



THE QBA BULLETIN

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

August-October Volume 48 No

3

From the President



Richard Ward

It makes sense to reflect on the history of our game in Australia in order to realistically judge the medium or longer-term impact of the COVID epidemic. Useful sources include Cathy Chua's History of Australian Bridge and, closer to home, Colin Master's Mindgames, and Keith Ogborn's The Early Days of Queensland Bridge which covers the period 1890 to the mid-1950s.

ABF Historian, Keith Ogborn, has recently published a 50-page article, Australians and Bridge – A Short History, which has two aims:

- to give a long-term view of some of the issues relevant to the current

debate on the future of bridge; and

- to start a conversation about the recent history of bridge

For each decade, he begins with a subjective and rough graphical impression of whether an imaginary person in charge of promoting bridge would be happier or more depressed as the decade progressed. For example, this graph is for the period 2010-2019 See below:

which has the heading "A Golden Age?"

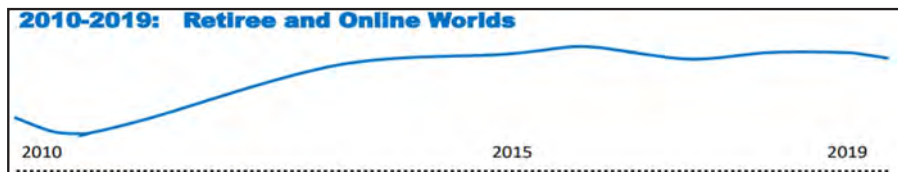
The count of players in the masterpoint system peaked at over 36,000 at times between 2014 and 2016. It was undoubtedly, the highest number of players in formal bridge clubs in the history of the game in Australia; and possibly the highest ever number of Australians playing a reasonable standard of contract. The number of players had dropped a little by the end of the decade but was still at historically near-record levels.

The final chapter "Postscript: COVID

and Beyond 2019-2022" draws a number of noteworthy conclusions and is printed in its entirety later in this Bulletin. Here is a small sample:

- the overall impact of COVID on club bridge has unsurprisingly been negative. The number of affiliated players dropped by around 5% in each year of the pandemic;
- one of the most interesting things about the response to the pandemic was the progress made in bringing together the worlds of club and online bridge;
- three reasonably distinct challenges have emerged if the game is to be kept alive: maintaining the current demographic of retired or nearly-retired players; attracting more players of workforce age; and, attracting young people who may have the potential to compete at the highest level in the future;
- the main immediate challenge for clubs here seems to be the continuing need for urgent and ongoing beginners' lessons and recruitment of new members;
- with the exception of the 1960's and 1970's generation, bridge seems never to have attracted young people on any scale. Rather than try to build up youth participation and hope something emerges, the tactic has often been to identify people with no experience but with the right potential and invest heavily in them;
- Online bridge is clearly not the only answer and can add to problems. particularly with regard to poor behaviour which is unsupervised and would be unacceptable in any physical bridge club. The behaviour problem is a reminder that the issue for the future is not just about the survival of the game

2010-2019: Retiree and Online Worlds



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but what the bridge community looks like;

- Current conditions do not appear favourable but the history does also give some sort of comfort. Peaks and troughs have been normal. There was no golden age with which the current system has to compare itself. Social and economic conditions are major drivers but the actions of individuals at local levels make a difference.

He concludes on this positive note. 'Maintaining bridge through the next few years, assuming the continuation of current trends, will probably take a bit of effort and ingenuity but the game's innate qualities and survival to date probably make the case for avoiding too much pessimism.'

Keith makes it clear that the views expressed in his paper are his alone and have not been endorsed by any other body. ■

Reg Busch 1928-2022



QBA President 1973-1979 and
1983-1986

QBA Life Member

Tribute

My life was first impacted by Reg Busch when, as a Townsville teenager new to bridge, I became a beneficiary of the generosity and far-sightedness of the Queensland

Bridge Association. Reg and Bing Brown were the driving force behind the establishment of the zonal system of subsidies to ensure that players from outside Brisbane had access to some of the prestige Qld championship events. With generous travel support for zones and also youth players which continues to this day, I have always been indebted to the QBA and its hard-working volunteers.

When we moved from Townsville to Brisbane in 1978 I was warmly welcomed by a number of players one of whom was Reg Busch who asked me to play in the Open Trials with him. I was delighted to be considered as this would be my first attempt at making a Queensland team. As we both had an Acol background, we found that our styles were compatible in both bidding and defence. Reg was keen on the Ogust convention – a forcing response of 2NT after partner opens a weak two bid. I recall his mnemonic for remembering the responses – “min/min – min/max – max/min – max/max for trump quality/strength which I have never forgotten. He also had much to teach me about expert play and team's tactics. To my great surprise, but not his apparently, we made the team. It could not have been a better introduction to the national bridge scene for me and the Brisbane Australian National Championships were most enjoyable. I think our team came a respectable 3rd or 4th.

The 80s and 90s saw the beginnings of computer

scoring program and Reg and Joan McPheat were leading the way with their programs which proved to be the genesis of Compscore – the most popular program in use throughout Australia. In those years I was directing many congresses and so I was keen to be a ‘crash-test dummy’ for their software. Reg and Joan's greatest challenge was to provide scoring that was Richard-proof. It seemed that, whenever it was even remotely possible to misinterpret the instructions, I would find it and be subject to their pitying expressions.

Of course the available technology in those decades was very basic when compared today's world of Bridgemates and Compscore 3. The biggest and best event in the world, the International Gold Coast Congress was scored by a team of directors who would enter the data from their section, save it to a floppy disk, and then walk it to Joan who would download and combine into the whole field. Whilst Joan's anxiety levels throughout this process were understandably through the roof, Reg's constantly calm demeanour always helped to keep the show on the road.

Reg was a top-level, highly regarded director. His knowledge of the laws and their interpretations in some thorny situations, was outstanding. He was the first editor of the Australian Bridge Directors Associations' Bulletin. This developed into a professionally accurate publication and became a source of reference for directors internationally.

I have always regarded Reg as a loyal friend and valuable mentor. His renowned contributions to bridge over many decades as a player, director and administrator stand as a monument to a good and generous man who has led a remarkably productive life of which his family and friends must be very proud.

Vale Reg. Rest in Peace.

Richard Ward
October 5 2022

An obituary is available on the QBA website [HERE](#)

Queensland Graded Pairs



Richard Wallis

THE Qld Graded Pairs for 2022 was held at QCBC on Saturday September 3, attended by 30, 18 and 12 pairs in the 3 grades. This year I played with Anne Lampert and we had a great day out, winning every match to win comfortably. We made some good bids and plays, but we were also lucky a few times on our not-so-good bids and plays.

Second in the A Grade were Michael Gearing and Ben Leung, and third were Charlie Lu and Watson Zhou, both pairs having a slow start but racing to the finish line. We were maybe lucky again that there were only seven matches. B Grade winners were Martin Wu and Eugene Pereira, and the C Grade was won by Lilly Jia and David Yang.

QCBC were great hosts and the kitchen was kept busy to keep up with the demand. I believe that some of the food for the day was provided by some players, but QCBC provided fruit and sweet snacks at lunch and to finish up. I like potato crisps, and try to limit my

intake for dietary reasons, but each time I play at QCBC I succumb to the temptation.

M 1	♠ 10		
Bd 5	♥ 98		
Dlr N	♦ KJ842		
Vul NS	♣ KQ764		
♠ K876		♠ AQJ2	
♥ J64		♥ AKQ753	
♦ AQ107		♦ 3	
♣ 103		♣ 95	
	♠ 9543		
	♥ 102		
	♦ 965		
	♣ AJ82		

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

After Anne opened 1♥ I intended to support her with my next bid, but when she jumped to 3S, I decided that the 4-4 fit may make a few more tricks with potential discards available on the hearts, and also protect the diamonds from attack.

However, the discards never happened to any advantage as North has a safe lead of the ♠K and I lost the first two tricks to finish up with +450.

I thought that maybe hearts would not have attracted a club lead and possibly 12 tricks were available, but 11 tricks is the limit and any attempt to make 12 via the diamond finesse would lead to only 10 tricks.

This is what appeared to happen at another table where East only made 10 tricks. One pair did not get to game, and two pairs went one off in slam, so we gained a lucky 64%.

M 1	♠ KQ764		
Bd 6	♥ 1083		
Dlr E	♦ 8		
Vul EW	♣ AJ108		
♠ A108		♠ 9532	
♥ QJ95		♥ 72	
♦ A943		♦ KQ5	
♣ 65		♣ K943	
	♠ J		
	♥ AK64		
	♦ J10762		
	♣ Q72		

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

This board illustrated a principal that I use in deciding whether to open with a minimum hand. What is my next bid going to be, and can partner make it difficult for me?

If South opens 1♦ with that bad 11-count, they have nowhere to go when partner bids the expected 1♠ response. Even a 2♣ response would force a 3♣ raise or rebidding a motley 5-card suit as the hand is too weak to reverse into 2♥ unless this is seen to be showing a heart stopper for NT and denying a spade stopper.

Holding five hearts and four diamonds it would be easy to open 1♥ and rebid 2♦, but five hearts and four clubs would be foiled by a 2♣ response from partner and the singleton ♠J is never pulling its full weight anyway.

I led the ♥Q, and with the club finesse failing 2NT was always going one down after I ducked the ♠J. Declarer was lucky to get out for only one off, but 75% for us.



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M 2	♠ K1032
Bd 10	♥ 1054
Dlr E	♦ 1092
Vul Both	♣ 765
♠ 4	♠ A95
♥ AJ762	♥ Q98
♦ 8	♦ KQJ543
♣ KJ9842	♣ A
	♠ QJ876
	♥ K3
	♦ A76
	♣ Q103

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

This hand was difficult to bid, as I am not strong enough to bid 2♥ over the 1♠ overcall, but luckily I could use a negative double to get both suits into the auction.

I was not certain, but I thought that Anne's double of 2♠ was showing three hearts, hence the 3♥ bid, raised to game by Anne.

As it happens, if I take it as a penalty double and pass, that would have been three off for a complete top. One NS pair played in 3♠, undoubled for -300 and a near top to them.

I won the spade lead on the table and immediately finessed the ♥J, and when it won I led a diamond up to dummy, losing to the ♦A. It was then a simple matter to ruff the spade return and cash the ♥A, and when the ♥K dropped and the diamonds were 3-3, 12 tricks were the result for +680.

Surprisingly, this turned out to be an equal top and a 95% score.

This was another lucky one for us. (See next column)

Once I had shown my 6-card suit with 2♥, Anne invited game and I accepted. West led the ♣3 and I played the ♣J from dummy and the ♣7 under the ♣Q from East.

