

## 2019 Queensland Open Teams by Richard Wallis

Since Lindy Vincent has opted to reduce her tournament participation, our usual team for the Qld Open Teams had to be modified this year, and I played with Tim Runting and Richard Ward and Therese Tully made 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, failure to follow partner's lead-directional double during the relay auction cost us only 2 Imps, but the suggested club lead would given us a flat board and victory by 0.22 VPs!

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

<b>M 1</b>	T964			On the first board of the weekend, Tim passed as dealer and I opened 1C in 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 2/1 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 H3, which gave Tim no problems and he quickly wrapped up 9 tricks for +140.
<b>Bd 1</b>	AJT85			
<b>Dir N</b>	KQ98			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.
<b>Vul Nil</b>	-			
KJ82			753	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 2/1 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 H3, which gave Tim no problems and he quickly wrapped up 9 tricks for +140.
KQ7			63	
T54			A732	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.
QT5			K972	
	AQ			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.
	942			
	J6			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.
	AJ8643			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	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.
/	/	/	1C	
/	2H	/	2C	
//	2D	/	2H	

<b>M 1</b>	-			On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
<b>Bd 13</b>	A765			
<b>Dir N</b>	KQT84			On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
<b>Vul All</b>	AQ95			
Q64			KJ7532	On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
983			KQ2	
9763			J2	On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
J86			74	
	AT98			On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
	JT4			
	A5			On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
	KT32			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	On board 13 in the first match, 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 4 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 S4, showing an honour, and I won the SA 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 ST. EW continued spades and I had 11 tricks for +660, so slam had been missed.
//	1D	2S	3NT	

<b>M2</b> <b>Bd 15</b> <b>Dir S</b> <b>Vul NS</b>	J JT6 J9732 QJ53		On board 15 in the second match I opened with a weak 2D as dealer, and this was passed around to East who obviously doubled for take-out. Not so obvious, over the double, West jumped to 4S! East gave some thought to this but controlled herself to just bid 6S. At favourable Vulnerability, I am sure that Tim would have given some thought to the 7D sacrifice, but that might push EW to a making grand slam. Lucky for West, I had KTx in spades, and not Tim, so 6S was cold and we scored up -980. At the other table Richard did not get carried away with the West hand and Therese signed off in 4S, also making 12 tricks, but 11 Imps away. Since the room datum was only -510, very few pairs bid this slam.	
Q7542 Q2 8 98642		A986 AK985 A AK7		
	KT3 743 KQT654 T			
<b>W</b> / 4S!	<b>N</b> / /	<b>E</b> X 6S	<b>S</b> 2D! / //	

<b>M 2</b> <b>Bd 17</b> <b>DirN</b> <b>Vul Nil</b>	T75 KQJ8 98763 2		On board 17 in the second match I jumped to 4S over East's 1C opening, which is a bit risky holding 2 outside Aces, but Tim had already passed as dealer, so the risk is minimized. West had his bidding boots on again, and freely bid 5C over my 4S and East believed him and raised to 6C, which I was happy to double and lead the DA. Tim also made a heart trick, which could have been two if I had switched to hearts at trick 2, but +300 was adequate compensation for a part-score hand. At the other table I did not get the bidding, but I presume that Richard would have doubled 4S in the pass-out seat, and then North bid 5S over the 5C response by Therese. This was doubled by Therese but a trick got lost in the play so it was only 1 off, but 9 Imps to us.	
K T54 J54 T76543		A4 A32 KQT KQJ98		
	QJ98532 976 A2 A			
<b>W</b> 5C	<b>N</b> / /	<b>E</b> 1C 6C	<b>S</b> 4S //	

<b>M 3</b> <b>Bd 13</b> <b>Dir N</b> <b>Vul All</b>	J 986 AQJT95 Q87		On board 13 in the third match I bid 3H over the weak-jump overcall of 2S by East and West just made a simple raise, allowing Tim to bid an easy 4H. East apparently was not of the school that preempts once and then stays silent, and I did not think my highly distributional hand was suitable to let EW play in 4S, so I bid again, and West doubled. The double by West is clear-cut, but the defence needs to be accurate, and lucky for me West was not up to it! He led the SA and then switched to the CJ, giving up the defensive trick and I was able to score up +850. 4S by East is cold, but it needs careful play on the lead of the HQ, to endplay North or South. Win HA and draw the trump, then play the D2 and cover with the D8 and NS have no safe return, A club can be ducked to the CJ in dummy, and a heart return endplays South. At the other table NS played in just 4H and an initial lead of the CJ allowed 12 tricks, so we gained 5 Imps.	
AQ42 AJ K8764 J2		KT97653 75 2 K65		
	8 KQT432 3 AT943			
<b>W</b> 3S X	<b>N</b> 1D 4H //	<b>E</b> 2S 4S	<b>S</b> 3H 5H	

