

# From the President



Richard Ward

ntries for the 2024 Gold Coast International Congress are coming in nicely, leading us to hope that the additional Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre space that we have optimistically booked will be filled with players vital for the congress to break even financially. Planning for the 2025 GCC has hit several obstacles, most notable being the unwillingness of the venue to guarantee 2025 dates, which has caused the QBA to investigate alternatives which have included: a change of venue; a decrease in entry size; and, even cancellation of the congress altogether. Decisions need to be made by the end of this year. All possibilities will be presented to the QBA Council at its November meeting with the Management Committee finally gathering to settle the matter. Watch this space.

I found this article recently on the

ABF website in which the topic of "Ethics and Etiquette" was addressed. It is something which players new to the game should hear from the very start of their bridge journey. It is also something of which a few experienced players should be occasionally reminded.

"Bridge enjoys immense popularity partly because of the high standards of ethics and etiquette which are observed by the players who are expected to conduct themselves in a highly civilised manner. Unfortunately, violations of proper etiquette do occur, either through ignorance or inadvertence.

The ABF is committed to providing its members with a pleasant, harmonious environment where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. Most of our affiliated clubs have developed their own codes of conduct and expect compliance from their members.

Bridge is an extremely ethical game. All good players strive to ensure that their bridge ethics are impeccable and no more serious charge, other than outright cheating, can be made than to accuse a player of bad ethics. Unlike poker, in which all sorts of mannerisms, misleading statements and tactics are part and parcel of the game, bridge is played with a 'pokerface'. Beginners are of

From the President Queensland Graded Pairs ANC Butler Pairs 25 Years Ago Playing Cards IBPA Column Service Queensland Open Teams Manager's Travels Director's Corner Results

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Experienced players should go out of their way to make novice players feel at ease, so that they see bridge as a pleasant recreation, not a battleground.

What does all this mean to you?

- If you encounter improper behaviour at the table you should alert the director so that appropriate action can be taken
- A player is not allowed to touch a card held by another player. Even when the hand is over, it is illegal to touch the cards of another player.
- During the session, conserve your energies to do battle at the next table. It is extremely poor taste (and a breach of etiquette) to abuse or criticise either your partner or an opponent. Beginners are of course excused for their lapses
- Never let a harsh word pass your lips and you will be a sought after rather than a shunned player.
   Prefer to say too little than too much. If partner has bid or played the hand poorly, say 'bad luck' and leave it at that. Do not harp on past errors.
- Never try to teach anyone at the table.
- Conversations at the table during a game are generally unwelcome. Post-mortems after each hand, if limited, can be useful as long as they are constructive. The best way to develop your game with your partner is to keep a hand record and go over the bidding, play and defence after the session. This is not only a good thing in that it prevents 'blaming partner'

at the table (and thus potentially humiliating them publicly) but it improves your partnership communications.

All of this seems obvious to the 99 percent of players who contribute positively to their clubs in so many ways. It is the remaining 1 percent who, sadly, can destroy our game by their unacceptable antics. 'Zero tolerance' for poor behaviour is essential in all clubs and congresses and must be strictly enforced.

### Queensland Graded Pairs



Peter Evans

The Queensland Graded Pairs took place on Saturday, September 2 at QCBC under the capable direction of Alan Gibson. Winners from the 3 sections were:

#### Open

1st Jim and Lyn Martin 2nd Paul Collins and Ian Afflick 3rd Ralph Parker and Tony Hutton

Under 750 Masterpoints

1st Sheila Wills and Winny Chan 2nd Oliver Goodman and Kathleen Clifford

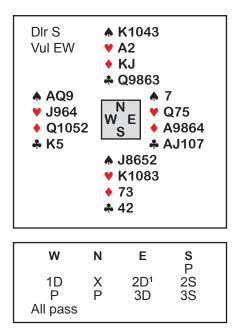
3rd Eugene Pereira and John Rivers

Under 150 masterpoints

1st June McNamara and Lee Pitt 2nd Lois Munro and Anna de Borah 3rd Cheryl Martin and Robyn Chippindale

