



THE QBA BULLETIN

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

February-April Volume 47 No

From the President



Richard Ward

It seems a long time ago but it was only during the early seventies that the great smoking controversy was under way in all Australian bridge clubs. Contentious and divisive. committees divided, emotions ran high, harsh words were spoken, phones ran hot, civil libertarians were outraged and, in some towns and cities, breakaway clubs were created never to re-form. It is hard to imagine nowadays the typical scene at most bridge clubs with a thick pall of smoke shrouding the ceiling and down to about a metre above the players. Ashtrays were essential and plentiful and it was not unusual for pairs to have a bottle or two of shiraz which they carried from table to table. The drinks and smoking continued after the session for those stalwarts who liked nothing better than to discuss the highs and lows of the bridge. RBT patrols did not yet exist. Returning home around midnight, reeking of nicotine, the clothes were sent directly to the washing machine and a quick cleansing shower was essential for anyone sharing a bed

with a non-bridge player. Ah, those were the days!

I was prompted to these reminiscences by a curious editorial written by Harold Franklin in the 1976 English Bridge Quarterly. It refers to another issue from the past, that of appropriate dress for male bridge players:

"At the bridge table all are equals but . . . there are some things which the young and the not-so-young view differently. The vexed subject of suitable attire for day and evening wear is one of them. There are those of the older generation who feel that it is indecent to appear without collar and tie in the evening. There are those of the younger generation who feel that a necktie adds nothing to either comfort or appearance. It may well be that a necktie is an unnecessary article of apparel. It is certainly no less true that a bare chest, however manly, is inappropriate in the public rooms of a hotel or other public place.

Long hair is not offensive, nor is a turtleneck sweater. Ill-groomed hair can be offensive, as can a T-shirt for evening attire, especially when it is called to do duty for the whole of a weekend"

Perhaps this editorial was simply an example of British humour and was not to be taken seriously. I cannot recall Australians having any such issues, although I for one do find the rare instances of bare feet at the table distracting. Even more so

when the reprobate perches cross-legged on the chair with his toes just inches away from dummy!

On to more serious matters:

- At the time of writing, there have been 16 Covid-19-related cancellations of bridge events in 2021 to the end of April whilst 23 have gone ahead, albeit with strict compliance with the coronavirus restrictions. Especially intrepid was the Mackay CBC which had to make a decision many months ago whether or not to go ahead with the Barrier Reef Congress. Their courage has been rewarded with a sold-out event which has included a number of fearless interstate players;
- After much negotiating over spaces and dates, the contract with the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre for the 2022 International Gold Coast Congress has been signed and sealed. Thanks to convenor Tim Runtig and QBA Manager Kim Ellaway for their ongoing work dealing with these negotiations in these uncertain times;
- Interesting to note that the Victorian Bridge Association has, in the past month, found themselves thrown out of their regular hotel venue for the Victor Champion Cup in June. Apparently the government has taken over the hotel as a quarantine site and so they had fewer than two months to find an alternative. This has materialised in the form of Marvel Stadium (formerly, in historical order, Colonial Stadium, Telstra Dome, Etihad Stadium and Docklands Stadium) which promises to be more spacious than the hotel and within walking distance of plenty of accommodation and restaurants. It will be held 3-7 June and it is not too late to enter.

Contents

From the President by Richard Ward	1
IBPA Column Service by Tim Bourke.....	2
Did you hear your partner speak? by Matthew McManus	3
Teacher's Corner by Joan Butts.....	5
Barrier Reef Congress by Richard Ward.....	10
Directors' Corner by Jan Peach	13

- The pandemic has taken its toll on Queensland's ABF membership which has slipped from 7101 in 2020 to 6456 in 2021. Reports from many clubs indicate that these numbers should rise above 7000 fairly quickly as soon as we are free of restrictions;
- Planning for the new-look QBA Festival of Bridge is well under way. Structured so as to appeal to players of all levels there are three sessions of teams followed by three sessions of pairs. The Qld Open Pairs and Open Teams will be integrated into this weekend and we are expecting players from all over the state. QCBC will be hosting the Festival. The dates are Saturday 9th – Monday 11th October with entry details and accommodation possibilities for visitors available on the QBA website shortly. ■

IBPA Column Service

Dlr N	♠ AK9		
Vul Both	♥ AK5		
	♦ AJ2		
	♣ AQJ7		
♠ 87542		♠ 103	
♥ 98		♥ QJ62	
♦ Q5		♦ 98643	
♣ 8652		♣ 93	
	♠ QJ6		
	♥ 10743		
	♦ K107		
	♣ K104		

W	N	E	S
P	2C	P	2NT ¹
P	6NT	All pass	

¹8-10

West led the nine of hearts. Declarer ducked in dummy, so East took the trick with the jack and returned a low heart to dummy's king. Declarer had 11 top tricks (12 if hearts were 3-3) and saw that the contract depended on his finding the queen of diamonds if hearts did not break. In order to do that, declarer planned to delay tackling diamonds until he had more information about the unseen hands.

