

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



November 2018

Vol. 5 No 11

President's Report

The President's Report to the Annual General Meeting November 2018

Before I address the state of the club I need to acknowledge the passing of Ron Duke, a popular member of our Monday session. Also some club members have experienced serious health issues over the last 12 months and while most have returned Rosa Lachman has not played this year and my playing partner and friend Barry Usher has missed bridge for the last several months. We wish them better times ahead.

In happier news the club has gone from strength to strength with membership growing and table numbers increasing. The governance of the club has been efficient and impressive due to the hard work of the very fine committee and our excellent administrator.

Chris Larter is our highly efficient administrator. Nothing gets by Chris and he does an outstanding job in keeping the club running very smoothly.

Our Treasurer John Kelly has once again this year run the club finances with his usual level of skill devoting many hours of his time to this thankless role.

Lynn Kelly continued to be an excellent and highly competent secretary and Janette Hiatt seems to get better and better as our providore.

My brother Pat has been a very good Vice President and I thank him for his support.

Our immediate past president Elaine Jonsberg continues to work hard for the club and was of great assistance to me transitioning into this role.

We are fortunate to have the current president of the Queensland Bridge Association on our committee. Richard Wallis provides an enormous wealth of knowledge with regard to the wider world of bridge.

Our 2 newest committee members Julie Jeffries and Lesleigh Egan have also made invaluable contributions.

I would like to thank this fabulous committee for making my first year as president an easy one but more importantly an enjoyable one. I am also delighted that the committee have all re-nominated for next year.

While I am in thanking mode I must acknowledge Keith Long who is our IT specialist and looks after the club's computers and dealing machine and in addition is our Masterpoints secretary.

Arne Jonsberg remains as editor of our Newsletter for which I thank him. He also trudges into the club on rugby days to put up

the barricades to the car park for which all of our Saturday players should thank him. Thank you to those who man the barricades on match days and in particular John and Hazel Lahey and Chris and Elaine who consistently turn up for this onerous task. We are in talks with council about a possible solution to the parking problems on rugby days.

Thanks are also due to the good souls who suffer the temperamental vagaries of our dealing machine to ensure that there are always sufficient boxes of boards for our many sessions. Apart from myself our regular dealers are Pat Burke, Elaine Jonsberg and Lesleigh Egan. Both Julie Jeffries and Chris Larter deal for some of our congresses. So many thanks to them because if you were looking for a boring, repetitive and tedious occupation - board dealing is it.

I believe that BBC continues to have an excellent reputation within Brisbane as a happy and friendly club and certainly our attendances would confirm this. I would like to thank all members for being so welcoming of visitors and new players. Another significant contributing factor is the outstanding pool of directors we have at our disposal.

Monday is regarded as the friendly and relaxed session although at times it can be the noisy group. Earlier this year we scaled back the time allowed for each round as we transitioned from supervised to open play and this was handled well. Mondays are very well attended and I want to thank Nanette Hinsch for the way she runs this session.

Tuesday mornings are very well run by Peter Evans. This is despite a number of presidential warnings being given with regard to unfavourable rulings and inappropriate sit out movements that affect the president. Table numbers are steady and it is a popular session. Thank you Peter.

Our only evening session on Tuesday has an enthusiastic group of regulars and has picked up slightly. Of course a few more friendly faces would be most welcome. This session and Saturdays session are well organised by Chris Larter. Saturday is a popular session with steady table numbers. Thank you Chris.

Wednesday is a bit unpredictable but seems to be strengthening. Now that our director Richard Wallis has offered a hand review session after play I would hope that table numbers will increase. Richard's Thursday supervised session is a must for all those players who want to improve their bridge. I am flat out remembering the last card I played whereas Richard can remember hands from years ago. Thank you very much for your mentoring role Richard.

