



# THE QBA BULLETIN

Published by the Queensland Bridge Association  
www.qldbriidge.com.au Email: manager@qldbriidge.com.au

July-September 2019 Volume 45 No

3

## From the President



Richard Wallis

THE big news this month is that Kim Ellaway and Joan McPheat were both awarded Life Membership by the QBA Management Committee. Just completed, was the WBF event in China, where Pele Rankin, Andy Hung and Andy Braithwaite all played in Australian teams.

The ANC in Melbourne during July was a great success for the VBA, and Qld teams performed creditably. The regional finals of the GNOT are coming up, if not already completed, followed by the National Final at Tweed Heads in November. Good luck to all Qld participants. This year the best placed Qld non-Brisbane team and one other in the Final will be subsidised by the QBA to compete in the APBF in WA in 2020. It was a pleasure to host people from all over Queensland to the recent Presidents' Meeting held in Brisbane. The level of engagement and participation of all those in attendance was very positive and we would consider another such gathering in 2021. Thanks to all

## ANC Melbourne



Peter Evans

### Open Teams

THE Australian National Championships were held this year at the Bayview Eden Hotel in Melbourne. The Seniors' Team (Neville Francis, Tony Hutton, Richard Ward, Therese Tully, Ewa Kowalczyk, Gheorghe Belonogov, with npc Martin Doran) in particular did us proud by making the final and, while they led at various points, just fell short in the end.

The Open Team (Ralph Parker, Paul Hooykaas, Charlie Lu, Martin Qin, Tony Treloar, Peter Evans, with npc Martin Doran) and the Youth Team (Ellen Visscher, Jack Luke Paredi, Darren Brake, Oliver McCarthy, Ben Leung, Jasmine Skeate, with npc Paul Brake) came third in their respective fields. The Women's Team (Greer Tucker, Maha Hoenig, Pele Rankin, Janeen Solomon, Annette Corkhill, Sue Spurway with npc Sue O'Brien) ran fourth.

The Open Team got off to a flying start with four wins and we were leading. I am not a fan of relay bidding to game and below as it often provides a road map for the defence.

"I decided I was a good bridge player when I found out that people whose names I had heard all my life, people I respected, did the same dumb things I did."

Edgar Kaplan



## 2020 Gold Coast Congress

February 21-29

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Dlr N	♠ KJ5		
Vul Both	♥ KQ2		
	♦ AJ86		
	♣ Q107		
♠ Q742		♠ 1086	
♥ 9		♥ A763	
♦ 9752		♦ K4	
♣ A542		♣ J986	
	♠ A93		
	♥ J10854		
	♦ Q102		
	♣ K3		

Ralph Parker and Paul Hooykaas in the other room had the good sense to play in the unbeatable 3NT contract given the flatness of the North hand. My opponents had a relay auction to the inferior contract of 4H by South, while telling us that South had a 3-5-3-2 hand shape.

I led ♦7 which was finessed to Tony Treloar's king. He returned a diamond to declarer's queen. Knowing for sure that Tony was now void in diamonds, we now couldn't miss - Tony wins the trump ace, leads to my ♠A and I gave him a diamond ruff for one off.

Dlr S	♠ J93		
Vul None	♥ 965		
	♦ K732		
	♣ J43		
♠ 6		♠ A54	
♥ KQ10742		♥ AJ83	
♦ A		♦ J109654	
♣ AQ875		♣ —	
	♠ KQ10872		
	♥ —		
	♦ Q8		
	♣ K10962		

W	N	E	S
2S <sup>1</sup>	P	4H	1S
4NT	P	5NT <sup>2</sup>	P
6H	All pass		

<sup>1</sup> 5+/5+ hearts and clubs weak or strong (4 loser or better)

<sup>2</sup> 2 keycards and a void

With Tony (East) jumping to 4H I knew we were in the slam zone. I had little doubt his void was in clubs but didn't know if he had sufficient trumps to ruff the club losers away or other winners on which some could be thrown. Hence I stayed in the

safer looking 6H. 7H can be made by playing the ♠A and embarking on a full cross-ruff but you lived in fear throughout of being over-ruffed.

Dlr N	♠ 1086		
Vul Both	♥ 7652		
	♦ AK1096		
	♣ 3		
♠ K43		♠ AQ7	
♥ —		♥ AQ983	
♦ J432		♦ 7	
♣ AJ8765		♣ K1092	
	♠ J652		
	♥ KJ104		
	♦ Q85		
	♣ Q4		

W	N	E	S
1NT <sup>1</sup>	P	1H	P
3C	P	2C	P
		3NT	All pass

<sup>1</sup> Forcing

A very curious decision by our East opponent to play in 3NT given the diamond shortage. As a 5-loser opposite a 3C invite, 5C seems the stand out bid, with diamond shortage and A Q tenaces you would like the opponents to lead around into. Tony (North) led the ♦A, I encouraged, which signalled the ♦Q, and we took the first five diamond tricks. Our opponents weren't alone in the 3NT around the room but our teammates Martin and Charlie had no difficulty in finding the 5C contract.

Alas, we then lost our next three matches but were still clinging to second place. I misplayed this hand against the eventual Open winners SA.

Dlr W	♠ KQ3		
Vul None	♥ K1062		
	♦ 832		
	♣ J43		
♠ AJ5		♠ 10874	
♥ 54		♥ AQ97	
♦ A107		♦ KQJ4	
♣ KQ652		♣ 9	
	♠ 962		
	♥ J83		
	♦ 965		
	♣ A1087		

I was West in 3NT on the ♥2 lead. Only two declarers in the Open made this, one on the helpful ♠K lead, but this doesn't make me feel any better.

I had six tricks on top (four diamonds, ♠A, ♥A). I was unduly worried that if I played low to the lead my opponents could get two hearts and three clubs (with an offside ace) before I got started. So I finessed the ♥Q and hooked the ♠J. This was a poor line, which essentially required a doubleton spade honour in the South hand to be dropped when I played ♠A on the second round and then finessing the ♠9 under ♠108 for tricks 8 and 9. This is about an 8% chance. On the actual lie of the cards, my opponents made two hearts, two spades and the ♠A for one off.

Much better was to assume the ♠A was onside (50%). Duck the heart lead and win ♣K on a ♠10 switch (trick 7). Now finesse the ♥Q (trick 8), eliminate diamonds and play ♥A and another, leaving something like this picture with North on lead.

	KQ3	
	—	
	—	
	J	
AJ	10874	
—	—	
—	—	
Q6	—	
	9	
	—	
	—	
	A87	

A club lead now gives me the ♣Q for trick 9, and a ♠K lead develops the ♠10 on the table and I get that or a club for trick 9.

We then won only two of the final five matches and slipped to 3rd. What I particularly noticed about this event was that everyone was on steroids when non-vulnerable vs vulnerable. This didn't always work, with a number of phantom sacrifices over non-making vulnerable games. However, the Victorians were able to get me nicely with this hand:

Our opponents played transfers over their 1C and hence preferred this opening. On a 1D opening, Tony (North) would have an easy strong 2-suited overcall and we'd find 6H and be teetering on the edge of bidding 7H. Tony was jammed by the 1C opening and chose 1H (best). I should of course bid a 4C splinter, getting us back on track, rather than 4H but it never occurred to me on this

Dir E	♠ —	
Vul NS	♥ AQJ52	
	♦ K2	
	♣ AQ10852	
♠ AK95		♠ 108642
♥ 10		♥ 73
♦ QJ95		♦ 10864
♣ K964		♣ J7
	♠ QJ73	
	♥ K9864	
	♦ A73	
	♣ 3	

W	N	E	S
1C	1H	P	P
4S	5H	X	4H
		All pass	

bidding (with an opponent opening and another responding) that there was a grand slam in the offing! I did get a bit nervous when the 5H bid came in from Tony suggesting a strong overcall and what sounded like a spade void on the bidding, but it wasn't enough to get me to move.