<b>M 4</b> <b>Bd 26</b> <b>Dir E</b> <b>Vul All</b>	63 K KQT8754 765		On board 26 in the fourth match I did not double the 1S opening by East, as I could not cope with a Club response from Tim, but when he overcalled a careful (we were Vulnerable!) 3D, I was interested in competing.	
QJ7 JT9742 - KT98		AT985 Q6 A6 QJ43	Firstly I limited my hand by passing over 3D, but when West bid 3H as some sort of game try, rejected by East, I raised to 4D and that ended the bidding.	
	K42 A853 J932 A2		East dutifully led the HQ and Tim ran this to his HK and had no trouble making 10 tricks for +130.	
			At the other table NS were more aggressive, stopping in 5DX, also making 10 tricks, but another +200 for 8 Imps., which was critical in a match we only won by 1Imp.	
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
2S 3H //	3D /	1S / 3S	/ / 4D	

<b>M 5</b> <b>Bd 10</b> <b>Dir E</b> <b>Vul All</b>	Q98 QJ65432 A3 7		On board 10 in the fifth match I had a sense of foreboding when Tim bid 2D over the 1NT opening by West, and my worst fears were realized when he passed my 2H relay.	
KJ6 AKT8 J97 AJ5		AT75 9 8542 8632	West must have been quietly confident when 2H was passed out, but he led a peculiar D7, which I won on the table to lead the C7. West took my CK with the CA and surprised me again by exiting with the DJ.	
	432 7 KQT6 KQT94		I cashed the DK, CQ and then DQ pitching 2 spades and was tempted to pitch another spade on the DT, but wanted to lead a trump towards dummy, so instead led the H7 and the HQ won in dummy, so I had 3 heart losers to go with the SQ but that was 8 tricks and +110.	
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
1NT //	2D!	/	2H	
			At the other table Richard and Therese were playing Acol, so Richard opened 1H and rebid 1NT over the 1S response, ending the auction. In spite of the opening bid of 1H, North led the H5 and Richard managed 7 tricks for +90 and 5 Imps.	

<b>M 5</b> <b>Bd 13</b> <b>Dir N</b> <b>Vul All</b>	J96543 62 953 85		On board 13 in the fifth match a Lightner double was employed for the second year in a row in the Open Teams but this year it was by our side.	
87 AKQJ943 AK 74		AKQT2 T75 4 AK92	My 2NT showed the minors, and Tim was rescued from bidding his motley collection when West jumped to 6H.	
	- 8 QJT8762 QJT63		I was hoping that Tim would have a trick in his hand, so I doubled asking for a spade lead (dummy's first bid suit), and thus I duly ruffed the spade lead. However Tim did not have the hoped for trick so 12 tricks were there and we scored up a disappointing -1660.	
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
6H //	/	1S /	2NT! X	
			At the other table Richard and Therese were more adventurous, and stopped in 7H by Richard, making 13 tricks for +2210, so we gained 11 Imps after all. What about the Lightner double you may ask? This would have just been converted into 7NT, which is cold on any lead, not even needing the finesse of the SJ marked by the double.	

<b>M 6</b> <b>Bd 26</b> <b>Dir E</b> <b>Vul All</b>	Q8653 2 8543 976		On board 26 in the sixth match Tim had too many spades and a weak hand so he bided his time when I overcalled 2D, and only came into the bidding when EW arrived at what looked to him like a making game.			
A2 QJ73 JT2 KT85		KT974 K9864 9 A4	West led the HQ and I won this and ruffed a heart to lead a club to my CQ, won by West, and the DJ came back. I ruffed another heart and drew trumps and led the C2 towards dummy and West unwisely rose with the CT, taken perforce by his partner's stiff CA.			
	J AT5 AKQ76 QJ32		Thus I was able to escape for 1 off and only -200. If I had led a club from dummy after ruffing the second heart instead of drawing trumps, I would have gone 2 off for -500, just as I would have if West had played low on my second club lead.			
<b>W</b> X 4H	<b>N</b> / 5D	<b>E</b> 1S 3H X	<b>S</b> 2D 3C //	At the other table NS did not compete over 4H and Therese made 10 tricks for +620 and 9 Imps.		

