

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



August 2025

Vol. 13 No 8

President's Report

I would like to remind all members that we have the AGM on Saturday September 13th at 11.45am, followed by a red point bridge session. I would ask members to support your club by attending the AGM if possible and contribute towards the election of a new president and committee. Nomination forms and proxy forms are available on the noticeboard near the entrance. (BYO lunch).

On the 27th of last month we held a Graded Swiss Teams Congress that was well attended and highly successful. The results will appear a little later in this newsletter but I would like this chance to thank those lovely members who contributed their time to help in the kitchen. Thank you to Linda Groves, Hazel Lahey, Allie Hayes, Clive Carter, Peter Burke and Pat Tan, who all did a brilliant job. Thanks also to those members who contributed food, particularly those members who provided food despite not even playing. I would also like to thank Jimmy Smith, Archie Smith, Arne Jonsberg and Judith Bennett for helping to set the upstairs up in readiness for the congress. And of course, thanks as always to our terrific director on the day, Chris Snook, and our Administrator, Penny, for organising the day and taking care of the MyABF side of things.

Last but not least, thank you to all the players on the day who helped to clear the tables, chairs etc away.

Despite the fact that we are a friendly and rather informal Club I have noticed recently that we are becoming lax in certain aspects. The rules in bridge are not negotiable, and courtesy and table manners should be adhered to. All pairs should have system cards on the table and I have noticed an increasing tendency for dummy to play cards independent of declarer. Dummy must only play a card after clear instruction from declarer. Please remember to alert any alertable bids by partner immediately after the bid is made.

I have recently received a good deal from the QBA for the acquisition of new tables for the future upstairs congresses. The sixteen virtually brand new tables are of the conventional card table type and will replace the heavy, ancient ones that have caused a myriad of problems in the past. These big, heavy old tables are now surplus to requirement and if any member would like one or several of them, please see me. Failing disposing of them like this I will be asking if any member with a ute could please assist in one or more trips to the dump. As well as new tables I also acquired 20 bridge mates in excellent condition from the QBA who are downloading some of their vast store of Gold Coast Congress equipment.

Elaine Jonsberg

Penny's Administrator Corner

Hello BBC members

Graded Swiss Teams

The Graded Swiss Teams event was held on Sunday 27th July. This was another successful event with 24 tables in two sections on the day.

We really appreciate the help from all those who made this such a pleasant day. This includes organisers, director, dealer, caddy, kitchen volunteers and those who helped set up the room and tidy up afterwards. There is such a lot of work behind the scenes to make a successful day – besides the playing of the game.

For future events, we would like to put together a list of volunteers who would be prepared to give some time to the club.

BBC Under 500 and Novice Pairs

Our next major event is the BBC Under 500 and Novice Pairs which will be an all day event and will be held on Sunday 27th October. Entry will be by MyABF only. More details to follow.

Beginner Lessons

The Club will be running a new beginners program commencing on Saturday 30th August

for five weeks. The cost is \$40 which includes a text book to take home. A flyer has been prepared with the details. There are still some places available if you know of anyone who may be interested in learning this great game, please encourage them to come along.

Annual General Meeting

Just a reminder - Our Annual General Meeting is being held at the Club at 11.45 pm on **Saturday 13th September**. All members are welcome to attend. We are seeking nominations for committee members as well as a new president. Nomination forms are available if you are interested in a position on the Committee or would like to nominate someone. Proxy forms are also available if you wish to vote but are unable to attend the meeting.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following who have recently been promoted.

Shannon Pradella - Club Master

Janet Leggo - Bronze Local Master

Happy bridging!

Penny Grace

Bbc Graded Teams Congress Results.

A Grade:

1st: Jenny Hay, Terry Strong, Jill Magee, Ralph Parker, Ross Murtagh.

2nd: John Luck, Ivy Luck, Paul Hooykaas, Charlie Lu

3rd: Anthony Mills, Kate MacDonald, Paul Gosney, Ben Leung.

B Grade:

1st: Oliver Goodman, Jenny McGowan, Vanessa Brewis, Ming Shu Yang.

2nd: Davis Zhang, Richard Spelman, Lyn Tracey, Lilly Jia.

