

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



October 2022

Vol. 9 No 10

President's Report

We held our last Congress for the year on Sunday and it was a great success.

Firstly, I want to thank Tomas for the fantastic job he did as Convenor and he was also Caddy for the day.

Our Director Julie Jeffries ensured the smooth running of play. Thank you Julie.

To our wonderful Providore Janette Hiatt and our fabulous kitchen volunteers - Hazel Lahey, Robyn Brady, Merryl Moore, Bev Jenner and Flo Hall a very big thank you. Some of the ladies turned up under difficult circumstances and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

To those who helped with set up of the room and at the end of play clearing tables and chairs thank you very much.

I am also very pleased to say that a number of our club members performed very well at the Congress.

The club will have a Melbourne Cup function which is the first Tuesday in November. I encourage members to come along and bring a plate to share for lunch. The club will put on some bubbly and will run some sweepstakes. There will be a prize for the best dressed man and lady on the day. Please support this event.

Peter Burke

Tom's Administrator's Corner

Melbourne Cup Day & Tuesday AM Cup Season Pairs (1 & 8 November, 9:30am)

Back by popular demand, the BBC will be hosting a special Melbourne Cup day event, this will be the usual red point event – Bridge will commence at 9:30am.

Please bring along a plate of food to share (this can be a savoury/main/salad item or a sweet/dessert item) and dress in your

Melbourne Cup Day finest. There will be a prize for best dressed gentleman and lady.

Richard Wallis will be directing on the day and Nanette Hinsch will be running a sweep for the race. \$1, \$2 and \$5 sweeps will be available.

Reminder that this is a two week red point event so to qualify for the combined sessions overall placing result you will need to play both weeks with the same partner. No prior entry is required; everyone plays in the red point

sessions. The cost will be a coupon for members and \$10 for visitors.

Members' Contact Details Update

It is that time of year when members are asked 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 blue noticeboard at the club. Please check the list to see that your details are correct.

To any of our new players to BBC who plan to become members at the beginning of 2023, 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.

Lost & Found - Umbrellas

With especially wet weather coming up this week, be careful about leaving your umbrellas on the cage outside the front door. Some umbrellas have been forgotten overnight, some

have ended up in the Lost and Found. The lost and found section is slowly growing, please have a check if you have recently displaced a: Dark blue jacket, light blue raincoat, glasses case or umbrella.

GNOT Finals

Good luck to our BBC members playing in the upcoming GNOT National Finals, a four day event held over Friday 25 - Monday 28 November:

- Peter Evans
- Richard Wallis
- Lilly Jia

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Leonie Love – Bronze State
- Rod Wilson – Bronze State
- Martin Wu – National

Tomas Corney

Under 500 & Novice Pairs

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The BBC Under 500 & Novice Pairs Congress was held on Sunday 16 October with a total of 16 Pairs in the Novice section and 24 in the Under 500. The event was well directed by Julie Jeffries.

Under 500 Section:

1st – Rod Wilson / Leith Cameron



2nd – Lilly Jia / Davis Zhang



3rd – Rosemary Thomson / Sally Hall



Novice Section

1st – Malcolm Corney / Clive Carter



2nd – Vanessa Brewis / Jenny Mcgowan



Congratulations to all!

From the QBA Website:

This article first appeared in two parts in the Sunshine Coast Tri-Club Newsletter "Bridge Matters" in March and June 2014. This is part 1 – part 2 will follow next month.

What annoys bridge players – Part 1

I am becoming a grumpy old man. There are things that really annoy me at the bridge table. However, I know I am not alone – I bet that everyone reading this will share at least one of my pet hates and some may share them all. I've listed them in order most annoying first – your priorities may differ. Or you may agree that I'm just a grumpy old man.

Thanking opponents for doubling or pushing you to game when you make it: No matter how much you mean it in jest, your opponents will feel uncomfortable and maybe annoyed at themselves if they've doubled a making contract or pushed you into a making game when you weren't going there yourself. Making a gratuitous comment at this point will add fuel to

the fire. If this happens to you, consider yourself lucky but say nothing.

Making gratuitous comments after seeing you achieved a good result: It is the nature of bridge that a good result by one pair at the table equals a bad result for the other pair. So when you get a top board and announce "top board, partner", it is equivalent to telling the opponents they got a bottom. Say nothing. If you like, just pass the Bridgmate to your partner or opponents if they seem interested.