This did not fool East for a second as they knew that the opening lead was a singleton as soon as they saw dummy, so they led back the ♣9 for West to ruff, maybe intending that to ask for a diamond return, but if so, West missed the inference and returned the ♣3.

M 3	♠ J
Bd 22	♥ J2
Dlr E	♦ KQ103
Vul EW	♣ KJ8542
♠ Q1053	♠ 987642
♥ Q83	♥ 107
♦ 87642	♦ A
♣ 3	♣ AQ109
	♠ AK
	♥ AK9654
	♦ J95
	♣ 76

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

My top trumps then cleared the suit and I was able to give up a diamond for 10 tricks and an 89% score.

On a diamond return another club promotes the ♥Q into the setting trick and if declarer is not careful, East will get a diamond ruff for two off.

Much easier for East to cash the ♦A before leading another club, then a diamond return gets ruffed by East and a third club promotes the ♥Q for two off.

M 4	♠ 953
Bd 27	♥ KQ983
Dlr S	♦ KQ6
Vul None	♣ Q4
♠ AJ82	♠ KQ7
♥ 75	♥ AJ106
♦ 82	♦ J974
♣ J10862	♣ A9
	♠ 1064
	♥ 42
	♦ A1053
	♣ K753

W	N	E	S
P	1H	1NT	All pass

This board was against the current leaders, having been brought in at the last minute to replace a non-attender, and in spite of the 82% score for this board, the final result of 54% for the match was our lowest score for the day, but it got us to the top for the first time.

South led the ♥4 against a normal 1NT contract, and Anne won the ♥A

to cash the top spades in hand before leading the ♠7 to the table to cash the ♠J at trick 5, throwing the ♣9.

On the 4th spade, North threw the ♥3 and South the ♦3 and then Anne led the ♥5 off the table. North made the mistake of rising with the ♥K to lead the ♦K, but after NS cashed three diamonds. Anne had the rest for +150.

The results varied but we were only entitled to 8 tricks, though one pair bid and made 3NT and another made 10 tricks, while at one table North made eight tricks in NT.

M 5	♠ AK9832
Bd 6	♥ 9
Dlr E	♦ J93
Vul EW	♣ J94
♠ 7654	♠ —
♥ KQ82	♥ AJ10654
♦ 764	♦ Q5
♣ A8	♣ KQ653
	♠ QJ10
	♥ 73
	♦ AK1082
	♣ 1072

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

I refrained from bidding my modest diamond suit over the 1♥ opening bid, but when East raised to 4♥ over Anne's 2♠ overcall, I had no hesitation in bidding 4♠. I probably would have bid 4♠ even at equal vulnerability but at favourable, it was no contest.

West's spade holding indicated that his partner was short in spades, and his hearts were very good, so maybe he should have taken the push to 5♥.

East led the ♣K, which held the trick so East then led the ♣5 to West who returned a heart for East to cash the ♣Q, but that was it for the defence as the diamond finesse was on, and the ♦Q falls even if the finesse is not taken, so that was -100 and a 64% score.

Two Easts got to slam, doubled, and with the obvious consequences since the ♦A is a natural lead from South, but two Easts made 13 tricks after South led an ill-judged ♠Q instead of the ♦A to look at dummy.

M 6	♠ AJ107653
Bd 14	♥ J7
Dlr E	♦ KQJ
Vul None	♣ J
♠ 9	♠ KQ8
♥ A654	♥ 32
♦ 974	♦ A53
♣ 106432	♣ AQ975
	♠ 42
	♥ KQ1098
	♦ 10862
	♣ K8

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

This was an exercise in restraint, as West prudently passed over my 1♥ overcall, and again after his partner rebid 2♣, but could confidently bid 3♣ over the 2♠ rebid by Anne. The two passes probably influence his partner in passing 3♠.

You would have thought that East's trump holding would preclude looking for a ruff, but at six tables in a spade contract, the opening lead was the ♥3!

West won the ♥A and returned a heart and Anne overtook the ♥J in dummy to lead another heart and pitch the ♠J!

East ruffed, but now did not get a club trick and we scored up +140 for an 89% score when Anne ruffed the ♣A and cashed the ♠A.

One NS pair got severely punished for bidding 4S, doubled for -300, but

other than that, the best EW score was +130 in 4♣.

M 7	♠ J4
Bd 21	♥ AK105
Dlr N	♦ A82
Vul NS	♣ K763
♠ K	♠ A1076
♥ 6	♥ J974
♦ K1043	♦ Q9765
♣ AJ109852	♣ —
	♠ Q98532
	♥ Q832
	♦ J
	♣ Q4

W	N	E	S
5C	1NT	P	2H
	X	All pass	

This was an adventure in itself, and we did not perform well, but when your luck is in, you can still succeed.

After Anne opened with a 15-17 1NT, I decided to go quietly and accept our minimum 6-2 fit, so the plan was to transfer to spades and pass.

West did not know of my plans of course and bid a direct 5♣ over my 2♥ transfer bid, which Anne of course, doubled.

Anne led the ♠J, won by declarer who immediately led a diamond towards dummy and Anne rose with the ♦A while I played the ♦J. Not knowing about declarer's diamond holding, Anne thought my ♦J was suggesting a heart switch.

At least we got three tricks for one off and +100, which was a 57% score! ■

Novice Teams of Three

by Richard Wallis

THE 0-50 MP Teams of Three was held at QCBC on Saturday July 23. The 20 teams were divided by the MP totals of the three players into three sections, A with eight teams, and six teams in each of B and C. Section A played 3/9-board matches, while sections B and C played 3/8-board matches.

Section A was won by Fox (Richard Fox, Helen Klieve, Graeme King and Mike Martin), section B by Murtagh (Ross Murtagh, Zorita Sipka, Valarie Barakin and Simon Byrne), and section C by Clark (Robyn Clark, Jill McTaggart, Gustavo Sanchez and Nari Blackett).

This year I played with Phil Hay, Camielle Moran and George Collings, and we snuck into second place in section B with a win in our last match, after a loss and a draw in the first two. It is meant to be a fun day, with the emphasis on learning, and all I saw seemed to enjoy themselves, even when adversity struck.

Each member of the team played one match with the captain (who always sat North), and that was probably the time for most nerves, both for the novice and the captain, as they did not want to let the other down.

M 1	♠ K1098
Bd 1	♥ 72
Dlr N	♦ Q832
Vul None	♣ K82
♠ AJ2	♠ 63
♥ 864	♥ KQ109
♦ AJ107	♦ K9654
♣ J53	♣ 97
	♠ Q754
	♥ AJ53
	♦ —
	♣ AQ1064

W	N	E	S
X	P	P	1C
All pass	1S	P	4S!

On this board I made two mistakes! Firstly I placed the board on the table

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the wrong way around, and when my partner made a free bid of 1♠ over the double by West, I placed too much pressure on him by jumping to game!

The opening lead was the ♥K, and declarer could have ducked this intending to finesse the ♥J next, but of course he could not be certain in the novices that East had the ♥Q, so he played safe by winning in dummy, but what next?

Since the club suit looks like a source of tricks, the ♠Q is best, intending to play off two rounds before playing on clubs, but declarer came to hand with the ♠K to ruff a diamond, and then led to the ♠K to ruff another diamond, but now West was able to cash two spades and cash diamonds to take it one off for -50.

At the other table the contract was only 3♠N, making 10 tricks for -170, and 6 IMPs away.

M 1	♠ AQ10874
Bd 5	♥ 2
Dlr N	♦ Q53
Vul NS	♣ 743
♠ 963	♠ K2
♥ A1098	♥ J7653
♦ J976	♦ K84
♣ 82	♣ AJ10
	♠ J5
	♥ KQ4
	♦ A102
	♣ KQ965

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

Sitting North I opened with a weak 2♠, and East did well to double rather than bid her motley heart suit. Holding the South hand, I have a policy of bidding 3♠ (not forcing) or 4S, to let the opponents guess, but partner, probably unsure, passed.

East got a pleasant surprise when their partner responded 3♥, but showed good restraint and passed. Now South bid 3♠, which prompted East to raise to game, not a good idea when West passed, but not punished when my partner did not take the push to 4♠ nor double 4♥!

This would have been a good time

to lead the ♠A to look at dummy, but I made the bad lead of the ♦3 giving up a trick in that suit. However declarer won the jack and played the ♥A instead of crossing to dummy and finessing, so still finished three off, but only +150.

At the other table the contract was 4♠N and East could not find the double-dummy defence of the ♠A, so -620 was 10 IMPs away.

M 2	♠ 1098
Bd 11	♥ A104
Dlr S	♦ KQ98
Vul None	♣ Q98
♠ Q743	♠ A
♥ J72	♥ KQ98
♦ 10754	♦ 2
♣ 105	♣ AKJ6432
	♠ KJ652
	♥ 653
	♦ AJ63
	♣ 7

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

After partner passed as dealer, almost any bid she makes is not forcing, so I made a tactical move by opening 1♣, to allow the most room.

This had the unexpected move of completely stifling East's bidding! He was not experienced enough to cope, so he doubled, and then bid 2♥ when the 1♠ response was passed around to him!

This was not a success after partner led the ♣7 and I won the ♥A and returned a club which partner ruffed. Declarer lost control after repeated diamond leads thereafter and finished two off for +100.

At the other table our team-mate also did not know what to do when there were three passes to him, but he made a good improvisation.

He did not want to open 1♠ in case it was passed out and he knew he was not strong enough to open 2♠, so he opened 3♠! Normally this would be a pre-emptive bid, but there is no logic to opening with a weak bid when there were three passes, so here modestly strong.

West would have passed 1♠, but 10 tricks was +130 and 6 IMPs.

M 3	♠ 64
Bd 20	♥ —
Dlr W	♦ KQJ8652
Vul Both	♣ A963
♠ K8753	♠ QJ102
♥ Q76	♥ AKJ82
♦ A103	♦ 74
♣ QJ	♣ 54
	♠ A9
	♥ 109543
	♦ 9
	♣ K10872

W	N	E	S
1S	5D!	All pass	

I had no idea as to whose contract it was, but I decided to let EW guess by jumping to 5♦ over the opening bid of 1♠ on my right.

East was not pushed into bidding 5♠ or doubling, and led the ♥A which I ruffed to lead the ♦K.

West won the ♦A at trick 2 and led the ♣Q, which gave me cause for mild concern after I had drawn trumps,

Was the ♣Q a singleton looking for a ruff, or were his spades too weak to lead away from?

After playing a few extra trumps to get some discards, I eventually concluded that West had a very minimum hand and likely two clubs so made 12 tricks for +620.