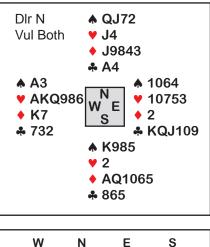


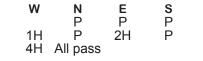
Open winners: Jim and Lyn Martin



<sup>1</sup> Inverted minor

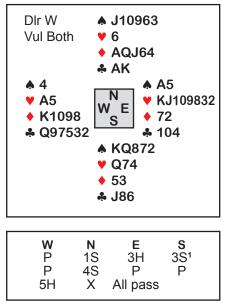
Partner Alison Dawson and I got a lucky pick up on this board when I decided in the South seat, given the favourable vulnerability, to push the envelope with  $3 \pm$ . Many EWs were allowed to play in diamonds making 9 or 10, or bid on to the making 3NT. West fortunately didn't like his minimum and given this was pairs decided to pass 3S out rather than risk 3NT going off vulnerable. I lost the A,  $A \times A$  K, A and a heart but caught the A onside for -50.





This is a hand needing careful defence to hold it to 10 tricks. The riangle Q was often led. Declarer wins with the riangle A, draws the two rounds of trumps and knocks out the riangle A. South has to be careful to signal for diamonds on the second round of trumps and North must not try to cash a third

round of spades otherwise the A 7 disappears on the clubs for 11 tricks.



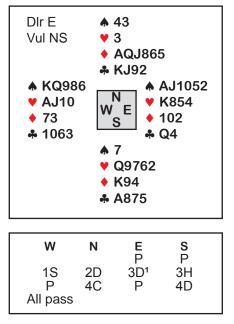
#### <sup>1</sup>6-9(10)

I've generally found that with 5-card support for partner's 5-card major, it's usually only right to bid  $4 \ge 0$  on a weakish hand if one of the hands has a shortage or you are non-vulnerable against vulnerable. When partner opens one of a major, 59% of the time they don't have a shortage. Hence, I think  $3 \ge 1000$  is the right bid on the South hand.

I think 5♥ is a bridge too far. You must be only two down (or making nine tricks) against a making 4♠. Partner has shown six tricks with their pre-empt. West was clearly hoping for two tricks via the trump ace and a spade ruff and that one of the ♦K or ♠Q could also make a trick. However, both of those honours are under the bidder, and the spade ruff might not be a given.

I led ♠K from South. Declarer took the ♠A, ruffed a spade, cashed the ♥A and led a club off the table to partner's ♣K. Partner wriggled off lead with a spade which declarer ruffed. Declarer now led the ♥K and another heart and I was in with the ♥Q. On these two hearts, partner signalled with a low diamond and then threw a spade.

Foolishly thinking we could sit back and lead spades and make declarer play diamonds, I led another round of spades. However, this took the last spade out of partner's hand, and declarer led another club endplaying her with the A. Partner had to play ♦A and another giving declarer the
♦K and allowing him to escape for
-500 and a near bottom for us.



#### <sup>1</sup>Good spade raise

A difficult hand. As NS, we got some cautious EW bidding and managed to turn things around on a dime in  $4 \bullet$  for a good score (losing the A, the  $\forall A$  and the percentage play club finesse for the A).

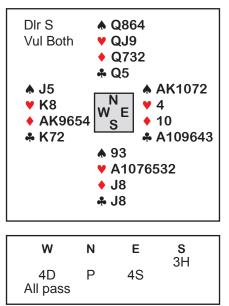
I think a light 3rd seat spade bid by West is mandatory with such a good suit and at favourable vulnerability. Those who later bid 4♠ often benefited from a singleton heart lead from North that ferreted out the ♥Q allowing a diamond discard on the 4th heart and letting the contract make. Those who left it to East to overcall 1♠ got a diamond lead from South and the ♠AK and ♣AK were usually quickly taken putting the contract down.

I would eventually bid 4♠ from the East side given the favourable vulnerability and 10-card fit, and

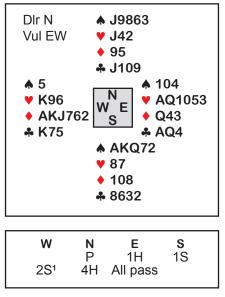


2nd in the Open: Paul Collins and Ian Afflick

then NS have the last guess. As South, I probably wouldn't bid  $5 \bullet$  (or  $5 \bullet$ ) in pairs, thinking it was probably one down, but would bid it in teams as it or  $4 \bullet EW$  could easily make and I don't want to take either risk and we shouldn't be too far down in  $5 \bullet$ .

