



THE QBA BULLETIN

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From the President



Richard Ward

THE Australian Bridge Federation has embraced the RealBridge online platform in order to keep its remaining national events going for 2021. These have included:

- Sydney Spring Nationals [October];
- Perth-based Australian National Championships [November];
- Brisbane-based Grand National Open Teams [November];
- Melbourne-based Victor Champion Cup [December]; and
- Tri-Nations Teams comprising two teams from each of Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia [December].

For 2022, the Summer Festival of Bridge [Canberra] has moved online whilst everything else remains uncertain. For Australia's biggest and best event, the Gold Coast International Congress [February, Broadbeach], convenor Tim Runting is, at the time of writing, confident of being able to offer a face-to-face event. Entries go via MYABF and details of the events on offer can be found on our website.

The inaugural QBA Festival of Bridge was a great success. Queensland's Covid-19 social-distancing restrictions prevented the entry of all of those wishing to play with the 'house full' sign going up one week ahead of the start. Thanks to our sponsors, TBIB insurance and Moore Australia for their generous contributions and to the Queensland Contract Bridge Club for hosting the event. Convenor and site manager Toni Bardon is to be warmly congratulated for her mammoth, behind-the-scenes efforts before and during the Festival plus of course directors, caddies, board dealers, Vugraph operators, MYABF liaison, kitchen staff and cleaners. It was a wonderful team effort all round. QCBC can accommodate over 50 tables and it would be terrific to see that number playing in 2022. We have been pleased to receive feedback from players regarding our first Festival and encourage others with constructive suggestions for 2022 to write directly to QBA Manager, Kim Ellaway.

Throughout this year a steering committee of Peter Busch, Andrew Hooper and Ray Ellaway has been working with a web-design firm, Digital8, to create a new QBA website. By the time you read this it should be 'live' and accessible to all. Please feel free to explore the site, report any dead links and let us know of your experiences with it.

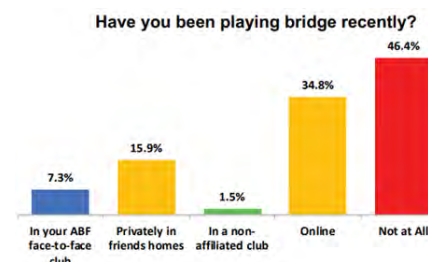
MYABF is a relatively recent technological innovation from the Australian Bridge Federation designed to support tournament organisers, clubs and players. The QBA has decided to make use of MYABF for entry management to all state events which means that players must register in order to enter these. Some Queensland clubs have also started to use MYABF for their congresses and are reporting that, after some initial setbacks caused mainly by unfamiliarity, the system appears to be working quite well. As MYABF is an ongoing work-in-progress, the QBA has appointed a liaison officer, Pele Rankin, to assist players and clubs with their first encounters with the site. Pele can be contacted at hooykaas@bigpond.net.au

And the result of the new QBA logo survey went to this one:



Thanks to Jan Peach for her design and to all who responded.

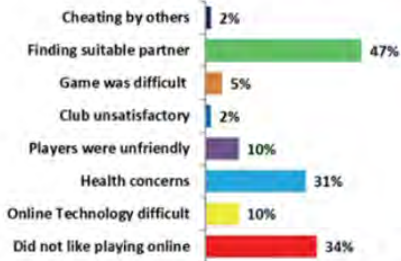
The monthly ABF Newsletter is a high-quality bi-monthly 26-page publication with articles and information of interest to clubs and players of all abilities. Peter Cox's Marketing Report has, since the pandemic began, been offering advice to clubs regarding ways to maintain and increase their membership. These graphs display recent trends of player behaviour.



Contents

From the President by Richard Ward	1
Festival of Bridge by Peter Evans and Jim Evans	2
IBPA Column Service by Tim Bourke.....	5
They haven't got what they said they did – will the Director help us? by Matthew McManus	9
Teams of Three by Richard Wallis	9
Teacher's Corner by Joan Butts.....	11
Directors' Corner by Chris Snook.....	18
Results	19

If you have stopped playing, Why?



The QBA membership has dropped over the past 12 months from 7254 to 6841 and Peter comments:

"In business, including leisure activities, it is far less expensive to retain existing customers than it is to attract new ones. This should be the starting point for clubs to actively engage with their current or lapsed members by personally contacting them. The 'product', our game of bridge, is good and largely meets expectations. It is very affordable, but the customer needs to be personally encouraged to return, particularly to overcome any health concerns. Most inactive players are not lost to bridge but you have to take action to win them back to your club"

Many clubs have been reporting a recent resurgence of new players to their beginners' lessons. We hope that these will bear fruit in the months and years to come. ■

QBA Festival of Bridge



Peter Evans

THE QBA Festival of Bridge took place at QCBC from Saturday October 9 to Monday October 11. The event was designed to replace the Queensland Teams Championship and the Queensland Pairs Championship. It was a very well run and fun event - grateful thanks to Toni Bardon, Kim and Ray Ellaway, Directors Jan Peach and Alan Gibson, and all the helpers involved.

The Queensland Open Teams attracted a strong field of 36 teams, with numbers being boosted at the last minute by the relaxing of COVID restrictions on the day before competition on the number of people allowed in an indoor space. In the preliminary stage, PARKER (Ralph Parker, Richard Ward, Paul Hooykaas, Peter Evans) finished first, followed by HUTTON (Tony Hutton, Neville Francis, Terry Strong, Jill Magee) second and MOORE (Nik Moore, Rachel Langdon, Murray Perrin, Janeen Solomon) third, with PARKER prevailing over HUTTON in the final.

Dir N	♠ J10632		
Vul NS	♥ KQ2		
	♦ 3		
	♣ 9872		
♠ AKQ5		♠ —	
♥ J107		♥ A54	
♦ 62		♦ AKJ875	
♣ AJ104		♣ KQ53	
		♠ 9874	
		♥ 9863	
		♦ Q1094	
		♣ 6	

This was probably the most interesting hand of the event. I played in 6♦ by East which had no chance due to the bad break in diamonds. Much more interesting was 6♠ by East for those who were able to find it.

On a non-heart lead (say a spade), I think the best line is:

1. Throw two hearts on the ♠AK, and
2. Cash the ♦A and then make the key expert play of a small diamond from both hands.

Whatever South does now, you can get to the East hand with the ♥A, ruff a small diamond with a high club, then draw four rounds of trumps ending in the East hand. Now run the diamonds from the top. This seems to handle a 4-1 diamond break and a 4-1 club break.

However, the testing heart lead takes away a vital entry to the East hand and I think calls for a different line of play. I think the best try is:

1. Win the ♥A, cash the ♦A, cross to the ♠A and cash the ♠AKQ throwing two hearts and a diamond, and

2. Now lead a diamond towards the ♦KJ.

If North ruffs in, you can win the return, ruff a low diamond high and draw trumps ending in the East hand as per the recipe above. If North discards, win the ♦K and you now have seven tricks in the bag (♠AKQ, ♦AK, ♥A and the ♠A). You need five more which you can get by ruffing two diamonds high with the ♣J10 and two hearts and a spade with the ♣KQ5.

Find all that at the table!

Dir W	♠ A86542		
Vul Both	♥ 3		
	♦ 872		
	♣ Q62		
♠ 7		♠ QJ1093	
♥ 10875		♥ K962	
♦ AKQ3		♦ J10	
♣ J1043		♣ K5	
		♠ K	
		♥ AQJ4	
		♦ 9654	
		♣ A987	

W	N	E	S
P	2S	P	P
X	P	?	

This hand caused a bit of angst around the room. Partner's balancing double put me right on the spot. As you can see, pass works brilliantly - it looks like declarer will lose three spades, three diamonds and a club for +500.

However, I could see three spade tricks and I guessed possibly one more from one of the two kings though South is odds-on to hold any aces for the NS side. As partner hasn't opened, this decreases his chances of having two quick tricks to put the contract down. After a lot of squirming, I decided I didn't want to explain a possible vulnerable 2♠X making to teammates and gritted my teeth and bid 3♥. I knew this was likely to be down but was able to get home on a defensive error.

In the old days, you had to grit your teeth and pass with the North hand. Now you can make a negative double with the result that you go down instead of the opponents.