Declarer began this quest by cashing dummy's ace of hearts, discovering that the suit was 4-2. Declarer continued by cashing his four club winners, forcing East to part with two diamonds while he threw a low spade from hand. After noting that the clubs had also divided four-two, declarer played the queen, king and ace of spades. This forced East to part with a third diamond, reducing his holding to the queen of hearts and two low diamonds.

As East was counted as having started with a 2=4=5=2 shape and West with 5=2=2=4, declarer knew that the outstanding diamonds were now two-two. So he cashed the ace and king of diamonds, confident in the knowledge that the queen of diamonds would fall under them. Declarer took three spades, two hearts, three diamonds and four clubs for his contract.

Dlr N	♠ A942		
Vul EW	♥ A10872		
	♦ —		
	♣ QJ87		
♠ Q53		♠ KJ87	
♥ J953		♥ KQ64	
♦ KQJ105		♦ 742	
♣ 5		♣ 42	
	♠ 106		
	♥ —		
	♦ A9863		
	♣ AK10963		

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

This was another deal from a team match; here, both sides reached the grand slam in clubs. At both tables, North's three diamonds was a splinter-bid, based on four-card support for clubs. Thereafter, controlbidding ensued and both South players knew what to do when North bid his ace of spades at the five level.

At the first table, as he disliked leading a singleton trump, West led the king of diamonds. Declarer counted three tricks outside of trumps and saw that, if the three

aces stood up, he could likely cross-ruff the next ten tricks. Declarer threw a spade from dummy at trick one and won the trick with his ace of diamonds. After ruffing a diamond in dummy, declarer cashed the aces of spades and hearts, throwing a diamond from hand on the latter, then ruffed a heart in hand with the three of trumps. Once that held, declarer claimed the rest of the tricks on a high crossruff.

At the second table, West had no qualms about leading a singleton trump and duly led the five of clubs. With only three diamond ruffs available, declarer's only chance was to establish a long card in one of the red suits. As declarer needed to start by ruffing diamonds to keep the ace of spades as an entry to the fifth heart, he took the first trick in hand. He discarded a low spade on the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. The heart ace came next, throwing a spade from hand and the next five tricks were cross-ruffed in the red suits, ending in hand. After drawing East's remaining trump, declarer claimed his contract as dummy's ten of hearts was now good and the spade ace remained as the entry to cash it.

Note that if declarer had won the first trick in dummy he would no longer have had the entries to bring in 13 tricks.

Dlr S	♠ 852		
Vul Both	♥ 7642		
	♦ A42		
	♣ AJ3		
♠ KQJ10974		♠ 3	
♥ —		♥ AQJ3	
♦ 10986		♦ Q753	
♣ 52		♣ Q1098	
	♠ A6		
	♥ K10985		
	♦ KJ		
	♣ K764		

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

West led the king of spades. Declarer played low from dummy and took the trick with his ace. It was clear that the spades were 7-1; also, that East would hold the three missing trump

honours for his double. Finally, South would need East to hold the queen of diamonds too, in order to park his spade loser on the ace of diamonds.

The question of who held the three of trumps had to be addressed before play continued. On a "Vacant Places" argument, West had six places to accommodate that card while East had eight (after placing the queen of diamonds and four major-suit cards in East's hand). So, it was eight-to-six to play for hearts four-zero. (Another point in favour of assuming this is that it might make the final double even more attractive to East.)

As declarer was assuming that hearts were four-zero, he played a low club to dummy's jack. East took this with the queen and returned the ten of clubs, which was taken in dummy with the ace. Declarer led a low diamond back to his jack. When it held, he cashed the king of diamonds and played the king and another club. Declarer ruffed the club in dummy then threw his spade loser on the ace of diamonds before leading a trump from dummy. This was the five-card ending:

The ABF has once again offered to each state a subsidy for two pairs to attend the ANC Restricted Pairs.

The QBA Management Committee met and agreed to allocate the prize (details below) to the winners of the Restricted Pairs at the Barrier Reef and the winners of the QBA Novice Pairs being hosted by Sunnybank on May 2nd.

The subsidy is as follows

- two economy return air tickets from (capital departure city) to Perth.
- \$250 for each player to help with other expenses.
- paid entry into the ANC Restricted Butler Pairs event held during the ANC.
- Note the maximum value of the airfare plus the expense subsidy is \$2,000 plus GST (per pair).

If the pair who wins the subsidy cannot attend as a pair the subsidy will be offered to second place then to third place etc.

