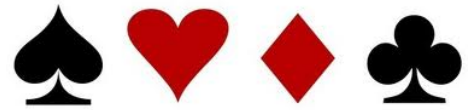


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



September 2026

Vol. 14 No 9

President's Report to the 2026 AGM (Sat 12 Sept.)

Wow! What a year!

Let us start off with the positives:

We ran successful congresses which were well attended, and, from feedback received, well enjoyed by all.

People enjoy playing at our club with our relaxed and friendly attitude.

Also, another positive, we had solar panels installed, thanks to Peter Burke and the Brisbane City Council.

Now, the not so positives:

Firstly, our founding member, long-time committee member, director and QBA delegate, Richard Wallis, resigned firstly as a director then as a committee member due to ill health. Then 2 more committee members, Michelle Harris and Jenny Nitz, also resigned for family reasons.

Our Administrator Penny Grace resigned to spend more time with her daughter in Mt Isa.

You will see from the Treasurer's Report that, while the club is still financially sound, we did again incur a loss for the year. This is due to the reduced table numbers at all sessions.

We were approached by QCBC early this year to discuss the future of both our clubs, with the possibility of merging. This was just one of many options being looked at, as QCBC expects that they may be required to vacate their existing building in the future. While I have been on holiday further discussions have taken place regarding the future of both of the clubs. Merging is no longer an option, as there would be very significant legal costs involved. Tony Treloar, our new Administrator, will speak later in the meeting prior to the agenda item covering a vote regarding continuing BBC continuing as we are, whilst at the same time working with QCBC towards mutually beneficial outcomes.

Our long serving treasurer, John Kelly, gave us ample notice that he would no longer continue as our treasurer after this AGM, but would continue on the committee to assist in the transition to our new treasurer. I thank John for his many years of dedicated service to this role.

I also thank all my fellow committee members for their work over the past year and for covering in my absence.

There is a lot of work being done by your committee members on your behalf. Elaine Jonsberg's work for this club is extraordinary. Hopefully we can provide opportunities for her to delegate in future. Arne Jonsberg continues

to provide us with a remarkable newsletter each month. Thank you Arne.

Peter Burke continues to be our liaison with BCC. Thank you, Peter.

Tony Treloar took over directing duties when we found ourselves short of a director. Thank you. Tony has also taken on the role of Administrator.

Lynn Kelly continued in the most important role of secretary. Thank you, Lynn.

Also thank you to all our directors, Peter Evans, John Kelly, Nanette Hinsch, Elaine Jonsberg and

Tony Treloar. Also thanks to Marie Buckley for her assistance when Richard was ill.

Thank you also to our dealing team: Leith Cameron, Janet Leggo, Monica Gordon and Rod Wilson.

Thank you also to all other members who volunteered helping the Club throughout the year. A special mention to Allie Hays who brings in the wonderful jams and chutneys which are enjoyed by members and also makes a significant financial contribution to the club.

I feel honoured to have been president of this Club.

Neil Hansen

News from the Office

As most of you would know by now, Penny has moved to Mt Isa to be closer to family, and I have taken on the role of Administrator. I plan to be at the club on Mondays and Wednesdays, so please come and say hello.

I am quite an experienced player, so if you have any bridge questions, I'm happy to give my opinion.

I am a far less experienced administrator, so please help me by telling me about anything that you think needs my attention.

Is your partner going on holidays?

Just because your partner is on holidays doesn't mean you need to take a break from the club as well. Let me know if you need a partner, or even if you are available if someone calls looking for a game. I won't always be able to help, but given a bit of notice I might be able to arrange something.

BBC Under 500 & Novice Pairs – 25th October

Entries are open on MyABF for the Under 500 & Novice Pairs. This is an all day event to be held on Sunday 25th October. All players are to have fewer than 500 Masterpoints in the Under 500 section and fewer than 100 Masterpoints in the Novice section. The cost is \$40 per player and BYO lunch.

The director will be Julie Jeffries. We'd like to see a much bigger day than last year, so please support the club by entering this event if you are eligible.