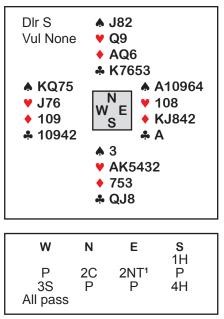


An aggressive 3♥ pre-empt by South put us under pressure on this deal. I ended in 4♠ in the East seat. South did well to lead the ♥A, preventing my throwing the small heart loser on a diamond, but North later gave it back when he didn't cover the ♠J when I led it from dummy. This allowed me to pick up five trumps, six clubs and the ♦A for 12 tricks and a good score.



#### <sup>1</sup> Invite or better heart raise

Only one EW pair in the A grade found slam on this board. North did very well at this vulnerability not to bid 4<sup>+</sup> and give West a tip that all our points were probably working. Alison in the West seat suspected I might have something unfavourably placed in spades given the lack of enthusiastic NS bidding, so left a possible slam alone. A spade control bid would have been enough for me to head to slam knowing we don't have two quick spade losers and all our points are working in the other three suits.

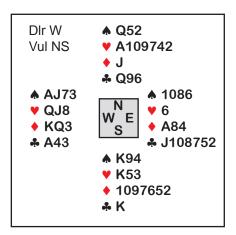


<sup>1</sup> 5+/5+ in the unbid suits, unlimited strength

Another frustrating board. A surprisingly large number of EWs were allowed to play in  $2 \ge$  or  $3 \ge$  (or bid on to  $4 \ge$ ) for a good score. With the  $\diamond Q$  onside, you only lose the  $\forall A K$  and the  $\diamond A$ . Did some only open  $2 \lor$  on the South cards? With a 10 count and good 6-card heart suit you are clearly too strong for a weak-2.

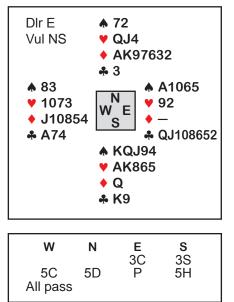
Given we had interfered over a 2 over 1 auction and had a 9-card trump fit, both partner and I thought we had pushed things as far as they should go.

The defence to  $4\Psi$  is hard - West must find an early diamond lead or switch to cut the A entry in dummy to prevent the clubs being set up, but we played two rounds of spades. South ruffed the second round of spades, drew trumps and led the AQ. In with the A, I couldn't lead diamonds into the teeth of the AQ and declarer set up the 5th club to go with the trumps, the A and made his contract.



3♣ by East. Opening lead ♦10.

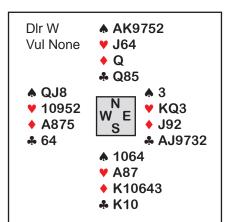
This board was well defended by my opponents. I won the ◆10 lead and played ♣A and another. North underled his ♥A to South's ♥K and was given a diamond ruff. However, at this point North is end-played and has to lead either a heart or spade either of which will donate the needed 9th trick.



My 3♣ was definitely an underbid given the void and the favourable vulnerability but partner aggressively bid 5♣ anyway. On the ♣A lead, I played a suit preference ♣2, got the diamond ruff and cashed ♠A to take the contract one off.

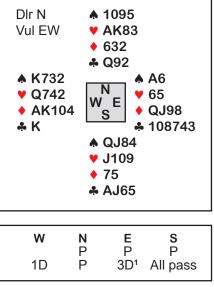


2nd in the Under 150: Lois Munro and Anna de Borah



### 2♠ by North.

My ♥K lead was nicely ducked by North, leaving me in a quandary as to what to do next. Nothing is particularly good as you can see. I eventually played the ♣A and another club to the king. Declarer led a low diamond which was ducked, the ♠A K, ♣K, diamond ruff, ♣Q discarding a heart, ♥A, diamond ruff and finally a heart ruff. Losing only the ♠Q, ♠A and ♥K for 10 tricks and a near top to NS.