At the other table EW were very restrained and made 9 tricks in 3SW, so another +140 and 13 IMPs.

M 3	♠ KQ85
Bd 22	♥ 6
Dlr E	♦ AKQ4
Vul EW	♣ AKJ9
♠ A72	♠ 10
♥ AKQJ	♥ 87543
♦ 976	♦ J103
♣ 1065	♣ Q872
	♠ J9643
	♥ 1092
	♦ 852
	♣ 43

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

My partner was probably thinking about the next board, hoping for a

better hand, but dutifully bid 1♠ in response to my take-out double, and suddenly he was in 4♠!

West led the ♥A and switched to a club, although another heart may have been the best defence if declarer only had four spades.

However, George was in control, and with spades breaking 3-1 and diamonds 3-3 had no trouble making 11 tricks for +450.

At the other table NS were also in the spade game, making 11 tricks as well, but here it was North who was declarer? Still just another flat board. ■

Ethical Dilemmas



Matthew
McManus

Part 3 - The "Nasty" Director

TO wrap up "Ethical Dilemmas", I will look at a hand from a recent congress, where the various aspects I previously mentioned in the first two articles all came into play.

But first a bidding problem.... You are West, the dealer, and open 1♥ with

♠ 952
♥ KQJ985
♦ Q8
♣ K2

NS are silent and the bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
1H	P	2S	P
3S	P	4H	P
?			

You have agreed with your partner that 2♠ is natural and strong (slam-going) and that 4♥ is a cue bid, showing first round heart control, but denying first round control in clubs and diamonds. What do you bid now?

Unlike in magazine bidding forums where panels of experts give their views on the best call, there is a definite right decision on this hand. It is to bid 4♠. Even though your hand

will probably produce lots of side suit tricks in hearts and slam looks a real possibility, your partner's 4♥ bid is very telling. You are missing the aces in both clubs and diamonds, so there is no point in going past the safe contract of 4♠.

When this hand came up at the table the auction was as above. After East bid 2♠, South asked West what it meant and was given the answer, "natural, strong – looking for slam". South passed, West raised to 3♠, North passed.

Now, before bidding 4♥, without anyone asking East said, "My partner told you the wrong thing. 2♠ was a Bergen raise, showing a limit raise with three hearts." West said, "Oh, that's right." NS called the director. Those of you who remember Part 1 will realise that East has done the wrong thing. When partner has given a wrong explanation, the correct time to inform the opponents is at the end of the auction if you are going to be declarer or dummy, or at the end of the play if you are a defender. So, my first job as Director was to remind East of when he should have mentioned partner's wrong explanation.

Those of you who remember Part 2 will realise that there is another problem with East's comment. It passed information to West which West was not entitled to use in coming to a decision on what to bid next. A little confused, West asked me what she had to do. I told her that she had to continue as if her partner had a good hand with spades – at the very least bid 4♠ if she had any support, which must be the case since she had raised to 3♠. This did not go down well.

West: "But he's got hearts and he might not have any spades. Anyway I had worked out that it was a Bergen raise."

Me: "Under the Laws it is assumed that you were woken up by your partner's comment and so you must continue to bid as if he has got a good hand with spades."

West: "That's just not fair", followed by a very reluctant and disgruntled 4♠ on the bidding pad and a disgusted look in my direction.

So, 4♠ became the final contract. It wasn't such a disaster – East just happened to have four spades in his hand. So, instead of playing in a 6-3 heart fit, they played in a more challenging 4-3 fit.

Here is the full hand.

Dlr W	♠ Q743	♠ KJ108
	♥ 76	♥ 1043
	♦ 10432	♦ KJ6
	♣ Q107	♣ AJ3
♠ 952		
♥ KQJ985	N	
♦ Q8	W	
♣ K2	E	
	S	
	♠ A6	
	♥ A2	
	♦ A975	
	♣ 98654	

You can play out the hand in both 4♥ and 4♠, and Deep Finesse will confirm it. In hearts, EW make 10 tricks. In spades, EW also make 10 tricks! Apart from possibly imposing a penalty on East for his unwarranted and untimely comment, there was no further appropriate director's adjustment to be made. Normally, the cards will be enough to penalise infractions such as this, but on this particular day, justice was "out to lunch".

Manager's Travels



Kim
Ellaway

DALBY celebrated its 60th birthday at a reception at their clubrooms on July 29. Ray and I were given an early invitation so were very keen to accept. We drove out Thursday afternoon and arrived before dark which was even nicer. We went to the pub for dinner and all I can say is wow - great country food. The following morning off to McDonalds for a coffee and then we found the local fruit and vegetable shop so stocked up from here and then off to bridge.

Apart from being supplied lunch, we got a 6 x 8 board Swiss with director

Chris Snook, and I won a prize in the raffle for only \$10.00. It was a fabulous day and everyone was fed with chicken pie made by Margaret Keating and a sweet curry beef dish made by Rita Groom, and then of course homemade goodies were served throughout the day.

My greatest pleasure was to present to Rita Groom and my good friend Di Wenham with Life Membership of the Dalby Bridge Club. They were both very emotional but, after reading what they do and did for the club, they were both worthy recipients. Thank you to the president Rebecca Knight for the invitation; it was a lovely day even if our bridge did not shine.



Rita Groom



Di Wenham

A three-way social day was held in Roma on Saturday 23rd September. Dalby players who attended enjoyed friendly competition and great hospitality. Three clubs participated, Dalby, Roma and Kenmore. Such was the success of the weekend that it was proposed to maintain this competition with the three clubs sharing the hosting duties as an annual event.

Northern Territory Gold

This is my absolutely favourite congress - I don't know why as the accommodation and airfares are expensive and it is very hot but I absolutely love it. We have teamed up with Jane Rasmussen and her partner of choice for the past eight events I believe. This year she was teaming up with Tim Haubrick who is an ex-Aussie and was over from England to attend Jane's youngest daughter's wedding. I remember meeting Tim years ago but Ray had no recollection. We were going to be sharing a unit so we needed to get along and that we did. When we go to England next year, Tim will be on our visiting list for bridge and soccer. The military exercise Pitch Black was on whilst we were in Darwin and they performed on a daily basis with their fabulous flying exercises and we even got delayed 40 minutes sitting on the tarmac whilst they all landed back on the airstrip. Apparently the military own the airfield so have priority.

Prizes for Queensland were sparse but Ray and I managed to come second in the Pairs, sixth in the Teams and top 11 in the Swiss pairs. Jim Wallis came third behind us in the Pairs. The Martin team, consisting of Jim and Lyn Martin, Alison Dawson and David Christian came second in the Teams and as well Jim and Lyn Martin came eighth in the Swiss Pairs.

This event is usually well supported by Brisbanites. However, Darwin changed the dates after the Brisbane GNOT Final (40+ teams) had had many qualifying dates that could not be changed so they could not attend. Alice Springs NT Gold in 2023 is on September 6 - 10. We have already got our team organised and if you book in January at the venue there is a 20% discount. I can give you more information if you wish.

The format of the event is three sessions of matchpoint pairs with two qualifying and one final. However, all finalists except 14th having a carryover. We were lucky to have a decent carryover and all the experts said that as long as we played consistently we had a good chance of winning. The only thing that could spoil it was a 70% round. Phil Gue

and George Kozakos had 73% in their final round snatching first place. Congratulations to them.

Dir E	♠ K10972
Vul Both	♥ Q9864
	♦ 8
	♣ 53
♠ QJ853	♠ A6
♥ A102	♥ KJ
♦ AJ	♦ KQ642
♣ AQ10	♣ 9862
	♠ 4
	♥ 753
	♦ 109753
	♣ KJ74

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

There were three pairs in 6NT, and Ray was the only person who was in it making. In fact only seven pairs made. Ray played it well but needed to attack clubs early.

The ♥6 was led which he took with the jack and immediately finessed the ♣10, cashed the ♦A J, played the ♠Q which was covered, then cashed the ♥K, the ♦K and ♦Q, then finessed the clubs the second time giving 12 tricks. I don't think I even said, 'Well played' as it looked easy at the time, but others obviously thought not.



*Ray and Kim Ellaway
2nd Matchpoint Pair Final*

Noosa

So far in 2022 Noosa Bridge Club have had two charity days - Katie Rose Cottage on May 6 where we raised \$2,143 and on August 3 we managed to raise \$2,016 for VIEW (Voice, Interests and Education for Women).

Dlr N	♠ KQ7		
Vul NS	♥ A92		
	♦ KJ52		
	♣ A103		
♠ 108632		♠ AJ54	
♥ Q5		♥ 43	
♦ —		♦ 974	
♣ QJ9752		♣ K864	
	♠ 9		
	♥ KJ10876		
	♦ AQ10863		
	♣ —		

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

In fact this was the very last board. Only a handful of pairs bid the 6♥ and even fewer played it from South as in most cases North opened a strong 1NT and then transferred. Playing Precision, Ray opened 1♣ and there was no stopping me. The lead came from poor West who had no clue from East as to what to lead. Fortunately my West led the ♣Q instead of the winning spade so I made 13. Those Norths playing it got the ♠A lead and a diamond switch when West showed East what to switch to.

Dlr N	♠ K863		
Vul Both	♥ Q		
	♦ KQJ53		
	♣ J105		
♠ —		♠ AQJ1042	
♥ A976532		♥ K8	
♦ 2		♦ 874	
♣ Q9842		♣ A6	
	♠ 975		
	♥ J104		
	♦ A1096		
	♣ K73		

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

Sitting West most partnerships would struggle with this hand. Somehow we need to stop in 4H but I failed the test. If you are wanting to go to a fabulous congress, consider going to the NT Gold in either Darwin or Alice Springs - they are both great events ■

Queensland Teams of Three



Terry Strong

Dlr N	♠ AKQ1065		
Vul None	♥ J853		
	♦ K		
	♣ 105		
♠ J		♠ 743	
♥ 109742		♥ Q6	
♦ 10963		♦ 742	
♣ 942		♣ AQ876	
	♠ 982		
	♥ AK		
	♦ AQJ85		
	♣ KJ3		

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

¹4th suit forcing

²Showing six spades

³Roman Key Card Blackwood

⁴Two keycards plus the ♠Q

We were the only pair to find slam in our section. We found it after a very descriptive bidding sequence which utilised the convention Roman Key Card Blackwood.

When my partner showed six spades and two key cards plus the ♠Q, I could count 12 tricks on virtually any hand. I needed to know about the 6th spade which guaranteed an extra trick. By using RKCB I knew we had all the spade tricks. Without the ♠Q most slams would fail being off an ace.