Masterpoint Promotions

Edwin Clarke – State Master

Lynne Henley – Life Master

Tilley Thillainathan – Bronze Life Master

Happy Bridging

Tony Treloar

Important Info from the AGM

The new committee:

President - Neil Hansen
Treasurer - Greg Tomlin
Secretary - Lynn Kelly
Committee members:
Judith Bennett
Peter Burke
Inta Devine

Elaine Jonsberg
John Kelly
Jim MacDonald
Sandra Mulcahy
Helen Tomlin

The agenda item regarding continuing discussions with QCBC was passed by a large majority

Bridge Hand

The exact odds of a single bridge player being dealt all thirteen cards of one suit are 1 in 158, 753, 389, 900 (or roughly 1 in 158.75 billion). So if you played 100 hands of bridge every day you would mathematically only expect a perfect 13-card suit every 4.3 million years. Yes I know ... who cares? I was only provoked to ponder such esoterica when the following hand appeared at the AGM red point event.

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

Apparently an 8 -5 distribution occurs only once in 31,948 deals, or a probability of 0.0031%. So peering longingly at my glorious hand I was shocked when my partner opened the bidding with 1D. I replied with 1S and East bid 2NT showing the unbid suits. Partner passed, West showed Clubs and I, demonstrating my usual subtlety, bid 7S.

East, a charming and accomplished player, didn't double. My feeling is that she thought "the silly old bugger doesn't know what he is doing, I don't need to double, a top is a top!" Anyway I ruffed the heart lead, took three rounds of spades and claimed.

I bring up this hand not out of any sense of self-aggrandizement but to demonstrate that bridge is not always fair and rarely simple. My partner's opening bid was possibly questionable and my punt at 7S definitely was. As my partner pointed out the correct contract was 7D, which didn't rely on a kindly spade distribution, but as I said to him if you give me an eight card suit headed by the AKQ then that is the trump suit.

So how should the hand be bid? How can you find out with certainty that your partner has the crucial diamond King? Is there any place in bridge for a bit of punt on the optimistic balance of probabilities? **So Peter, John and Tony give me something for next month's newsletter telling us how this hand can be scientifically bid.**

And while I'm in the mood for hardly useful statistics, you will be pleased to know that you get a true Yarborough (no card higher than a nine), every 1,828 deals. Though I get them much more often than that, and my partner John gets them every third hand.

Arne

Heard at the Bridge Table

"I never forget the partners I play with, but in your case I will make an exception."

Be awfully nice to your partner when he makes a mistake because you're going to make some yourself.

If you really have to tell your partner his mistake, it costs nothing to be polite.

My partner is so stupid that he leads 4th best from a 3-card suit.

I get along great with my partner. We had only one argument in 30 years. The problem is that the argument lasted 30 years.

"I don't have an attitude problem, partner. You have a perception problem."

My partner's mind works like lightning. One brilliant flash and it is gone for the rest of the match.

Partner : A person who took up bridge to make another person miserable.

A happy partnership is a matter of giving and taking.

You give and your partner takes.

Too many bridge players, not enough brains

Experience : A marvellous thing that enables you to recognise the same mistake you made the last time.

Bridge is 90% mental and 50% luck.

My finesses lose, I can't remember the cards, my bidding is terrible and no one wants to partner me anymore. Other than that, bridge is great.

The cure for boredom is bridge. There is no cure for bridge.

Bridge players must believe in luck. How else to explain the successes of those players we don't like.

Never attribute a mistake to carelessness when it can be adequately explained by stupidity.

Bridge is what is left when you run out of meaningful things to do.

When you are not doing well in a tournament, cheer up, the worst is yet to come.

Having a good sense of humour is useless in bridge as the people you use it on are usually not in a very good mood.

The way you have fun in Bridge is by winning.

I feel sorry for people who don't play bridge. They wake up in the morning and that's the best thing they are going to do all day.

Rule of Being a Good Partner – Part 1

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 ever criticize or embarrass your partner in front of others.
10. Remember that bridge is only a card game.

These rules are from Marty Bergen's book Points Schmoints



Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arneuser2@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