	85	
	764	
	—	
	—	
QJ10	—	
—	AQJ3	
109	Q	
—	—	
	—	
	K10985	
	—	
	—	

The lead of any card from dummy in the diagrammed position would have restricted East to two trumps no matter how he defended. Declarer would have had to keep his five of hearts to allow it to be overtaken (or over-ruffed) in the dummy in some situations.

Dlr S	♠ A54
Vul None	♥ A64
	♦ Q52
	♣ 10962
♠ 983	♠ 72
♥ KQJ9	♥ 1052
♦ K9876	♦ AJ103
♣ 7	♣ K854
	♠ KQJ106
	♥ 873
	♦ 4
	♣ AQJ3

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

¹Forcing for one round

This deal was played in four spades after identical auctions in a teams match. Both West players led the king of hearts, seeking to develop tricks in that suit, rather than leading the singleton in declarer's second suit.

The first declarer proceeded quickly and without evident thought. He took the king of hearts with the ace and drew trumps ending on the table. Next, he led the ten of clubs and ran it when East played low. He was pleased to see that he had won the trick but was less pleased when he led a club to his jack and West discarded a diamond. Now he had to lose two hearts, a diamond and a club for down one.

At the other table, declarer took a moment to form a better plan. Like his counterpart, he observed that his best chance to make the contract was for East to hold the king of clubs. So, after winning the first trick with dummy's ace of hearts he led the two of clubs and played the jack on East's low card. When that held, he cashed the king and queen of trumps. After a trump to dummy's ace, he called for the ten of clubs and ran it when East followed with another low club. West's discard of a diamond on the second club was not a problem, for it allowed declarer to claim ten tricks on the marked club finesse. ■

Courtesy of the IBPA Bulletin



Matthew McManus

Did you hear your partner speak?

Correct answer – Yes and No.

A NORMAL part of a bridge auction is when you make a special systemic bid, your partner alerts it, the opponents ask and your partner tells them what he thinks your bid means. That last part of the process is rather problematic in terms of how the laws of bridge apply. One part of the laws wants you to hear what your partner said; another part of the laws insists that you don't hear it!

Although this is an area which I have previously considered in these articles, it is quite complex and still not understood by many players. Perhaps it will be easiest to explain by example:

You, sitting North, hold:

♠ 5
♥ KQ942
♦ 96
♣ KQJ84

The auction goes:

W	N	E	S
1D	2NT		

You and your partner have agreed to play that a jump to 2NT over the opponent's opening bid shows at least 5-5 in the lowest unbid suits.

Partner alerts 2NT. East asks and South says, “5-5 in the minors”. That’s interesting! Partner seems to have forgotten that 2NT shows the minors only after a major suit opening. What are your rights and responsibilities?

Responsibilities first: under the laws, EW are entitled to an accurate explanation of your agreements. Therefore, unless your partner does so first, you need to tell them. But... and it is a very big BUT, you can only do so at the correct time. The correct time is:

- a) if you become declarer or dummy – at the end of the auction;
- b) if you become a defender – at the end of the play of the hand.

Until the correct time, you must not do anything at all. You cannot say, “I think my partner got it wrong”. You cannot call the director. You cannot excuse yourself and go and speak to the director away from the table. You must just sit there, saying and doing nothing about partner’s mistake, until the correct time arrives. You may think you are trying to be helpful, but in most cases you will just be making things worse for your side.

Those are your responsibilities under the laws. In order to satisfy this duty to correct partner’s mistake, you obviously need to have heard what partner said when the opponents asked.

Rather confusingly, when we come to what your rights are in exactly the same situation, the laws require you to act as if you didn’t hear your partner speak! This is a rather difficult concept to grasp. When considering what future action to take, if any, you need to behave as though your partner said that 2NT showed at least 5-5 in clubs and hearts (ie. what you have), even though you know that this isn’t the case. Let’s assume that the above auction continued as follows:

W	N	E	S
1D	2NT	Pass	3C
3D	?		

You may be tempted to bid 3♥ now to clarify things for your partner – after all, he doesn’t think that you

have hearts and you might have a big heart fit. However, to do so would be very wrong. When you bid 2NT, you were telling him you had 5 hearts (as well as 5 clubs). If, in response to East’s question, he had said that 2NT shows 5-5 in clubs and hearts (I know he didn’t) and bid 3C, you would know that he had heard about your hearts but didn’t care about them. There should be no temptation to bid them now.

Although it is a normal part of the game, the laws refer to what you heard when your partner answered East’s question as “unauthorised information”. This is something which you cannot use when making a decision about what to do next. In fact, you need to go out of your way to make sure that you do not take advantage of it. That means you virtually need to act as if you didn’t hear your partner speak. If your partner had given the right answer when asked, you would be free to make any bid over 3D in the above auction, even 3H if you felt like it (no matter how misguided that action may be!). However, when you get the “unauthorised information” that partner has misunderstood your bid, you have no alternative other than to pass.