Fiddling with the Bridgmate or scoring sheet before making the opening lead: After the auction period, the whole table is waiting for the player on opening lead to make that lead. If you have other duties, like entering the details to the Bridgmate or writing on your personal scorer, make your lead first. When you have two tasks to do and people are waiting for one of them, it's just good manners to do that one first. Same applies to dummy if they are on Bridgmate duty – spread dummy before fiddling with the Bridgmate.

Not claiming as declarer when the outcome is obvious: If you are nearing the end of play of a hand and it's quite clear that you have all the remaining tricks, it's bad manners (and in fact contrary to the laws) to continue to play. The opponents are often squirming, wondering what cards they should keep, and it can be a difficult decision. It's very annoying for them when they later find that anything they did made no difference. Of course, don't claim if you're in doubt, and when you do claim, state what you are going to do "e.g. drawing trumps and the table is high". Similarly if you're in dummy and can't get back to hand and there's a potential loser on the table, the opponents won't be silly enough to throw out the winning card when they can see what's on the table, so saying "I'll give you the last trick" saves everyone time.

Asking questions during the auction when you have no intention to bid: The laws allow players to ask questions about the bidding at their turn to call. But when you don't intend to bid regardless of what the meaning might be, then don't ask. It just slows the auction down. You will be entitled to a full explanation of the bidding at the completion of the auction so your rights are protected. In fact, asking questions needlessly can have a downside – firstly, the bidder's partner will hear the answer and will know whether they're on the same page, and secondly, expressing interest about particular bids, especially alerted ones, suggests to your partner that you have an interest in that suit and under the laws of Unauthorised Information, this may limit their options when they get on lead.

Saying "having none" when you trump an opponent's trick: This happens typically when you are trumping when the opponents aren't expecting it. The opponents won't be happy about this, and saying "having none" is simply unnecessary, and sometimes seems like tightening the thumbscrews. Of course the partner of the player who is trumping can (and

should) ask "No spades, partner?", as this serves a purpose.

Saying "thank you" gratuitously: It gets my shackles up when declarer has dropped a singleton king, or extracts a queen they successfully finessed, and says "thank you". Unnecessary, and irksome to the defenders.

Putting pen to the bidding pad without knowing what you want to bid: Bidding often requires thought. While you're thinking, the other players will be looking at their cards and thinking about their next move. When you move your hand to the table, all players instinctively look across to the bidding pad waiting to see what you do, and tend to stay focussed till you make your bid. It can be annoying if you then retract your hand without doing anything, especially if you do it a number of times. It can also result in your left hand opponent thinking you've passed and making their call, which would be an infraction if you didn't actually write anything.

Hmmm... that's quite a list. Maybe I am getting too grumpy. Anyhow, I'm sure everyone agrees with at least some of these. It all comes down to players being aware of how their actions affect others – a good policy at the bridge table, and in life generally. More next issue.



Peter Busch

(Thanks to Tom for finding this!)

Heard at the Bridge Table

The best investment I ever made in my life is teaching my wife how to play bridge. She plays terribly but who cares! I must have saved a fortune keeping her away from shopping.

If God wanted us to play Bridge, he would have given us 13 fingers.

Ideal Partner?

A person who will support me even if I am wrong.

Just because someone agrees with my partner doesn't make him right. It just means there's someone else out there as stupid as him."

It's not enough to win the tricks that belong to you. Try also for some that belong to the opponents.

Since the average person's small supply of politeness must last him all his life, he can't afford to waste it on bridge partners.

The difference between genius and stupidity at bridge is that genius has its limits.

Rule of Eleven — the inevitable trick total whenever you bid a slam.

I smile while playing Bridge because I don't know what the hell is going on.

The trouble with Bridge is that there is no rewind button.

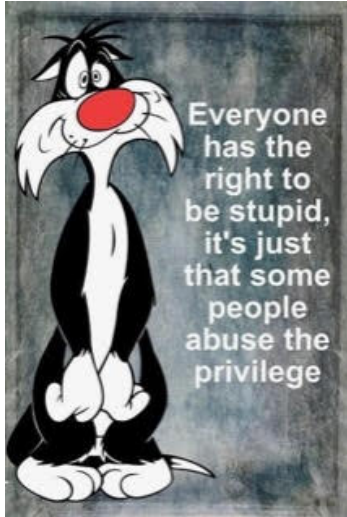
You are lucky to have me as your partner as I am not as judgmental as all those censorious, self-righteous people around me.

When arguing with your partner, never miss a good chance to shut up.

I'll try being nicer, partner, if you'll try being smarter.

To play the game well may be a sign of an ill-spent life.





Endgame

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