Fridays continue to be our standout session. There have been times when we were nearly required to set up tables outside on the old playing fields. I am sure the main reason for Friday's enormous popularity is our director John Kelly and his mini lesson. I totally understand John wanting to take a step back from the number of lessons he delivers as there is a lot of preparation time that goes into them. Thank you John for all the hard work you have put in. How lucky are we to have highly qualified directors to now share the load of lessons around. Also how fortunate are we to have Julie Jeffries as back up to fill any director vacancies during the year.

So a big thank you to all our fabulous directors. Your work is greatly appreciated.

We conducted our usual congresses this year with great success. The numbers were steady or marginally increased and the feedback I received was very positive. The catering organised by Janette was as wonderful as ever and the BBQ's as popular as ever. To all those members who helped at these events in the set-up, catering and clear up the committee offers an enormous thank you.

As you are all aware our major roof and drainage project took place earlier this year and I again thank members for their patience during this work. Our naive optimism that all our problems had been solved were dashed with the latest downpour. While we did not have the torrents of water that previously entered the building it was very disappointing that we had a few small leaks. I have been in contact with council who were also not happy with the news and they arranged an onsite meeting with the building contractor which Chris and I attended. It came as no surprise that the builder said it was a new problem and as such a scope of works would have to be submitted to council for their agreement to pay. We are waiting for council's decision.

On a far more positive note for those of you who have not been upstairs recently the new wooden floor has been laid. It looks fabulous

and many thanks go to Elaine and Graeme for the great job they did.

We are in preliminary discussions with council about upgrading our toilet facilities. There will be further information about this when we discuss the proposed motion.

Overall I think that our playing environment is fairly comfortable.

In conclusion I can report that the club is on a very sound footing in every sense. Our membership is growing; table numbers are up and the committee works hard to maintain a happy, relaxed and viable club. I am looking forward to the next 12 months with great confidence.

Peter Burke

Chris's Administrator's Corner

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.

To any players at BBC who plan to become members at the beginning of 2019, I would also like to include your phone details in the diary. Please either come and see me or write your details on the list at the club.

Air-Conditioning

As we enter summer, it is a reminder that there are cool spots in the room with the air-conditioning. The air-conditioning is set at a temperature to cool the whole room. It is suggested, if you feel that cold, that you bring a

jacket along for the times you sit in a cool spot. There are also shawls available in the white cupboard near the kitchen which players can use.

The committee asks that players do not adjust the temperature or direction of the air-flow themselves. If you have a problem, please advise the Administrator, Director or a Committee Member. Thank you.

Sit-Outs

A reminder to players, when you have sit-out to consider others and speak quietly so as not to disturb the rest of the room still playing. Alternatively, you are welcome to step away from the table during the sit-out such as going outside or into the library area.

Annual Membership Renewal Notices



All members will receive their annual membership renewal notice in early December. The due date is 31 December 2018.

The preferred payment method is internet/online direct deposit.

If you are paying by cash or cheque, place the correct money in a sealed envelope and drop the envelope in the white box outside the office. Please do not give the money to the director or ask the director for change so as to pay your membership fees.

A reminder that the Concession/Pensioner price is only available for members who have an Australian Pensioner Concession Card.

The ABF Levy and QBA Levy have both increased by 4.9% from \$15.00 to \$15.80 for 2019. These Levies, in future years, will increase by annual CPI.

Christmas Hamper Draw Raffle

A tradition at BBC for many years is the Christmas Hamper Draw Raffle. This is a chance for members to win a hamper full of Christmas goodies.

This year, the draws will be at each regular session between Saturday 9 December and Friday 15 December. Members can purchase 1 ticket per session for \$2.

Christmas Party

The BBC Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 15 December. This is for all players who attend any bridge session at BBC – not just those who attend the Saturday afternoon session. Lunch will commence at 12 noon in which we ask everyone to bring a plate of food to share. Lunch will be followed by a red point

bridge session at 1 pm. You can come without a partner for the bridge.

We will be downstairs again this year with a few extra tables set up to cater for the anticipated numbers. Last year we had a total of 25 tables with 24 tables in the main room and 1 in the office. So arrive early if you want a seat inside.

Come and enjoy a social afternoon. All are welcome.