We had a win against eventual winners SA in the last match but we were only playing for dignity by that stage. Curiously, there were two penalty passes at the one level. Here's one.

Dir N	♠ 54	
Vul EW	♥ QJ76	
	♦ AQ105	
	♣ 965	
♠ 8		♠ AK1072
♥ K9542		♥ 8
♦ 962		♦ K743
♣ 10832		♣ AK4
	♠ QJ963	
	♥ A103	
	♦ KJ	
	♣ QJ7	

W	N	E	S
P	P	1S	P
	X	All pass	

I led the ♣Q from South. Declarer won with the ♣A and returned a diamond. I sent back the ♠Q, with no return looking appetizing and suspecting an attempt to ruff a diamond.

Declarer sent back another diamond. Tony overtook my ♦K, cashed two further diamonds before returning a club. Declarer won the ♠K and put

me in with a club. I cashed the ♥A and faced this picture.

4	
QJ7	
—	
—	
—	K 10 7 2
K 9 5	—
—	—
10	—
J 9 6 3	
—	
—	
—	

I'm now stymied. I led the ♠9 and declarer won with the ♠10 and simply put me back in with the ♠2. So I had to lead from J 6 into K 10 and declarer escaped for one down.

This is Ralph Parker showing why he was deservedly in the Open Team.

Dir N	♠ 843	
Vul Both	♥ J83	
	♦ AK53	
	♣ KQ5	
♠ KJ105		♠ A962
♥ 754		♥ AKQ6
♦ Q76		♦ 98
♣ 872		♣ A109
	♠ Q7	
	♥ 1092	
	♦ J1042	
	♣ J643	

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

At both tables this hand was overbid to 4S. Both Norths led the ♦A; ♦J from partner denying the queen and switched to the ♠K. Two club and two diamond losers are exposed, so the ♠Q has to be located and one loser gotten away on a hopefully breaking heart suit.

My East opponent decided the opening bidder would be more likely to have the ♠Q and finessed to me (South), going 2 off. Ralph thought a bit harder. There was no attempt to give, or ask for, a diamond ruff, suggesting the hands were flattish. The opener had shown up with 12 points (♦A K, ♠K Q) and the ♠Q would bring the total to 14. Any one of the three missing jacks would bring this up to 15, yet North didn't open 1NT.

Ralph decided South was more likely to have the ♠Q, finessed accordingly and was the only +620 in the Open field.

And finally this is Jim Wallis' little masterpiece from one of the side events.

Dir E	♠ K52	
Vul Both	♥ Q8753	
	♦ 1075	
	♣ 105	
♠ 764		♠ QJ10
♥ 94		♥ K10
♦ Q8643		♦ AK2
♣ AK9		♣ J8743
	♠ A983	
	♥ AJ62	
	♦ J9	
	♣ Q62	

Jim was in a rather hopeless looking 3H from the North hand. It looks like you have to lose the ♠A K, ♦A K, and a spade, never mind the possible ♥K loser as well.

East cashed the ♦AK and led the ♠Q which Jim ducked in both hands! This was enough to induce East to lead spades again. Jim won the ♠K, finessed the ♥J and dropped the ♥K with the ♥A. He returned to hand with the ♥Q, led a spade towards the A9. When the ♠10 appeared he took the ♠A and threw a club on the ♠9 for a well-earned 9 tricks. ■



Martin  
Doran

### Open and Seniors' Teams

WELL, that was fun. Both the Open and the Seniors' Teams did well at the 2019 Australian National Championships (ANC). The Open Team finished third and just missed out on the final while the Seniors' Team made the final but ended up losing a close match to NSW. I'm pretty sure that I have more grey hairs despite both teams being an absolute pleasure to look after.

These days, with the internet, electronic scoring, and online hand records, it's possible to follow all



of the matches virtually as they happen. And with all of the captains sitting around in a common area following their teams, it quickly becomes apparent which boards are potentially interesting although the bidding and cardplay are unknown. The finals are worse (for the players) with all of the tables being shown on Bridge Base Online (BBO) and both the bidding and cardplay visible and recorded for posterity! Not much hope of hiding those inevitable mistakes. Of course the captain isn't going to ask much about those 15 well-played boards that only turned over an IMP or two but rather what happened on that last board where there was a big swing for no apparent reason.

### The Open Team

Peter Evans - Tony Treloar; Paul Hooykass - Ralph Parker; Martin Qin - Charlie Lu.

They got off to a flying start and were running first or second throughout the first round robin. The second round robin proved to be harder and losing twice to Tasmania certainly hurt our chances. Still with two matches to go the team was still an outside chance to qualify but a small loss to the ACT in the penultimate match put paid to that. The last match was against the leaders and eventual winners, and a well-earned win ensured a third place finish.

### The Seniors Team

Gheorghi Belonogov - Ewa Kowalczyk; Neville Francis-Tony Hutton; Therese Tully-Richard Ward.

They started a little slowly and were sitting third for a long time. With two matches to go, the top three teams NSW, ACT & QLD had broken away from the fourth placed SA. The penultimate round saw NSW beat ACT while QLD beat SA. These results saw QLD move past ACT into second place. So far so good. The last round then saw NSW play QLD and ACT play SA. How nerve wracking was that!! QLD started badly and it was only SA doing well against ACT that was keeping QLD in second place. As the matches progressed ACT started doing better for a while but so did QLD.

When the dust finally settled along with everyone's heart rates, QLD's losing draw against NSW was good enough to ensure a second place finish.

The final started well with QLD leading by less than an IMP after the first of five 12 board sets. The second set was poor but the third and fourth sets saw the deficit reduced significantly. The last set was certainly exciting, and with two boards to play it was only the carryover that had QLD behind. Unfortunately there was no good news in those last two boards and the final margin was 14.3 IMPs. We had our chances but it was not to be. Here are some memorable hands.

Dir E	♠ A652	
	♥ J74	
	♦ KQJ94	
	♣ J	
♠ —		♠ 9743
♥ AKQ82	N	♥ 93
♦ 875	W	♦ 2
♣ AK1054	E	♣ Q98732
	S	
		♠ KQJ108
		♥ 1065
		♦ A1063
		♣ 6

W	N	E	S
Lu	Hinge	Qin Thompson	
		P	1S
2H	4C	P	4S
5C	P	P	X
P	5D	6C	X
All pass			

As always there were all sorts of hands. Martin and Charlie certainly enjoyed this one.

South opened light with their good spade suit and an outside ace; Charlie overcalled hearts and North splintered showing a raise to game with a club shortage. South bid game and Charlie showed his clubs. This was passed back to South who knew that his opponents had found their eleven card fit. But, was this a "forcing pass" auction? After all, his side had bid game to make. How would you play this auction? Once South decided to take further action it was always going to end badly. Martin found the raise to 6C, which somewhat inevitably got doubled,

and there was no trouble taking 12 tricks.

Not everything ends well. The following hand caused a great deal of mirth amongst the kibitzing captains but no doubt a lot of angst for the players involved.

		♠ Q87	
		♥ 75	
		♦ K653	
		♣ AQ104	
♠ AK92			♠ —
♥ AKQ96	N		♥ 3
♦ 84	W		♦ AQJ972
♣ 63	E		♣ KJ9752
	S		
		♠ J106543	
		♥ J10842	
		♦ 10	
		♣ 8	

It's never good to see your side bid a slam going several off but it quickly became apparent why. How would you and your favourite partner bid the East-West hands?

Across the Open, Womens and Seniors' Teams there were only three positive scores for East-West. Twice their opponents got to play in spades doubled going off and someone made 5D presumably when the defence failed to get a club ruff. The rest? Let's just say that partner's hand was a disappointment to both sides of the table and that playing at the 6-level did not end well.