I decided to bid 6NT to protect the ♠K. The only way I could possibly see slam going off is if the ♠AQ was sitting over my ♠K. By playing the hand from the South position I protected against potentially losing two club tricks.

In the end we picked up 11 IMPs. Many pairs did not show six spades and some of the pairs did not play

RKCB and they were left guessing who held the ♠Q.

The hand shows how good bidding can allow a team to bid a competitive slam without having to guess.

Dlr N	♠ AJ10864		
Vul Both	♥ K75		
	♦ A7		
	♣ AK		
♠ Q5		♠ 9	
♥ AQ93		♥ J86	
♦ Q9632		♦ KJ10854	
♣ J10		♣ Q52	
	♠ K732		
	♥ 1042		
	♦ —		
	♣ 987643		

This is an interesting board which resulted in many different contracts and many IMPs being gained or lost depending on the bidding. Some people played in a spade part score and others played in game. Some pairs sacrificed in 5♦. Those who were doubled lost imps and those who were undoubled usually picked up IMPs.

How the results ended up was largely determined by how South evaluated their hand when partner opened 1♠.

As South I jumped to 4♠ with my paltry hand. This is not a bid for the faint-hearted. Despite few points the hand has a lot of playing strength. Four trumps with a void will secure several tricks as partner can trump in the short hand. Ruffing in the short hand is effectively gaining tricks for free.

Additionally South has a long second suit which might be able to provide tricks.

The reason for a jump to 4♠ is that it shows a weak hand with lots of playing strength. If opener has a good hand, then 4♠ will easily make. But if opener has a minimum hand then there is a good chance that the opposition can make a game in hearts or diamonds. By bidding 4♠ straight up, it becomes very hard for the opponents to bid game if they have the points. So by jumping to 4♠, you will probably come out ahead on most hands, no matter which side has the balance of points.

My opponent passed 1♠ and we scored a 10 IMP pick up by bidding game. ■



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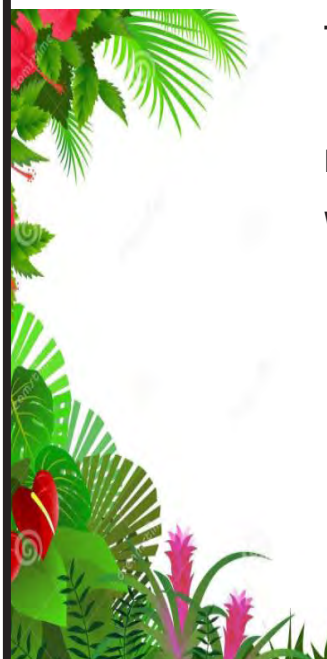
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TBIB Queensland Open Teams



Peter
Evans

THIS year's event attracted a large field of 46 teams to QCBC over the weekend of October 8-9. Congratulations to Kim and Ray Ellaway, Toni Barton and all their helpers for running an excellent event and thanks to Jan Peach and Alan Gibson for their (as always) able direction.

The one thing that stood out about the hands for me was the frustration the slams caused - bidding slams that weren't there, misplaying slams which could have been made and not bidding slams that were there.

Dlr N	♠ 98653		
Vul NS	♥ K8		
	♦ 83		
	♣ 10987		
♠ J10		♠ AQ	
♥ AQ7654		♥ 2	
♦ 2		♦ AK1065	
♣ KJ54		♣ AQ632	
	♠ K742		
	♥ J1093		
	♦ QJ974		
	♣ —		

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

¹ Minorwood

² 3 or 0 keycards (obviously 3)

³ Where's the trump queen?

⁴ I have the trump queen and the ♦K

The ♦Q was led.

This is actually a very simple hand, but, except for one person, everyone in 6♣, including me, managed to go down. The winning line is to set up the heart suit in dummy:

1) ♥A and ruff a heart noting the ♥K's fall;

2) Go back to dummy via the ♣K getting the bad news about the 4-0 club break,

3) Ruff a low heart high with the ♣Q, cash the ♣A and go back to dummy with the ♣J

4) Lead hearts from the top. North will get a trump at some stage but East can pitch the spade loser on the ♦K and get back to dummy's hearts via the final club trump.

With the 4-0 trump break, it does need the ♥K to fall either doubleton or in rounds. With lesser trump breaks, you can deal with taking four rounds to catch the ♥K (or one adverse overruff).

Dlr E	♠ K1053		
Vul Both	♥ K932		
	♦ 754		
	♣ 106		
♠ 6		♠ AQJ8742	
♥ 1086		♥ AQJ	
♦ J10863		♦ AK9	
♣ AKJ7		♣ —	
	♠ 9		
	♥ 754		
	♦ Q2		
	♣ Q985432		

Most of the field played in a reasonable looking 6♠ going off due to the bad spade break. Two pairs found the superior 6♦ contract and

got a very nice diamond lead from North pointing out that the ♦Q was offside.

Dlr W	♠ 9642		
Vul None	♥ 10954		
	♦ J8		
	♣ 1097		
♠ 875		♠ QJ3	
♥ Q8		♥ 73	
♦ 1073		♦ 9542	
♣ KJ854		♣ A632	
	♠ AK10		
	♥ AKJ62		
	♦ AKQ6		
	♣ Q		

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

¹ Very minimal

I think this bidding is reasonable. Those who used Roman Keycard Blackwood should have discovered that they were short one keycard and the trump queen - not a good deficit on which to bid a small slam. Five out of 46 pairs bid on anyway and were rewarded with a falling trump queen and the ♦J in dummy which allowed declarers to throw spade losers away on diamonds and make their contract.



Team Champions: Martin Qin, Charlie Lu, Zhuqiang Tian and Watson Zhou

Dlr W	♠ AQ10643		
Vul NS	♥ Q1093		
	♦ Q		
	♣ 86		
♠ K		♠ —	
♥ A742		♥ K5	
♦ A974		♦ K86532	
♣ Q942		♣ K10753	
	♠ J98752		
	♥ J86		
	♦ J10		
	♣ AJ		

W	N	E	S
1D	1S	?	

What do you do with the East hand? The 5-loser count opposite an opening hand suggests slam is on, but you need partner with the right stuff. A spade splinter seems appropriate, but partner wouldn't be overly enthused unless you can show a void splinter. Nine out of 46 found the small slam, some just bashing 6♦ and I suspect others being pushed there by unwary 5-level spade bids from NS. It isn't a great slam given you have to locate the ♣J but the club split is benign.

Dlr E	♠ 5		
Vul Both	♥ Q1064		
	♦ 1096		
	♣ KQJ72		
♠ KQJ1086		♠ A9743	
♥ J7		♥ A852	
♦ K873		♦ Q	
♣ 8		♣ A96	
	♠ 2		
	♥ K93		
	♦ AJ542		
	♣ 10543		

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

¹ Six loser splinter for spades

² What's the shortage?

³ Clubs

⁴ 1 or 4 keycards

⁵ Where's the ♠Q?

⁶ I have the ♠Q and the ♦K but deny the ♥K

Partner had a difficult bid opposite my 1♠ opening. He had a 6-loser

hand, but the values are rubbery with the lack of aces. A possible alternative was to downgrade his hand and call it a 7-loser splinter with 4♣ in our system. The 3NT bid got me excited as it looked like a shortage was opposite the ♥A or ♠A and thus taking care of some losers. Roman Keycard Blackwood revealed a missing keycard, but the trump queen was present with the ♦K. Unfortunately, in going past 5♥ partner showed the lack of the ♥K and I knew we had a second round control problem in hearts. The slam was hopeless with ♦A and a heart having to be lost.

Moving away from slams:

Dlr E	♠ 93		
Vul Both	♥ 754		
	♦ KQ92		
	♣ K963		
♠ J108		♠ Q762	
♥ QJ1093		♥ 86	
♦ —		♦ J1073	
♣ AQJ108		♣ 754	
	♠ AK54		
	♥ AK2		
	♦ A8654		
	♣ 2		

A well bid and played 5♦ by our teammate Therese Tully. Only 11 out of 46 found and made the game. Winning the ♥Q lead with the ♥A, a small diamond to the ♦K reveals the bad break. A spade back to the ♠A and a low club forces out the ♣A and develops the ♣K for a heart discard.



Second: Therese Tully, Peter Evans, Steve Weil from TBIB - Teams sponsor, Richard Ward and Paul Hooykaas.

Two spades can now be ruffed in dummy and East only gets one diamond trick to go with the ♠A.

Dlr N	♠ 98		
Vul NS	♥ AQ108		
	♦ J654		
	♣ K86		
♠ J1076		♠ 2	
♥ 7432		♥ J96	
♦ 9		♦ AQ832	
♣ Q1042		♣ A975	
	♠ AKQ543		
	♥ K5		
	♦ K107		
	♣ J3		

A surprisingly large number of Souths made 4♠ on this hand, or 10 tricks or more in a spade contract despite what looks like a routine defence. Some Wests obviously didn't like leading the singleton ♦9 given they had a natural trump trick and must have thought a forcing defence of a club lead was more appropriate with the long trumps. However, singleton leads are good not only because of possible ruffs but because you are not leading away from a broken honour holding. And you could get more than one ruff.

When declarer's ♦7 falls under East's ♦A, the ♦9 must be a singleton given there are no lower diamonds and you don't lead ♦9 from K 10 9, K 9 or 10 9. The ♦2 return, asking for a club switch, is ruffed, club back to the ♣A and a second diamond ruff puts the contract down.

Dlr W	♠ AQ109
Vul Both	♥ K1052
	♦ 983
	♣ A2
♠ K7643	♠ J82
♥ 4	♥ AQ8763
♦ 652	♦ J7
♣ 9863	♣ K10
	♠ 5
	♥ J9
	♦ AKQ104
	♣ QJ754

W	N	E	S
P	1D	1H	2H ¹
P	2NT	P	5D
All pass			

¹ Invite or better in diamonds

A tricky bidding decision. Obviously a 3NT contract is much safer with the hearts and clubs well stopped. But you can understand Souths who didn't like the look of their spade and heart holdings.

The 5♦ contract is quite uncomfortable and many went down. You fear drawing the trumps as there might be two club losers to go with the ♥A, or there might be a bad trump break which imperils getting back to the clubs. You also fear not drawing the trumps as heart ruffs might be on.

From East, I got off to a less than stellar ♠2 lead. Partner's ♠K was taken by declarer's ace and the ♠Q played with a heart discard in dummy. Declarer then erred by ruffing the ♠10 in dummy which shortened his trumps and made drawing trumps dangerous if there were a bad break. Declarer now played the ♣A and another to my ♣K. With clubs running and trumps breaking well, I was forced to try the ♥A and another. Declarer, too uncomfortable to ruff with one of the ♦A K Q 10, discarded, and partner ruffed and gave me a club ruff with my ♦J for two down.

