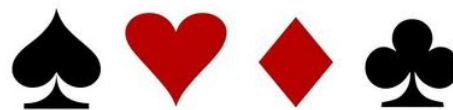


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



October 2025

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President's Report

We have been ably led by wonderful presidents in the past and I am pleased that Elaine Jonsberg, Peter Burke and Richard Wallis remain on the management committee, along with Judith Bennett. Our excellent Treasurer John Kelly and excellent Secretary Lynn Kelly continue to hold these positions. Both of these positions are very demanding and time consuming and vital for the running of any organisation. Jenny Nitz and Michelle Harris are joining with me as new committee members.

Our club continues to suffer from dwindling attendance. However, the recent beginners' course, that was run by Judith Bennett with assistance from Michelle Harris and Tony Williams, was well attended and we will encourage these beginners to join the club and regularly attend our sessions. To this end we are reinstating the Tuesday morning session to be run as a fewer than 30 masterpoints and supervised session. I invite all members with

<30 master points to come along, with or without a partner, to what we hope will be a relaxed introduction for new members.

I recommend the Saturday afternoon session as good value for money. We regularly play 35 boards. Again, you can come along without a partner on the understanding that if 2 players arrive without a partner, they will partner each other.

Our club is hosting a under 500 master point and Novice Pairs day on the 26th of this month. A lot of our members are eligible and I encourage them to enter and support our club.

Please put a note in your dairy for 30th November. We are hosting the Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams and are required to provide lunch etc for all players, and we will be seeking help in our kitchens.

Neil Hansen

Penny's Administrator Corner

Hello BBC members

New members

We welcomed two new members this month – James McAtamney and Tracey Anderson.

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 held on Sunday 26th October commencing at 9.30am. Entries are by MyABF only.

The cost is \$40 (40 bridge credits) per player or \$80 (80 bridge credits) per pair. BYO lunch. Please enter and come to support the club. We will need some volunteers to work in the kitchen on the day so please let us know if you can help.

Beginner and Improver Lessons

The Club began a new beginners' program on Saturday 30th August which has now concluded. These lessons were well attended and we hope these beginners will continue on their bridge journey. A big thank you to Judith and her team. Responses have been very positive to these lessons.

A new set of six Improver lessons with John Kelly commenced on Saturday 11 th October and there has been a lot of interest in these sessions also.

Tuesday Morning Supervised Play

As a follow on to the beginner lessons, a new Tuesday morning session has begun for beginners and players with under 30 masterpoints. These sessions are relaxed, supervised sessions and no partner is required. The aim is to give beginners and newer players confidence to continue with their bridge

without the pressure of a regular session. Sessions begin at 9.30am and finish at 12.30pm.

BBC Diary for 2026

Preparations are commencing for the BBC diary for next year. Please check that your contact details are correct on the list on the noticeboard and amend if necessary. If your name is not listed, please add it onto the sheet. If any of your details have changed recently, please let us know so the database can be updated.

BBC Christmas Party – Saturday 13th December

As we are now well into October, the end of the year is approaching fast. Please make a note in your diary of the BBC Christmas party so we can get together and celebrate another year of bridge.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following who have recently been promoted –
Oliver Goodman – Bronze Life
Bob Johnston - Club

Happy bridging!

Penny Grace

Bridge Hand

Dlr: West
Vul: N/S

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

West opened the bidding with a 3D pre-empt and South, taking this as a personal insult, bid to an optimistic 6NT via a Roman Key card sequence.

On the opening lead of the ♦Q declarer won with the King and led the ♥K. East took the Ace and returned the ♥J to South's Queen, West following suit. South then led a club to the Ace and then finessed with the ♣J. When West discarded, the slam was doomed and declarer managed to escape one down by careful squeeze play.

When arriving in these maybe fanciful contracts you have to ask yourself how do the cards have

to sit to make this contract possible? Firstly the spades have to break 3-3 for the contract to be vaguely possible, so at the third trick west has shown two hearts, seven diamonds, three hypothetical spades, so he can have only one

club. Therefore after playing the ♣A you take the scary finesse with the nine, cash your spades and take the second club finesse. Contract made. I told you it was an easy game.

Heard at the Bridge Table

A Bridge match is a test of your skill against your opponent's luck.

If there is more than one way to play the hand, you will always choose the way that brings you down

If you really want to get better at Bridge, go back and take it up at a much earlier age.

Man who plays Bridge once a week is sociable. Man who plays 4 times a week is competitive. Man who plays every day has no life.

Unlike most sports, you only need 15cm of space to play bridge - the distance between your ears.

Regardless of what sadistic impulses we may harbour, winning bridge means helping partner to avoid mistakes.

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

Bridge is a self-inflicted punishment for people with too much time and intelligence.

Eternity is hard to conceive unless you are partnering a novice in a tournament.

My partner is 20 years behind the times. Nowadays you just need 13 cards to bid. My partner still thinks you need high cards to open the bidding.

Roman Key-Card - an ingenious convention that allows you to get to a grand slam missing 3 Aces.

How is it possible that a person will play flawlessly when he is the opposition and senselessly when he is your partner?

People who complain about bad luck in Bridge can be divided into 2 groups – men and women.

Of all the words spoken on the bridge table, the most frequent has to be "If only..."

The 12 Laws of Bridge

LAW 1: No matter how bad your last hand was, the worst is yet to come. This law does not expire on the last hand of the match, since it has the supernatural tendency to extend well over the course of a

tournament ... actually your lifetime.

LAW 2: Your best game of bridge will be followed almost immediately by your worst ever. The intensity of the latter increases with the number of people you tell about the former.

LAW 3: Finesses never work. If one does, the law of the universe has been broken and life as we know it will come to an end ... and it is your fault.

LAW 4: As soon as you fail to make your contract, your partner will look to the ceiling and shake his head. It is totally irrelevant that your partner supported your suit with a void.

LAW 5: Incompetence has no correlation to years of experience. You will go downhill without ever reaching the top.

LAW 6: The more points or trumps you hold in your hand, the worse the distribution will be. This bridge law mocks the law of statistics. When you have an 8-card trump fit, not only will the split be (at least) 4-1, but the opponent with the singleton will get a ruff.

LAW 7: A smiling opponent is the most painful torture known to man. Pretending that you did not see the smile quadruples the pain.

LAW 8: You will always forget whether a critical card has been played when it matters the most. No matter how you decide, it will always be wrong. Law 7 will immediately follow this.

LAW 9: No matter how well you shuffle the cards, the Ace will sit behind your King. (see Law 3)

LAW 10: The person you would most hate to lose to will always be the one who beats you. Law 7 will immediately follow this.

LAW 11: No matter how well you are doing, the last three hands will automatically drop your score to what it really should be.

LAW 12: Bridge should be given up at least twice per month and whenever Law 7 occurs.



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