Dir N	♠ KQJ	
Vul NS	♥ KQ72	
	♦ QJ87	
	♣ 97	
♠ A86		♠ 952
♥ A1065	N	♥ 4
♦ 9	W	♦ AK5432
♣ A10654	E	♣ KQJ
	S	
		♠ 10743
		♥ J983
		♦ 106
		♣ 832

W	N	E	S
X	1D	P	P
	P	P	?

The 1-level can also be a dangerous place. This hand was very beneficial for the Queensland Seniors' in the final qualifying match for two reasons. In the QLD-NSW

match, Francis-Hutton scored 800 defending 1DX by North while the other table played 3D by East for 12 IMPs. It's never good for someone when a hand is played in the same suit in different directions. And, in the ACT-SA match, the ACT also tried 1DX by North. This scored -1100 versus a making 3NT by West for 12 IMPs to SA.

The hand does raise the question of what should South do when the re-opening double is passed back to them. Interestingly, there was a similar hand in the Warm-up Pairs at the start of the tournament where East was lurking with seven diamonds in a similar auction.

Dlr S	♠ A95	♠ KQ7632
	♥ K10	♥ 9
	♦ Q9862	♦ 75
	♣ K95	♣ A1073
♠ 1084		
♥ AQ86		
♦ A104		
♣ Q84		
	♠ J	
	♥ J75432	
	♦ KJ3	
	♣ J62	

W	N	E	S
Jeffrey	Francis	Markovics	Hutton
			P
1C	1D	1S	2C
X	P	2D	2H
P	3D	3S	P
4S	All pass		

Here's a play problem that shows how the fortunes of both sides

can change during a hand. Not to mention how differently two tables can bid and play a board. At our featured table, Neville Francis and Tony Hutton got quite active in the bidding but the NSW pair eventually reached their game.

In contrast, at the other table South opened a weak 2H and after two passes, Gheorgi Belonogov bid 4S. Short and sweet! On a club lead, a losing heart finesse, and a club return, Belonogov had no trouble making his contract.

At the other table it was far more interesting. Tony Hutton got off to a diamond lead and, although this doesn't beat the contract, it does leave declarer with the problem of how to play clubs later in the hand.

Declarer won the ♦A and played a trump to the king dropping the jack. At this point the contract can be made but playing a trump towards the ten at the next trick actually puts the contract in jeopardy. North won the ace and accurately returned a diamond to South. At this point a heart return will take a vital entry out of dummy and leave declarer no way of coping with the actual club layout.

However South returned a third round of diamonds putting declarer back in with a chance. Declarer ruffed the diamond, drew the last round of trumps and then needed to play the ♠10 to make. In practice instead of playing the ♠10, he played a heart to the ace and was now in

trouble again, or was he? The ♣8 was played. If North plays low there is nothing that declarer can do to avoid two club losers on the layout. However, North covered with the nine, and once again declarer could make after winning the ace. But like all stories with a twist in the tale, declarer won the ace and carelessly played the ♣3 rather than the seven or ten. Once again the contract was in jeopardy and this time there wasn't any way to recover. A very exciting board to watch while the match was still in the balance.

Judging when to sacrifice is often critical.

Dlr S	♠ K86	♠ A109432
Vul Both	♥ A2	♥ J7
	♦ KQJ2	♦ A
	♣ 9752	♣ KJ108
♠ QJ75		
♥ K9643		
♦ 8		
♣ AQ3		
	♠ —	
	♥ Q1085	
	♦ 10976543	
	♣ 64	

W	N	E	S
Lazer	Ward	Gumby	Tully
			P
1H	X	1S	2D
2S	3D	4S	5D
X	All pass		

This hand from the Seniors' final was worth 4 IMPs to Queensland when Tully-Ward pressed on to 5D while the other room Belonogov-Kowalczyk were allowed to play in 4S. ■

## Position Vacant - Brisbane Bridge Centre

The Brisbane Bridge Centre invites applications for the casual position of Club Administrator. The position is for approximately 12-15 hours per week, which is flexible.

The successful applicant will have:

- Demonstrated ability in providing administrative support
- Well-developed written and oral communication skills and interpersonal skills for providing excellent customer service to internal and external stakeholders
- Demonstrated attention to detail
- Demonstrated capacity to work both independently and with others
- Initiative and self-direction
- Current computer skills

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Elaine Jonsberg (President) on **0411 181 543** or email [elaine.jonsberg@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.jonsberg@gmail.com).

Applications close: Sunday 10 November 2019

## Youth Team

THE Queensland Youth team returned from competing in the Youth division at the Australian National Championships in Melbourne coming a very creditable third place. They have returned with increased skills and enthusiasm for the game, as well as establishing new friendships with other youth players throughout Australia.

The Queensland team certainly is an eclectic group.

Ben hails from Hong Kong and came to Australia, after completing his high school, to study medical science. He

now works in cellular biology. Very much into BBO with his Hong Kong Chinese friends back 'home', he dreams of constructing Polish Club bidding systems of ever increasing complexity.

Ellen has just finished a maths and engineering degree and now works at a commercial mathematics consultancy. When not at the bridge table, Ellen is often found running in the early morning or limbering up at indoor rock-climbing clubs. But ironically, never get between Ellen and a bowl of ice-cream!

Oliver has only played bridge for one year being introduced into it by Darren. He is not new to competitions however, having played chess since he was five. Away from games, he studied economics and statistics, and works for an engineering company.

Darren (Dazza) Brake was born in the UK, and took up bridge relatively

late in life, joining his sister and dad in the bridge scene. He has recently completed degrees in economics and science. He is currently working part time as an English stylistic advisor for a Japanese company, and tutoring recently migrated school students, whilst planning his next snow-boarding holiday.

The youngest, Jack Luke-Paredi, is the most experienced Youth team member, debuting in the Queensland Youth team in Brisbane in 2016. In his second-last year at school, his interests include chess, live theatre and life-saving.

Jasmine came to bridge at 12, after being introduced to the game by her dad. Currently in her last year at school, where she is a sports fanatic (especially in respect to all things volleyball), she hopes to study engineering and commerce at uni next year.

■ Paul Brake (npc)



*Ben Leung, Ellen Visscher, Oliver McCarthy, Darren Brake, Jack Luke-Paredi, Jasmine Skeate*



## YOUTH BRIDGE PLAYERS

Subsidised (or FREE!!) entry fees and accommodation

Entry Fees: All players born in 2000 or later get free entry.

All players born between 1995 and 1999 get a 50% discount.

Accommodation: The Gold Coast Congress offers heavily subsidised accommodation

in high-rise holiday units to youth(ish) players. The cost is only \$17 a night for those born in 1995 or later.

\$27 a night for older youths (up to 32 years or so).

For details or to book accommodation, contact Jessica Brake on **0414 134 888** or [jessicabrake@hotmail.com](mailto:jessicabrake@hotmail.com). Accommodation places are limited. Preference is given to those born in 1994 or later, or "older" youth players not in full time employment.

Your state based bridge association or local bridge club may also offer a subsidy – it doesn't hurt to ask!

## Restricted Pairs

**D**ANIEL Chua and I (David Earnshaw) would like to thank the QBA and the ABF for making it possible for us to go to the Australian National Championships to play in the Restricted Butler event in Melbourne. We would also like to thank the QBA for the warm Queensland representative jackets and the invitation to attend the ANC day for all of the Queensland teams.

We managed a commendable 3rd placing after a relatively poor first day. Lying 4th going into the last round we played the leaders at table one. The final result reduced them to 4th position and promoted the pairs previously lying 2nd and 3rd to 1st and 2nd.

Daniel and I had been unaware that two Queensland Restricted pairs were eligible for such a prize at the Gold Coast Congress. Perhaps this prize should be promoted more through the Queensland clubs. Restricted players should be encouraged to attend at the Gold Coast in 2020.

These two games in Round 9 against the leading pair saw us benefitting from the opening lead choices of our opponents.