Dlr S	♠ A10865
Vul EW	♥ 107
	♦ Q864
	♣ KJ
♠ 42	♠ K97
♥ AQJ8542	♥ 63
♦ 9	♦ J105
♣ 543	♣ AQ1097
	♠ QJ3
	♥ K9
	♦ AK732
	♣ 862

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

No bridge player needs to be told that bridge, like life, can be monstrously unfair. Most NSs played this hand in some number of spades going off due to the unfortunate placement of the ♥K. One thoughtful South tried 3NT rather than 4♠ to protect his king and received the equally thoughtful ♠4 lead. Given the pre-empt and the quality of the opposition, it was probably prudent to take six tricks in the form of the ♠A and five diamonds and go home, but South desperately tried the spade finesse to make 9 or 10. After winning the ♠K, the defence took seven heart tricks followed by five club tricks giving the 3NT declarer precisely 0 tricks. Director Jan Peach's anomaly checker had a breakdown over the hand.

It wasn't the worst score as 11 tricks in hearts can be made EW on the lucky placement of the cards, but only one pair found the near to impossible to bid game.

At the end of the preliminary 9 x 9 board rounds, my team WARD (Richard Ward, Therese Tully, Paul Hooykaas, Peter Evans) was first, with TIAN second (Zhuqiang Tian, Martin Qin, Watson Zhou, Charlie Lu) and FOX third (Richard Fox, Andrew Woollons, Nikolas Moore, Rachel Langdon, Christine Newberry).

In the final WARD vs TIAN, TIAN had an easy and well-deserved victory 116.5 IMPS to 42 IMPS over 2 x 14 board matches.

First in the plate was FLETCHER (Trevor Fletcher, Dot Piddington, Edward Hahn, Jeff Conroy)

Second in the plate was HOLEWA (Max Holewa, Terrence Sheedy, Diane Holewa, Noel Bugeia) (Whitsunday Zone)

First in the consolation was RUTTIMAN (Maria Ruttiman, Ann McGhee, George Gibson, Lynne Layton) (Wide Bay Zone)

Best Team Under 300 was CLIFFORD (Kathleen Clifford, Wendy Cuthbert, Lilly Jia, Martin Wu)

Best Regional Teams were

First: CAMERON (Don Cameron, Ken Cupples, Jan Randall, Malcolm Allan) (Capricorn Zone)

Second: HOOPER (Pippa Hooper, Alexander Long, Tony Lusk, Andrew Hooper) (Far North Zone)



Second in B Section: Max Holewa, Diane Holewa, Noel Bugeia and Terrence Sheedy

Dlr S	♠ K93
Vul Both	♥ 65
	♦ Q10643
	♣ J95
♠ Q52	♠ 6
♥ K1073	♥ AQJ98
♦ 97	♦ KJ82
♣ A1042	♣ Q83
	♠ AJ10874
	♥ 42
	♦ A5
	♣ K76

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

The ♠3 was led. South won the ♠A and returned ♠J which was ruffed in the East hand.

I found this hand in the first 14-board match of the final just too hard, but my counterpart at the other table got the vulnerable game home. You clearly must lose the ♠A, the ♦A and a club, but somehow must avoid a further club and a further diamond. I thought the only hope of the side was finding both the ♦Q and ♠J in the right spot, or the ♦Q onside with a doubleton ♠K with South. I finessed the ♠10 and duly went one off.

There is a double dummy type solution if you assume trumps are 2-2 and the ♦10 is onside along with the ♦Q:

1) Go to the ♥K with a high heart, ruff the final spade high and lead a low heart to the ♥10 in dummy.

2) Now lead the ♦9 and finesse to South's ♦A leaving this position:

—	—
Q1064	
J95	
—	—
73	Q
7	KJ8
A1042	Q83
	1087
—	—
5	
K76	

A club or spade from South now allows a club loser to be disposed of and a later successful diamond finesse to be taken. On a diamond return, East wins over North's card

and finesses the ♠10. North is now endplayed and either finesses themselves in diamonds or clubs for the 10th trick.

Dlr S	♠ Q85
Vul None	♥ Q2
	♦ Q1094
	♣ 8532
♠ AJ6	♠ 10943
♥ K9743	♥ J865
♦ AK	♦ 8765
♣ KJ6	♣ 10
	♠ K72
	♥ A10
	♦ J32
	♣ AQ974

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

This was the solitary bright spot in the second match for us. Partner and I play double and bid a suit as a good 18 or better. Partner decided with 4-card trump support and a singleton that the hand had to be played in 4♥.

The opening lead was won by South's ♠A and a diamond returned. I won the ♦A, ruffed a club, led to the ♥K and then led another heart and was pleased to see the ♥Q and ♥A knock heads. South then erred

by returning a spade which I ran to North's queen. I later ruffed the ♠K in dummy and finessed the ♠J for 10 tricks. Our teammates didn't make the same mistake and set 4H by one at the other table.

Dlr W	♠ J986
Vul Both	♥ AQ9642
	♦ 9
	♣ J10
♠ Q	♠ AK7
♥ K	♥ J1083
♦ QJ874	♦ A32
♣ 987532	♣ KQ6
	♠ 105432
	♥ 75
	♦ K1065
	♣ A4

W	N	E	S
P	2H	2NT ¹	P
P?	P		

¹15-18

I should have been more robust on this hand, particularly given the vulnerability. I doubted the ♥K was worth much and wondered about the ♠Q as well, but could see the potential of either clubs or diamonds running. After squirming for a while, I passed. Partner had little difficulty in wrapping up 10 tricks but a vulnerable game had been missed. ■



C Section winners: Lynne Layton, George Gibson, Ann McGhee and Maria Ruttiman

Festival Pairs sponsored by Moore Australia



Jenny Hay and Ralph Parker –
Pairs Champions



Liz Zeller and Mearon Geldard –
Best Zonal Pair with Charles Page



Vesna and Voyko Markovic – 2nd
in Consolation B with Charles
Page of Moore Australia



Justin Mill and Ziggy Konig –
2nd overall



Sarah Strickland and Jan Malinas –
1st in the Plate

Brisbane Zone GNOT Final



Richard
Wallis

A COUPLE of months ago I was asked by Lilly Jia if I would like to play in their GNOT team at Toowong, and my partner would be Charlie Lu. Even though we had never played together, I had seen him in congresses and knew how good he was, so I jumped at the chance.

I was not a member of Toowong, but the other five were (Charlie Lu, Martin Wu, Eugene Pereira, Wendy Cuthbert and Lilly), or about to join, so that was okay.

Wendy did not play in the Final as she was overseas until the first day, and Charlie could not play on Saturday for family reasons, so for the first day it was Lilly and me with Martin and Eugene. In our first match we played one of the QCBC teams that finished 2nd, and the 21 IMP loss was our worst result, but we had wins in the other three matches on day 1 to be in a comfortable position at the half-way mark.

On day 2 Lilly and Wendy sat out, and Charlie and I played with Martin and Eugene. Our worst result was –5 IMPs against the team that finished on top. Three other wins saw us finish in a surprising 4th position, so we are playing in the National Final on 25-29 November. I had to look up the dates to book accommodation, and to my delight I found that the Final was no longer at Tweed Heads, but at QCBC!

M 1	♠ 6
Bd 3	♥ J2
Dlr S	♦ KQ109743
Vul EW	♣ J87
♠ A109842	♠ KJ73
♥ A1084	♥ Q3
♦ AJ	♦ 5
♣ 3	♣ Q109642
	♠ Q5
	♥ K9765
	♦ 862
	♣ AK5

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

Against one of the favoured teams I bided my time on the first round of bidding, but when West bid game, with no defence opposite a passed partner and at favourable vulnerability, it was clearly the time to show my 7-card suit.

West doubled when 5D was passed around to him, and East led the ♠3 to West. I ruffed the second spade to lead the ♦K, West winning with the ♦A and exiting with the ♦J.

I led the ♥J at trick 4, and East saw no reason to help me by covering, so West was in again with the ♥A. This is often quoted as "the power of the closed hand!"

I was now able to set up the hearts by ruffing for a club discard, and only one off meant –100. West's singleton club was great news as that meant that 5♠ was cold.

At the other table Martin and Eugene bid 5♠ over 5♦, so that was a handy 11 IMPs to us.

M 1	♠ KJ9652	
Bd 12	♥ 75	
Dlr W	♦ K72	
Vul NS	♣ J4	
♠ Q73		♠ 84
♥ K1093		♥ J842
♦ 963		♦ 85
♣ KQ6		♣ A10753
	♠ A10	
	♥ AQ6	
	♦ AQJ104	
	♣ 982	

W	N	E	S
P	2S!	P	4S
All pass			

This was a severe setback, as until this board we had been winning the match. It illustrates that sometimes too much information is a bad thing!

I opened as North with a weak-2 in spades and Lilly raised to game, to which East led the ♥2. Since I have rarely had a good result from leading away from a jack-high suit, I played him for the ♥K and called for the ♥Q – wrong!

West cashed the top clubs and exited with a club and I was in hand to draw trumps! I had already seen West turn up with a K and a KQ, but was a passed hand, so I thought East must have the ♠Q and finessed the ♠10 accordingly, making only nine tricks for –100!

At the other table, on a non-club lead, declarer wrapped up 12 tricks for –680 and 13 IMPs away.

It's not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It's the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones.

M 2	♠ KJ74	
Bd 18	♥ J9	
Dlr E	♦ K532	
Vul NS	♣ QJ3	
♠ Q62		♠ 1098
♥ AQ543		♥ 62
♦ 8		♦ AQJ94
♣ A762		♣ 854
	♠ A53	
	♥ K1087	
	♦ 1076	
	♣ K109	

W	N	E	S
1H	X	1NT	All pass

I had a minimum hand, but I had four spades and at least three cards in the other suits, so I doubled the 1♥ opening bid by West for take-out.

East could have passed, or even bid a non-forcing 2♦ (9-11 and a passed hand), but elected to bid 1NT, which was passed out. West elected not to rebid 2♣, and Lilly was on lead to 1NT.

Lilly has no standout opening lead, and mindful of the fact that a take-out double of one major will normally have either a strong hand (here denied by my pass of 1NT), or the other major, she led the ♠3.

After cashing the 4th spade I got a signal from Lilly and switched to the ♣Q, won on the table to take the successful diamond finesse, followed by the successful heart finesse, but that was it for declarer, finishing two off for –100.

At the other table the contract was 2♥, one off, but only –50 and 2 IMPs.