Dlr N	♠ 9762		
Vul NS	♥ 107		
	♦ K98		
	♣ 9854		
♠ KJ4		♠ A1083	
♥ 9653		♥ Q82	
♦ A105		♦ J72	
♣ KQ10		♣ J32	
	♠ Q5		
	♥ AKJ4		
	♦ Q643		
	♣ A76		

W	N	E	S
All pass	P	P	1NT

Opening lead ♥6.

I'm forever telling the learning groups at BBC to study the opening lead like a hawk to try to work out what is going on in the suit. I proceeded to forget my own advice on this hand. On the ♥6, declarer played the ♥7. Whether the lead is from ♥KJ96 or ♥96xx (from AK96 partner probably would have tried the ace) the right card is clearly the ♥8. When this is captured by the ♥J, it does seem to suggest the lead was most likely 2nd highest from four small. I should then find the spade switch and we take four spade tricks and at least three tricks in the minor suits.

Instead, yours truly put in the ♥Q giving declarer four heart tricks and then woodenly returned a heart when declarer played a small diamond to the 8. Declarer quickly got two diamonds to go with the four hearts and the ♣A and made the contract.

Dlr W	♠ 1052		
Vul None	♥ A85		
	♦ Q1043		
	♣ K104		
♠ —		♠ AK943	
♥ J97		♥ 1063	
♦ A98762		♦ K	
♣ 8632		♣ QJ75	
	♠ QJ876		
	♥ KQ42		
	♦ J5		
	♣ A9		

W	N	E	S
P	P	1S	P
1NT ¹	P	2C	All pass

¹ Semi-forcing 1NT 5-11

Whenever you have declarer's second suit, it usually pays to lead a trump to prevent declarer ruffing away losers in the suit. Teammate Ralph Parker led the ♠A and another against 2♣. While a heart loser did disappear on ♦A, declarer lost two hearts, two clubs and two spades for one down.

My opponents took their three hearts but then developed an aversion to a trump lead. This allowed me to ruff two spades in dummy, discard another on the ♦A and lead twice towards the ♣QJ to hold my club losers to two and make the contract.

Dlr S	♠ K642		
Vul None	♥ 109		
	♦ A1086		
	♣ 1054		
♠ A8		♠ J97	
♥ J64		♥ A72	
♦ KQ75		♦ J943	
♣ J932		♣ AQ7	
	♠ Q1053		
	♥ KQ853		
	♦ 2		
	♣ K86		

W	N	E	S
P	P	?	P

In these days of expert players opening the bidding with flat 10 and 11 count hands, can you pass with a 12 count? I've decided the answer is 'yes' having been burnt for the third time with certain hands. My instinct was to pass the East hand - it has the dreaded 4-3-3-3 shape and the jacks are by themselves in their suits. It's also a nine-loser.

However, it does have 2 aces. Against my better judgment, I opened 1♦ and partner not unreasonably tried 2NT invitational and managed to escape for one down.

After a weak 2♦ opening from North (see next column), I overbid this hand to 4♠ in a bidding sequence best forgotten. In the field though, I was far from alone.

A diamond was led and continued. I ruffed and led the ♥8. Under pressure, South put in the ♥Q (telling me where the ♥K was) and I ducked. A third diamond was led, and I ruffed. I held my breath and drew three

Dlr W	♠ 96		
Vul EW	♥ 1053		
	♦ AK10763		
	♣ Q5		
♠ 852		♠ AKQJ7	
♥ AJ972		♥ 84	
♦ J54		♦ 8	
♣ 82		♣ AJ1074	
	♠ 1043		
	♥ KQ6		
	♦ Q92		
	♣ K963		

rounds of trumps. When trumps broke, I led a small heart and played the ♥J. The ♥A brought an unlikely 3-3 heart break and 10 tricks in the form of four hearts, three trumps, two ruffs and the ♠A.

Dlr E	♠ 87532		
Vul None	♥ K984		
	♦ 9		
	♣ J95		
♠ AK		♠ J1094	
♥ 6		♥ 102	
♦ A108765		♦ KQ432	
♣ 10874		♣ Q3	
	♠ Q6		
	♥ AQJ753		
	♦ J		
	♣ AK62		

W	N	E	S
2D	4H!	P	1H
All pass		5D	X

One of the pleasant features of the Festival for me was that my potentially dodgy sacrifices mostly worked, either because they turned out to be sound or because at the other table Messrs Parker or Ward brilliantly played and made games which really shouldn't have made.

I like North's 4♥ bid - a shortage plus 4-card support for partner's opened major is enough to bid a weak 4 major. And it gives me a difficult last guess. You shouldn't sacrifice with flat hands, but I decided on the bidding that partner was likely to be short in hearts and with 10+ diamonds between us 5♦ couldn't be too far wrong. It wasn't, with a lucky 4♥ making on the ♣Q dropping doubleton and 5♦X only one off for -100.

Dlr N	♠ K		
Vul NS	♥ J1098653		
	♦ J		
	♣ KJ53		
♠ A96		♠ J42	
♥ Q72		♥ —	
♦ KQ953		♦ A8742	
♣ 96		♣ Q10842	
	♠ Q108753		
	♥ AK4		
	♦ 106		
	♣ A7		

W	N	E	S
P	3H	P	4H
5D	P	4NT	P
All pass			5H

I can't say I'm a fan of a 3♥ bid of such a poor suit quality, never mind the adverse vulnerability. I decided to take the risk of a 4NT sacrifice for the minors given I was non-vul vs vul. The resulting 5♦ would most likely be two down for -300 against the making 4♥ (-620). 5♥ was a bridge too far, losing ♥Q, ♦A and ♠A.

Dlr S	♠ K		
Vul Both	♥ AJ10863		
	♦ J109		
	♣ 764		
♠ Q108		♠ A95	
♥ 94		♥ KQ2	
♦ AQ		♦ K543	
♣ A98532		♣ KQJ	
	♠ J76432		
	♥ 75		
	♦ 8762		
	♣ 10		

W	N	E	S
1C(2+)	1H	2D	P
3D	P	3NT	All pass

This was a frustrating hand from the finals. Over the 1♥ overcall, I just didn't have an adequate bid in our system. X showed four spades exactly, 2♥ was a limit or better raise in clubs and 3NT was something like 12-15, not an 18 count. Nor was I willing to pass 1♥ hoping for a double in case it got passed out.

So, I temporised with 2♦. Partner, expecting me to have 5+ diamonds, decided showing the good honour support with 3D was more important

than showing the tatty club suit. While I suspected that, if partner had diamond "support", he probably had longer clubs, there was no reason why partner mightn't have 3/3 in the minors or 4♣/3♦. Nor was I sure what he would make of club bids after we had "agreed" diamonds.

I decided it was all too hard and that I didn't have quite enough to unilaterally bash 6NT, despite the potentially good placement of the heart honours, and bid 3NT. On a H7 lead, 12 tricks rolled home.

The Queensland Open Pairs was contested by 72 pairs. Ian Afflick and Paul Collins won by a large margin, with Linda Norman and Wendy Gibson second, and Neville Francis and Richard Ward third. My thanks to Jim Evans for drawing my attention to the hands below, and giving me his analysis and description of what occurred at his table.

Dlr W	♠ 8		
Vul NS	♥ AQJ543		
	♦ 9854		
	♣ 76		
♠ AJ9		♠ 7543	
♥ 102		♥ 9876	
♦ KJ107		♦ 63	
♣ K982		♣ J103	
	♠ KQ1062		
	♥ K		
	♦ AQ2		
	♣ AQ54		

W	N	E	S
1D	2H	P	3NT
All pass			

I'm generally loathe to play in 3NT with a singleton in partner's weak-2. The stranding of the weak-2 suit in dummy is common and usually fatal. You can have some sympathies with the 3NTS declarers though, who are thinking that they want to protect their A Q tenaces and hoping their hand is strong enough or, against the odds, the heart suit runs.

4♥ by North does make, despite an initial minor suit lead through an A Q tenace. You have eight top tricks in the form of six hearts, and two minor suit aces. Provided you go to work quickly on spades, once the ♠A is knocked out ♠Q is trick nine and ♠10 trick 10 when the ♠J drops.

3NTS, which most of the field played in and only half made, is very interesting. You start with five top tricks - ♠A, ♦A and three hearts. On the opening lead, West will almost assuredly lead a minor card into your A Q tenaces and give you another trick. If you work on spades by playing the ♠K (losing to the ♠A) and later a low spade (to keep control of the suit and avoid squeezing dummy), a later ♠Q drops the ♠J and the three spade tricks get you home. If spades don't behave, you can then try for a 3-3 break in hearts.