Dlr E	♠ AQ86
Vul EW	♥ K982
	♦ J108
	♣ 64
♠ J74	♠ 95
♥ AQ106	♥ J54
♦ K9765	♦ AQ4
♣ A	♣ KJ1092
	♠ K1032
	♥ 73
	♦ 32
	♣ Q8753

W	N	E	S
Daniel		David	P
3NT	All pass	1C	

Daniel's decision to bypass a 1H or 2D response, preferring a direct 3NT, meant that North had to guess which major to lead. When she chose the ♥2 Daniel had an easy nine tricks - two hearts, five diamonds and two clubs.



Dir S	♠ 76		
Vul Both	♥ A94		
	♦ A643		
	♣ A973		
♠ 95		♠ AQ32	
♥ KQJ87532		♥ 10	
♦ J		♦ KQ1097	
♣ 104		♣ KJ8	
	♠ KJ1084		
	♥ 6		
	♦ 852		
	♣ Q652		

W	N	E	S
Daniel		David	
3H	P	4H	All pass

North chose the unfortunate lead of the ♦A. Most of us, mindful of the standard advice not to lead unsupported aces would probably have started with the ♠7 which sets up four defensive winners for the defence. The trump switch at trick two did declarer no harm so it was now possible to pitch all of the black suit losers.

■ David Earnshaw

## Manager's Travels



Kim  
Ellaway

**D**UE to many medical appointments we have stayed close to Brisbane. We went to the Lockyer Congress which, as you know, I always speak highly of, and we were even in the prize money. (A report follows.)

We were one of the lucky pairs who got into the Coffs Harbour congress after a pair pulled out and we were asked to join a team. As Ray would have struggled to play five days of bridge, we became a 3-person partnership in the teams - our third person who played every match was Toni Bardon, with whom we both enjoy playing. We did not shine in either the pairs or teams. On the Friday morning, which is free, I took our New Zealand team-mates for

a drive around Coffs and we found a closing down sale so my team mates and moi helped with the Coffs economy that Friday morning.

We did not go to Northern Territory Gold this year as, believe it or not, Zeraya, my only grandchild, turned one. When I casually mentioned that perhaps I would not be there I got a look from my daughter so guess what, we were there to celebrate her birthday. My daughter is also expecting again and this time it clashes with another congress - the Gold Coast - *but* I have spoken to the specialist and he assures me it will be born prior to the starting date. I have to go up to Rockhampton two weeks prior to the birth to assist at home as my daughter will be hospitalised. I will just need to be super ready for the congress.

A hand from the Coffs Swiss Pairs.

Dir N	♠ 1085		
Vul NS	♥ 1096		
	♦ A109		
	♣ Q932		
♠ 4		♠ K92	
♥ AQ42		♥ K53	
♦ KJ32		♦ Q8764	
♣ K1084		♣ AJ	
	♠ AQJ763		
	♥ J87		
	♦ 5		
	♣ 765		

W	N	E	S
Kim		Ray	
X	P	1D	1S
3S	P	1NT	2S
5D	P	4D	P

My 3S asked for a second spade stopper and when Ray said no it was easy to bid 5D instead of 3NT which most of the field was in. I believe South should have bid 2S initially as it chews up a lot of the bidding space and maybe we would have stopped in 3NT - who knows? ■

### Lockyer

APART from ill-health, I thought I had been to most Lockyer congresses. However, Peter Hooper, the secretary and convenor of the Lockyer Bridge Club and congress, advised me that this was his 25th.

The soups made by the members drag us all in, and there were two soups that were absolutely delicious.

Peter does an excellent job as the convenor and this year saw us playing in the new sports centre. Only one pair got lost and that was us, but I must say it was not me that was reading the map.

Greg Gosney and Margaret Plunkett were the winners and they announced, when receiving their winnings, that even though they had been playing for many years, the Lockyer congress was the first time they had ever won. We came second and boards like this helped.

Dir E	♠ Q1054		
Vul NS	♥ 8765		
	♦ K864		
	♣ 9		
♠ AJ83		♠ —	
♥ 942		♥ AJ103	
♦ J		♦ AQ107	
♣ AKQJ2		♣ 108764	
	♠ K9762		
	♥ KQ		
	♦ 9532		
	♣ 53		

W	N	E	S
		1D <sup>1</sup>	P
2D <sup>2</sup>	P	2H	P
2S	P	3C!	P
4D <sup>3</sup>	P	4H <sup>4</sup>	P
4S <sup>4</sup>	P	6C	All pass

<sup>1</sup>Precision 11-15

<sup>2</sup>Game force - any shape but no 5-card major or 6-card minor

<sup>3</sup>Splinter

<sup>4</sup>Ace

This made easily with only three bidding it.



Margaret Plunkett and Greg Gosney

## QUEENSLAND PLAYER PROFILES

The Player Profiles on the QBA website have been updated and augmented with many new names, all chosen on the basis of international representation or masterpoint status. Assistance with portrait-style photographs of these players is welcome. Please report any errors or additions to these profiles directly to Richard Ward, [wardjrc555@gmail.com](mailto:wardjrc555@gmail.com)

### Margaret Millar

MARGARET has always been an integral part of Qld Bridge. Pele Rankin and I were fortunate to be able to interview Margaret and learn more about the person behind her successes.

Margaret has been married for 63 years to Jim and they have four children, eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. She grew up in Monto, boarded at Glennie in Toowoomba and moved to Brisbane in 1952 to work in an accountancy practice whilst studying for her degree at night. There were fifteen students in the accountancy class but only two women - Jim was dating one but married the other! They had a busy life with four children under three but Margaret thrived on working. She and Jim acquired the knowledge working in the accountancy business but after three years bought their first practice

in Miles and later others in rural Queensland.

It was not until their children were old enough to be weekly boarders at Grammar that Margaret and Jim moved to Brisbane where they bought practices in the city and Moorooka. One holiday Jim suggested that the whole family learn contract bridge. They all played 500 and enjoyed card games as there was no TV in the country. Tony Jackman gave lessons at Ascot school (he did not tell them there were such things as bridge clubs) but the children gradually lost interest. It was not until 1985 when they sold their accountancy business to pursue their love of antiques that more time was available for bridge.

Jim joined the Queensland Contract Bridge Club Board and, in 1988, ran the business side of the Bicentennial Expo Congress, held at the Park Royal. International players attending included Dorothy and Alan Truscott, Jan and Chip Martel, JoAnna and Lew Stansby, Phillip Alder and of course, Zia Mahmood. Jim sponsored Philip Alder to play with Margaret and she only got to meet him 30 minutes before play started. He told her that her system card was a shocker but they went on to finish 2nd in the Open Pairs Championship ahead of a star-studded field and Margaret's career was launched! Alan Truscott wrote a lovely article about Margaret's fine declarer play in the New York Times from when she subsequently visited New York.

Dir E ♠ 43  
Vul NS ♥ J652  
♦ K  
♣ AQ9865

♠ 1097 ♠ QJ6  
♥ 1097 ♥ KQ4  
♦ 10754 ♦ J8632  
♣ J32 ♣ K4

♠ AK852  
♥ A83  
♦ AQ9  
♣ 107

W	N	E	S
	P Alder		M Millar
P	3C	1D	X
All pass		P	3NT

Truscott wrote: "West led a diamond to dummy's king, and South looked for a way to make use of dummy's clubs. She led to the spade king and led the club ten. This won the trick when West refused to cover with the jack and East ducked smoothly. When the next club was led and West played low, South made the winning decision by putting up the ace to drop the king. She now had 12 tricks and made 13, for almost all the match points with some help from the defense."

And what a career that was!

- QLD ANC Women's Team 15 times from 1989 to 2018, including three wins;
- QLD ANC Seniors' Team twice;
- QLD Mixed Pairs twice;
- QLD Butler Pairs;
- QLD Women's Pairs - five times;
- ABF Butler four times with one gold, two silver and one bronze;

Margaret won numerous other titles including winning the Northern Suburbs Pairs congress twice with her son. She loves bridge and would play eight days a week if she could! Her main partners have been husband Jim, Lola McNeil, Margaret Drake, Robyn Clayton, Greer Tucker, Carolyn Woolley and Sue O'Brien. Her current partners are Carolyn and Sue. She plays Standard American, prefers simple to complicated systems and her biggest tip for any player is to COUNT!