Toowoomba Congress

by Richard Wallis

ACCORDING to the records, I last played in the Toowoomba Congress in 2016, but I thought it was a few years before that. This year I played with Charlie Lu in the Teams on Sunday/Monday, with Watson Zhou and Martin Qin as the rest of our team. Charlie and Watson had comfortably won the Open Pairs on the Saturday, winning every match, so they started out on a high.

We started out well on the Sunday, winning our first two matches, before a small loss to Luck (John and Ivy Luck, Nikolas Moore and Larry Moses) who finished Monday in a clear first place. A win in the 4th match saw us well placed for the Monday finish, but a moderate loss first up on Monday morning was a set-back until a big win in match 6 put us in a close 3rd. Then the fairy-tale finished with two losses to drop us back to 6th place. 2nd was Tracey (Lyn Tracey, Winny Chan, Raelene Clark and Richard Fox), with Pereira (Eugene Pereira, Daria Williams, Martin Wu and Lilly Jia) in 3rd place.

It was good to get back to Toowoomba again and play 14-board matches. The TBC put on a great show, with a very tasty lunch supplied on each day (even coping for those with dietary restrictions), copious amounts of cakes, biscuits and fruit throughout the day, and finishing with more cakes and fruit, as well as party pies, sausage rolls, savalloys etc, catering for almost everybody.

M 1	♠ 8	
Bd 1	♥ AKQJ6	
Dlr N	♦ J6	
Vul None	♣ Q10954	
♠ 96		♠ KQJ1052
♥ 9532		♥ –
♦ 10982		♦ 7543
♣ A86		♣ KJ2
	♠ A743	
	♥ 10874	
	♦ AKQ	
	♣ 73	

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

I was a little timid after North opened 1♥, only bidding 1♠, which caused NS no problems. But when South jumped to 4♥ I had no hesitation in bidding 4♠ on such a good suit and no defence, and South closed the auction with a double.

Dummy was a pleasant surprise as it looked like we could not defeat 4♥, but 4♠ was not costly. I ruffed the heart lead and led the ♠K, won by South, who led the ♦A and made a slight mistake by cashing the other

M 3	♠ A96
Bd 7	♥ A106
Dlr S	♦ 2
Vul Both	♣ KQ10542
♠ 832	♠ KJ107
♥ 72	♥ 943
♦ AKJ10963	♦ Q84
♣ A	♣ J86
	♠ Q54
	♥ KQJ85
	♦ 75
	♣ 973

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

I opened with 1♦ after South passed as dealer, and invited game with a jump to 3♦ on the next round of bidding, but Charlie wisely refused.

I had previously been sitting in the West seat, but to make it easier for Charlie to get the boards, we swapped for this match. He is always very helpful to both partner and opponents.

North led the ♣K, and with the ♠Q offside, I had to settle for nine tricks and +110.

Charlie could have made a negative double over the 2♣ overcall, but he only has three hearts and is a little weak, so pass is good.

At the other table the bidding was more spirited and finally came to rest in 4♦, which had the same four losers thus finishing one off for +100 and 5 IMPs to us.

M 3	♠ 974
Bd 14	♥ 64
Dlr E	♦ 10985
Vul None	♣ Q1032
♠ J52	♠ K108
♥ QJ105	♥ AK872
♦ Q642	♦ A3
♣ 87	♣ K95
	♠ AQ63
	♥ 93
	♦ KJ7
	♣ AJ64

W	N	E	S
		1NT	All pass

Charlie opened 1NT, which was 15-17 and could have had a 5-card

major, but with no interest in game, even opposite a 17 count, I passed.

South led the ♠3, but when dummy came down he could tell that he had most of the points for the defence and 1NT was safe.

Charlie won the first trick with the ♠10, and, with seven top tricks made sure of his contract (a good technique in a teams match) by cashing his hearts and the ♦A before exiting with the ♦3.

South was end-played, and had to concede the 8th trick, eventually conceding a 9th trick for +150.

At the other table EW found their heart fit but climbed too high, and 4♥ had to go one off for +50 and 5 IMPs to us.

M 4	♠ 1053
Bd 25	♥ AK3
Dlr N	♦ 42
Vul EW	♣ QJ965
♠ KJ762	♠ Q9
♥ Q87	♥ 42
♦ A5	♦ KJ1096
♣ K73	♣ A1082
	♠ A84
	♥ J10965
	♦ Q873
	♣ 4

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

After three passes, Charlie balanced with 1NT and with almost an opening hand and a probable source of tricks in two suits, I jumped to 3NT.

North was on lead and selected a fairly normal ♠Q, which was unlucky for him as he saw when dummy tracked.

Charlie won the ♣K and led a spade to dummy, won by South who returned the ♥J, giving Charlie a problem. Knowing after the opening

lead that North does not have long hearts, Charlie blocked the heart suit by ducking.

North cleared the hearts, giving Charlie a trick in the process, but when the spades broke and the ♠J was where it was known to be by the opening lead we had 10 tricks for +630.

At the other table West went one off in 2S, so we gained 12 IMPs.

M 5	♠ 1082
Bd 4	♥ Q10852
Dlr W	♦ 6
Vul Both	♣ A652
♠ K9543	♠ Q6
♥ A	♥ K7642
♦ K2	♦ AJ7
♣ KQJ104	♣ 973
	♠ AJ7
	♥ J9
	♦ Q1098543
	♣ 8

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

Charlie opened 1♣ as dealer, showed a good 2-suiter with 2♣ on the second round, then raised my 2NT to game.

South led the ♦10, which I ran around to my jack to lead a club to dummy, North eventually winning and exiting with the ♥5.

I cashed the clubs and the ♦A, and exited with the ♠3, won by South, who exited with a spade. When she won the next spade she was forced to lead to my ♦A and ♥K for 10 tricks and +630.

At the other table the bidding was unknown to me, but South played in 4♦, going four off for -300, but 8 IMPs to us. If doubled (-800), it would have been 5 IMPs to them. ■

Relaunch of RonKlingerBridge.com



The RonKlingerBridge.com website has been relaunched. To celebrate the launch, there is a new premium member offer to sub-scribe for \$49 per year (less than 20c per column) up to July 31. The subscription price will then increase to \$59 per year). Publication

of content will commence on July 3, 2022.

Paid members enjoy the full benefits of the platform, including five emails a week of bridge columns, as well as access to the archive of previous bridge columns from 2022 onwards. For more details, please check out our updated website, www.ronklingerbridge.com.

Directors' Corner



Chris
Snook

Interrogation (or how to survive one)

I'll explain this article by way of some examples (some real, some modified to protect the innocent and some made up to make a point), and in each case, we assume I am sitting South.

Case 1: Not enough information

As South, I open 1♥. West overcalls 2♥. My partner, North, correctly asks East the meaning of the 2♥ call and is told "Michaels".

The general understanding of Michaels is 5-5 in the other major and a minor with typically 7-11 HCP. As the hand is played, we belatedly discover that West was 5-5 but had two HCP. There is nothing wrong with them having a system that allows this – but they must disclose it!!

Solution: The QBA Alert Regulations (9.3) tell a player that they must describe their partnership agreement and NOT just give a name of a system.

Case 2: A bit more information

Same auction but this time the explanation comes back "Michaels, could be weak; could be strong". This is still not enough. The explanation should be short and complete. Perhaps something like, "Shows five spades and five of a minor. Can be as low as two points. If partner has more than XX points then later they will".

Solution: The QBA Alert Regulations (9.1) tell a player that they must fully describe their partnership agreement.

Case 3: Interrogation or pulling teeth?

Same auction; 1♥ : 2♥ : question. Answer comes back, "Michaels".

Partner asks, "What's that?" Answer comes back, "5-5".

Partner asks, "What's that?" Answer comes back, "Five spades and five of minor".

Partner asks, "How many points". Answer comes back, "6-12".

Partner asks, "Can he have a void?"

Partner asks, "How many hearts does he have?"

This sequence can be fixed at step one by as clear an explanation as possible. This would avoid the sequence that followed which looks like an interrogation by my partner (which they now know is not allowed).

Case 4: I forget

This time it is poor me. As South I open 1♥, Leftie passes and my partner calls 4♣. I am stumped. Then the sequence starts.

They ask, "What's that?"

"I don't know. I think it has a special meaning, but I have forgotten. We better call the director".

If a player has genuinely forgotten their system, they will tell you and you call the director, or they will realise as the hand is played and will call the director. The director arrives, guides me away from the table, my partner explains the meaning of such a call to the opponents. I come back, and we continue an enjoyable game.

Case 5: I dunno

I'm in a similar situation to last time, except now the auction goes 1♥ : pass : 4♦ : question.

They ask, "What's that?"

"I don't know; it is not part of our system".

They ask, "But what's that? You must know."

"It has no meaning in our system. Partner appears to have made up a call".

They ask, "Is it a cue bid or a control ask?"

"I don't know what they are."

And the interrogation continues. This is NOT ACCEPTABLE. We do not interrogate people. If a partnership

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does not have an agreement on a particular call, then that is the rub of the green. The auction or play continues, and the score stands. (Alert Regulations 9.2). I mustn't start with the, "I'm taking it as ...".

The answer in all these cases is that we should call for the Director as soon as the communication between the asker and responder appears to be failing.

Some common sense is required. We don't have to launch into reciting pages from War and Peace in response to every question, but we do have to fulfil our obligations to the Regulations.

Procedural Penalties

A review of answers to the June Club Directors exam and based on general discussion with Directors, suggests there is a mood for some clubs and Directors wanting to apply Procedural Penalties (Law 90) more often. Especially in cases such as niggling behaviour, mobile phones ringing, people answering these calls, repeated slow play, fouling boards, or talking loudly during play. We all agree that we want these behaviours to stop.

The Laws don't give any guidance on the size of such penalties, but I have seen mention of "10% of a top" so in a nine table Mitchell, a top is 16 and one unit of penalty would be 1.6 matchpoints. In the whole session this would equate to 0.3%. If we decide on "25% of a top" then it is 0.9% for the session. Your club may have Regulations that cover some of these.

In all situations, we are trying to encourage players to follow correct procedure and it is better to apply warnings and to educate players first. Keep the penalties for significant breaches and for repeat offenders.

