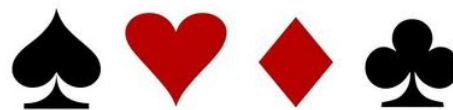


# Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



January 2026

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## President's Report

Happy New Year to all club members and a very big welcome to all members who have recently joined.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Joan Rossberg. Joan was a long-time, very popular member of our club and will be missed. On behalf of the members and committee, I would like to pass on our condolences to Joan's family and friends.

Work will commence shortly on the installation of solar panels on the club roof and the installation of inverters, probably in our store room. This will of course create some noise, but hopefully not enough to disrupt play. All work is all being done without any cost to the club. Our thanks go to the Brisbane City Council and Peter

Burke, who is the club's liaison officer with the Council.

It is heartening to see a slight increase in table numbers over the last couple of weeks for all sessions, except Tuesday morning's supervised session, which may not be able to continue unless numbers increase.

Many thanks to Tony Treloar for directing some Monday sessions after Richard's retirement and Nanette's holiday.

There will be a rotation of Directors covering the Thursday morning supervised session.

All the best for another year of Happy Bridging!

Neil Hansen

## Penny's Administrator's Corner

### Important 2026 Dates to mark in your diary

**BBC Newnham Shield Club Pairs Championship:**  
Saturday 21 March

### **BBC CONGRESSES:**

Easter Congress - Sun & Mon 5 & 6 April  
Graded Butler Pairs Congress - Sunday 17 May

Graded Teams Congress - Sunday 26 July  
Under 500 & Novice Pairs Congress - Sunday 25 October

**BBC GNOT Qualifying Heat:**  
Sunday 21 June

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**  
Saturday 12 September, 11:45am

## Membership Renewals

Thank you to all members who have sent through their renewal fee for 2026; if you are yet to pay your membership renewal please get this to us ASAP as we will need to inform the masterpoint centre of our member numbers soon.

- Heather Meineke
- Anthony Rosenthal
- Sandra Hilton
- Barbara Love
- Laura Tomlin
- Greg Tomlin
- Helen Tomlin
- Jackson Meyn

## New Members

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



Penny Grace

## A Note from our Treasurer

### Old and New Coupons

Currently BBC is using both old (maroon) and new (green) coupons, with players needing to add an extra \$1 when using the old coupons for playing at a session.

Now, BBC members with outstanding old coupons in their possession can bring ALL of them at once and trade them in with the director of the day for one or more books of green coupons. Each maroon coupon has a face value of \$6.50 and then difference needed to

purchase a book of green coupons can be paid with cash or card. [E.g., 6 old coupons are worth \$39 and with an additional \$36 in cash or card a book of green coupons worth \$75 can be purchased.]

This will make it easier for everybody. For members - no need to scrounge around for \$1 coins or get change from the director. For directors (and the Treasurer) - fewer coins to count and handle. For the club - a quicker phasing out of the use of old coupons.

John Kelly

## Bridge Hand

If, like me, when you find yourself playing against a top bridge player, do you wonder how they knew to drop an offside singleton King or how they knew to take a first round finesse of the Jack or how they seem to know the full layout of the hands after two or three tricks have been played?

Well, this is neither magic nor skullduggery - it is simply counting. A good bridge player counts

points, counts tricks, counts losers and counts trumps. An expert declarer gets into the habit of counting the hand and in that process working out the opponents' original distribution.



Dir: W  
Vul: NS

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

The contract is 5D by South on the opening lead of the ♣6. East wins the first two tricks with the ♣A and ♣Q and switches to the ♥Q. Declarer

take the ♥A and draws trumps in two rounds. He throws a Spade on the ♥K and his only problem left is to find the ♠Q.

Well, you can guess or you can set out to determine the opponents' exact original distribution.

To achieve this you ruff a Heart in hand, ruff a Club in dummy and then ruff the last Heart. The count of the opponents' hands is now complete. East is known have started with two Clubs (he failed to follow suit when South ruffed a Club) and he has shown up with two Diamonds and four Hearts and must therefore have five spades. West clearly has a singleton Spade. Declarer cashes the ♠K and then finesses the Jack with total confidence.

## Rules of Being a Good Partner

1. Do not give lessons, unless you are being paid to do so.
2. Never say anything to your partner unless you would want him/her to say the same to you. If you are unsure whether your partner would want you to say something, don't.
3. Never 'result' (criticize your partner for a normal action just because it did not work this time).
4. Unless your intent is to clear up a misunderstanding, avoid discussing the hand just played. If you cannot resist, be discreet.
5. Remember that you and your partner are on the same side.
6. Do not forget that your partner wants to win just as much as you do.
7. If you feel the urge to be nasty, sarcastic, critical or loud – excuse yourself and take a walk.
8. When there is time between hands, do not discuss bridge.
9. Do not criticize or embarrass your partner in front of others.
10. Remember that bridge is only a card game.
11. Have a good time and make sure your partner does too. Bridge is for fun.

12. Although it is unfashionable, it really is ok to be pleasant to a partner with whom you also happen to live.

13. Remember the worst analysts and the biggest talkers are often one and the same. Think twice before verbally analyzing a hand – do not embarrass yourself with a hasty, inaccurate comment.

14. When you voluntarily choose to play bridge with someone, it is not fair to get upset when partner does not play any better than usual.

15. Sympathise with partner if he/she makes a mistake. Let your partner know you like them, and will support them 100%.

*(My partners wish it to be known that I fail dismally on at least eight of the above - Arne).*

### Neil's Funnies

I sympathise with batteries.  
I'm not included in anything either.

If USA is so great  
Why was USB invented?

Why was the letter E the only letter to receive a gift from Santa?  
Because all the other letters are naughtE.

My calendar doesn't have the month of May.  
I'm dismayed.

I wish someone would tell me what IDK means.  
Everyone I ask says " I don't know ".

I saw a microbiologist last week.  
He was much bigger than I expected.

A perfectionist walks into a bar. And leaves immediately.  
Apparently the bar wasn't set high enough.

Do you want to hear a joke about construction?  
I'm still working on it.

### Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at [arnejuser2@bigpond.com](mailto: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](http://www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org)