Her favourite tournament is the



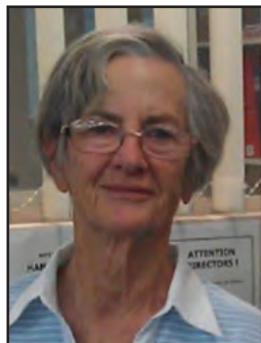
Queensland Seniors at the ANC, Sydney 1997. Back: Mike Pemberton, Bill Hunt and Jim Millar. Front: Dawn Cullen, Marg Eaton and Margaret Millar.



ANC Teams. Her favourite bridge books are by David Bird and Tim Bourke, and her favourite partner will always be Phillip Alder.

■ Therese Tully

## Joan McPheat



J O A N McPheat has made many significant contributions to bridge in Queensland since she first became involved with directing,

administration and playing in the early 1980s. She and Reg Busch (QBA President 1973-1979, 1983-1986 and QBA Life Member) became a formidable directing duo, combining his expertise on regulations, movements, scoring and the Laws with her mainly self-taught computer-programming abilities. This was at a time when computerised bridge scoring was in its infancy; Bridgemates did not exist; every sub-program required extensive error-discovery and on-the-job testing; and the hardware for data storage and printing was relatively primitive.

And so "Compscore" was born. Of particular importance was the user-friendliness of the software for directors unfamiliar with computers in general and this program in particular. Such matters as scoring errors, arrow-switched and fouled boards, tie-breaking and late adjustments after appeals all needed to be handled simply and efficiently by directors for whom time availability during an event was critical. Many, many years of time and individual effort by Joan (and Reg) went in to refining and adding to the Compscore menu which included:

- Club Mitchell, Howell and teams movements;
  - Swiss pairs and teams;
  - Multi-session events;
  - Congress events;
  - Butler scoring for the Queensland Teams' Trials; and
  - Master-pointing
- to list just a few.

The Queensland-Wide Pairs has always been popular with most clubs participating with large entries. In the early days, the clubs would hold the event using travelling score cards which would be packaged and posted to Toowoomba into the waiting arms of Ivy Dahler and Enid Busch. They would then sticky-tape the travellers for each board into one continuous strip, each strip being long enough to start at the front steps, wind through the house and finish out in the back yard! Then the arduous task of walking up and down to manually score each board would begin. With Joan's assistance, a new scoring module was created which allowed the traveller scores from each club to be entered into Compscore, scored, tallied and amalgamated into the final Qld-Wide results listing.

In the mid-1990s and after a few years of use at club and congress level, Compscore became sufficiently sophisticated to be trialled at the daunting Gold Coast Congress. This was a daring step to take, as the number of entrants in the multi-level pairs events was far beyond anything attempted previously. To complicate matters further, the venue for the GCC at the time was the ANA Hotel - awkwardly taking up all of the 2nd and 4th floors. Joan gathered together a team of scorers who manually entered all of the scores as they were delivered on paper score sheets by volunteer runners. As the data entry for each qualifying section was completed, Joan would move from computer to computer, ready to download the information onto disks. She then uploaded each disk on to her own computer where Compscore could then combine and compile the entire event into one huge set of results. This was a trail-blazing moment in Queensland bridge history and one that required all of Joan's undoubted courage and tenacity to bring to fruition. All it would have taken would have been one tiny failure of the system at any point to bring the whole congress grinding to a calamitous halt - collapsing like a house of cards - and the responsibility for its

success or its failure was Joan's alone. History should record this triumphant occasion.

Joan became the QBA State Master-point Secretary in 1990, a role she maintained for a remarkable 25 years. The QBA has always been fortunate to have such competent people in this important position (Reg Busch, Ivy Dahler, Joan McPheat and Peter Busch) each of whom has, without fail, regularly reported to the QBA Council with the words "All masterpointing is completed and up-to-date".

Despite the latest developments in technology, Joan's legacy continues throughout Queensland to this day and it is timely for this to be recognised by awarding her Life Membership.

■ Richard Ward

## Kim Ellaway



KIM COOKE was first introduced to bridge by her mother in 1974 in Mount Isa. Her father would only allow her to play during the school

holidays. In 1976 Kim played in her first congress in Townsville (June Queens Birthday) which is now the Barrier Reef Congress. It took the players from Mount Isa six hours by plane to get there (milk run) however only two hours to get home. She learnt bridge with Judy Zeller who is still playing bridge and is currently the Bundaberg Bridge Club's president. During her time in Mount Isa, Kim held the positions of master-point secretary, treasurer and secretary and was on the working committee for the first congress to be held in Mount Isa. She also, with her mother Marion Cooke, won the pairs event that year at the congress.

In 1981 she came to Brisbane and joined QCBC and Toowong. She joined the QBA Council in 1982 as Mount Isa's delegate and when the Mount Isa Bridge Club closed down, she became the delegate for the Noosa Bridge Club. She held the

position of secretary of Toowong Bridge Club for several years.

Kim married Ray Ellaway in 1989 and was appointed Manager of the QBA in 1995, a position she has held now for 24 years.

Kim has attended every Gold Coast Congress since 1977 and was on the organising team when the event went to two hotels and then to the magnificent Gold Coast Convention Centre. Kim's most significant bridge administration achievement has been to be on the team of what she considers the best congress in the world. Kim has many, many bridge friends all over the world.

Kim has said that the most influential person in her life, bridge and otherwise, was her mum - Marion Cooke, friend and bridge partner. "She taught me to enjoy my bridge and to be polite to everyone regardless of the situation".

Other interests revolve around family especially the recent grandchild. Future plans and ambitions include purchasing a minivan and travelling all over Australia, playing in as many bridge clubs as she can. Then she would like to travel overseas and do the same.

#### State Representation

Australian National Championships  
– Queensland Women's Team

2006, 1994, 1992, 1990

Australian National Championships  
– Queensland Youth Team

1984, 1983

#### State Titles

2011

Queensland Graded Teams [Marion Cooke, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]

2007

Queensland Graded Teams [Marion Cooke, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]

1997

Queensland Graded Teams [Marion Cooke, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]

1988

Queensland Women's Pairs [Marion Cooke]

2007

Barrier Reef Congress Eric Parsons Open Pairs [Ray Ellaway]

■ Richard Ward

## Novices



Pam Steele

Dear Fellow Novices,

Since my last newsletter I have managed to get around to meeting a number of Novices playing in congresses. Along with my partner Dennis Lincoln, we competed in the Redland Novice and Restricted Swiss Matchpoint Pairs. Congratulations to Eugene Pereira and Wes Assaad for their win in that event. We enjoyed playing (and losing) against them and it was a challenge in more ways than one - having arrived back in Australia after a long flight from London two days before. No, we can't blame it on jet lag!

The Toowoomba Novice Teams was played on August 4. Congratulations to Libby and Tony Thorne for their win in that event and to Eugene and Wes for their third place. Beryl McKay, Annette Griffiths, Philip Atkinson and Bronwyn Hamilton achieved a well-deserved second place.

Although not specifically a Novice event, the QBA Graded Matchpoint pairs (150 MPs or less), was played on August 31. Congratulations to Gordon Plant and Ruth Anderson for a terrific first place with 60.2%. Eugene and Prasad Nettur were second with Wendy Casey and Barbara Moni in third place. I mention this event as I would like to make special mention of Kinitra Hutchinson (playing with Michael Clibbon). Kinitra is a young novice player mentored by Michael and as of end September has 1.76 MPs. It is often difficult to get novices to play in congresses so it was fantastic to see Kinitra competing in this field and playing so fearlessly. It was also great to see the level of mentorship and encouragement she receives from Michael. Can we have more of this type of engagement for our novices please?