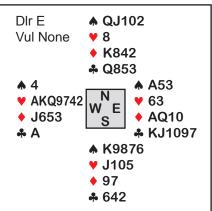


<sup>1</sup> Inverted minor 6-9

I had an uncomfortable call to make in the East seat to the 1♦ opening. 1NT doesn't look pleasant given the low points, the major holdings and you're vulnerable. However, the required jump in inverted minors to 3♦ looks like it might be too high.

Alison got the ♥A lead and the correct trump switch. She led a club from dummy and scored the ♣K when South ducked. Now she just lost a heart. A trump came back but she could now cash the ♠AK and cross ruff the rest with her high trumps,

scoring two trumps, four ruffs, the AK and the K for nine tricks.



Only half the Open field found the small slam on this hand. It doesn't appear that many opened the East hand 1NT. Given a 14 count, good 5-card club suit and two tens, I think it should be opened 1NT. This makes it very easy for partner to find the slam, having a 4-loser hand and knowing there is a heart fit .



3rd in the Open: Tony Hutton and Ralph Parker



1st in the Under 750: Winny Chan and Sheila Wills.



2nd in the Under 750: Oliver Goodman and Kathleen Clifford



### February Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>

GOLD COAST CONVENTION CENTRE, BROADBEACH

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AUSTRALIA



# BRIDGE CLUB

PRESENTS

### 28th BARRIER REEF CONGRESS 2024 3 - 6 MAY 2024

GOLD POINT EVENT

### VENUE: 500 PAVILION, THE SHOWGROUNDS MILTON STREET, MACKAY QUEENSLAND

Chief Director: Jan Peach | Senior Director: Peter Busch Tournament Organiser: Diane Morgan 0427 574 328 | 07 4951 2147 Email: brc2024mky@gmail.com



### **ANC Butler** Pairs

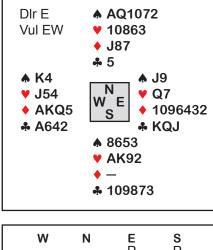


Nikolas Moore

OR the second year in a row, Rachel Langdon and I played in the ANC Butler Pairs, this time in Perth. We scored +107 IMPs in the qualifier, second in our direction and 207 Imps better than last year.

In the final, we beat half of the strongest pairs, with a total of eight wins and three draws from our 19 matches. However, we only finished 17th out of 20 as we had several very big losses, including in the last round.

Round 5 was against eventual winners Michael Courtney and Chris Depasquale, and very swingy. We got off to a great start:



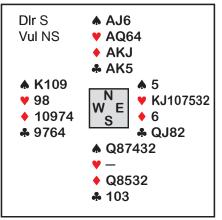
vv	N	P	P
1NT X	2H All pass	3NT	4H
	•		

At favourable vulnerability I bid aggressively as North over a strong 1NT opening, showing both majors, and partner with a double fit raised me to game. With only 14 combined points, our hands fit well and the cards sat perfectly.

East led a club and switched to the ▲J. I won, drew two rounds of trumps, ran my spades and cross-ruffed in the minors for 11 tricks and +690 as West did not ruff in.

In theory, East/West make only nine tricks in diamonds and no other part score at all. We gained 12 IMPs on the board and a further 21 IMPs from beating 6♥ twice during the round, but still lost by 7 IMPs.

In the next round we beat Jaime Thompson and Linda Coli by 4 IMPs, largely thanks to the following board:



North opened a strong 2 and South responded 2. 6. is unbeatable, but North, along with half the field, preferred NT. 6NT is an excellent slam, failing only because two suits block and the cards lie badly.

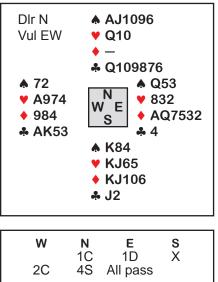
Rachel, East, found the best lead of a spade, ensuring that I can't squander my king on the first round, which would have unblocked the suit for declarer. Declarer won the iack, played ace and a spade to my king, partner encouraging hearts, so I led one to declarer's ace. Declarer played three rounds of diamonds, overtaking the third round to reach dummy. He then cashed three spade tricks, pitching his remaining hearts, but partner had a count on the suit and knew to discard all her hearts too, winning the last trick with the queen of clubs for +50 and 14 IMPs in.