Are there ever any occasions when you might bid again even when partner has responded incorrectly to East’s question? Yes, but these are times when the hand you hold definitely warrants another call. For example, you might have a much stronger hand with six hearts and five clubs:

♠ 5
♥ AKJT95
♦ 6
♣ KQJ84

Just one useful card from partner would probably be enough for you to make game in hearts, so now 3H would be justified. Of course, partner, thinking you have the minors, might now be very confused. Your 3H might wake him up to his mistake. If so, well and good – that’s allowed. But if you have done anything else apart from just bidding 3H – eg. saying, “you got it wrong, partner”, glaring and tutting at him, calling for the “sheriff”,

handing your system card to the opponents, etc. – then you will find yourself in trouble with the director – and no one wants that. ■

Courtesy of the NSWBA

John Brockwell

I CAUGHT up with John Brockwell in Canberra last weekend. He has recently stepped aside as chair of the National Directors Accreditation Committee and now is free of all of his bridge commitments.



John Brockwell and Richard Ward

The Barrier Reef Teams trophy is named after him in recognition of the work done by him and Eric Parsons in getting this Gold Point event off the ground 25 years ago.

Following is an article about him by Stephen Lester.

■ Richard Ward

EVERY bridge-playing nation has a pool of former bridge players and administrators who have provided sterling service to the bridge populace. Australia has had many in this category, with one of the most notable being John Brockwell. John is well-known for his views on the game, helping to bridge the dementia gap, and he has played an important role in popularising and promoting bridge for over 50 years. His story is a shining example of personal contribution. John is a Gold Grandmaster, a member of the ABF Committee of Honour since 1986 and a Life Member of the Canberra Bridge Club.

What would an article about a bridge star be without a favourite

deal? John's was played in the final of the 1989 Far East Open Pairs Championship, Jakarta, reported by John Wignall in the FEBF Daily Bulletin and George Havas in The Australian:

Dlr N	♠ —	♠ Q10862
Vul Both	♥ A1093	♥ Q654
	♦ K10872	♦ —
	♣ A1092	♣ 6543
♠ J9754		
♥ J7		
♦ 54		
♣ QJ87		
	♠ AK3	
	♥ K82	
	♦ AQJ963	
	♣ K	

W	N	E	S
J.Borin	Wignall	N.Borin	Brockwell
P	1D	P	2NT ¹
P	3D ²	P	4NT ³
P	5H ⁴	P	5NT ⁵
P	7D ⁶	P	7NT ⁷
All pass			

¹ GF raise in diamonds, no major

² Waiting, tell me more

³ Ordinary Blackwood

⁴ Two aces

⁵ King ask

⁶ I have heard enough

⁷ So have I

Seven diamonds is cold, but Brockwell (South, partnered by John Wignall, New Zealand, against Jim and Norma Borin) went on to seven notrump, believing that to be the safer contract.

On Jim Borin's lead of the queen of clubs, declarer won, ran the diamonds and cashed the ace and king of spades, discarding the ten and nine of hearts from dummy. This was the position before the last diamond was cashed:

—	
A3	
—	
A109	
J	Q
J7	Q654
—	—
J8	—
3	
K82	
9	
—	

George Havas wrote, "Look at the

unbearable pressure this put on the defence. West must keep two clubs to avoid declarer making an extra club trick, but what other two cards should he keep? If West keeps two hearts, then, when declarer crosses to the ace of hearts and cashes the ace of clubs, East is squeezed in hearts and spades. To avoid this, Borin kept one heart and one spade. But then, Brockwell crossed to the ace of hearts, dropping West's jack, cashed the ace of clubs, discarding his spade, before finessing the eight of hearts on the way back."

"Notice the importance of declarer's careful heart discards. Had he kept the nine or ten in dummy, the heart suit would have been blocked and declarer could not usefully have taken the heart finesse when East did not cover. It was a rare form of guard squeeze.

■ Stephen Lester

Courtesy of the IBPA Bulletin

Teacher's Corner



Joan Butts

Strong Unbalanced Hands

SOMETIMES a hand is too strong to open at the one-level because if you do, you take a risk that partner will pass with fewer than six points. You need partner to bid even if they have nothing, because you might make game almost on your own. Hands as strong as this don't come up a lot, but when they do, start the bidding with 2♣. It's code to tell partner you have a very strong hand. The hand may or may not contain clubs.

Opener

Deciding whether to open a hand 2♣ is not related to points only, but you need at least 17 high card points and four or fewer losers. Consider the playing strength of the hand and also the quick tricks.

How do I count losers?

If you're missing any of A, K or Q in any suit, count that as a loser. NB: shortage reduces losers.