Christmas-New Year Period @ BBC

There will be NO bridge at BBC on Tuesday 25 December, Thursday 27 December and Tuesday 1 January. All other sessions will be as usual.



New Members

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

- Helen Blair
- Susan Cameron
- Erica Grey
- Tony Marsland
- Jacquie Wardhaugh

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Michael Fernon – Gold Life
- Wolf Stuthe – Silver Life
- Sheila Wills – Bronze Life
- Greg Ford – Regional
- Colleen Stanley – **Local
- Tony Williams – **Local
- Fenna Cooper – *Local
- Teddy Ford – **Local
- Cathryn Jordan – Local
- Bev Wilde – Local

Chris Larter

BBC Novice Pairs Congress

BBC held its Novice Pairs Congress on Sunday 21 October with 20 tables in play. Thank you to Julie Jeffries for directing and those who supported the congress by playing, volunteering their time either in the kitchen on the day or by providing a food donation.

A story of how the afternoon of the congress unfolded

A pair left during the afternoon session of the congress due to a storm approaching. This drop out forced Julie Jeffries to place Janette Hiatt and Anne Bartholdt, who were working in the kitchen, at gun point to jump into play. They said yes, of course. I was, therefore, left on my own to cook on the BBQ with the approaching storm (the last bit of meat came off the BBQ when the heavy rain started) as well as set up the food and drinks for after play. Thankfully, Peter Burke came in at the right time to help fetch the sausages out of the oven before presenting the prizes to the winners.

Chris Larter



1st Ch'ship: Aijun Yang & Sameer Pandya



2nd Ch'ship: Bernard Trefeu & Rod Wilson



3rd Ch'ship: Kevin Hamilton-Reen & Rita Fatseas



1st Plate: Gaye Clark & Eliza Hemphill



2nd Plate: Malcolm Corney & Robyn Brady

3rd Plate: Anna Green & Yvonne Zande (both absent for photo)



1st Consolation: Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln (absent)

Photos of prize winners taken by Bronwyn Turner.

BBC Melbourne Cup Day

BBC celebrated Melbourne Cup Day at the 9.30am session on Tuesday 7 November. There were 11 tables for the bridge session which was followed by a bring-a-plate lunch and the watching of the race. Pictures taken on the day were by Bronwyn Turner.

Prizes for best dressed went to Judy Hempel and Patricia Daly.



Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams 2018

The Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams were held on Sunday 18 November at Toowong Bridge Club. The Interclub Teams is an event where clubs in the zone can nominate one team for each grade. If a club nominates a team for all grades, they are eligible to compete for the Marion Cooke Memorial Trophy. The four grades are: Open, under 400 masterpoints, under 100 masterpoints and under 10 masterpoints.

Eight clubs – BBC, Kenmore, Northern Suburbs, QCBC, Redcliffe, Redland, Sunnybank and Toowong – took part in the event this year.

BBC was represented by the following members with their final position at the end of play.

- Open – 3rd (Richard Wallis, Julie Jeffries, John Kelly, Peter Evans)
- Under 400 masterpoints – 1st (Chris Larter, Elaine Jonsberg, Peter Burke, Nanette Hinsch)
- Under 100 masterpoints – 6th (Neil Hansen, Judy Hansen, Lynn Kelly, Marie Buckley)
- Under 10 masterpoints – 1st (Paul Murray, Christina Murray, Philip Argyris, Rob Swann)

With the combined results of all grades, it a great pleasure to announce that BBC won the event.

Gold Coast Congress 2019

The Gold Coast Congress will be held Friday 15 February - Saturday 23 February at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre at Broadbeach.



The website for the Gold Coast Congress is <http://www.qldbridge.com.au/gcc/index.php>. All of the information about the congress is available on the website. Also there are booklets and information on the notice board near the director desk.

For our players with more than 100 masterpoints, please refer to the website or booklet for your events.

For our Novice Players, which make up a large majority of our club, the events for you have been detailed out below. I encourage you to

play in one or more of the following events below.