Dlr N	♠ 83		
Vul EW	♥ AQ		
	♦ KJ93		
	♣ AK632		
♠ AK94		♠ QJ6	
♥ 10652		♥ 98743	
♦ 105		♦ AQ72	
♣ 874		♣ 10	
	♠ 10752		
	♥ KJ		
	♦ 864		
	♣ QJ95		

Jim elected to open the North hand 1NT. Against this decision are:

- (1) The hand is a little strong (17 HCPs with a good 5-card suit) though ♥A Q doubleton isn't a nice feature, and
- (2) The hand is a little off-shape as a 2-2-4-5, with the two doubletons being in the majors (potentially dangerous if partner is 5-5 in the majors with a game going hand) and spades very weak.

Jim's idea was that the 1NT opening made it harder for the opposition to compete in a major and, if partner had a 5-card major, a transfer would give the bigger hand all the usual advantages of playing the contract.

His decision proved successful. On a heart lead against 1NT, Jim won the ♥K and played a low diamond to the king and ace. A heart was continued, and Jim decided it was now prudent to run for home with two hearts and five clubs for +90 and 79.5%.

Those who opened the North hand 1♣ should have been subjected to a 1♥ overcall from East despite the suit quality and adverse vulnerability. If EW had the courage to apply the

law of total tricks at the adverse vulnerability, they competed to the three level and, if left there, made 10 tricks for +170 and a top. Or NS got too high over them and went down.

I suspect the large number of NSs in game on this hand found themselves too high not because of interference but because they had no mechanism after a reverse for a very weak hand (6-7) to warn the reverser. There is a myriad of choices, but a simple one is Blackout - 2NT is weak (6-7) as is repeating your suit without jumping and everything else game going (8+) eg

W	N	E	S
	1C	P	1S
P	2D	P	2NT ¹
P	3C	All pass	

¹Weak

3C was worth 94% for NS.

Dir E		♠ Q1096			♠ J753
Vul None		♥ AKJ9864			♥ 753
		♦ 76			♦ K1085
		♣ —			♣ 102
♠ 2	N W E S	♥ Q102	♠ J753	♥ 753	
♥ Q102		♦ QJ4	♦ K1085	♦ K1085	
♦ QJ4		♣ Q98764	♣ 102	♣ 102	
♣ Q98764		♠ AK84	♥ —	♥ —	
		♦ A932	♣ AKJ53		

A cruel slam hand. Two pairs got too high in a grand slam, but 22 pairs not unreasonably tried a small slam with seven successful. 6♠ can be made by Deep Finesse, who cashes the side suit winners and cross ruffs knowing the ♠84 won't be overruffed by West and that you shouldn't try to ruff clubs the other way. A human player has a near impossible task, especially in pairs where the overtrick might be important.

Annoyingly, the inferior 6♥ contract has the best chances. The ♥AK and a third heart lost to the queen and cleared trumps. Provided you take the precaution of cashing ♣AK and ruffing one before embarking on spades, you realise the club split makes East more likely to hold any extra length in spades and can cash the spades correctly to finesse against the ♠J in the East hand. ■

IBPA Column Service

Dir N		♠ A875			♠ QJ642
Vul EW		♥ KQJ10			♥ 5
		♦ K5			♦ J10876
		♣ 542			♣ KJ
♠ K103	N W E S	♥ 863	♠ QJ642	♥ 5	
♥ 863		♦ 94	♦ J10876	♦ J10876	
♦ 94		♣ Q10863	♣ KJ	♣ KJ	
♣ Q10863		♠ 9	♥ A9742	♥ A9742	
		♦ AQ32	♣ A97	♣ A97	

W	N	E	S
	1C	P	1H
P	2H	P	3S
P	4D	P	4NT
P	5S	P	6H
All pass			

South's jump to three spades over North's simple heart raise was a splinter bid. When North showed a diamond control, South used Roman Key Card Blackwood to reach slam.

West led the six of trumps and declarer paused to form a plan. He counted ten top tricks. Declarer saw that to make his contract he would either have to ruff two low minor-suit cards in dummy or three spades in hand. As the former would require too much luck in the minor suits, he judged it a poorer chance than the latter.

So, after winning the first trick with dummy's ten of trumps, declarer cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade low in hand. Declarer then crossed to dummy with a low trump to the jack, since a two-two trump break would turn this into a claimer. When East showed out, declarer continued with a second spade ruff with the nine of trumps. Now he did a prescient thing: he cashed the ace of diamonds and then led a low diamond to dummy's king.

Declarer ruffed dummy's remaining spade in hand with the ace of trumps. Then he ruffed the three of diamonds in dummy with the queen of trumps. After drawing West's last trump with the king, declarer claimed 12 tricks: one spade, four trumps in

dummy, three spade ruffs in hand and four winners in the minors.

Notice that, if declarer had not cashed the ace of diamonds before playing a diamond to the king, the contract would have failed on this layout. West would have discarded a diamond on the fourth round of spades and ruffed the next round of diamonds. Declarer would still have had to lose a club and would have finished one trick short of his contract.

Dir N		♠ AJ3			♠ Q82
Vul EW		♥ A9432			♥ QJ75
		♦ QJ8			♦ AK109
		♣ AQ			♣ 63
♠ 9765	N W E S	♥ K10	♠ Q82	♥ QJ75	
♥ K10		♦ 654	♦ AK109	♦ AK109	
♦ 654		♣ 10852	♣ 63	♣ 63	
♣ 10852		♠ K104	♥ 86	♥ 86	
		♦ 732	♣ KJ974	♣ KJ974	

W	N	E	S
	1H	P	1NT
P	3NT	All pass	

At the first table in a team game, the declarer was more noted for the speed of his play rather than his skill. West led the six of spades. Declarer played low from dummy and the queen forced his king. Declarer continued with a club to the ace and the queen of clubs, overtaking it with the king. When East discarded on the third round of clubs, declarer could make no more than eight tricks.

At the other table, declarer was more careful and deliberate. At trick one, he called for dummy's jack of spades since he wanted to preserve an entry to hand to cash the four club honours. If the jack of spades had held, then the king of spades would have been the entry. When East covered the jack of spades with the queen, declarer took it with his king and led a diamond to the queen and East's king. East returned a spade, which was taken in dummy with the ace. Next, declarer cashed dummy's ace and queen of clubs. When both opponents followed to the clubs, declarer claimed nine tricks: a heart, three spades and five clubs. The ten of spades was the entry to his hand.

Note that this declarer's play of a diamond at trick two was a precautionary measure against clubs being five-one: he would then have been able to make a second diamond trick if the honours had been favourably placed.

Dlr N	♠ KQ8
Vul EW	♥ 964
	♦ AQ4
	♣ 9742
♠ J753	♠ —
♥ J32	♥ AKQ107
♦ 85	♦ J10962
♣ Q865	♣ AJ3
	♠ A109642
	♥ 85
	♦ K73
	♣ K10

W	N	E	S
P	P	1H	1S
P	2H	X	P
P	2S	P	3D
P	4S	All pass	

The auction here was fairly straightforward: two hearts promised spade support and three diamonds was a long suit game try. North had a near-perfect hand and bid the spade game.

West led a lowest-from-an-odd-number two of hearts. East played the queen, king and ace of hearts, suit preference for clubs. Declarer ruffed low and saw that he would have ten easy tricks if trumps were not four-zero; East had to have the ace of clubs because West would surely have bid two hearts with that card.

So declarer led a low trump to dummy's king at trick four. When East discarded a diamond, declarer led a low club from the dummy. East rose with the ace and played another round of hearts. Declarer ruffed low to neutralise West's jack of trumps. West saw that it would be pointless to overruff and discarded a diamond instead. Declarer led a low trump to West's five and dummy's eight. After cashing the queen of trumps, declarer returned to hand with a club to the king. When that held, he had ten tricks: six trumps, three diamonds and a club.

Note that it was important to play

a club at trick five. If declarer had returned to hand with the king of diamonds, after taking the eight and queen of trumps he would then have had to come off dummy with a club. East would have risen with the ace, after which a fourth round of hearts would have promoted West's jack of trumps into the setting trick.

