it matters the most. No matter how you decide, it will always be wrong. Law 7 will immediately follow this.

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

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