QBA Director Exams

- Proficiency exam is online and can be taken at any time by players early in their Director development. It covers the basics.
- QBA Club Director exam. The next exam is on Saturday 12th November.
- QBA Congress Director exam. The next exam is on Saturday 19th November.
- Registration forms for Club and Congress Director exams are available through clubs and on the QBA Directors page. ■

Queensland Graded Teams



A Grade runners-up: Christine Newbery, Tony Treloar, Richard Fox and Peter Evans



B Grade runners-up: Richard Spelman, Janet Price, Winnie Chan and Lyn Tracey



C Grade winners: Martin Wu, Alex Wu, Jasmine Skeate and Paddy Taylor

Yeppoon Congress



1st in C Grade Pairs: Francie Brown and Alan Brown



1st in the Plate: Mavis Anderson and Fran Limage



1st in C Grade Pairs: Director Geoff Taylor, Noel Saunders, President Lauren Suchowiecki and Ted Cullinan



Teams winners: Diane Morgan, Alan Brown, Francie Brown and Janet Hansen

QBA Club Director Exam

We ended up with 20 candidates who sat the relevant QBA Club Director exam.

14 candidates passed (12 both papers this year, and two passed one paper having carried forward a pass from last year):

Azar, Gidi - Cairns
Holburt, Sue - Sunnybank
Borrell, Brian - Surfers Paradise
Hospers, Barbara - Cleveland Bay (Townsville)
Cleminson, Nigel - Redlands

Martin, Jennifer - Gold Coast
Kenny, Owen - Gold Coast
Kestenberg, Alan - Gold Coast
Blackmore, Brian - Yeppoon
Cowley, Robert - Morton-Bribie
Watson, Shirley - Morton-Bribie
Davies, Bob - Caloundra
Kriksciunas, Peter - Maryborough
Hartel, Ingrid - Toowong

Three passed one paper and will carry forward this pass for 12 months, whilst they attempt the other paper again.

Three were not yet at the required standard.

D E A D

JAN 16 (noon)

Philip Squire

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L I N E

Queensland Festival of Bridge

THE second Queensland Festival of Bridge was a successful event which was most enjoyable. The highlight for me however was seeing so many players from regional clubs in attendance.

On the previous Monday lunch time, at the Townsville club, I sat with Phil Rains and John Tredrea. Phil had recently had major surgery. On the Thursday before the Festival he had been admitted to hospital overnight but was discharged early on the Friday morning and insisted on travelling to Brisbane to play for the weekend. Phil and John flew to Brisbane then played all weekend. Phil stated he had enjoyed the Festival immensely so he intends to return next year.

People have told Phil he was 'crazy' to come down but he loves his bridge which seems to contribute to his well-being. This proves that some people will do anything for a game of bridge! He is determined to play again in 2023.

This indicated to me, we should make an effort to talk to the country players to get to know them better as they have some remarkable tales to share. The Festival is an ideal opportunity to chat with our rural acquaintances.

■ Neville Francis

Gold Coast Rescue Events

Due to the loss of around \$150,000 at the 2022 Gold Coast Congress, the ABF approved the running of three Gold Point online bridge events. They have all been held and we raised close to \$45,000.

A big thank you to the following people who know what they did to make this happen.

Matthew McManus, John McIlrath, Jan Peach, Jane Rasmussen and Ray Ellaway.

And of course to the ABF for allowing us to conduct the events.

QBA

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Postscript from Keith Osborn - ABF Historian: COVID and Beyond 2019-22

The Impact of COVID

In terms of the impact on bridge, there have been two main phases of the COVID epidemic at the time of writing. In the first phase, many clubs in lockdown regions were forced to close for extended periods, while others were largely unaffected. In the second, current, phase, there are no mandated closures but all clubs now have to deal with the likelihood of infections and the impact of this on table numbers.

The overall impact of this on club bridge has unsurprisingly been negative. The number of affiliated players dropped by around 5% in each year of the pandemic. The decrease in membership was caused by both the dropping out of existing members (a combination of normal exits and the COVID situation) and the inability to run beginners' lessons to bring in new lessons. It is not yet clear whether people who have left or have been playing less at clubs and more at home or online will return to old patterns if and when the epidemic abates.

Despite the downward trend, clubs have mostly survived without catastrophic impacts, thanks in part to government support programs. In each of the epidemic years a minority of clubs still managed to increase membership. One of the most interesting things about the response to the pandemic was the progress made in bringing together the worlds of club and online bridge. The pandemic forced clubs into online bridge as the only option for keeping bridge alive; and this increased and new type of demand created space for emerging online bridge platform providers who tailored the product to combine the advantages of remote access with the atmosphere and ethics of club bridge.

While originally intended as a temporary measure only, the combination of online play with video interaction and normal club directing has been popular and it is almost certainly here to stay as part of the offering of many clubs. It is also likely that it will offer some

clubs the opportunity to expand their membership. Some are already publicising their online events to people beyond their geographical area. It will give more people the opportunity of play in club conditions. It also has the potential to promote increased competition between clubs, which may be challenging for those that have relied on what is essentially a local monopoly position.

Future Challenges

Much will depend on the ongoing nature of the COVID epidemic and any other threats to health at indoor gathering. However, setting that aside, there seem to be three reasonably distinct challenges for the current model of bridge that has emerged from the conditions of the last fifty years. Keeping the game alive involves maintaining the current demographic of retired or nearly-retired players; attracting more players of workforce age; and attracting young people who may have the potential to compete at the highest level in the future.

The Existing Demographic

In the long-term, whether the retired continue to play bridge in current numbers will depend on a number of factors beyond the control of clubs. It will require, among other things, a continued ability of people to retire relatively early in good health with reasonable finances, and for retirees to be concentrated roughly in areas easily accessible to clubs. The response of coming generations with less or no knowledge of simpler card games is unknown. However, in the foreseeable future, the retired and 48 nearly-retired age group is likely to be the numerical mainstay of bridge.

The main immediate challenge for clubs here seems to be the continuing need for urgent and ongoing beginners' lessons and recruitment of new members. History suggests that if there too big a gap develops between the age of existing and potential members, recruitment can dry up. This is not just a problem of getting enough players. New members will also needed to replace in time aging administrative volunteers and teachers. As the club population ages, turnover in these roles is also likely to be much higher than at present.

People of Workforce Age and Young Players

Broadening the demographic—attracting younger working-age players—is likely to be substantially more difficult to solve within the existing club structure and existing social trends. Age difference with existing club members can be a demotivator. Only a minority of clubs run evening sessions and establishing or re-starting them without initial demand is a very difficult proposition. Setting aside the other options for entertainment and gaming that people have today, less predictable working hours, commuting distances, bridge club locations, and shared parental responsibilities, all make it difficult to commit to a regular large block of time for duplicate sessions.

Things can change very quickly but on current indications finding young players who could revive highlevel competition and Australian international competitiveness in the future looks even more challenging for the existing model of bridge. In addition to the general barriers to participation by those of workforce age, the younger ages would face a much higher age difference; are much less likely to have any knowledge of feeder card games; more likely to have a more individualistic and flexible approach to leisure and more likely to be already involved in other forms of gaming.

With the exception of the 1960s and 1970s generation, bridge seems never to have attracted young people on any scale. Online bridge may be a game-changer but bridge may also be in the situation faced by some other rarely played sports when trying to be competitive at international levels. Rather than try to build up youth participation and hope something emerges, the tactic has often been to identify people with no experience but with the right potential and invest heavily in them.

This of course requires money; money requires sponsorship; sponsorship requires a brand or image with which sponsors want to identify. The issue for bridge is that developing such an image has been a problem that, for many reasons, has so far been difficult to resolve.

Online Bridge

Online bridge almost certainly will have some sort of role in any improved participation by people of working age, particularly where a need for time flexibility and issues around existing clubs are the major issues. Eventually online bridge might also be able to solve or ameliorate the problem of time and effort needed to learn the game. In recent years, a lot of lessons have become available online but much of the material is an adaptation of the in-person approach. They are often reminiscent of the first automobiles, which replaced the horse with an engine, but were still largely designed like coaches. It is hard to escape the feeling that we are at present only really beginning to scratch the surface of what the technology will be able to do.

However, online bridge is clearly not the whole answer and can add to problems. We should also not underestimate the damage that player behaviour on the major online bridge sites (where there are no 49 directors and people are not known to each other) is doing to the image of bridge and bridge players. The sites operate very similar to other social media in that there are some processes in place to identify problem content but which are largely ineffective in preventing partner abuse and commentary that would be unacceptable in any physical bridge club.

The behaviour is only experienced directly by those who already have some knowledge of bridge but the experience gets conveyed to a much wider audience. It is passed on through comments to non-bridge playing friends but also on general online discussion forums when anybody raises the question about what is bridge, is it worth taking up and where can you play in the evening. The behaviour problem on unsupervised online bridge is a reminder that the issue about the future is not just about the survival of the game but what the bridge community looks like. Clubs and bridge associations have performed several important functions apart from promoting the game. As it is a game that gives scope and motivation for so much interpersonal interaction, clubs have been where rules of behaviour that make the

game work are monitored but also largely internalised.

State and national associations and their associated competitions are another form of community structure that affect people's motivations and experience and the perceptions of bridge as a mind sport. Bridge may be able to continue without them but it will be a different game.

Bridge Past Present and Future

Bridge in Australia, and the world around it, has changed a lot over its history. The type of game played has become less diverse and has settled on its most complex but also most fascinating version—contract. It has gone from a game mainly played at home to one, other than online bridge, almost entirely played in clubs; from being a game played primarily for money to a game played for scores; from being timeflexible to one to which scheduled blocks of time have to be allocated.

Overall, this has been a successful model for the last fifty years. The depth of contract has kept the game alive while other card games have fallen away. The club structure has been a driver of permanence and growth and the structure of play and the governance institutions built on the clubs has enabled the game to be recognised as an important mind sport. However, all models come into being in part because of favourable social and other conditions. These rarely remain forever and generally models have to adapt as the world changes around them.