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

- Club Insurance
- Home & Contents insurance •
  - Investment Property Insurance

Our next match was against the only other Queenslander in the field, Charlie Lu, who was partnering Peter Gill. We beat them by 10 IMPs despite what initially looked like a missed opportunity here:



Rachel, West, led her singleton club. I won, cashed my other top club and the **V**A followed by a diamond but declarer ruffed and had no difficulty finding the **A**Q given that partner had overcalled and I had already shown up with 11 points, for -420.

What I should have tried was a low diamond at trick 2, as declarer is known be at least 6-4 in the black suits and if, as is likely on the bidding, he has a diamond void, I can force him to ruff multiple times so that partner may make a trump trick. It turns out that declarer has an extra trump, and Deep Finesse reveals that beating it is extremely double dummy, needing a trump lead (from Q 5 3!) at trick 1, then partner must trump the second club and I have to lead diamonds. In practice, nobody beat it so we only lost one IMP.

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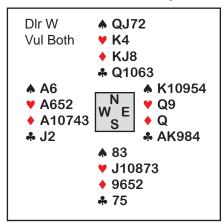
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If you haven't yet spoken to them, contact either Steve Weil or Josh Dejun at TBIB on 07 3252 5254 and see how they might assist you.

In the

8

In the next round, against Tony Nunn and Paul Dalley, we gained 13 IMPs on our first two boards, from making a marginal vulnerable 3NT and then defeating a borderline 4 two tricks, enough to win the match by 3 IMPs. I found this board interesting:



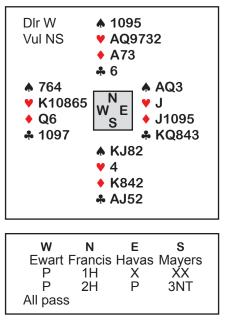
West declared 3NT after he opened a short club and East showed both black suits. Holding almost all the missing values as North, I spent the whole hand trying not to be endplayed. I led a low club. Declarer won in hand and played the AK, putting himself under some pressure as he now has two spade losers. I won the third spade and tried the A, which was ducked. Not wishing to be thrown in again, I cashed my other spade and exited with the AQ to dummy. Declarer cashed dummy's last spade, which squeezed me as I threw a diamond; perhaps I could have tried baring my ♥K instead. After much thought, declarer played a club into my hand and kept both red aces and the +10, winning the last three tricks for -600, but we gained an IMP as it often made an overtrick.

### 25 Years Ago

### The ANC Adelaide - Our Seniors Win

QUEENSLAND had a good ANC overall, the major success being a great win by our Seniors. They and VIC were the only teams with a plus score at the end of the round robin and we won the final 169-98. The Open team came a close 4th and the Women 6th. Apart from the teams, Queensland players did well in other events. Tony Jackman - George Cuppiadge won the Seniors pairs with Jim and Margaret Millar coming third. In the Women's Butler trials Robbie Clayton - Margaret Millar came second with Denise Dodd -Greer Tucker third.

These hands are from the Open match against ACT which was a maximum for QLD.



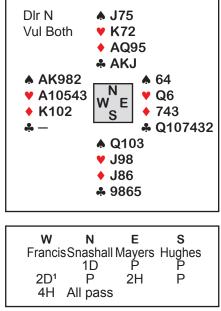
The lead was the  $\pm 6$ ; the nine from dummy and East played the ace, returned the  $\pm K$  and it was now time to assess the situation. All that is required for nine tricks is for the  $\forall K$ to be with West, the  $\pm Q$  with East, the  $\pm Q$  with East (very likely) and the diamonds to be 3-3 or East to have four diamonds and one or two hearts. Not much to ask for, is it?

I won the ♣A, led the ♥4 to the queen, East playing the jack. The ♣10 was covered by the queen and the spades cashed. When a small diamond was played from hand West put up the queen which I ducked. The heart return was won with the ace, the ♦A cashed and when the next

round revealed the four diamonds with East he was thrown in to donate a club trick.