<b>M 7</b> <b>Bd 4</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul All</b>	AT8 AKJ7 QJ4 K96		On board 4 in the seventh match Tim had a dilemma when West opened 3D as dealer, as while 3NT describes the strength of his hand, it is risky and game in a major may be easier if a fit exists.			
3 T32 A9876532 8		KQ976 654 K QJ32	I thought I was a little too good to just bid 4C, and with 4/3 in the majors I did not want to pick one (thank goodness I did not bid 4S) and so I bid 4D asking Tim to bid a major. It also seemed better to make the strong hand declarer.			
	J542 Q98 T AT754		I was hoping to hear 4S from Tim, but when he bid 4H I had to pass and East led the DK, which held, encouraging East to lead the H4 and the HQ won on the table.			
<b>W</b> 3D /	<b>N</b> X 4H	<b>E</b> / //	<b>S</b> 4D	Tim has controls in all suits so was able to draw trumps and lead the CK and C9 on which East played the CQ and Tim ducked, setting up the clubs and he eventually made the DQ as his 10 <sup>th</sup> trick for +620. At the other table South played in 3C for -110 and 11 Imps to us.		

<b>M 7</b> <b>Bd 6</b> <b>Dir E</b> <b>Vul EW</b>	J863 AJ Q72 KQ82		On board 6 in the seventh match I passed reluctantly in second seat, but had no hesitation in balancing with 2H when West's 1S opening bid was passed around to me.			
AQT74 KT2 A95 JT		92 954 KJT64 743	West led the CK and I could see a promising dummy, and if I could see all 4 hands I would have won in dummy and played trumps from the top, enabling me to enter my hand with the CA and draw trumps, losing 2, at most 2 spades, 2 diamonds and a trump.			
	K5 Q8763 83 A965		However, while I knew East had less than 5 HCPs by his pass of 1S, I did not know the hearts were so friendly, so I won in hand and took the heart finesse, cashed the HA and led a small diamond off the table hoping East would duck.			
<b>W</b> 1S //	<b>N</b> /	<b>E</b> / /	<b>S</b> / 2H	Of course East did not duck, and he then led the S9 giving West 2 spades, but this set up the SJ as a trick, and when it was led East had to ruff and I could over-ruff for 8 tricks and +110. At the other table 1S was passed out, making 9 tricks for +140 and 6 Imps.		

<b>M 8</b>	T865		On board 18 in the eighth and final match East took advantage of the favourable Vulnerability by opening 4C as dealer, and I doubled for takeout, and had to hope for the best when Tim bid 4H.	
<b>Bd 18</b>	AT7543		East led the CQ and things did not look good when Tim ran the HQ and East showed out!	
<b>Dir E</b>	Q	92	However, this was a good time for Tim to have 6 hearts and he was able to draw all the trumps and make 11 tricks when the spades were 3-2 for +650.	
<b>Vul NS</b>	43	-	If the hearts had been 3-1 or 2-2, with the King on side, North can ruff a club for 11 tricks, making 12 when the spades behave, but that is unlikely when East has a long club suit.	
	AK43			
	QJ8			
	A6542	JT87		
	A	QJT9765		
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	At the other table North did play in 6H, and bemoaned her bad luck at the bad heart break, but it would have been a lucky 12 tricks. Another +100 was 13 lmps to us.
/	4H	4C	X	
		//		

<b>M 8</b>	982		On board 23 in the eighth and final match EW were playing a relay system so East was asking and West was telling.	
<b>Bd 23</b>	94		1D initially showed a limited hand with hearts, which is why East bid 1H to set the suit, but then 3H was canape, showing 6 diamonds and 5 hearts, and 3NT was asking, but there the response was not clear. East thought 4C showed 1561 distribution but obviously West thought it showed 0562!	
<b>Dir S</b>	9532	AJ653	In any event Tim's double of 4C could have been a long suit suggesting a sacrifice, or it could have been purely lead-directional.	
<b>Vul All</b>	AK87	AK87	I was not privy to the exact distribution until I had led, and I had a safe lead of the SK, but that gave declarer 13 tricks when the trumps broke and he played the diamonds for 3 discards.	
-		8	At the other table West was declarer, so North was on lead and cashed the top clubs leading to +650 versus -710.	
JT532		Q92	Only 2 lmps to them, but as a result of the 7 Imp loss on the match we went from first to second by a mere 0.94 VPs, and if the board was flat we would have held on to win by 0.22 VPs!	
AQJT76	KQT74			
J6	Q6			
	K4			
	T543			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
1D!	/	1H!	/	
3H!	/	3NT	/	
4C!	X	4S	/	
5H	//			