Current conditions do not appear favourable but the history does also give some sort of comfort. Peaks and troughs have been normal. There was no golden age with which the current system has to compare itself. Social and economic conditions are major drivers but the actions of individuals at local levels make a difference. There is a saying that “talent will out”. Maintaining bridge through the next few years, assuming the continuation of current trends, will probably take a bit of effort and ingenuity but the game's innate qualities and survival to date probably make the case for avoiding too much pessimism. ■

Keith Ogborn
ABF Historian
historian@abf.com.au

QBA RESULTS JULY – SEPTEMBER 2022

TOOWONG PAIRS: [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Jan Peach / Oliver Goodman; 2 Charlie Lu / Paul Hooykaas; B 1 Vesna & Voyko Markovic; 2 Bronwyn McLeod / Kuldip Bedi; C 1 Jasmine Skeate / Paddy Taylor; 2 Kathleen Clifford / Peter Munro; **RESTRICTED** 1 Robin Bishop / David Sydes; 2 Robyn Stevens / Simon Fleming; B 1 Carmel Dwan / Sue Gardner; 2 Budi Maher / Chris Maher

TOWNSVILLE CONGRESS: [Directors – Geoff Allen, Leigh Owens, Jan Smith] **PAIRS** 1 Pat Leighton / Robyn Nolan; 2 Pat Larsen / Bill Bishop; B 1 Charlie Georgees / Russell Woolley; 2 Anto Wilson / Reg Burton; C 1 Sharon Morley / Ann Barron; 2 Robert Mischlewski / Fred Cole; **TEAMS** 1 Leigh Owens / Jan Smith / Ched Twyman / Albert Beric / John Larkin; 2 Terrence Sheedy / Janelle Conroy / Diane & Max Holewa; B 1 Dusk Care / Kay Goodwin / Joan Elliott / Robyn Nolan; 2 Russell Woolley / Charlie Georgees / John Tredrea / Helen Lovegrove

BOWEN PAIRS [Directors – Jan Smith & Leigh Owens] 1 Kim & Ray Ellaway; 2 Monica Darley & Geoff Taylor; 3 Pat & Geoff Allen

BUNDABERG CONGRESS [Director - Julie Jeffries] **PAIRS** 1 Malcolm Allan / John Morris; 2 Robyn Nolan / Di Jones; B Eugenie Moonie / Anna Irminger; C Sa & Paul Smith; **TEAMS** 1 Mattie Baljet / Fred Whitaker / Maurice Williams / Marcel Hoevenaars; 2 Lydia George / Betty Theodore / Peter Gordon / Helen Manzau; B Ian Bloore / Sheryl Matthews / Carol Christensen / Pat Faircloth

LOCKYER PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Elizabeth Zeller / Mearon Geldard; 2 Lesley Mundell / Rosemary Kelley; B Inta Devine / Helen Blair

REDLANDS PAIRS [Director – Chris Snook] **NOVICE** 1 Jenny Andrews / Alice Edwards; 2 Alex Wu / Kate McDonald; **RESTRICTED** 1 Eugene Pereira / Martin Wu; 2 Sandra & Dov Berns

CAIRNS PAIRS: [Director – Rebecca Delaney] 1 John Hughes / Peerapen Maslen; 2 David McConachie / Helen Crampton; B Jan & Mark Firth; C Anna & Donald O'Brien

MACKAY NOVICE PAIRS: [Director – Geoff Taylor] 1 Ted Cullinan / Noel Saunders; 2 Mary Rose Ramsden / Carmel Brown; 3 Sandra Morris / Ann Whitmore

SURFERS PARADISE CONGRESS: [Director – Alan Gibson] **PAIRS** 1 Tony Hutton / Richard Ward; 2 Jennifer Sawyer / Michael Kent; B Ian Murphy / Ian Sandeman; **TEAMS** 1 Robyn Fletcher / Pat Beattie / Eva & Tony Berger; 2 Ralph Parker / Larry Moses / Therese Tully / Paul Hooykaas; B Jeff Conroy / Ian Cameron / Jane Swanson / Bob Hunt

QLD NOVICE TEAMS-OF-THREE: [Director – Chris Snook] A Helen Klieve / Mike Martin / Graeme King / Richard Fox; B Zorika Zipka / Valeri Barakin / Simon Byrne / Ross Murtagh; C Gustavo Sanchez / Jill McTaggart / Nari Blackett / Robyn Clark

CASSOWARY COAST PAIRS: [Director – Julie Jeffries] 1 Pat Leighton / Ray Muld; 2 Geoff Allen / Bill Bishop; 3 Rick Gryg / William van Bakel; B 1 Jane Gryg / Melissa Pressley; 2 Debra Peters / May Maidment; C Jenny Burchmore / Rhonda Murdoch; D Cheryl Parks / Shellee Chapman

CALOUNDRA NOVICE PAIRS: [Director – Steve Murray] 1 Peter Keys / Greg Lawler; 2 Phoebe & Mark Harnack; Julia Caldwell / Dave Reid

BRISBANE BRIDGE CENTRE TEAMS: [Director – Chris Snook] 1 Pamela & Jim Evans / Kerry Wood / Charles Howard; 2 Agnes & Barry Kempthorne / Therese Tully / Richard Ward; B 1 Lex Ranke / Jack Rohde / Joan Jenkins / Alan Boyce; 2 Kevin Hamilton-Reen / Mary Simon / Kathy & Warren Males

TOOWOOMBA PAIRS: [Director – Chris Snook] 1 Pamela & James Evans; 2 John Churchett / Trevor Henderson; B Elizabeth & Tony Thorne; C Suzie & Sandy Fraser

SUNNYBANK TEAMS: [Director – Julie Jeffries] 1 Susanne & David Sarten / Janeen Solomon / Terry O'Dempsey; 2 Therese Tully / Paul Hooykaas / Charlie Lu / Watson Zhou; B Joan Jenkins / Alan Boyce / Susan & Andrew Smart; C Sam Ng / Con Fernandez / Ismail Meman / Loretta Lovett

CLEVELAND BAY TEAMS: [Director – Jan Smith] 1 Jayne Dalton / Vivienne Otto / John Page / Ursula Graham / Jan Smith; 2 Dusk Care / Audrey Ledbrook / Robyn Nolan / Angela Little

GOLD COAST PAIRS: [Director – Julie Jeffries] **RESTRICTED** 1 Lyn Tracey / Winny Chan; Kevin Hamilton-Reen / Mary Simon; **NOVICE** 1 Elizabeth & David Ward; 2 Thais Morgan-Pertus / Sean Quinn

REDCLIFFE PAIRS: [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Ivy & John Luck; 2 Pam Schoen / Phil Hale; B Debbie & Gary Gibbards; C Jane Tagney / Marge Henry

QUEENSLAND GRADED TEAMS [Director – Jan Peach] 1 Janeen Solomon / Ian Afflick / Jill Magee / Terry Strong; 2 Peter Evans / Tony Treloar / Christine Newberry / Richard Fox; B 1 Eugene Pereira / Eduardo Besprosvan / Daria Williams / Jeff Conroy; 2 Lyn Tracey / Janet Price / Winny Chan / Richard Spelman; C 1 Martin Wu / Alex Wu / Jasmine Skeate / Paddy Taylor; 2 Jenny Thomspon / Jenny McGowan / Carol Findlay / Vanessa Brewis

DARLING DOWNS CONGRESS [Director – Chris Snook] **PAIRS** 1 Trevor Henderson / John Churchett; 2 Robert Fulton / Laurie Sutton; B Roger Green / Tim Porter; **TEAMS** 1 Margaret Keating / Diane Wenham / John Erlandson / Will Higgins; B Lavinia Minchin / Rozalin Wright / Marilyn Oakroot / Ken Orange

YEPPOON CONGRESS [Director – Geoff Taylor] **PAIRS** 1 Ian Price / Malcolm Saunders; 2 Janet & Peter Kahler; B Mavis Anderson / Frances Limage; C Ted Cullinan / Noel Saunders; **TEAMS** 1 Frances & Alan Brown / Janet Hansen / Diane Morgan; B Rhonda Chantler / Carol Black / Betty Theodore / Lydia George; C Michelle Morrissey / Pam Carmody / Tania Rayfield / Valda Corbett

QUEENSLAND GRADED PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Anne Lamport / Richard Wallis; 2 Ben Leung / Michael Gearing; **B** Martin Wu / Eugene Pereira; **C** Lilly Jia / David Zhang

MACKAY PAIRS [Director – Geoff Taylor] 1 Jan Randall / Don Cameron; 2 Diane Morgan / Eric Leivesley; **B** Ming & David Ting; **C** Helen van den Broek / Anne Lutz

MAGNETIC ISLAND TEAMS [Directors – Jan Smith & Leigh Owens] 1 Charlie Georgees / John Tredrea / Terrence Sheedy / Janelle Conroy; 2 Bill Bishop / Maria Chippendale / Pat Larsen / Leslie Rooney / Phil Rains

NOOSA TEAMS [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Ken Dawson / Adrienne Kelly / Sue O'Brien / Paul Collins; 2 Neville Francis / Ralph Parker / Tony Hutton / Richard Ward; **B** Debbie & Gary Gibbards / Hugh Gehrmann / Charlene Frederiksen;

DALBY PAIRS [Director – Chris Snook] 1 Raelene Clark / Alan Gibson; 2 Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; **B** Kerrie Hayes / Stephen Price;

KENMORE PAIRS [Director – Julie Jeffries] **NOVICE** 1 Heather & Peter Andrews; 2 Jill Dunning / Margaret Giebels; **ROOKIE** 1 Lois Munro / Anna De Borah; 2 Jennifer Brangan / Anne Gardiner.

INGHAM HINCHINBROOK PAIRS [Director – Charlie Georgees] 1 Margaret Azar / Sonja Ramsund; 2 Nina Doyle / Ian Leach; **B** William Van Bakel / Gideon Azar; **C** Kate Gargan / Patricia Ottone;

SUNSHINE COAST PAIRS [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Lyn & Jim Martin ; 2 Rosemary Crowley / Richard Perry; **B** Sarah Huntington-Wynne / Tim Sayer;

REDLANDS PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Ian Afflick / Paul Collins; 2 Pam Schoen / Phil Hale; **B** Geoff Saxby / Sameer Pandya;

SANCTUARY COVE PAIRS [Director – Chris Snook] **NOVICE** 1 Robyn Kronenberg / Deb Carroll; 2 Elizabeth & David Ward; **UNDER 500** 1 Martin Wu / Eugene Pereira; 2 Mary Simon / Kevin Hamilton-Reen

QUEENSLAND TEAMS-OF-THREE [Director – Chris Snook] **A** 1 Gordon Gemmell / Ilo Hellaby / Magdeline Wong / Jane Doyle; 2 Jan Peach / Michael Martin / Jennifer Finigan / Jamshid Vazirzadeh; **B** 1 Richard Fox / Kris Sullivan / Carol Findlay / Jenny Thompson; 2 Tony Hutton / Janet McKeough / Lois Munro / Judy Hefferan; **C** 1 David Lehmann / Suzy Brownlow / Gail & Gary Taylor; 2 Terry Strong / Jenny & Barry Fryar / Irene Komen;

SURFERS PARADISE CONGRESS [Director – Alan Gibson] **PAIRS** 1 Wendy Gibson / Murray Perrin; 2 Margaret Pisko / Trish Anagnostou; **B** Edward Hahn / Jeff Conroy; **C** Lourie Stewart / Graham Arden; **TEAMS** 1 Michael Kent / Birgitt Bingham / Carol & George Wilkinson; 2 James & Richard Wallis / Charlie Lu / Lynne Gray; **B** Daria Williams / Eduardo Besprosvan / Paul Brake / John Glennie