3rd: Arne Jonsberg, Neil Hansen, Judy Hansen, John Lahey.

Congratulations to all! Full results are available on the QBA website

Bridge Hand

♠ 2
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ K Q 8 7 6
♣ A Q 5

♠ A K Q J 10 8 7 4
♥ A K J 2
♦ A
♣ -

After North opened 1 Diamond, South showed significant self-control to not bid 8, but settled in 7 Spades. West leads the 2 of Clubs. Do you take the free finesse?

Look at the hands and plan your play...carefully.



♠ 2
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ K Q 8 7 6
♣ A Q 5

♠ 9 6 5
♥ Q 6 5
♦ J 9 5
♣ J 9 4 2

♠ 3
♥ 4 3
♦ 10 4 3 2
♣ K 10 8 7 6 3

♠ A K Q J 10 8 7 4
♥ A K J 2
♦ A
♣ -

Well do you take the free club finesse? Hell no! Of course you don't. You discard the ♦A on the ♣A. You then discard your two losing Hearts on the ♦K and ♦Q and claim your contract to a standing ovation, high fives, kisses and a few hugs. If you played the ♣Q on the opening lead, don't tell a soul because you have butchered a grand slam. No! of course you didn't.

Heard at the Bridge Table

Bridge is a great comfort in your old age. It also helps you get there faster.

We had a partnership misunderstanding. My partner assumed I knew what I was doing.

You know you're in trouble when you are the declarer and the opponents start drawing trumps.

Too bad partner. It was an unlucky grand slam you bid. The ace of trumps was on the wrong side.

Novice : Is there a way I can win easily?

Expert : No, but there is a way to lose more slowly

A two day bridge tournament was invented because it's impossible to cram all the bad luck into one day.

If over the past year you have kept your 2025 New Year's resolution not to "correct" your partner when they make a mistake – check your pulse. You may be dead.

Has your Dummy play finally reached the dizzy heights of mediocrity?

“Clever of you not to miscount the Spades, partner. What a pity you did not show the same advance technique with the Diamonds.”

A perfect partner is one that bids and plays perfectly and accepts that his partner does not.

Even if you go down 5 tricks doubled, it should not be considered a complete failure. After all, you can always use it as an example of poor bidding by your partner.

If you think fishermen and financial consultants are the biggest bluffers, you should ask a bridge player how he made his most difficult contract.

It takes a good bridge player to readily admit when he is wrong and even a better player to keep his mouth shut when he is right.

Success is not only measured by how many tournaments you win. In its purest sense, it occurs when you make an effort to be better today than you were yesterday and try to become even better tomorrow.

An Ode to Bridge

I'm giving up bridge - tonight's my last night
It's amen to Stayman, I give up the fight.
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles.
I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles.

My cards are all rotten
And I have forgotten
Who has played what and what is trump
Sitting for hours with a sore rump

So it's all over tonight - I'm off to the backwoods
I'm bidding goodbye to Gerber and Blackwoods.
I can't stand the hassle,
I can't stand the pain
I'm getting those bad cards again and again.

Another bad night Nothing's gone right.
My partner's a dope
I'm losing all hope.
When opponents say "double"
I know we're in trouble.

My points are not high,
and I'm wondering why
She kept on bidding right up to the sky.
We're in seven spades,
I doubt she makes
When surprise, surprise,
all tricks she takes

The defenders feel sick
My partner's really slick.
All of a sudden,
gone is my sorrow
And yes, I'll play again tomorrow!

Thought for the Month

To win without risk is to triumph without glory. Pierre Cornielle

So if you want to open a three card suit with an 8 count you go right ahead! Glory awaits.

Dave Jayne's Funnies

Pithy Commentaries

As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.

~ John Glenn

After the game, the King and the pawn go into the same box.

~ Italian proverb

The only reason they say 'Women and children first' is to test the strength of the lifeboats.

~ Jean Kerr

A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.

~ Emo Philips.

Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.

~ Harrison Ford

The best cure for sea sickness is to sit under a tree.

~ Spike Milligan

Hollywood must be the only place on earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap.

~ Steve Martin

The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone.

~ George Roberts

If God had intended us to fly he would have made it easier to get to the airport.

~ Jonathan Winters

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.bridg.australia.org