Congratulations to Kenmore Club for hosting the Rookie and Novice event

on September 8. The field played in three divisions. Winners were:

C Grade: Peter Fredericks and Thais Morgan-Pertus (first)

B Grade: Sue and Bob English (first); Helen Baran/Vanessa Wells (second)

A Grade: Bill and Di Larcombe (first); Pam Steele/Dennis Lincoln; Sue Cheney/Judy Wallace (equal second). It was encouraging to see an event hosted specifically for players with 0-50 points. Great work Kenmore.

The Sanctuary Cove Novice event was held on September 15. Dennis Lincoln and I were fortunate to win with Stanley Law/Paul Nitschmann (second) and John Wilson/Geoff Willson (third).

How many novices understand, or know, what to do when confronted by a "psyche" bid? My partner and I recently encountered the following hand where South, after three passes, opened the bidding with 1S and a final contract being reached of 3NT.

Dlr W	♠ Q9
Vul Both	♥ J1042
	♦ A54
	♣ A1074
♠ 87432	♠ KJ1065
♥ KQ	♥ 9863
♦ 102	♦ 8
♣ KJ85	♣ Q62
	♠ A
	♥ A75
	♦ KQJ9763
	♣ 93

I was reluctant, as East, to lead a spade out of my KJ holding. When dummy (S) was laid down I was flabbergasted to see the single spade ace. Much later I asked three of our directors as to what options were open as I felt I had been completely misled by the bidding. They advised that as the opening bid was not in accordance with the partnership agreement, I could have reported it as a "psyche" bid. Recognising such bids, and how to deal with them, are issues for novices to learn and assimilate.

Toowoomba Club recently held a mentoring session for novices. The format, based upon that used at the Toowong Club, comprised



a Novice pair per table, with an experienced player captain playing with another Novice. After three boards the Novice pair moved to the next table and so on. Boards were examined after each play and tips and explanations given in real time by the captain. The session was a great success and we received fantastic feedback not only from the Novices but also from the captains. I would encourage other clubs to consider this program. Novices and Rookies from our club tell me that they feel intimidated playing in an experienced field and consequently do not easily develop confidence and greater bridge skills. Mentoring in this type of format should go a long way towards helping Novices to move into the congress world. The day was so successful that it will be repeated at regular intervals in Toowoomba.

Finally, if you have any novice concerns, I am always happy to assist. You can reach me at: [novicecoordinator@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:novicecoordinator@qldbridge.com.au) ■

## Teacher's Corner



Joan Butts

**Q**Ueensland teachers are responding so well to new ideas in education, and are helping to grow

beginner numbers in bridge clubs all over the state.

There's a pleasing increase in the number of Accredited teachers too, and last month we saw the largest ever group attend a CPD Day at Sunnybank Bridge Club, organised tirelessly by Janet Loosemore and her friends.

A bit further north, in Caloundra, Bob Hannam is doing a great job with lessons, and sent this lovely piece about two of his students. They're called the "Kelly Gang" and I love the references to poker. Their story follows.

Upcoming CPD Days will be at QCBC on the weekend of November 16 and 17. See the QBA website for registration and information. These days are free for participants, funded by the ABF and QBA.

Check out these flyers. [https://www.qldbridge.com.au/lessons/flyer/2019/qcbcCPD\\_1.pdf](https://www.qldbridge.com.au/lessons/flyer/2019/qcbcCPD_1.pdf) and [https://www.qldbridge.com.au/lessons/flyer/2019/qcbcCPD\\_1.pdf](https://www.qldbridge.com.au/lessons/flyer/2019/qcbcCPD_1.pdf)

### The Kelly Gang

Kelly Stuart and her daughter Melissa Kellie completed the April beginner lessons at Caloundra Bridge Club and have fast made an impact at the club. They have quickly progressed through supervised play and are now regulars at the club's popular Twilight Sessions as well as regular club play.

They have been dubbed "The Kelly Gang" as much due to their names as to their holding the club sessions

to ransom with their deft play after only five months out from lessons.

Melissa is Caloundra's youngest member and enjoys the challenge of the mind to give her a change from her regular job as a professional singer.

Kelly and Melissa were playing a bit of poker before they decided to give bridge a go.

Melissa explained that she saw an advertisement to learn to play bridge. When she asked her mum (Kelly) if she would like to learn, Kelly replied, "Do you realise it's one of the hardest games in the world to play?" to which Melissa replied, "if you're up for the challenge so am I!"

"We enjoyed the lessons, Bob Hannam was the teacher and we loved every bit of it. He made it fun and enjoyable and was very good at explaining. We also enjoyed the company of the other learners.

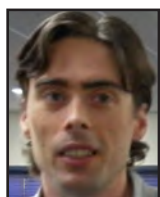
When we finished the lessons we, along with the others, started to play at the Tuesday supervised play. But after a while we thought we will rip off the bandaid and start going on Thursday nights to play against the regulars. We were both very nervous of course and we came last a few times, but then things started to click. We were excited when we improved from 30% to 40% to 50%. The players in Caloundra have been wonderful, very welcoming especially towards us newbies. Such a warm and friendly club. We love it!"

Caloundra Teacher, Bob Hannam is delighted to see their quick progress and warns the regulars the "Kelly Gang" is a pair to watch! ■





## More Slams



Nikolas  
Moore

**F**OLLOWING up my previous article about grand slams, here are two recent examples from teams events where I partnered Larry Moses.

Dlr E	♠ —
Vul NS	♥ AKJ843
	♦ AJ8743
	♣ 4
♠ 6542	♠ QJ1087
♥ 105	♥ Q962
♦ 62	♦ Q
♣ KQ1083	♣ J72
	♠ AK93
	♥ 7
	♦ K1095
	♣ A965

Larry sat South and opened the bidding 1D, which made my hand even stronger than it already was, with a huge fit and a good side suit. When partner showed all the missing key cards, I bid 7D; I did not ask about the queen of trumps because with a 10-card fit it will usually drop, and I have a very nice side suit with plenty of entries to set it up. This was fairly easy to make; after drawing trumps, Larry only had

to trump hearts twice and my hand was high, for +2140 and a gain of 16 IMPs, as the opponents at the other table stopped in 4H.

Dlr W	♠ 754
Vul Both	♥ 32
	♦ K943
	♣ 10962
♠ A2	♠ KQJ963
♥ —	♥ KQ104
♦ AJ1052	♦ —
♣ QJ7543	♣ AK8
	♠ 108
	♥ AJ98765
	♦ Q876
	♣ —

W	N	E	S
1C	P	2S	3H
4H	P	4NT	P
5H	P	7S	All pass

Larry and I play strong jump shifts, which was useful on this hand. Despite wastage in hearts, my hand is extremely powerful, partner's cue-bid is encouraging, and his bid implies a strong hand too. When I ascertained that partner had the missing aces outside of hearts, I bid the grand, interpreting his 4H as void-showing. South led his ace just in case, forcing dummy to trump, and after cashing the ace of trumps it was very important to cross back to hand by trumping a diamond, and not leading a club, which would have been trumped. The play is easy after drawing trumps with a surplus of black suit winners. This gained us 13 IMPs, with 6S bid at the other table.

This and the next hand are from the QBA Open Teams where I partnered Rachel Langdon. Here is a rare instance of losing 11 IMPs despite making a doubled slam.

Dlr N	♠ J96543
Vul Both	♥ 62
	♦ 953
	♣ 85
♠ 87	♠ AKQ102
♥ AKQJ943	♥ 1075
♦ AK	♦ 4
♣ 74	♣ AK92
	♠ —
	♥ 8
	♦ QJ108762
	♣ QJ1063

W	N	E	S
	P	1S	2NT
6H	P	P	X
All pass			

After South overcalled the minors, partner and I had not discussed a defence to this so I simply leapt to slam, and South made a Lightner double, which asked for a spade lead so he got a spade ruff but I had everything else, scoring +1660. Grand slam was only bid and made at two tables; unfortunately our teammates were on the receiving end of one of them, scoring -2210 from 7H making on a non-spade lead. Note that if South doubles, West should run to 7NT, which is unbeatable. Had I bid 4NT, which would ask for key cards in spades, we could have reached 7NT, as I can count 13 tricks if I can find out we have all the aces and kings.