Rookie Pairs (under 10 masterpoints)

- Sunday 17th Feb, 10.30am (minimum 24 boards) finish approx. 2.15pm
- Thursday 21st Feb, 10:30am (minimum 24 boards) finish approx. 2.15pm

Note: These are 2 separate events. Small tea break will be held during each session.

Price: \$50 per pair, per event

0-50 Masterpoint Pairs

- Tuesday 19th Feb 10.30am (minimum 24 boards) finish approx. 2.15pm
- Wednesday 20th Feb, 10:30am & 3pm (2 sessions) finish approx. 6.30 pm
- Thursday 21st Feb, 10:30am & 3pm (2 sessions) finish approx. 6.30 pm

Note: Small tea break will be held during each session. For the Wednesday and Thursday events, you must play both the morning and afternoon sessions.

Price: \$50 per pair for Tuesday and \$90.00 per pair for Wednesday and Thursday

Friday Novice Pairs (under 100 masterpoints)

- Friday 22nd Feb, 10am & 2pm (2 sessions)
finish approx. 5.15 pm

Note: You must play both sessions

Price: \$140 per pair (\$120 if prepaid by 4th Feb)

Novice Pairs Championship (under 100 masterpoints)

- Sat 16th Feb, 10.30am & 3pm (2 sessions)
finish approx. 6.15pm
- Sun 17th Feb, 10.30am & 3pm (2 sessions)
finish approx. 6.15pm
- Mon 18th Feb, 1.30pm finish approx. 5pm

Note: you must play all 5 sessions

Price: \$310 per pair (\$290 if prepaid by 4th Feb) Novice Teams Championship (under 100 masterpoints)

- Tue 19th Feb, 10:30am & 3pm (4 matches)
finish 6.30 pm approx.
- Wed 20th Feb, 10:30am & 3pm (4 matches)
finish 6.30 pm approx.
- Thur 21st Feb, 10:30am & 3pm (4 matches)
finish 6.30 pm approx.

Note: a team can consist of 4-6 players; the top 2 teams at the end of match 12 play in the finals at 10am Fri 22nd Feb (4 matches)

Price: \$740 per team (\$700 if prepaid by 4th Feb)

Chris Larter

Not Playing Too Quickly To The First Trick

Dealer: South

Vul: NS

♠ 93
♥ A965
♦ 72
♣ AKJ104

♠ 65
♥ J108
♦ AQ10985
♣ 63

♠ J108
♥ Q432
♦ K3
♣ Q952

♠ AKQ742
♥ K7
♦ J64
♣ 87

S	W	N	E
1S	3D (1)	X (2)	P
3S	P	4S	P
P	P		

- (1) Note the aggressive pre-empt from West. When you are non-vul vs vul, you can usually pre-empt to within 4 tricks of your contract.

Here, the West hand will probably get 5 tricks with diamonds as trumps so you can pre-empt with 3D. Note this is 3 down for -500 against a -620 4S game by NS.

- (2) North's double is a negative double showing 4 hearts and 10+ points

4S by South – opening lead ♥J.

This was an ordinary hand played at club level a couple of weeks ago but not played terribly well. You should follow this general process as declarer **BEFORE YOU TOUCH A CARD**:

(1) COUNT YOUR LOSERS IN A SUIT CONTRACT

This is to give you an idea of where your main problem is and to get you to start thinking about how to get rid of as many losers as possible. Looking at the South hand, you have no club losers, 3 diamond losers (this is where the problem is!), no heart losers, and no trump losers if they break well. However, with a pre-empt from West, I would be concerned that there might be a bad trump break. When one hand shows up with a lot of cards in one suit,

there is less room for cards in other suits and this increases the chances of bad breaks in other suits.

So, summing up it looks like we have 3 diamond losers we would like to get rid of, with the danger of a bad trump break for another loser or two.

(2) DECIDE ON YOUR GENERAL PLAN

There are only a small number of general plans but it's very important you have one. Even if you later get the small details wrong or mistime things, you know the general path you should be on and might be able to scramble back to where you should be.