♦AKxxx = count one loser (♦Q missing)

♥Kxxx = count two losers (♥A and ♥Q missing)

♠Qx = count two losers (♠A and ♠K missing)

♣AQx = count one loser (♣K missing)

♦xxxx = count three losers (♦A and ♦K and ♦Q missing)

Deciding whether to open 2♣

If your quick trick count is greater than your loser count, open 2♣. If not, open at the one-level.

What are Quick Tricks (QT)?

♠AK = two quick tricks

♥AQ = one and a half quick tricks

♦A = one quick trick

♣KQx = one quick trick

♦Kx = half a quick trick

Example Hands

1. ♠AK874 ♥K4 ♦A98 ♣AK4 This hand has 21 high card points, five and a half quick tricks and five losers. Open 2♣.

2. ♠AKQ9876 ♥AK86 ♦8 ♣4 This hand has 16 high card points, four quick tricks and three losers. Open 2♣.

3. ♠6 ♥AKJ98765 ♦AQ8 ♣A4 This hand has 18 high card points, four and a half quick tricks, and four losers. Open 2♣.

4. ♠AKJ98 ♥AK86 ♦Q8 ♣J4 This hand has 18 high card points, four quick tricks, and six losers. Open 1♣.

NB: If the above is too hard, forget about it, but don't open a hand 2♣ unless you have a very good 17+ points and four losers or fewer.

Responder

A 2♣ bid is forcing. As responder, make a waiting bid of 2♦, unless you hold a good five+ card suit with at least an ace and a king (a "positive"), This leaves room for opener to describe their hand.

Positive bids - 2♥, 2♠, 3♣ or 3♦ promise five+ card suits with two of the top three honours. 2NT or 3NT shows 8-10, or 11+ points, without a five-card suit.

Partner opens 2♣ to you:

Hand 1
 ♠ K107652
 ♥ 63
 ♦ 7
 ♣ 9863

Hand 2
 ♠ KQJ1097
 ♥ 6
 ♦ 75
 ♣ K863

Respond 2♦ on Hand 1 intending to bid spades later if possible. On Hand 2 respond 2♣ to show a good five+ card suit and more than 7 points (a positive).

Once a trump suit has been agreed, normal slam bidding methods – Blackwood and Cue Bids – (see next lessons) come into play.

To raise partner's suit is forcing, so responder can show support with a very weak hand by jumping straight to game. (e.g. 2♣ p 2♦ p 2♥ p 4♥). This is called the principle of "fast arrival", i.e. in a game force auction, the faster game is reached, the weaker is responder's hand. Conversely, the better the hand, the slower the bidding will be, because there's more to describe about the two hands. (e.g. 2♣ p 2♦ p 2♥ p 3♥ etc)

Examples.

Dir E
 Vul NS

♠ Q52
 ♥ J93
 ♦ 8642
 ♣ 763

♠ 10
 ♥ 7542
 ♦ KJ1073
 ♣ QJ5

♠ J874
 ♥ 106
 ♦ Q
 ♣ K109842

♠ AK963
 ♥ AKQ8
 ♦ A95
 ♣ A

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

We have 24 high card points plus a fifth spade meaning 25 points. This is definitely too strong to open one spade. If we count losers we have two diamond losers and one spade loser; a three loser hand.

So let's open two clubs; partner bids two diamonds and we now bid two spades to show the suit that we have. Partner bids four spades which shows a weak hand so we play there.

Dir S
 Vul EW

♠ J2
 ♥ Q76
 ♦ 43
 ♣ AQ10763

♠ 9864
 ♥ AK42
 ♦ Q1085
 ♣ 4

♠ 10753
 ♥ 109853
 ♦ 62
 ♣ 92

♠ AKQ
 ♥ J
 ♦ AKJ97
 ♣ KJ85

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

This hand has 22 high card points plus one for the fifth diamond so we open it with a game forcing two clubs. Partner gives a positive - five or six clubs and they should have a good club suit - two of the top three or three of the top five honours so we can be sure they'll have the ace and the queen of clubs. It's not only a small slam we're thinking about but if partner has two aces we might consider seven.

So let's use Blackwood to see how many aces partner has. We're using ordinary Blackwood so partner is showing one ace. There's an ace missing which we know is the ace of hearts so it's time to go six clubs.

Dir N
 Vul None

♠ 863
 ♥ 92
 ♦ QJ109
 ♣ A643

♠ KQJ10
 ♥ K875
 ♦ K653
 ♣ 5

♠ 9742
 ♥ 10643
 ♦ 8742
 ♣ 9

♠ A5
 ♥ AQJ
 ♦ A
 ♣ KQJ10872

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

This hand has 21 high card points and a seven card club suit so if we

count losers we have one spade loser, potentially one heart loser and one club loser. Only three losers and definitely worth two clubs as an opening game force bid. Partner won't know what we've got exactly but they start with two diamonds and now we can describe the reason for our game force with three clubs. They've agreed clubs and we could now start to show our controls but because we've got the diamond, the heart and the spade control all we really need to know is about the ace of the trump suit so for that we would use Blackwood. Partner has shown one ace so they've got the ace of clubs. We could possibly go to five no trumps to see if they have anything else and when they respond six clubs that's where we'll play - down one sadly.