Dlr S	♠ 62
Vul EW	♥ AK54
	♦ A954
	♣ A108
♠ Q1087	♠ J3
♥ —	♥ 9732
♦ K107	♦ J8632
♣ KQJ754	♣ 32
	♠ AK954
	♥ QJ1086
	♦ Q
	♣ 96

W	N	E	S
P	2D ¹	P	1S
P	3H ²	P	2H
P	4NT ³	P	3S
P	5D ⁵	P	5C ⁴
P	6H	All pass	5S ⁶

¹ Natural, game-forcing

² Stronger than 4

3. RKCB

4. 1 or 4 key cards

5. Trump-queen ask

6. Queen of hearts and king of spades

South thought his fifth heart and diamond queen were too much to make a simple raise to four hearts,

so showed some interest with three spades.

At the other table in a team game, South had shown no such enterprise and had simply raised to four hearts. North had deferred to his opinion. Declarer had won the king-of-clubs lead with the ace and had led the ace of hearts. When West had shown out, declarer had breathed a sigh of relief, for now slam was very dicey. Taking some precautions, declarer led a spade to the ace, cashed the king of spades and ruffed a spade with the king of hearts. When East showed out, declarer drew trumps and conceded a spade, making 11 tricks when West cashed a club.

At the second table, declarer needed to make one more trick than his counterpart. Being a careful player, South won the club lead in dummy with the ace and, seeing that he needed spades to be no worse than four-two, led a spade immediately. He cashed the ace and king and led a third spade, ruffing it high in the dummy. Declarer led a trump to the queen, noted the four-zero break, and ruffed a fourth spade high in the dummy, setting up the fifth spade as a winner. Then declarer could lead dummy's last trump, covering East's card, draw trumps and claim 12 tricks and 11 IMPs.

■ Tim Bourke

Which is preferable, extra-marital bridge or extra marital bridge?

T B I B

We all know TBIB through the ABF Travel Insurance policies they provide, but it is also interesting to learn of the many other ways TBIB can assist. These include:

- Club Insurance
- Home & Contents insurance
- Investment Property Insurance
- Motor Vehicle Insurance
- Commercial Building and Business Insurance

Many players speak highly of the service they have received when needing to review and renew their Home and Contents or Car Insurance.

As a broker, TBIB works for you the client, not the insurance companies.

If you haven't yet spoken to them, contact either Steve Weil or Josh Dejun at TBIB on 07 3252 5254 and see how they might assist you.

60TH INTERNATIONAL

GOLD COAST BRIDGE CONGRESS

2022

18TH - 26TH FEBRUARY
GOLD COAST CONVENTION CENTRE, BROADBEACH

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Queensland Bridge Association

Pics from the Past





**Matthew
McManus**

They haven't got what they said they did - will the director help us?

Last time, I looked at what happens when a player deliberately bids something which is not in accordance with the agreed system. This time, I will consider the situation where a bid is described as such and such, but the player who bid it has accidentally made a mistake.

There could be any number of reasons why this happens:

- 1 points miscounted
- 2 hand wrongly sorted
- 3 system forgotten
- 4 wrong bid inadvertently written on the bidding pad/pulled from the bidding box, and the player fails to realise in time.

If you ever find yourself in the unfortunate position of having made one of these mistakes, the most important thing to do – although it is often very hard – is to give absolutely no indication at all that something is wrong. The exception is #4 – if partner has not yet made a call after your error, get the director immediately. It may be possible to correct your bid. The director will allow this if he is convinced that you never intended to make the call you did.

Note that this does not allow for changes of mind; if there is any chance that you could have been considering the call you did make, it is unlikely you will be allowed to change.

Assuming that any of the above four scenarios has arisen, what are your responsibilities? Should you fess up to the opponents? No. If they have asked no questions, you have nothing to say. As long as your partner, if asked, has given them the correct systemic meaning, there is nothing more to be done. As an example, you think you have this hand.

*"Does your bridge partner have a photographic memory?"
"Yes, but it has never been developed."*

♠ A64
♥ QJ542
♦ K
♣ AQ75

As dealer, you bid 1♥, partner responds 4♥ and that ends the auction. The opening leader asks, "Do you open 5-card majors?", to which partner correctly responds, "Yes". While this is going on, you suddenly discover that the ♥2 is actually the ♦2 and you should have opened the bidding with 1NT. You should say nothing. Partner has correctly described your agreement. He doesn't know that you only have four hearts, and until just a minute ago, neither did you! The opponents are not entitled to know about your mistake.

If the opponents go wrong because of your error, will the director come to their rescue? In general, the answer is "No". As long as the opponents have received the correct information, then there is no infraction at law, and the result obtained at the table will stand.

I will make some caveats here, in relation to #3, where the player has forgotten the system:

1 If you make a bid which does not match the system, and you are woken up to your error because of your partner's alert or what he says in response to a question from the opponents, then you may not use that information in deciding on your future actions.

2 If you make a bid which does not match the system, you must be certain that your understanding of what your bid means is not the correct one and that it is definitely you that has made the mistake - not partner in giving his explanation. If you have any doubt as all about what your agreement is, you should tell the opponents at the appropriate time - at the end of the auction if you are declarer or dummy, or at the end of the hand if you are a defender.

3 If it is claimed that a player has forgotten the system, then the director will look to see whether his partner has done anything which suggests he was making allowances for the error. (If your partner regularly forgets an agreement, then the opponents need to know

about this as well.) If there is some suggestion that you have allowed for your partner's mistake, there is a high probability that the director will award an adjusted score.

4 If a partnership is regularly forgetting the system, the director is well within his rights to stop the pair playing their current system and to require them to play a more natural system. And for the enjoyment of all the players in the game, he should do so.

So far, in Parts 1 and 2 of this topic, I have offered little joy to the "non-offending" side. They have been stuck with what has happened when the correct explanation has been given. However, relief is at hand in Part 3, when the opponents incorrectly describe their agreements - stay tuned.

.....to be continued.

Courtesy: The NSWBA

Teams of Three



**Richard
Wallis**

AFTER a short absence I once again fronted up to Northern Suburbs for the T-o-3, where I had the pleasure of playing with Jacqui Dudurovic, Pam Tidmarsh and Faye Fatseas in that order. This was the first congress for all three, and they were obviously a little nervous and unsure, as they had not played in a teams match format before, let alone a congress.

In a very shaky start we lost our first two matches to drop to last of 12, but then the pressure started to ease and we won our next three matches to climb off the bottom. A small loss in the last match left us 3/0/3 and we had settled into 8th spot.

The winners of our section were Tony Treloar, Debbie Carroll, Stephen and Louise Bennett, from Peter Nilsson, Sue English, Joanne Bayett and Caroline Nelson, with John Scrivens, Pam Varcoe, May Conder and Anne Johnson in 3rd place. We did not play against 1st or 3rd, but our first loss in match 1 was to Nilsson.

Having got their first congress out of the way, I am sure that each of my team now has a thirst for more, and I expect that they will look around for other Restricted Congresses to play in, maybe even the Gold Coast Congress when it finally is played again.

Board 1 in the first match was Jacqui's first hand of the day and it was a difficult hand to evaluate.

M 1	♠ A43		
Bd 1	♥ 987		
Dlr N	♦ KJ84		
Vul None	♣ J64		
♠ QJ92		♠ 1065	
♥ K6		♥ J10	
♦ Q10		♦ 7652	
♣ Q10732		♣ AK85	
	♠ K87		
	♥ AQ5432		
	♦ A93		
	♣ 9		

W	N	E	S
2C	2H	P	1H
All pass			3H!

Pass was easy as dealer, and so was supporting my heart suit when West bid 2♣ (not recommended on such a broken suit opposite a passed hand), but when I invited with 3♥, she had bad shape, no heart honours, and her ♠J was suspect, so she passed.

West has an easy lead of the ♠Q, which I won on the table to lead a trump and West was in again. As before she did not want to broach the poor club suit, and since the ♠10 was played by East at trick 1, she had an easy exit of the ♠J.

I drew the outstanding trumps and led a diamond, where the lucky lay of the diamond honours allowed me to pitch the ♣9. On the run of the trumps, West pitched the ♠9, so I made 12 tricks for +230.

At the other table South also played in 3♥, but lost three tricks for -170 and 2 IMPs to us. These were our only IMPs of the match.