The 4 main general plans are:

- (a) Draw trumps straight away and then take any finesses and test suits to see if they break.
- (b) Ruff some losers away in dummy before drawing trumps
- (c) Set up a long suit to discard losers. You might be drawing trumps first or not.
- (d) Cross ruff. You never draw trumps but ruff back and forth between hands

On this hand, you could try to ruff a diamond in dummy but this clearly will fail. With the diamond pre-empt on your left, your right hand opponent will clearly be able to over ruff you. Never mind the fact you have to lose 2 diamond tricks first and your opponents can lead trumps to counteract your plan.

My eye would fall upon the club suit in dummy – this looks like a set the long suit up for discards type general plan.

(3) DECIDE ON THE SPECIFIC DETAILS – PARTICULARLY WHEN YOU SHOULD DRAW TRUMPS

There's no point in delaying drawing trumps on this hand – you don't intend to ruff anything in dummy and trumps don't provide you with an entry back to dummy to get at the clubs. However, there is a danger – your diamond losers are very exposed so you must ensure you don't lose any more tricks.

How should we play to set up the club suit? On this hand, East is likely to show up with more clubs. West's pre-empt means East has very few diamonds and is likely to be longer in the other suits in compensation. Hence (after drawing trumps which do break nicely), I would play ♣AK and if the ♣Q hasn't appeared, lead the ♣J. If it's not covered, throw a diamond away. If West has the ♣Q against the odds, I still only lose 3 diamonds and make my contract. If East has the ♣Q (which is the case here) you will be able to get 2 discards on set up clubs.

Did I say you will be able to get 2 discards on set up clubs? That does assume you won the first trick with the ♥K in hand and still have the ♥A to get back to your clubs. And that's why you go through this planning process before you touch a card in dummy.

Peter Evans

A Gem Spotted By John Kelly

In this weekend's Ron Klinger bridge column there's another great pun:

Will glass coffins become popular?

Remains to be seen.



No this is not the cast from the film Fifty Shades of Grey, it is the team who performed admirably for BBC in last weekend's Inter-Club Teams competition held at Toowong Bridge Club. All club members taking part performed brilliantly but particular mention to B and D Grade members who won their respective divisions.



B Grade: Nanette Hinsch, Peter Burke, Elaine Jonsberg and Chris Larter.



D Grade: Philip Argyris, Christina Murray, Rob Swann and Paul Murray

Heard at the Bridge Table

A great partnership is not when a perfect match comes along. More often it is when they learn to appreciate and leverage off their differences.

Some people are so busy learning the various conventions and gadgets of the game; they never fully enjoy the game.

Put 4 bridge players on the table and you'll get 4 different opinions

Don't let worries get you down - play Bridge instead

Probability, playing rules, conventions and systems take the place of thinking. That is why they are so popular.

If you award Masterpoints for very good results then, logically, you should deduct them for very bad results.

I can concentrate at will on all the hands except the one I am currently playing.

You made your Ace of trumps. What else can you possibly want?

I know no one whom I would rather see in charge of the dummy.

My point count system? Extra for long suit, extra for short suit and 3 points for my superb play.

The biggest problem with buying a pack of bridge cards is that brains are not included.

Bridge is about making mistakes and learning from them.
My Partner got half of it right."

If you play bridge without ever having to explain your decision or make an apology, then you obviously don't exist.

Joke of the Month

Little Johnny was in maths class. His teacher asked him, "Johnny, if I give you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"

Johnny thought for a moment and answered, "seven."

The teacher shook her head, "No, listen carefully. If I give you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"

Johnny repeated, "Seven."

"Let me put it to you differently. If I give you 2 apples and another 2 apples and another 2, how many would you have?" the teacher said, starting to get frustrated.

"Six."

"Good. Now, if I give you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"

Johnny repeated "Seven!"

The teacher sighed and gave up, "Johnny, where the heck do you get 7 from?"

"Because I've already got a cat!"

Thought for the Month

"Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities"

Voltaire

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