Dir
 Vul

♠ J8653
 ♥ 1073
 ♦ 75
 ♣ 1062

♠ 972
 ♥ 652
 ♦ A43
 ♣ KQJ8

♠ K104
 ♥ 9
 ♦ 109862
 ♣ A954

♠ AQ
 ♥ AKQJ84
 ♦ KQJ
 ♣ 73

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

After three passes the bidding's come round to us and we have another beautiful hand - 22 high card points, a magnificent heart suit for which we can add two extra length points so we start with two clubs. Partner bids two diamonds and we simply show our suit. Partner will bid four hearts which says that I have a weak hand with some heart support so that will end the bidding. ■

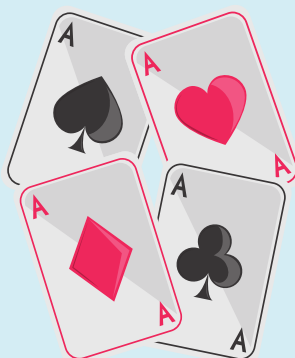
Courtesy of joanbuttsbridge.com

Being a bridge player is an extremely difficult trade since it consists principally of coping with your bridge partner.

FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH BRIDGE

FREE PIZZA DINNER INCLUDED

EVERY FRIDAY | 6:30PM TO 9PM
QUEENSLAND CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB
67 IPSWICH RD, WOOLLOONGABBA



For further details, contact:

Michael Gearing | 0419 733 930 | michael.l.gearing@gmail.com

Jim Evans | 0421 116 658 | jimbeany@bigpond.com



QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



2021 QBA FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

FRIDAY 8TH 7.00 pm – MONDAY 11TH OCTOBER

ONE SESSION OF WALK-IN PAIRS
+
THREE SESSIONS OF SWISS TEAMS
THE TBIB OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP
[incorporating the Qld Open Teams]
+
THREE SESSIONS OF SWISS PAIRS
THE MOORE AUSTRALIA OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP
[incorporating the Qld Open Pairs]

SPONSORS		
MOORE AUSTRALIA  MOORE	TBIB INSURANCE  TBIB <small>PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT ABF ENDORSED INSURANCE BROKERS</small>	VENUE: QUEENSLAND CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB 

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

JAN PEACH 0487 466 109 & ALAN GIBSON 0406 745 259

ENQUIRIES

TONI BARDON 0401 082 054 & KIM ELLAWAY 0412 064 903

REGISTER NOW ON



ENTRIES FOR THE FESTIVAL WILL OPEN SOON



OVER 10,000
TRAVEL INSURANCE POLICIES
ISSUED TO ABF MEMBERS



HOW CAN WE HELP?

Home

Your ABF Travel Insurance

Insure your home & contents

Residential landlords insurance

Your Business & Investments

Insure your Bridge Club

Car, Caravan & Boat insurance

How To Make A Travel
Insurance Claim

News, tips and alerts

Meet the team

Club partnerships

Member stories, news & event

Bridge is all about having the right partner.

It's the same with insurance, the right partner always has your back – *and that's our full time job.*

If you are a member of the ABF, an affiliated club or State body, TBIB can provide exclusive, discounted insurance benefits for you, your club, and even your business and property, and that's why we created ABF Insurance.

For more than 10 years TBIB has been coming up with inventive cover solutions and preferential pricing for the Bridge community.

Through ABF Insurance, TBIB provides a full broking service to the ABF, State Associations, Affiliated Clubs and members. This involves the marketing, pricing and placement of insurance policies for State bodies and the wider community, as well as the ongoing management and review of those insurance policies and the management of claims arising out of those policies.

ABF Insurance is for you, your family and your friends, and we'd love to be there when you need us.

[Click here](#) for Travel Insurance updates.

Travel Insurance for you, your family & friends

In the past TBIB has provided the Australian Bridge community with an exclusive Travel Insurance policy with the convenience of an online application, and the security of real people assisting when things don't go to plan. To date more than \$6 million has been paid out to ABF Members in claims.

While international travel is still up in the air (or indeed not up in the air) Australian cross border travel has eased and the Bridge community is beginning to get mobile again. For some time now we've been working hard in the market so we can respond.

We're delighted to have just released the ABF Members' Australia Only travel insurance policy.