At the other table the bidding and play were the same for no swing.

This hand contributed to a good win against Victoria.



#### <sup>1</sup>Michaels

The  $\bullet$ 8 was led, I played the ten (after a small panic attack) and North the queen and ace and then the  $\bullet$ A. Not a promising contract but if the hearts are 3-3 with the king onside, the spades 3-3 and the defence cooperates this contract can make. The play is a simple no-choice line.

Ruff the  $\bigstar$ A and play a heart to the queen; North making the required defensive error in not taking the king and returning a trump. I was now able to ruff a spade, play a diamond to the king, the  $\checkmark$ A and a small heart - a 10% game comes home.

The opposition played in 2♥ making eight tricks for an 11 IMP swing.

Adrian Mayers





CONFERENCE

& EXHIBITION CENTRE





### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025 BRISBANE

6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July

### **EVENTS**

Interstate Teams Interstate Swiss Pairs Open Butler Mixed Butler Swiss Pairs

### VENUE

Brisbane Technology Park Conference and Exhibition Centre Eight Mile Plains 15 minutes from Brisbane City via the Pacific Motorway

Multiple accommodation options, restaurants, public transport, \$5 daily parking



Check <u>HERE</u> from August 2024 for more details



# QBA Christmas Special Pairs

## Saturday 16th December

Venue: Queensland Contract Bridge Club 67 Ipswich Rd, Woolloongabba 4102

9.30 am

\$70 per pair

Director: Julie Jeffries

Please Enter and Pay on MYABF Please contact the Tournament Organiser if any problems with entering. Players are responsible for making sure their entry is listed.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Entries close 5 pm Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December Late entries accepted at the Director's discretion.

BYO Lunch and BYO Pen - All Day Tea & Coffee Morning & Afternoon Tea, Light Refreshments After Play

Cash Prizes Should the field be divided for secondary prizemoney purposes, it shall be divided on the Director's seeding.

Green, Blue and Red Systems plus Brown Sticker

QBA Regulations Apply A B4 Red Masterpoint Congress

Tournament Organiser: Jan Peach 3352 6929 - 0487 466 109 - janpeach8@bigpond.com

Players and officials are asked not to attend this event if they are infectious, or if they are supposed to be isolating or quarantining. Those who come to play and, feeling unwell, self-diagnose that they may be infectious, should inform the director and leave the venue.

### **Playing Cards**



Matthew McManus

### What happens most often at the bridge table?

Not a trick question, but something you probably don't realise until you think about it...Playing cards – technically each player will do it about 350 times in a normal session. So, it is interesting that a lot of players don't know how to do it – or more correctly, don't know what constitutes a played card.

The laws of bridge set down the rules for the director to apply in determining whether or not a card is considered to be played. These rules are different for the **declaring** side and the **defending** side.

Let's start with the defenders – as this is usually the simplest. A defender's card is considered to be played when it is in a position where the face of the card could have been seen by his partner. There are several misconceptions often associated with the play of a defender's card:

1) Note that it does not matter whether or not the partner has seen the card – the test is whether he could have seen it. For instance, if a player is looking out the window while his partner places a card face up on the table and so doesn't see it, nevertheless the card is still considered played.

2) The fact that declarer may have seen what the card is, is not relevant to the director's decision. It is not uncommon that a defender may hold a card in such a way that one of the opponents can see it, but no one else can. Also, sometimes declarer may pipe up with something along the lines of, "I saw the king of hearts - you have to play it." This is particularly foolish. If the director determines that the defender's partner could not have the face of the card, then it doesn't have to be played. Furthermore, declarer has just told a defender about one of his partner's cards, and that defender is perfectly entitled to use that information.