On this board (next column) I think Jacqui may have seen her first 8-card suit and she was not sure how to bid it. She did not then appreciate the advantage of the barrage bid of 5♦, but at least she jumped to the 3-level and made it a little harder for EW.

M 2	♠ 1086		
Bd 16	♥ 109		
Dlr W	♦ KJ987653		
Vul EW	♣ —		
♠ A5		♠ KQ742	
♥ KJ876		♥ —	
♦ 2		♦ A10	
♣ KJ876		♣ AQ5432	
	♠ J93		
	♥ AQ5432		
	♦ Q4		
	♣ 109		

W	N	E	S
1H	3D!	3S	P
4C	P	5C	All pass

East chose to bid their major suit rather than their longest suit, which was a little risky with a void in their partner's opening bid, but no doubt to their delight, West rebid 4♣, promptly raised to game by West.

How much easier for East to bid slam if they had bid 4♣ over 3♦ (intending to bid spades next) and saw West raise to 5♣!

7♣ is cold and we duly wrote down -640, 7♠ is also cold on the 3-3 break in the unlikely event that West was declarer.

At the other table North bid 5♦ over the 1♥ opening bid and East doubled ending the auction, and we scored +300 to lose eight IMPs on the hand.

M 3	♠ AK53		
Bd 20	♥ A94		
Dlr W	♦ AJ32		
Vul Both	♣ 52		
♠ 764		♠ J10982	
♥ QJ8		♥ 103	
♦ Q654		♦ K1087	
♣ K108		♣ 73	
	♠ Q		
	♥ K7652		
	♦ 9		
	♣ AQJ964		

W	N	E	S
P	1D	P	2C
P	2S	P	3NT
All pass			

I decided I was strong enough to reverse on the next round, so bid my longest suit in response to Pam's 1♦ opening bid.

However, she rebid 2♠, and I was

not sure if this was a reverse, but now 3♥ would have been 4th suit forcing and not natural, so I took the easy way out and rebid 3NT.

With hearts not having been bid, West had no reason not to lead the ♥Q, and I won on the table to take the club finesse, which West won and exited with a spade.

This nicely unblocked the ♠Q and I had five clubs, one diamond, two hearts and three spades for 11 tricks and +660.

I did not get the bidding at the other table, but they found their heart fit, but climbed too high, finishing in 6♥, for one off and +100 to us making a total of +760 and 12 IMPs.

M 4	♠ 10983		
Bd 3	♥ 109852		
Dlr S	♦ 104		
Vul EW	♣ 104		
♠ 7542		♠ —	
♥ AK7		♥ J643	
♦ AK6		♦ QJ97	
♣ J75		♣ KQ832	
	♠ AKQJ6		
	♥ Q		
	♦ 8532		
	♣ A96		

W	N	E	S
1NT!	P	3D!!	1S
3NT	P	4D	P
5D	All pass		

Sitting South I opened 1♠, and was surprised when West overcalled 1NT, but had planned to double a 3NT bid for the spade lead as I then had at least five tricks even if West had 10 x x x x in spades.

I did not ask about East's bid of 3♦, but felt from his body-language and my meagre heart holding that he was transferring to hearts until he removed 3NT to 4♦?

5♦ duly went four off for +400 to us and when I saw the hand-record later, I wondered why East never bid his club suit, as fortuitously 5♣ makes!

At the other table our teammates also missed their club fit after doubling the 1♠ opening bid, but stopped in the more sensible contract of 3♥, which went one down, but 7 IMPs to us.

This was one of many examples during the day where the novices bid no trump without a stopper in one of our suits, rarely to their advantage.

M 5	♠ AKJ10
Bd 11	♥ Q97
Dlr S	♦ A10943
Vul None	♣ 9
♠ 432	♠ 86
♥ J63	♥ 1042
♦ K2	♦ J875
♣ AJ865	♣ KQ73
	♠ Q975
	♥ AK85
	♦ Q6
	♣ 1042

W	N	E	S
P	1D	P	1C
P	2S	P	1NT
P	3NT!	All pass	3S

I opened 1♣ (better minor) and Faye responded 1♦, even holding four spades, since she was strong enough to reverse into spades after my rebid, which then shows as least five diamonds and four spades.

However, when I raised her 2♠ to 3♠, she did not think since I had not bid 1♠ over her 1♦ that I had 4-card support, and went back to 3NT.

Now I was at the mercy of EW, but at least I had opened 1♣, so I was expecting a heart lead. To my horror, West led the ♣6, which East won with the ♣Q, but returned the ♣3 which I covered with the ♣4.

West won the ♣5, and lucky for me returned the ♥3, and I was able to cash a very fortunate 10 tricks, for +430. At the other table NS stopped in 3♠, making 11 tricks for -200, but 6 IMPs to us.

With a balanced hand, I do not rebid 1♥ or 1♠ after the 1♦ response, because unless North is strong enough to reverse, I prefer to show a 4-card major as responder, rather than bid the suits "up the line".

On this board (next column) in the sixth and last match I opened 1♣, Faye responded 1♦ and East overcalled 1♥, to which I have an obvious 1NT rebid.

Faye invited game with 2NT, but I reluctantly declined and West was on lead. One of my reasons

M 6	♠ K95
Bd 23	♥ J106
Dlr S	♦ A1042
Vul Both	♣ Q93
♠ J1086	♠ AQ2
♥ 7	♥ AQ543
♦ 753	♦ QJ986
♣ J8764	♣ —
	♠ 743
	♥ K982
	♦ K
	♣ AK1052

W	N	E	S
P	1D	1H	1C
P	2NT	All pass	1NT

for overcalling is to suggest a lead for partner in the event that the opponents play the hand. Thus I do not overcall bad 5-card suits without any of the top three honours.

East had a respectable suit, but West chose to lead a spade anyway, and fortunately for me he chose the ♠6 instead of the more normal ♠J, so East won the ♠Q and returned the ♥4, which I ran around to the ♥J and proceeded to finesse the hearts for three tricks.

It looked like I had missed game, but the 5-0 club break put paid to that and I emerged with eight tricks for +120.

At the other table, possibly the lack of a spade stop prompted NS to play in 3♣, and the bad break skittled that so +200 and +120 was worth 8 IMPs to us. ■

Queensland Graded Pairs



Winners: Evelyn Mander -
Joan Jenkins

The computer has just bid a psyche. It shows you can't even trust a machine nowadays."

Teacher's Corner



Joan Butts

Cue Bidding to Slam

What does a cue bid mean? It's defined as: "A forcing bid in a suit in which the bidder cannot wish to play" Every person at the table – opener, responder, overcaller, and advancer – is entitled to make a cue bid, but the most popular ones are those when you're interested in finding out about controls for slam.

These cue bids are about controls – so they could be called "control bids" i.e. cards your side holds which will prevent the opponents taking too many tricks in a suit. An ace is a first-round control as it will win the first round of a suit led. A void is a first round control too, because you can trump the lead. A king is a second-round control. The opponents might win the ace, but the king will stop them on the second round. In suit contracts, a singleton is the same as a king – a second-round control. We are using the most modern method of control bidding, called Italian Control bidding, and this includes both first and second controls together. So you may be sure that there will be two or more losers in a suit which is not shown (ie neither first nor second round controls).

To bid a small slam, the partnership needs first-round control in three suits, and at least second-round control in the fourth. To bid a grand slam, the partnership needs first-round control in all four suits.

Blackwood (4NT) will help the partnership find how many aces, but not which aces. It will keep you out of slam when too many aces are missing. We tend to use Blackwood too much. The time to avoid Blackwood is when you hold

- (1) Two or more cards in an unbid suit with no ace or king
- (2) A void

Now you need to know which aces or voids your side holds. Blackwood won't tell you this, but a cue-bid will. In turn, partner will show a control too, and the bidding continues back and forth until there's enough information to either bid the slam, use Blackwood or realise there are not enough controls for slam, and stop bidding at the 5-level.

When is it a cue bid and when is it simply a new suit?

When your partnership has found a fit, and is committed to game, a new suit (out of the blue) is a cue bid, showing interest in slam. With a choice of cue bids, make the most economical (cheapest) cue bid first. eg 1♠ P 3♣ P 4♦. This would be a cue bid showing first round control of diamonds and denying a control in clubs, and interested in a spade slam.

