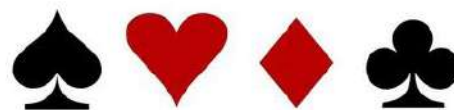


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2023

Vol. 10 No 9

President's Report, Annual General Meeting 16 September 2023

Thank you to members who attended the AGM.

The club remains in a healthy and stable state.

Sadly, we did suffer the passing of Blair Waters and Steve Parkes. They are missed at the club.

Our Congresses that we ran throughout the year were well attended and a number of our members performed very well. For these events to be a success a lot of hard work has to be put in. Firstly, I want to thank Tomas Corney for the fantastic job he did as Convenor and caddy.

To those volunteers who helped with set up and to those who assisted putting away tables and chairs at the conclusion of play a big thank you. To those kind souls who donated food thank you very much. To our wonderful kitchen volunteers: your time and effort is greatly appreciated.

All this hard work is certainly made worthwhile when you hear the very positive feedback of visitors and members as to what an enjoyable and relaxed Congress we run.

The club continues to work closely with Council to improve facilities and comfort levels for members. The replacement of the old unreliable lift with a modern, easier to operate lift has been a benefit to the club.

The club is basically a small business and as such it takes the efforts of a number of people to

ensure smooth operations and effective workings. My job as President has been made much easier by the fantastic committee that I have enjoyed working with. I have been extremely fortunate to have Elaine as Vice President. Elaine: your encouragement, support and wise counsel was greatly appreciated. Thank you so much.

There is no doubt that one of the most time consuming roles on the committee is that of Treasurer. We have been extremely blessed to have John Kelly fill that role over the last several years. But more about John later. Lynn Kelly continues to be our highly efficient secretary. Lynn ensures that our reporting and testing requirements are complied with and that correspondence is appropriately handled. A big thank you Lynn. Janette Hiatt has again kept us well fed and nourished during club sessions and does an outstanding job in her role as Providore. Many thanks Janette. Richard Wallis is a font of knowledge in bridge matters and provides a fantastic mentoring role with his supervised sessions. Thank you Richard.

This year we were lucky enough to have Judith Bennett, Tony Williams, and Lilly Jia join the committee. Lilly has decided not to stand again but we thank her for her input.

Judith has taken on the role of conducting beginner lessons and Tony is assisting her in the current set of lessons. Tony stepped in and

covered the Treasurer's role when John had holidays. Thanks very much Judith and Tony.

Also thanks to Tomas Corney. Tom, as our Administrator, performs a variety of duties on a regular basis. These are vital in ensuring that we can operate smoothly and efficiently. A big thank you Tom.

The club is blessed to have a wonderful pool of directors at our disposal: Nanette, Richard, Peter, Elaine, John, and Neil. The club does not function without you so thank you all for making our sessions so relaxed and enjoyable.

The club also does not function without boards. This is a boring and monotonous task so a big thank you to Leith and Elaine for having the perseverance to see this through.

The parking horrors of rugby season are made manageable by Arne and Elaine early on Saturday mornings of home games placing out the bollards at the entrance to our car park and then by the brave souls who man them to ensure that members get a park. Thank you to all involved.

A big thank you to Arne for producing the monthly newsletter. I know there are many members who look forward to it, including myself. In particular, *Heard at the Bridge Table*, which is always good for a laugh.

My time as President has come to a close. The Club is extremely fortunate to have Elaine step back into the role.

This truly is a great club. We are highly regarded in the bridge community as a welcoming and friendly club.

Things are ever so slowly starting to pick up after the Covid drop-off in membership. Member numbers and table numbers are trending upwards so we can look forward to the future with enthusiasm and optimism.

I am confident that with the hard work of the committee and the support of you, our members, our club will continue to grow and strengthen. Thank you.

Peter Burke

New Life Member, John Kelly

There is no greater honour a club can bestow upon a member than life membership. John Kelly is a very worthy recipient.

These honours are normally awarded for outstanding contribution in the categories of playing/participation, coaching/mentoring or administration. John has all bases covered.

John first joined the club in 2006. Then in 2009 John rather unwisely for himself but to the enormous benefit of this club let it slip that he had experience at being a club treasurer. John was duly asked if he would stand as Treasurer to which he agreed to do in the short term. As the saying goes, the rest is history.

John has been BBC Treasurer ever since. Over this long period of time John's commitment and dedication to the role has never wavered. In fact John is always looking at ways to improve things and to do things better. He has instigated software changes and, in consultation with the auditor, some of our reporting systems.

John has been an outstanding Treasurer but this was never more evident than through the covid period. Despite significant set backs to our revenue streams we have ridden through these bad times and come through while maintaining very healthy cash assets.

John's stewardship of our finances over a long period of time has been first class. This would

deserve recognition in its own right but as members are aware John has made other significant contributions to the Club.

John has been a Director over many years and for a substantial proportion of those years John conducted the very popular mini lessons. Prior to covid on a number of occasions we had 20 plus tables on a Friday morning. The mini lessons were certainly a major contributing factor in the popularity of this session. Despite the time needed to plan and prepare the lessons John did this for a number of years.

John also conducted beginner lesson courses and Improve your Bridge courses over a number of years. Once again these courses were of a time consuming nature. Courses ran over 6 or 7

weeks and each lesson took 2 and half hours. John did these courses on weekday nights or a Saturday morning. A big commitment.

In addition to these achievements John is also a very productive Committee Member willing to share thoughts and ideas. John offers solutions when problems occur and assistance where needed.

John is a great club man and a wonderful servant of this club over many years.