### OPEN + NOVICE IMP PAIRS

**Sunday, January 12**

Novice Event for Players with fewer than 100 MPs as at 30/9/2019  
Sponsored by



ENTRY FEE: \$60 per pair ENTRIES CLOSE: Thursday January 10  
DIRECTOR: Alan Gibson SYSTEMS: Novice (<100mp): Green, Blue  
Open: Green, Blue, Red plus Brown Sticker  
START: 9.30 am  
ENTRIES & ENQUIRIES: 3391 3241 qcbc1@optusnet.com.au  
CASH PRIZES - BYO LUNCH - MORNING & AFTERNOON  
TEA PROVIDED



### NEW YEARS EVE TEAMS

**Tuesday, December 31**

7.15pm for 7.30 start  
Entry fee: \$80 per team  
Theme: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly!  
All players welcome  
Contact: Cheryl Stone - [cheryl.stone6@bigpond.com](mailto:cheryl.stone6@bigpond.com)

Our final board of this event was suitably dramatic.

Dir E	♠ 10975		
Vul EW	♥ A8732		
	♦ A98		
	♣ Q		
♠ A42		♠ KQ63	
♥ 5		♥ KQ1064	
♦ 10		♦ Q73	
♣ AK1098762		♣ J	
	♠ J8		
	♥ J9		
	♦ KJ6542		
	♣ 543		

W	N	E	S
2C	P	1H	P
4C	P	2H	P
6C	All pass	4S	P

My hand is extremely powerful due to the club suit. Once partner had opened the bidding, I was only concerned about how many key cards we had. I intended 4C to be Minorwood, so 4S ostensibly showed two key cards in clubs without the queen, but partner meant 4S as a real suit, so I bid a slam missing two aces. North led a top diamond and, when South encouraged, continued the suit, which I trumped and ran all my trumps. Spades were not breaking, but the last trump squeezed North in the majors, as both North and dummy were down to four spades and a top heart, and North had to discard first: a spade, so I could throw the ♥K with the 4th spade now a winner, for a very lucky +1370 and a gain of 13 IMPs. ■

## Queensland Open Teams



Richard Wallis

SINCE Lindy Vincent has opted to reduce her tournament participation, our usual team for the Queensland Open Teams had to be modified this year, and I played with

Tim Runting with Richard Ward and Therese Tully making up our team. 2019 was a repeat of 2018, when for the second year in a row, Neville Francis, Magnus Moren, Jill Magee and Terry Strong beat us by a small margin, with Peter Evans, Tony Treloar, Martin Qin and Charlie Lu in third place.

We had our chances, being in the lead before the last match, but a 7 IMP loss to FRANCIS in that match was enough for them to overtake us by a mere 0.94 VPs. In that match, my failure to follow partner's lead-directional double during the relay auction cost us only 2 IMPs, but the suggested club lead would have given us a flat board and victory by 0.22 VPs!

There was a good entry of 28 teams, 18 'local' and 10 from the country zones, which made for a challenging but very enjoyable weekend, ably directed by Jan Peach and well supported by the Toowong Bridge Club.

M 1	♠ 10964		
Bd 1	♥ AJ1085		
Dir N	♦ KQ98		
Vul None	♣ —		
♠ KJ82		♠ 753	
♥ KQ7		♥ 63	
♦ 1054		♦ A732	
♣ Q105		♣ K972	
	♠ AQ		
	♥ 942		
	♦ J6		
	♣ AJ8643		

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

On the first board of the weekend, Tim passed as dealer and I opened 1C in 3rd seat, comfortable in being able to rebid 2C over a 1S or 1D response and limit my hand.

Due to my weak diamonds, I gave some thought to raising Tim's 1H response to 2H, but I followed through with my original intent and rebid 2C to protect the spade tenace.

In our 2-over-1 system, 2D by Tim after opener rebids 2C is forcing, but

since he is a passed hand, it reverts to natural, and I found that I was bidding 2H after all!

East led the ♥3, which gave Tim no problems and he quickly wrapped up nine tricks for +140.

At the other table the bidding was the same up to 2C, but North unwisely passed, and declarer finished a trick short, so we gained 5 IMPs.

I would not pass with the North hand after the 2C rebid, as the club void makes it too hard for South to draw trumps.

M 1	♠ —		
Bd 13	♥ A765		
Dir N	♦ KQ1084		
Vul Both	♣ AQ95		
♠ Q64		♠ KJ7532	
♥ 983		♥ KQ2	
♦ 9763		♦ J2	
♣ J86		♣ 74	
	♠ A1098		
	♥ J104		
	♦ A5		
	♣ K1032		

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

When East made a weak jump overcall of 2S, I bid a practical 3NT. After all, I have a double-stopper!

Tim can be certain that I do not have four hearts, otherwise I would make a negative double, but he can support clubs as well, so passed with some misgivings. As it turns out 6C is cold, so we missed a slam.

West dutifully led the ♠4, showing an honour, and I won the ♠A and took stock. If diamonds and clubs behaved, I had 11 tricks, but then 6C is cold, so just in case the minor suits did not behave, I led back the ♠10.

EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.

However, at the other table NS had a severe misunderstanding and finished in 6H, not 6C, and this was always one down, so we gained a fortunate 13 IMPs. ■

*Due to insufficient space the complete article is on the website.*

## Gold Coast Congress News

### Entries Are Open Changes to 2020

- Walk-Ins every session but Sunday morning
- Rookies Thursday session back to morning
- Seniors' Pairs and Seniors' Teams events have been discontinued - Seniors' and Women's categories introduced in Open Teams with own Finals and PQPs

### Wanted

Gold Coast Congress 2020  
February 22 - February 29  
Caddies - Administrative Staff  
Bus Driver - House Pairs - all events, all categories  
Substitutes - all events, all categories  
Coffee Shop personnel  
Set-up staff  
Any enquiries to Kim Ellaway  
**0412 064 903**

## QBA Presidents' Weekend

OVER the weekend of September 28/29, the QBA hosted a Presidents' meeting. Thirty-seven clubs from all over Queensland were represented with travel, accommodation and meals provided courtesy of the QBA and all organised and co-ordinated by QBA Manager Kim Ellaway.

Thank you to presenters:

Peter Cox – ABF Head of Marketing with a statistical analysis of the future of the game in Australia together with practical strategies for bridge promotion;

Joan Butts - National Teaching Co-ordinator and QBA teacher;

Richard Ward - QBA Tournament Committee chair on regulations and ethical issues;

Craig Francis - QBA Legal Council on legal matters, club liability, constitutions etc;

Jan Peach - QBA Director Accreditation on the online proficiency test, various level directors' exams and application of the Laws;

Julie Jeffries - QBA State Director on club masterpointing matters;

Pam Steele - QBA Novice Co-ordinator;

Paul Brake - QBA Youth Co-ordinator;

Steve Weil - TBIB (Insurance Brokers) on services available to clubs and their members;

Kim Ellaway - question and answer sessions on a variety of topics;

Ray Ellaway - GNOT National Convenor who discussed GNOT matters

A highlight for our visitors was the opportunity to view "Riverfire" from the 13th floor of a riverside tower block at a special function put on specially for them by Charles Page. Spare a thought for the Far North contingent whose flight was cancelled at the last minute on the Saturday morning, then caught a flight to the Gold Coast and finally a bus back to Brisbane arriving late in the afternoon!