The partnership needs a way to stop below slam with no more controls to show, so the trump suit is not included in the cue bidding process. A return to the trump suit says "I have no more to show". It doesn't necessarily end the auction, but it allows the partnership to stop in game. That's why we can then use Blackwood to find out about controls in the trump suit.

Summary

Here are some tips about the cue-bidding process: Once the trump suit has been clearly agreed and the auction is game-forcing, the bid of a new suit is a cue bid.

- Both first and second-round controls can be shown at the same time
- With a choice of controls to show, start at the lowest ranked suit, leaving the maximum amount of room
- Controls are not shown in the trump suit; to bid the trump suit is the way to stop the cue bidding sequence
- Use Blackwood when you need to know about the trump suit

South has a strong 6-5 hand (next column), but with the diamonds only headed by the QJ it's best to open 1♠ and not 2♣. When partner responds 3♣ showing a strong passed hand you look for slam. Blackwood isn't suitable as one ace could be the ♥A

Dir N	♠ Q976
Vul None	♥ AK83
	♦ 98
	♣ J73
♠ 54	♠ J
♥ Q762	♥ J10954
♦ AK4	♦ 765
♣ 9865	♣ Q1042
	♠ AK10832
	♥ —
	♦ QJ1032
	♣ AK

W	N	E	S
	P	P	1S
P	3S	P	4C
P	4H	P	4S
All pass			

which would be of no use to you. So you bid 4♣, and when partner bids 4♥ you know you have two diamond losers so sign off in 4♠.

Dir E	♠ 93
Vul NS	♥ J1043
	♦ KJ92
	♣ 432
♠ J10	♠ 87654
♥ 862	♥ —
♦ 87654	♦ Q103
♣ AK5	♣ 109876
	♠ AKQ2
	♥ AKQ975
	♦ A
	♣ QJ

W	N	E	S
		P	2C
P	2D	P	2H
P	3H	P	3S
P	4D	P	4H
All pass			

South has a very strong hand so opens 2♣. When partner shows support for hearts South will look for slam, hoping for a club control, so bids 3♠. When North bypasses clubs with 4♦ South is looking at two club losers and will sign off in 4♥.

South opens 1♠ (next column) and partner's 3♣ response is a limit raise with four spades. Slam is a possibility but as you have a small doubleton diamond you will need a control with partner. Cue bid your club ace and when partner shows a first or second round diamond control you use Blackwood to find out their number of aces.

Dir S	♠ A1032
Vul EW	♥ 32
	♦ AK85
	♣ 976
♠ 7	♠ 98
♥ KQJ4	♥ 98765
♦ Q109	♦ J743
♣ 85432	♣ K10
	♠ KQJ654
	♥ A10
	♦ 62
	♣ AQJ

W	N	E	S
		P	1S
P	3S	P	4C
P	4D	P	4NT
P	5H	P	5NT
P	6D	P	6S
All pass			

Partner shows two aces so we can ask for kings. As we're asking for specific kings we know partner has the AK of diamonds so we can bid 6♠. As we have a heart loser it will depend on the club finesse.

Dir W	♠ KQJ432
Vul Both	♥ A87
	♦ 32
	♣ AK
♠ 76	♠ 85
♥ Q1054	♥ J96
♦ KQ875	♦ J1094
♣ 63	♣ J542
	♠ A109
	♥ K32
	♦ A6
	♣ Q10987

W	N	E	S
P	1S	P	2C
P	2S	P	3S
P	4C	P	4D
P	4NT	P	5H
P	5NT	P	6H
P	6S	All pass	

North opens 1♠ and rebids 2♠ after South's game forcing 2♣. When South supports spades North decides to look for slam but is concerned by the two diamond losers so cue bids 4♣ hoping that South shows a diamond control. When South shows one, North checks for aces with Blackwood hearing the response for two aces and settles for 6♠ making 13 tricks. ■

Courtesy: www.joanbuttsbridge.com

TBIB OPEN TEAMS



1st: Richard Ward, Ralph Parker, Peter Evans and Paul Hooykaas



THE inaugural QBA Festival of Bridge came to a successful conclusion at the Queensland Contract Bridge Club last Monday.

Featuring a number of innovative highlights and incorporating two of the major Queensland Championships, the TBIB Open Teams and the Moore Australia Open Pairs, this three-day event attracted many players from all over the state.

Kim Ellaway and her helper, Ray, never stop. They helped set up, clean up, printed the scoring books, bought the lollies, and were there for anything extra that needed doing. Kim communicated with players, and took entries while myABF was down. Most importantly they served the drinks and she and Ray were here everyday to check on me.

Ray Ellaway - organised the BBO final, directed Friday night welcome pairs and kept Kim in line.

Pele Rankin - took entries and help players registering with myABF.

Richard Ward - with the help of the QBA Festival of Bridge team, made it happen. Richard is President of the QBA. He helped set up and make sure all was ready for the event. And then went on to be a member of the winning team!

■ Toni Bardon

MOORE AUSTRALIA OPEN PAIRS



1st: Ian Afflick and Paul Collins



2nd: Terry Strong, Jill Magee, Neville Francis and Tony Hutton

PLATE



1st: Richard Trollope, Lyn Martin, Jim Martin and David Christian

PLATE



2nd: Val Holbrook, Noel Bugeia, Connie Schoutrop and Bronwyn Macleod

OPEN PAIRS



2nd: Linda Norman and Wendy Gibson

CONSOLATION



Tere Wotherspoon, Charles Page, Robyn Stevens and Simon Fleming

CONSOLATION



Lilly Jia and Martin Wu

RESTRICTED



Raelene Clark, Rosemary Thomson, Joyanne Gissing and Annette Scott

REGIONAL



Chris Snook and Denise Hartwig

BOWEN



Thea Weekes, Deb Breeze, Lydie Martin and Beverley Lowcock

MACKAY



David Ting, Eric Goodchild, Debra Goodchild and Ming Ting

WHITSUNDAY



Diane Morgan, Alan Brown, Janet Hansen and Frances Brown

Manager's Travels



**Kim
Ellaway**

Gold Coast Congress

THE borders will soon be opening which means there is no reason that the Gold Coast Congress won't be going ahead. Entries will be limited but at a very high number - around 400 at the last count. This will mean around 100 teams may miss out but this could be just overseas players - who knows. The clubs have done the QBA proud by obeying all the rules that the government keeps bringing out and, when the police have visited, all clubs have received a tick as to their compliance.

As mentioned the GCC 60th Gold Coast Congress entries are open but you can only enter by registering with MYABF. How to do this is clearly shown on the QBA website and the ABF website.

If you have any problems after you have tried to register with MYABF and haven't received your confirmation email, please contact Pele on 0439 949 060 or gccentries@qldbridge.com.au. Payment may be made via MYABF, or prepaid directly into the QBA bank account (please ensure your name is entered as the deposit reference).

If you want teammates or a partner, give Toni a call on 0401 082 054 or tmbardon@hotmail.com.

What's new in 2022:

- All morning sessions start at 10.00 am.
- Bobby Richman Pairs Final 3 starts at 10.00am.
- Afternoon sessions start at 2.30 pm, except Monday and Friday - 2.00 pm
- All Rookie and 0-50 events commence at 10.00 am
- There is a new division in the Teams Championship - Under 1500 masterpoints

Important points:

- Following ABF guidelines on Gold Point events in 2022, it is a requirement that all players and officials be fully vaccinated. For those that are ineligible to be vaccinated for medical reasons, a medical certificate confirming such ineligibility along with confirmation of a negative Covid test conducted within three days of commencement of the event will be required.
- Gold Coast Congress Compendium updated regularly and is published on the MYABF Gold Coast Congress website.
- There of course will be changes due to the pandemic: for example, we will only be running one bus and all pickups will be organised prior to the event, and Barry our bus driver will run to a player pick-up schedule. He cannot be hailed down. No unwrapped lollies and we are limited to only three halls so entries will be limited, but that number is quite high so no need to panic. There will be no trivia offered in 2022 and I am sure there will be some smaller other things we will need to do but if we are all fully vaccinated the need for masks will not be required so I have been told.

Your job now is to enter and pay before February 7 and then turn up.

Caboolture hosted its very first congress on Sunday Oct 24 and Ray and I teamed up with Toni Bardon and Yolanda Carter.