Note that there is a special rule relating to opening leads out of turn. When a defender places an opening lead face down on the table, that is considered to be a played card and may only be retracted in two situations:

1) that player is not actually on lead; or

2) the director permits the player to change the lead because he

has been given some incorrect information about the meaning of the opponents' auction which only comes to light after the card has been placed on the table. 11

One poor habit that some players have is that of pulling a card out of their hand, thinking about it, putting it back, choosing another, pulling it out, putting it back, ....and so on. While none of the cards will be considered to have been played until it is possible that their partner can see its face, it is a very bad practice which should be avoided at all costs. The reason is that by pulling out cards and then changing your mind and putting them back, you are making it very clear to your partner that you are unsure of what you should lead and that you have a number of definite possibilities. This places partner under considerable ethical strain to ignore the information which you are conveying, even though you may not be doing it deliberately. If there is the suggestion that partner may have used this information later on in the defence, the director may award an adjusted score.

**Declarer's card:** Here is what the laws say – the declarer's card is considered to be played if it is held, face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in a position to indicate that it has been played. So, if there is a dispute, the director has to come to the table, hear the

We cater for all budgets, but we have only one standard of service: the K.M.Smith Standard.



For you... we think of everything Phone 3252 2031 or visit kmsmith.com.au "facts" (of which there are usually four versions), and then try to come up with a decision given how the laws instruct him.

Most significant, however, is the incorrect belief of many players that a declarer may take back the card they have just placed on the table. This usually occurs when they play a card and then quickly take it back realising that they have pulled the wrong card from their hand. Once a card has been deliberately faced on the table, then, in most cases, unfortunately declarer is stuck with it. If the declarer has carelessly pulled out the three instead of the ace which he meant to, the three will have to be played. If he has momentarily forgotten that hearts are trumps and has tried to ruff with a spade, then the spade which he played will have to remain as the played card.

There are just two situations where a card once played may be withdrawn and another card played – both by declarer and defender:

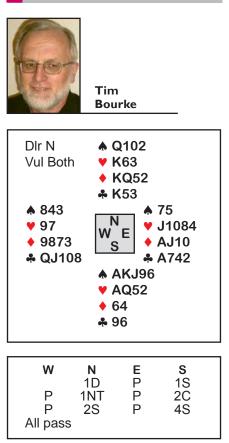
- to correct a revoke if you fail to follow suit when you could have, you may be permitted to change your card;
- 2) following some infraction for example, if the opponent has revoked and changed their card, you also have the right to change yours. Similarly, if you were given wrong information about the meaning of the opponent's agreements, the director may permit you to change your card provided no one else has played.

Finally, **Dummy's card** is played by declarer naming it, after which dummy picks up the card and places it in the played position. Although not common in Australia, it is also permissible for declarer to play a card from dummy by leaning across and picking it up himself.

When naming a card, it is technically right for declarer to state the suit and rank of the card, eg. two of spades, king of diamonds, etc. Of course, far more usual is for the declarer to say things like, "small", "big", "win it", "trump", "run the clubs" and so on. The laws recognise this and there are various "rules" for the director to interpret these commands. A number of issues may arise from the play of dummy's card.

- Declarer makes an "unintended designation", that is, via a slip of the tongue he names a card which he never intended to play. This in itself is a large and contentious area. I have dealt with it at some length in a previous article. In certain circumstances, if declarer is able to convince the director that he never intended to play the card he named, a change may be permitted.
- 2) Declarer names a card, but dummy plays a different card. The general rule is that the card named is the card which must be played. If a defender plays a card in response to the card which dummy incorrectly plays, then it can be replaced without any penalty.
- 3) A defender mishears or misunderstands the card declarer has called for from dummy, and plays subsequently. Unless dummy has played the wrong card, then the defender is stuck with the card which he has played.

IBPA Column Service



After the new-minor forcing bid of 2♣, North's rebid promised three cards in spades while denying four hearts. South knew what to do.

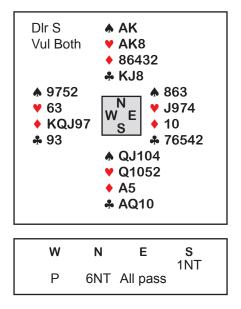
West led the queen of clubs, and that held the trick when dummy followed low. The jack of clubs was continued (rather than a contract-killing heart). Declarer again called for a low club, which was essential as the cards lay because it left East with guards in both hearts and clubs.