The Australia only policy is available in multi-trip and single trip versions and will cover Members for their trips within Australia. You can find out more about the policy here, and [you can apply online here.](#)

Play your cards right and talk to the people you know and trust – TBIB, insurance brokers of the Australian Bridge Federation.

ABFINSURANCE.COM.AU

(07) 3252 5254

Barrier Reef Congress



Richard Ward

THE “house full” sign went up several weeks before entries closed for the 25th Barrier Reef Congress at the 500 Pavilion in Mackay. With 120 pairs and 60 teams, there was much to do for the Mackay CBC organizing committee led most ably by convenor Janet Hansen and President Lorna Shuttlewood, Secretary Vic Mason, Janelle Andrew, Diane Cox, Robert Carless, Anne Lutz and Jean Wright. In line with coronavirus social distancing requirements, they had done everything possible to safeguard the players, directors, caddies and other workers including the provision of personal coffee mugs, water bottles and hand sanitizer. Fortunately for everybody, masks were not required.

Other highlights included:

- A good venue with plenty of space, good lighting and non-intrusive air-conditioning. When there was a problem with sunlight directly into the faces of some players, organisers moved quickly to cover the windows with pages of the Mackay Daily Mercury! This may not have won any design awards but it did the job. Great problem-solving.
- With Chief Director, Jan Peach and Senior Director, Peter Busch assisted by three caddies, the players were very well served. The bridgemates were set up so that the score would not be accepted unless the correct opening lead was entered. Whilst causing a few grumbles from some, this meant that fouled boards could be detected immediately and the subsequent flow-on effect to the scoring across the field could be avoided. This proved necessary on several occasions.

- Tea/coffee was free and individual-serve high quality lunches could be ordered on both days. The presentation lunch was handled similarly – good food delivered promptly and efficiently.
- Another feature, at times overlooked by some congresses, was the attention to detail with such things as maintaining the tidiness and cleanliness of the playing area even to the extent of bringing out the vacuum cleaner for the carpeted floor before the start of play each day. Such things make the difference between a good congress and an exceptional one.

In the pairs, two young Sydney stars, Justin Mills and Peter Hollands certainly had their bidding boots on.

Dlr N	♠ Q1065		
Vul Both	♥ 10976		
	♦ —		
	♣ AKQJ4		
♠ A983		♠ KJ42	
♥ J5		♥ 82	
♦ A103		♦ KQ98	
♣ 10932		♣ 865	
	♠ 7		
	♥ AKQ43		
	♦ J76542		
	♣ 7		

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

¹ Transfer to hearts

² Splinter, heart support, singleton or void diamonds

³ 1st or 2nd round spade control

⁴ Well actually, it's a void

There was nothing to the play with five hearts, two diamond ruffs and five clubs making 12. This slam was bid by only two pairs (the other was Jenni Buckley and Jim Wood who played in six hearts doubled for +1660) earning themselves 13 IMPs. Then, flushed with this success they had another go on the very next hand.

If bridge players are not nasty, they just aren't trying

Dlr E	♠ AKJ852		
Vul None	♥ 94		
	♦ 3		
	♣ AJ42		
♠ Q1076		♠ 43	
♥ A87653		♥ Q102	
♦ J10		♦ Q972	
♣ Q		♣ 10863	
	♠ 9		
	♥ KJ		
	♦ AK8654		
	♣ K975		

W	N	E	S
	J Mills		P Hollands
		P	1D
1H	2H ¹	X ²	3C
P	6C	All pass	

¹ general game force

² shows a heart honour

With the wind at your back on a sunny day this poor slam will come home and, in fact, it is makable according to Deep Finesse regardless of the opening lead by cashing two top diamonds early, taking the spade and heart finesses then playing on cross ruff lines but the timing has to be immaculate. On the ace of hearts lead and continuation, declarer played to split the diamonds 3-3 but, despite taking the winning spade finesse at trick 10, West still held a winning spade at the end. Once again, only two pairs tried 6♣, both failing, and losing 9 IMPs with the field preferring the easier 4♠ contract.

The winners of the Open Pairs were Brisbane's Yolanda Carter and Toni Bardon. They were never worse than 6th in the field of 86 pairs and spent most of the event sitting at Table 1 fending off all comers. This tricky 3NT hand saw Yolanda (South) wending her way through multiple traps.



Yolanda Carter and Toni Bardon



Janet Hansen (Convenor) and Charles Page (sponsor)



Steve Weil TBIB with the Restricted Teams winners. Lorna Shuttlewood (MCBC President), Faye Wright, Doone Mitchell, and Christine Nice



Charles Page, Moore Australia sponsor, with the Open Teams winners, Fay Stanton, Gabrielle Elich, Richard Trollope and David Christian



Restricted Pairs winners, Geoff Saxby and Sameer Pandya



Brockwell and Parsons Trophies



BRC sponsors, Charles Page and Steve Weil



Mackay Contract Bridge Club would like to thank the following sponsors for all their help in making the Barrier Reef Congress 2021 possible. This year, we are celebrating the 25th year of the Congress. Covid-19 robbed Yeppoon of the honour of holding the Congress and the Celebration in 2020 so we are very grateful that we were able to hold this event.