The following clubs have been successful with the Gambling Community Grants – Townsville, Northern Suburbs, Tully, Wynnum and Gold Coast – Congratulations to all.

QBA Festival of Bridge has been written about elsewhere but congratulations should go to Richard Ward who was the main instigator for its success. Once the QBA Management Committee decided on its new format he was the one who got it all going - well done and thank you Richard.

2021 Individual - cancelled

2021 Qld-Wide Pairs - cancelled

The Teams-of-Three was held but numbers were capped due to density

requirement restrictions. Well done to Chris Snook the director, Jim Evans the organiser and Northern Suburbs who hosted it for the QBA.

The 2022 Calendar has been posted on the website and it is updated as changes occur.

The QBA will be getting a new website in the very near future. A big thank you to Peter Busch and his helpers Andrew Hooper, Ray Ellaway and Richard Ward on its implementation.

This will be the last Bulletin of the year so its time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and lets hope it's a better year than 2020 and 2021. I need to visit my aged aunt who has gone blind over the pandemic. I hope I get to see her in 2022. ■

Redcliffe

At the Annual General Meeting held at the Redcliffe Bridge Club on Monday June 14, the club awarded life membership to two members for their outstanding service in all aspects of club life over an extended period of time.

Sandra Routley first joined the club in 1986. She has achieved playing honours in various club competitions and has served in various management committee roles 2011-12, 2016-17 and while Vice President in 2012 she had a lead role in the relocation of the club and establishment of the current club premises. She has been a qualified teacher of bridge since 2002 and has conducted beginner and advanced lessons for players. She has had significant roles in formulating revisions of the constitution and by-laws in 2011 and was secretary of the sub-committee in 2019-20. Sandra is the current Club Recorder. Additionally, Sandra has been a qualified club director since 2000 and mentored aspirants through this period and co-authored the club history.

Helen Chapman first joined the club in 1995. She has achieved playing honours in various club competitions and has represented the club in finals in Sydney and Canberra. She has served in various management

committee roles 2001-02, 2003, 2007-09 and has written various grant applications to support the club. She has been a qualified teacher of bridge since 2003 and conducted beginner and advanced lessons for players. Helen chaired the sub-committee in 2019-20 to review the club constitution and by-laws. Additionally, she has been a qualified club director since 2003 and has mentored aspirants since then.



Helen Chapman and Sandra Routley

Caboolture

The inaugural Stringfellow Teams Congress was held on October 24.



Derek Stringfellow

Q B A

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Website: www.qldbridge.com.au

Caboolture Congress



C Grade winners: Tim Sayer, Alison Bodman, Karen Jorin and David Bruce



B Grade winners: Jenny Hays, Hugh Gehrmann, Charlene Frederiksen and Nigel Cleminson



Ray Ellaway, Yolanda Carter, Kim Ellaway and Toni Bardon

Klinger's Column



Ron Klinger

New Player Problems

Dealer East : Nil vulnerable

W	N	E	S
2S ¹	?	P	1S

¹ Michaels, 5 hearts and a 5+ minor
What would you do as North with:

1.

♠ 72
♥ KJ98
♦ KQJ84
♣ 32

2,

♠ 72
♥ AQ7
♦ KQ102
♣ QJ97

3.

♠ 2
♥ J4
♦ K87
♣ AQJ9873

1. Double. You are keen to penalize the opponents if they play in hearts or diamonds. If East bids clubs, you hope partner can penalize that.

2. Bid 3NT. You have enough points for game and sound stoppers in every suit outside partner's spades.

3. Bid 3♣. This is natural (new suit) and forcing, just as though it had gone 1♠ : 2♣. ■

Courtesy of ronklingerbridge.com

DEAD

JAN 17 (noon)

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Directors' Corner



Chris
Snook

How did we get here?

Feedback from Jan Peach regarding candidate performance in this year's QBA club director exam and my own discussions with current and aspiring directors is that many don't have a handle on the correct application of Law 23 Comparable Call. Law 23 was new in 2017 in an endeavour to get a normal bridge result on the board rather than immediately silence any player. It takes a while for directors to get their heads around the details and it is natural that the comparable call concept is foremost in their minds.

Law 23 defines a comparable call as one which replaces a **withdrawn call** under one of three prescribed conditions. *If it:*

1. *has the same or similar meaning as that attributable to the withdrawn call; or*
2. *defines a subset of the possible meanings attributable to the withdrawn call; or*
3. *has the same purpose (e.g. an asking bid or a relay) as that attributable to the withdrawn call.*

Law 23 does not say how the call was withdrawn, and we mustn't be applying the comparable call law until we have decided this. The entry points for Law 23 are insufficient bids (Law 27) and calls out of rotation (Laws 30, 31 and 32). Let's look closer at insufficient bids.

1. When the director arrives at the table, they establish the facts. Give a few seconds just in case there is a belated cry of "unintended call" or "I misread the opponents scribble ...", but don't prompt the players for this. A trap for new directors is that sometimes LHO (left hand opponent) has already passed but doesn't mention this when you arrive at the table – if so, they have already accepted the insufficient bid.

2. Allow offender's LHO to accept the insufficient bid, and if they do the call is treated as legal, winning the auction at the present time, and play continues. Aspiring directors sometimes forget this step.

3. If LHO does not accept the insufficient bid, then we enter Law 27B. The insufficient bid is **withdrawn** and must be corrected by the substitution of a legal call.

4. If offender corrects their insufficient bid by the lowest sufficient bid which specifies the same denomination(s) as that specified by the withdrawn call, the auction proceeds without further rectification. Aspiring directors sometimes forget this step.

5. Except as in above (4), if offender corrects their insufficient bid with a **comparable call** (see Law 23A) the auction proceeds without further rectification.

6. If none of the above apply, offender may correct their insufficient bid with a pass or a sufficient bid, but then offender's partner must pass whenever it is their turn to call. There may be lead restrictions due to the withdrawn call (Law 26B) and Law 72C (awareness of potential damage) may apply.

The above are the key points. It is left to the reader to go through these laws in detail and revise your own preferred wording at the table. The take-home message is that we don't start with Comparable Call, rather we go through the correct application of the insufficient bid and call out of rotation laws first.

Players: Mistaken Explanation or Mistaken Call (Law 75)

It is an infraction of Law if your partnership agreement is different from the explanation given (via alert or in answering an opponent's question).

- Firstly, if this occurs you know partner is likely to have misinterpreted your calls. You must carefully avoid taking any advantage (Law 73C) from this unauthorised information (Law 16A).
- If you later realise your own mistaken explanation, then call the director and provide a correction (this should be before the opening lead is made or as soon as possible during play).
- If partner has made the mistaken explanation, say nothing whilst the auction continues.
 - o If you are presumed declarer or dummy then, after the final pass, call the director and provide a correction.
 - o If you are a defender, then say nothing until play ends. It is terrible if you leave your opponents to work out themselves what happened or leave it until they see the hand records. Your obligation is to call the director and provide a correction when play ends.

Mistakes happen. If we comply with Law 75 it will lead to greater harmony at the table, and we should all be striving for this. ■

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CLEVELAND BAY TEAMS: [Director – Leigh Owens] **A** Angela Little / Robyn Nolan / Joan Elliott / Margaret Dousset; **B** Pat Leighton / Kenn Winter / Gladys Tulloch / Ray Muld; **C** Margie & John Toogood / Sue Reilly / Joe Gillis;

DARLING DOWNS GNOT: [Director – Chris Snook] Glenys Clift / Trevor Henderson / John Churchett / Eileen Josey / Lee Hore; **TOOWONG SWISS TEAMS:** [Director – Jan Peach] **A** Tony Hutton / Neville Francis / Jill Magee / Terry Strong; **B** Annette Hyland / Abby Wanigaratne / Peter Nilsson / Alan Boyce; **C** Robyn Stevens / Simon Fleming / Lilly Jai / Martin Wu; **TOOWOOMBA PAIRS:** [Director – Chris Snook] **A** Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; **B** Oliver Dashwood / Delma Clark; **C** Greg Munck / Lawrence Price; **CASSOWARY PAIRS:** [Director – Bill Bishop] **A** Rebecca Delaney / Lesley Fraser; **B** Danny Benedetto / Stephen Vigh; **C** Harry Graepel / Sandrine Taillardat; **U50 MP** Elaine Dickson / Jonathan Jones; **U20 MP** Julie Duncan / Midge Bell