Thanks also to everyone who helped make the weekend the success it was - participants, QBA Management committee members and the Board of the Queensland Contract Bridge Club for loaning their clubrooms to us so that we could stage this productive biennial gathering. ■

## Border Pairs

EACH year the Stanthorpe Bridge Club partners with clubs from Tenterfield, Warwick and Goondiwindi to host the Border Pairs event. This year it was Stanthorpe's turn and the RSL was the perfect venue - cool and comfortable with drinks and refreshments available. The RSL catered for our event and we have to say the service offered was incredibly good value.

Robert Channon Wines kindly donated some of their premium wine as a winning trophy and a gift of appreciation to our Event Director, Gerald Embery. Gerald did a great job of convening a reasonably complex movement around the tables to ensure an overall winning pair could be declared for the day.

I'm fairly new to playing bridge, and the Stanthorpe Bridge Club, and I have to say it was the best bridge event I've enjoyed to date. The comradery and laughter in the room, despite the fierce competition, made the event enjoyable on many levels.

The winning pair was Paula Lennon and Mike Rival from Goondiwindi and the runners up were David Moran and Neil Bonnell from Warwick.

■ Margôt Tesch

## Results

Butler Pairs Winners - Tim Runting and Patrick Bugler

Women's Pairs - Janeen Solomon and Maha Hoenig

Men's Pairs - Tim Runting and Patrick Bugler

Open Teams Winners - Neville Francis, Magnus Moren, Jill Magee and Terry Strong





## Sunnybank Congress

Sunnybank Bridge Club successfully held back-to-back congresses on August 3 (Pairs) and August 4 (Teams).

The congress was a resounding success and it was especially pleasing to have Sunnybank players as overall winners on both days. The play proceeded very smoothly under the competent direction of Trevor Strickland and, as always, the catering was superb.

Lots of positive comments and compliments were received.

Congratulations to Congress Teams winners Philip Chang, Ping Xie, Charlie Lu and Martin Qin and again to Philip Chang and Ping Xie who also won the Congress Pairs.

Special thanks to our caterer, Heather Llewellyn, who spent much time in preparation and worked tirelessly on both days. Thanks also to the many club members assisted in a myriad of ways. We could not have managed these events, nor would they have been so successful, without the great support of the club membership!

The QBA very kindly donated a prize for the Teams Congress. It was decided to award this to the team which most improved their seeding at the end of the event. This was won by another Sunnybank Team - John Blyth, Sue Holburt, Albina Smyth and Dennis Lee. Thank you QBA!

■ Robyn Chippindall

## Graded Pairs Winners



*A Grade: Watson Zhou and Charlie Lu*



*Ping Xie, Martin Qin, Charlie Lu and Philip Chang with Pres. Ken Clem*



*B Grade: Robin Webcke and Kim McDonald*



*C Grade: Gordon Plant and Ruth Anderson*



## 2020 Barrier Reef Congress May 1-4 Yeppoon



## Brisbane Bridge Centre

104 Frederick St, Annerley. Ph: 3392 7933  
bbridgecentre@bigpond.com - www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org

<b>Play Sessions</b>	Monday	9.30 am	Duplicate
	Tuesday	9.30 am	Duplicate
		7.15 pm	Duplicate & S'vised
	Wednesday	9.30 am	Duplicate
	Thursday	9.30 am	Supervised
	Friday	10.00 am	Duplicate (Mini Lesson at 9.45 am)
	Saturday	1.00 pm	Duplicate

## Directors' Corner



Jan  
Peach

SEE no discourtesy in simply calling, "Director". This is the time honoured way, easily heard and keeps noise to a minimum. Directors' ears are tuned to hear, "Director". Directors who see the absence of the magic word, 'please' as a Law 74B5 infraction should be grateful not to experience some of the real rudeness that players dish out. "Please" does not ameliorate a discourteous manner or strident tone of voice.

In the same vein, declarers who say, "Please may I have your ace of diamonds," are creating needless noise, wasting time if all cards from dummy are named thus and are just a tad annoying. Declarer is "playing a card by

naming it" not asking for some tremendous favour to be done by dummy.

Here is Clause 5.2 Development of the uncontested auction from the ABF/QBA Alerting Regulations.

The following should be alerted:

- (a) Weak jump responses
- (b) Inverted minors (1♦ - 2♦ forcing, 1♦ - 3♦ weak)
- (c) Forcing 1NT response
- (d) New suit rebids by opener which may be made on a suit of fewer than three cards in a minor or four cards in a major
- (e) Jacoby style 2NT over a major
- (f) Bergen raises
- (g) Fit showing jumps
- (h) Fourth suit forcing
- (i) Splinter bids (below 4♣)
- (j) Transfer bids (below 4♣)
- (k) Forced bids in a 'pass-or-correct' sequence
- (l) Conventional responses including 'pass-or-correct' bids after a multi-two opening
- (m) Trial bids

(n) A pass which conveys a special meaning as to strength or distribution

So, consider the sequence 1♥ - 1NT - 2♣. If there is a partnership understanding that 2♣ may be bid with a doubleton then 2♣ is alerted. See (d) above. A weak jump raise in an uncontested auction 1S - (P) - 3S - alert - is covered by (a). A weak jump raise of partner's overcall (1H) - 1S - (2H) - 3S is in a contested auction so (a) does not apply and so 3S does not require an alert.

When the director is called to the table at the end of play, because a player thinks an opponent has gained an advantage from possibly unauthorised information, there is a routine he follows. Suppose there has been an extended pause for thought before passing. First, the director ascertains whether there is agreement that the pause occurred. If there is not, he decides, on the balance of probabilities whether a break in tempo occurred. If the opponent held a challenging hand then it may be likely that he did some thinking. Secondly, the director notes all the facts as to the auction and the systems being played. He may ask some questions about how the auction might have proceeded had the purported infraction not occurred. Next, the director defers his ruling and goes away to consult and poll. He may even poll to determine what information the pause imparts. If there is no information, perhaps a short pause after a pre-empt, then no action is needed. ■

## Coming Events

Oct 20	BBC Novice Matchpoint Pairs
Oct 26	Surfers Paradise Graded Swiss Teams
Oct 26-27	Hervey Bay Cross Imp Pairs and Teams
Oct 27	QCBC Open, Restricted and Novice Teams
Oct 31	QBA Council Meeting
Nov 2-3	Northern Suburbs Swiss Imp Pairs
Nov 3	Cleveland Bay Anniversary Matchpoint Pairs
Nov 9	Townsville Novice Teams
Nov 9-14	ABF Open Play Offs
Nov 10	QBA Senior Pairs - Gold Coast Bridge Club
Nov 10	Toowoomba Teams
Nov 10	Sunshine Coast Swiss Matchpoint Novice Pairs
Nov 16-17	Teacher Training and Teaching Workshop
Nov 16	QBA Congress Directors Exam
Nov 16-17	Noosa Cross Imp Swiss Pairs
Nov 16-17	Central Queensland Swiss or Round Robin Teams
Nov 17	Gold Coast Teams
Nov 21	QBA Management Meeting
Nov 23-30	Queensland Wide Pairs
Nov 24	Toowong Graded Teams
Nov 29-Dec 2	ABF GNOT Final
Dec 1	Redland Teams
Dec 7-8	Airlie Beach Pairs Challenge Congress
Dec 7-12	ABF Womens/Senior Play Offs
Dec 8	QBA Teams of 3 - Northern Suburbs
Dec 15	QBA Individual
Jan 5	Gold Coast Teams
Jan 8-19	ABF Summer Festival of Bridge
Jan 12	QCBC Open and Novice Imp Pairs
Jan 19	Northern Suburbs Teams
Jan 24-27	Townsville Aust. Day Swiss Butler Pairs & Teams
Jan 24-27	ABF Aust Mixed Team Playoff
Jan 26-27	Kenmore Graded Matchpoint Pairs & Graded Teams

## Q B A

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## D E A D

### JAN 6 (noon)

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## L I N E