Sponsoring the Moore Australia Break-out Room and for continuing support of Queensland bridge.



Sponsoring the BRC 300 Teams and for continuing support of Queensland bridge.



Sponsoring the Open Pairs section and for continuing support of our club with the printing of documents for this and other club congresses.



Assisting with the purchase of a Dealing Machine and extra Bridgemates.



For continuing support of this Congress and support in general of our club.



For continuing support of community events



Supply of all stationery and related items for the Congress



Provision of hand sanitisers.



Mackay Contract Bridge Club would also like to thank all those who participated in this event. Without you there would not have been a Congress.

Pics from the Past



Directors' Corner



Jan
Peach

WHEN called to an insufficient bid, the director does not ask whether the insufficient bid was unintended. True, Law 25A would apply before Law 27 but unintended calls are very uncommon with written bidding though many players believe that all they have to do is say, "I didn't mean to write that," and the director allows the call to be changed, often incorrectly. Appearing to offer the player an escape route encourages this belief and may distort the player's recollection as to how the bid came to be made. Players do need to speak up if they have something to say about a situation.

Still, a ruling for an insufficient bid is best not made so quickly that a player has no opportunity to request relief for an unintended call.

Suppose LHO has passed over an insufficient bid and you are called to the table. It looks a simple case of an insufficient bid having been accepted but try saying, "Looks like the insufficient bid has been accepted. Is there anything to add?"

Whenever facts are being collected, it is a good idea to end with, "Do I have all the facts? Does anyone wish to add something."

There has been an increase in declaring sides giving explanations immediately an auction ends, hopefully just trying to be helpful. Yes, draw attention to unusual features of your auction, but please wait to be asked for an explanation.

Clause 3.4.1 of Section G of the QBA Regulations says this: At the end of the auction, the declaring side should draw attention to any unusual features, particularly any unusual non-alerted calls. Upon inquiry, a player must disclose fully, not only the specific meanings of all calls, but also any inferences

they have drawn from the auction based on partnership experience (as distinct from general bridge knowledge). These explanations may occasionally need to include negative inferences, such as hand types partner probably does not have for his bidding. Defenders must not, at this time, draw attention to their own calls, nor voluntarily offer explanations (they must of course fully disclose upon inquiry).

It is common bridge knowledge that hands will occasionally be upgraded or downgraded to qualify as a 1NT opening. 12-14 is not misinformation if a working 11-count or a horrible 15-count is occasionally opened 1NT. It would be misleading to describe the range as 11-15 if the vast majority of 11 and 15 point balanced hands are not opened 1NT. Hand evaluation is more than counting points.

I have mentioned before the bad habit of saying "having none" when not following suit oneself. It is not a requirement of the laws, and if a defender, draws partner's attention to a significant event. Its

first cousin has appeared. Saying, "I acknowledge my hesitation," after pausing for thought. A running commentary is totally unnecessary and communicates with partner in breach of Law 73A and Law 73B even if addressing the opponents. ■

Teams for the ANC in Perth

Open

Rchard Ward - Therese Tully, Paul Hooykaas - Peter Evans, Malcolm Carter - Tony Hutton with Neville Francis, NPC

Seniors

Ian Afflick - Paul Collins, Charlie Howard - Kerry Wood, Mike Pemberton - Jim Evans with David Smith, NPC

Womens

Pele Rankin - Greer Tucker, Toni Bardon - Yolanda Carter, Margaret Millar - Sue O'Brien with Neville Francis, NPC

Youth

Darren Brake, Oliver McCarthy, Ben Leung, Ellen Vischer, Paddy Taylor, Jack Luke-Paredi with Michael Gearing, NPC

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

You will need to be registered on myABF to enter some events this year and ALL congresses in 2022. Why not have a look and register now.

It's totally free.

Click here.



Q B A

Email: manager@qldbridge.com.au

Phone: 07 3351 8602

Mobile: 0412 064 903

Website: www.qldbridge.com.au

DEAD

JULY 19 (noon)

Contributions to:

Philip Squire

Ph: 07 3366 1292

0490 456 575

Email: philipsquire@tpg.com.au

LINE



60TH INTERNATIONAL

GOLD COAST BRIDGE CONGRESS

2022

♥ ♣ ♠ ♦ ♥ ♠ ♣ ♦

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

Kim Ellaway · manager@qldbridge.com.au
 +61 412 064 903 · +61 7 3351 8602
qldbridge.com.au/gcc