DARLING DOWNS CONGRESS:

{Director – Chris Snook} **TEAMS** Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood / Robert Fulton / Laurie Sutton; **PAIRS** Diane Wenham / Margaret Keating; **YEPPON CONGRESS** [Director – Geoff Taylor] **PAIRS** Jan & Peter Randall **TEAMS** Max & Diane Holewa / Eric Leivesley / Janelle Conroy; **BRISBANE ZONE GNOT FINAL** [Director – Jan Peach, 44 teams]: 1 Therese Tully / Richard Ward / Neville Francis / Tony Hutton; 2 Murray Perrin / Janeen Solomon / Carmel Martin / Phil Hale; 3 Pamela & Jim Evans / Toni Bardon / Patrick Bugler; 4 Jill Magee / Terry Strong / Martin Qin / Charlie Lu

QLD GRADED PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Evelyn Mander / Joan Jenkins; 2 Neville Francis / Tony Hutton; 3 Pamela & Jim Evans; **B** 1 Winny Chan / Terry Dwerryhouse; 2 Mary Simon / Kevin Hamilton-Reen; 3 Kathy Males / Peter Munro; **C** 1 Jane Tagney / Marge Henry; 2 Lynda Bennion / Midge Spice; 3 Mary-

Louis Churchill / Kris Sullivan; **MACKAY PAIRS** [Director – Geoff Taylor] **A** 1 Adrian Lohmann / Don Cameron; 2 Noel Bugeia / Ian Afflick; **B** 1 Janet Hansen / Diane Morgan; 2 Janelle Conroy / Robert Carless; **C** 1 Ming & David Ting; 2 Jan Harris / Mick King

DALBY PAIRS: [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 John Erlandson / Will Higgins; 2 Noreen Weyling / Tony Davidson; **B** 1 Ngaire Wills / Joan Mladen; 2 Naureen Gearon / Rebecca Night; **C** 1 Terry Sheedy / Mark John Hunt; 2 Michelle & Thomas O'Connor; **KENMORE GRADED NOVICE PAIRS:** [Director – Julie Jeffries] 1 Wendy Cuthbert / Martin Wu; 2 Anne Gardiner / Gloria Newton; **B** 1 Linda & Peter Neil; 2 Jenny McGowan / Vanessa Brewis; **NOOSA SPRING TEAMS:** [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Therese Tully / Richard Ward / Tony Hutton / Neville Francis; 2 Geoff Olsen / Maureen Jakes / Rosemary Crowley / Richard Perry; **B** 1 Lesley Power / Susan Lee / Jean Pearce / Marylou Shaw; 2 Kiyomi Avanduk / Sue Gardner / Margaret & Don Robertson.

SANCTUARY COVE PAIRS: [Directors Suzi Ledger & Chris Snook] 1 Jody Swaine / Jenny Michael; 2 Dot Piddington / Jennifer Sawyer; **RESTRICTED** 1 Beryl Morris / Celia McKew; 2 Sandra Mulcahy / Richard Samuels; **INGHAM**

HINCHINBROOK PAIRS: [Director Geoff Allen] 1 William van Bakel / Michael Byrne; 2 Dusk Care / John Johnson; **B** 1 Ken Muhling / Alan Giles; 2 Cobie & Simon van Kruistum; **REDLAND PAIRS:** [Director Alan Gibson] 1 Rachel Langdon / Nikolas Moore; 2 Agnes & Barry Kempthorne; **B** 1 Raelene Clark / Trevor Dwerryhouse; 2 Michael Souter / Thomas France; **SUNSHINE COAST PAIRS:** [Director Peter Busch] 1 Tony Hutton / Richard Ward; 2 Lyn & Jim Martin; **B** 1 Kate Balmanno / Glenda Vincent; 2 Barbara Holmes / Chris Birch.

MARGARET BOURKE ONLINE

INTERNATIONAL: 1 Sophie Ashton / Sartaj Hans / Maurits van der Vlugt / Avi Kanetkar / Dave Wiltshire / Ellena Moskovsky [AUS]; 2 Barry Jones / Jenny Millington / Liz & Blair Fisher / Jo & Sam Simpson [NZ]; **TOOWOOMBA**

CONGRESS: [Director – Chris Snook]

PAIRS 1 Neville Francis / Tony Hutton; 2 Margaret Keating / Diane Wenham **B** Margaret Plunkett / Greg Gosney **C** Vesna & Voyko Markovic; **TEAMS:** 1 Ines Dawes / Di Jones / Brett Middelberg / John Morris; 2 Neville Francis / Tony Hutton / Tim Runting / Patrick Bugler **B** Eugene Pereira / Sumant Handa / Vesna & Voyko Markovic **C** Rachel Wagner / David Richards / Anna Irminger / Eugenie Mooney; **SUNSHINE COAST NOVICE PAIRS NOVICE PAIRS:** [Director – Steve Murray] 1 Melva Leal / Midge Spice; 2 Lynda Bennion / Janet Franklin; 3 Lesley & Kim Rouse.

QBA FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE [Directors: Jan Peach & Alan Gibson] **TBIB OPEN TEAMS:** 1 Ralph Parker / Paul Hooykaas / Peter Evans / Richard Ward; 2 Neville Francis / Jill Magee / Tony Hutton / Terry Strong; 3 Nikolas Moore / Rachel Langdon / Murray Perrin / Janeen Solomon; **PLATE:** 1 Lyn & Jim Martin / Richard Trollope / David Christian 2 Noel Bugeia / Val Holbrook / Bronwyn McLeod / Connie Schoutrop; **CONSOLATION** Charles Page / Tere Wotherspoon / Robyn Stevens / Simon Fleming; **REGIONAL** Denise Hartwig / Chris Snook / Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; **RESTRICTED** Annette Scott / Raelene Clark / Joyanne Gissing / Rosemary Thomson; **MOORE AUSTRALIA OPEN PAIRS:** 1 Paul Collins / Ian Afflick; 2 Linda Norman / Wendy Gibson; 3 Richard Ward / Neville Francis; **PLATE** 1 Diane Morgan / Janet

Hansen; 2 Evelyne Mander / Joan Jenkins; **CONSOLATION** Martin Wu / Lilly Jia; **REGIONAL** Denise Hartwig / Chris Snook; **RESTRICTED** Susan & Andrew Sharp

GYMPIE TEAMS: [Director Steve Murray]

1 Lyn & Jim Martin / Alison Dawson / David Christian; 2 Richard Trollope / Rosemary Crowley / Ines Dawes / Ken Dawson; **B** 1 Debbie & Gary Gibbards / Noreen Weyling / Tony Davidson; 2 Keith Johnson / Kay Kerr / Jane Lennox / Jenz Davidson; **BBC PAIRS:** [Director Julie Jeffries] **RESTRICTED** 1 Unis Suliman / Steven Parkes; 2 Annette Scott / Rosemary Thomson; **B** 1 Ada Krawczyk / Michael Clibbon; 2 Judith & Neil Hansen; **NOVICE** 1 Vanessa Brewis / Jenny McGowan; 2 Jane Whelan / Robyn Chippindall; **B** 1 Lilly Jia / Martin Wu; 2 Linda Lee / Greg Dobson; **NOOSA NOVICE PAIRS:** 1 Eugenie Mooney / Annie Irminger; 2 Rosemary Floquet / Jan Kinross; **B** Cheryl Bell / David Phillips; 2 Jennifer Hurley / Kerry Minchin

CABOOLTURE STRINGFELLOW

TEAMS: [Director Steve Murray] 1 Kim & Ray Ellaway / Yolanda Carter / Toni Bardon ; 2 Lyn & Jim Martin / Amber Noonan / Anne Young; **B** Jenny Hays / Charlene Fredriksen / Hugh Gehrmann / Nigel Cleminson; **C** Alison Bodman / David Bruce / Tim Sayer / Karen Jorin **SURFERS PARADISE GRADED TEAMS:** [Director Alan Gibson] **A** 1 Geoffrey Toon / Charlie Lu / Pamela & James Evans; 2 Angeline Christie / Edward Hahn / Rita Kahn / Trish Anagnostou; **B** 1 Kevin Hamilton-Reen / Mary Simon / Kathy & Warren Males; 2 Maz McKee / Denise Richards / Jean Sheather / Wendy Stanford.



Gold Coast Congress