Ladies and gentleman I would ask you to recognize the club's newest Life Member John Kelly.

Peter Burke

Tom's Administrator's Corner

Tuesday PM Spring Pairs - Red Points (5 & 12 October, 7:00pm)

Please arrive by 6:45pm each afternoon. No prior entry is required; everyone plays in the red point sessions. To qualify for the combined sessions overall placing result, you need to play both weeks with the same partner. The cost will be \$7 or a coupon for members and \$9 for visitors.

BBC Under 500 & Novice Pairs Congress (Sunday, 29 October, 9:30am)

The BBC Novice & Restricted Pairs Congress is coming up on Sunday 29 October. The cost is \$60 per pair (\$30 per player). Congress start time is 9:30am and ends approximately 4:30pm. I encourage all BBC members with under 500 masterpoints and especially those with under 100 for the novice section to enter and play in this congress.

Members entering the congress must have fewer than 500 masterpoints as of 31 July this year. If you are on the edge of either of these cut-offs you can check your masterpoints on the

ABF website or ask myself at the office to check for you. The entry form is available at the club or online on the BBC and QBA websites. To enter, please email the club at bbcentries@gmail.com or fill out a paper entry at the club. Entries close after Tuesday 24 October at 1:00pm.

I will also be looking for spare players for the Under 500 & Novice Pairs Congress, please let me know if you can help out.

Friendly Reminders

Please remember to clean your table after play. Crumbs left on tables will attract ants, rats and cockroaches. Cups and glasses go to the kitchen and into the appropriate dishwasher. Leaving your table neat and tidy makes it inviting to the players sitting at that table at the next session and saves work for directors.

Arriving Without a Partner

Currently BBC offers two sessions in which you may turn up without a partner: The Thursday Morning Supervised session and the Saturday

Afternoon session. (If our regular Saturday afternoon director, Neil Hansen, is away on any Saturday, this may not apply – if you are planning to arrive without a partner on Saturday, please check beforehand if Neil is directing, or if some other arrangement can be made for you).

If you are a player who arrives without a partner please be mindful that the following policy applies:

- Players arriving without a partner must arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time for the session.
- Players arriving without a partner must be prepared and willing to play with any other

player who arrives without a partner.

- Players arriving without a partner should be mindful of Law 74. They should avoid any action or remark that may cause embarrassment to another player or interfere with their enjoyment of the game.

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Vanessa Brewis – Bronze National
- David Cowsls – Life
- Jenny McGowan – Bronze National

Tomas Corney

Brisbane City Council Access & Inclusion training – Realistic Race

Peter Bourke and Tom Corney recently attended a training event sponsored by BCC. Please see below some excerpts of emails from Rajendra Padhee, Project Coordinator, Access and Inclusion Team, regarding the event.

“I would like to invite you to take part in some specially devised training on access and inclusion, which will help Brisbane Bridge Centre to develop its own “disability action plan”.

The Australian Human Rights Commission recommends that every community facility has a well-thought-out disability action plan, to remove barriers to people with disabilities who might like to take part in activities there.

Such a plan can also widen the market for the services that a community facility provides”.

“Thank you very much for participating in the Access & Inclusion training – Realistic Race yesterday with Spinal Life Australia and our Sports & Community Officers. You have been a champion in working with Council to make Brisbane Bridge Centre an accessible and inclusive community space”.



Bridge Hand: A Simple Solution

Vul: Nil
Dir: East

♠ A 7 6 4 3
♥ -
♦ 7 5 4
♣ A J 7 6 4

♠ K Q J 10 9 2
♥ K 5
♦ A Q 3 2
♣ 2

E	S	W	N
4H	4S	5H	6S

Opening lead: 2H. Plan the play.

On the lead of the 2 of hearts – if your first impulse is to ruff in dummy, forget that, and discard a diamond from dummy at trick 1. Assuming East wins the trick with the A♥ and returns a diamond, go up with the A♦, draw trumps and discard dummy's remaining diamond on the K♥.

This simple loser on loser play is the only way to guarantee your slam contract.

As declarer it is always vital to think carefully about the play to the first trick. Many contracts fail due to hasty play at trick 1, and don't I know it.

The full hand:

♠ A 7 6 4 3
♥ -
♦ 7 5 4
♣ A J 7 6 4

♠ 8 5
♥ 10 6 2
♦ K J 6
♣ Q 10 9 8 5

♠ -
♥ A Q J 9 8 7 4 3
♦ 10 9 8
♣ K 3

♠ K Q J 10 9 2
♥ K 5
♦ A Q 3 2
♣ 2

Arne

Thoughts for the over 60's (because there are a couple at the Club)

Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many.

The older you get the better you get, unless you're a banana.

You know you are getting older when the candles cost more than the cake.

As you get older three things happen. Firstly your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two.

I'm the life and soul of the party – even if it lasts until 8pm.

I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I'm going.

I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a word you're saying.

I'm not really grouchy, I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, lawyers, loud music, unruly kids, barking dogs, politicians and a few other things I can't remember right now.

Age is important only if you're cheese or wine.

I'm wondering, if you are only as old as you feel, how can I be alive at 150.

Sometimes I wake up grumpy: other times I let her sleep.

If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.

Lynn Kelly's Funnies

Seen on a T-shirt on the ferry from N. Stradbroke Island:

Let's eat kids
Let's eat, kids

Punctuation saves lives.



Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arnejuser2@bigpond.com, or contact Arne by phone on 0404 085 712. Current and past newsletters available on BBC's web-site: www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org