

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



June 2024

Vol. 12 No 6

President's Report

In a recent sad event, Aidan Buckley has had a bad fall. He is in hospital with fractured C1 C2 vertebrae amongst other injuries, and will have to be in a neck brace for several weeks. Judy has asked that she not be inundated with phone calls, but text messages are ok. I send Aidan and Judy sympathy on behalf of our members, and wish Aidan a full and speedy recovery – we look forward to your return to the club, Aidan.

Little else to report this month except I sense a slight improvement in table numbers over the last month or two. I'll take this opportunity to thank all our directors for the wonderful job they do, particularly recently when directors have had to cover for holidays, sickness etc.

The recent River City Gold Point Mixed Pairs event proved to be something of a challenge for

most members (myself definitely included), but one triumph was the best placed Queensland Pair of Lilly Jia and John Morris. Many congratulations to them to do so well in a competition that included quite a few world class players!

BBC's GNOT heats are underway. We have 14 teams competing including several very strong teams. Good luck to all club members and a quick reminder that the normal Friday session will happen unchanged.

A note to players – please try to refrain from tapping on the tablecloth with your pen whilst you think about your bidding – the cloths get badly marked and have to be washed by volunteers.

Elaine Jonsberg

Tom's Administrator's Corner

BBC Graded Teams (Sunday 28 July, 9:30am)

BBC's next congress is coming up on Sunday 28 July. The cost is \$140 per team (\$35 per player). The entry form is available at the club and on the QBA website. Apply on MyABF or email bbcentries@gmail.com with your team details (Names and ABF Numbers) to enter. Entries will

close on Wednesday 24 July at 3pm. If you need any help setting up a MyABF account please see me and I will walk you through it.

We will be looking for spare players and kitchen helpers for this Congress as well!

Friday AM Winter Pairs - Red Point (5 July ONLY)

BBC's next red point session will be held on 5th July, 9:30am start. No prior entry is required. Everyone plays in the red point sessions. The cost will be a coupon for members and \$9 for visitors.

Rugby @ Souths

The last scheduled rugby home games of the season are Saturdays July 20 and August 10. Those arriving by car on these days are asked to arrive before 12:40pm. This is to allow you an easy park and also so the session can start on time.

New Members

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

- Kim Coleman
- Christine McDonald
- Jim McDonald

Masterpoint Promotions

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

- Kath Armstrong - Graduate
- Carol Loth - Gold Life

Tomas Corney

Bridge Hand

Opening Leads ... Yuk!

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

For the next couple of months the Bridge Hand is going to deal with that most vexatious aspect of bridge defence – the opening lead.

In the above hand South plays the not unreasonable contract of 3NT after South had opened 1 club and North had shown hearts.

One of the textbook opening leads against a no-trump contract is the fourth highest of your longest suit, and sure enough West leads the 2 of spades. The thing about conventional

opening leads is that you are not only giving information to your partner but also to a thinking declarer, clearly the lead of a deuce is from a four card suit.

South won the first trick with the ♠K and cashed the ♣A and ♣K. When West threw a diamond, South had a proven finesse with the ♣10 and thus needed four heart tricks to make his contract. He played ♥A and ♥Q, led a third heart and put up dummy's king when west played low. East discarded and South ended up down one.

South had all the information necessary to make this contract, it just required simple inference. West had 4 spades from the lead, he showed a singleton club at the third trick. If he had 5 diamonds he would surely have led one at the opening so South must play West for 4-4-4-1. On that basis he should finesse with the 10 on the third heart lead.

This is not to say that fourth best leads should be abandoned, you just have to accept that the occasional good declarer exists.

Arne

Heard at the Bridge Table

I never drink alcohol while playing bridge. It interferes with my suffering.

Winning does not really matter, as long as you win.

Some people are so busy learning the various conventions and gadgets of the game, they never fully enjoy the game.

Bridge is like a hot bath. It feels good while you're in it, but the longer you stay in, the more wrinkles you get.

My partner is so bad that he admits to mistakes before he makes them.

I can concentrate at will on all the hands except the one I am currently playing.

Some declarers have difficulty counting the opponents' distribution. I have the same problem with Dummy's distribution.

I expect the worst in bridge and am rarely disappointed.

Better to play very badly than very well. If things go wrong you are in good company.

Another Beginner Bridge Course is starting next month. If you missed it the last time, this is your golden opportunity to miss it again.

I am such a fine player, no one can deny my right to be rude.

My point count system? Extra for long suit, extra for short suit and 3 points for my superb play.

Bridge partners are like parking spots, the good ones are taken and the available ones are handicapped.

I play bridge to be entertained. If I wanted to be stressed and abused, I might as well stay home with my wife.

Bridge Success is more attitude than aptitude.

I could play bridge with you until the cows come home. On second thought, I'd rather play bridge with the cows until you come home.

Bridge players are NOT out of shape. I'm in shape. Look! Round is a shape."

Thoughts for the Day

Before we work on Artificial Intelligence, why don't we do something about Natural Stupidity?

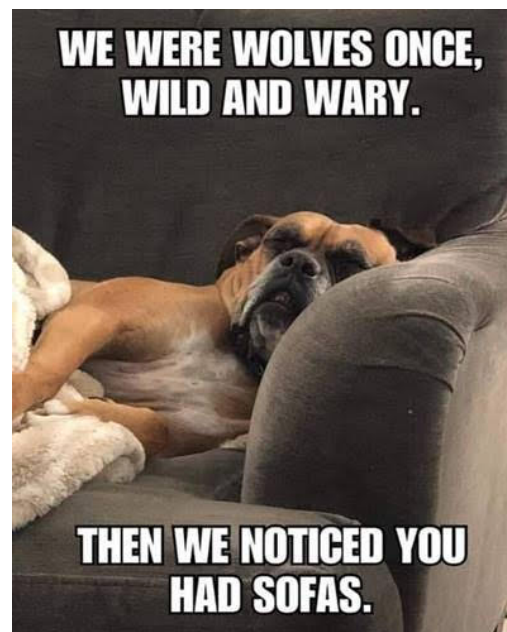
I started with nothing and I still have most of it left.

Treat your mother to a gin and tonic, you are probably the reason she drinks!

Statistics tell us that 1 in 4 Australians are suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your 3 best friends. If they're OK, then it's you.

You can live to be a hundred if you give up all the things that make you want to live to be a hundred.

Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that people who have the most live the longest.



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