After ruffing the club continuation, declarer saw that he had only nine tricks. Rather than rely on the hearts being favourable, declarer decided to try and make a tenth trick by reversing the dummy, ruffing two diamonds in hand. So, at trick four declarer made the essential play of a low diamond to dummy's king and East's ace (ducking would not have been a sound move because the ace would then be ruffed out). East exited with a trump. Declarer won this in hand with the ace then led a diamond to dummy's queen and ruffed a diamond with the king of trumps. Declarer now crossed to dummy with a low heart to dummy's king to ruff a second diamond in hand.

Declarer now led his nine of trumps to dummy's ten. When both opponents followed, he drew West's remaining trump with dummy's queen, throwing the five of hearts from hand. That was declarer's eighth trick and he claimed the last two tricks with his ace and queen of hearts.

If West had shifted to a heart at trick three, declarer would win in hand with the gueen and play a diamond to dummy's king and East's ace. After taking the heart exit in dummy with the king, declarer plays the queen of diamonds and ruffs a diamond high. Then, after cashing the king of trumps and leading a low trump to dummy's ten, declarer ruffs a second diamond in hand to reduce everyone to three cards. Then when the jack of trumps is led to dummy's queen poor East cannot keep both the ace of clubs and two hearts. Whichever suit East abandoned would provide declarer his tenth trick.

Finally, declarer might also survive if trumps proved to be 4-1 as long as three rounds of hearts survive.



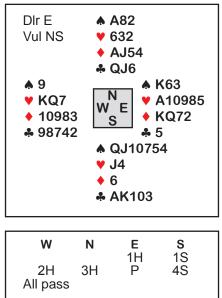
West led the king of diamonds. Declarer counted eleven top tricks and saw that the twelfth would have to come from the heart suit. As he had to lose one trick no matter how he played, declarer followed the general principle of doing so early: he let West win the first trick.

After winning the next diamond with his ace and noting East's club discard, declarer set about gaining information about how the black suits lay before touching hearts. Declarer began by cashing dummy's ace and king of spades. Next he played three rounds of clubs ending in hand, noting that West began with only two clubs.

Now the queen and jack of spades were cashed. When West followed to all four spade winners, declarer now knew that West had four spades, five diamonds and two clubs – marking him with an original 4=2=5=2 shape.

Declarer now cashed dummy's ace and king of hearts. When he called for the eight of hearts to be played next, East covered this with the nine. Since South knew that West had no more hearts, declarer covered this with his ten of hearts. When that held the trick, he claimed his twelfth with his queen of hearts.

The point of the play here was to delay the play in the crucial suit (hearts) as long as possible while gathering information about how the other suits lay. This approach would also win when West had four hearts headed by the jack, for in the twocard ending he would not be able to keep both his diamond winner and two hearts. Declarer would then make his twelfth trick in whichever suit West abandoned.



This deal came up in a team game. The auction was the same at both tables, with 3♥ indicating a good raise at least to 3♠. Both West players began by leading the king of hearts. This was overtaken with the ace at both tables. The five of clubs was returned by each East player.

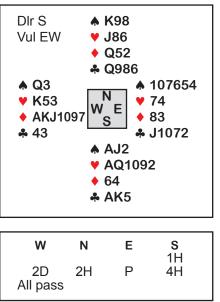
At the first table, the club was taken in dummy with dummy's queen. The declarer saw that there was a danger of East ruffing a club, so he played ace and another trump. East took the latter with his king of trumps and then led the five of hearts to his partner's queen, suggesting a club return. When that hint was taken, East's club ruff was the fourth defensive trick.

At the other table, declarer paused to think about the bidding and play to date. West was marked with the king and queen of hearts and not much else. Unless East had opened on a nine or ten count, he had to have the king of trumps and the king and queen of diamonds.

The play to tricks one and two suggested to declarer that East was looking for a club ruff, with West's queen of hearts as the entry. The only way to foil this was to cut the link between the defenders' hands.

So, after winning the club shift with dummy's queen, declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and then led the jack of diamonds. When East covered this with the queen of diamonds declarer threw the jack of hearts from his hand. After ruffing East's heart exit, declarer played ace and another trump to East's king. That was the last defensive trick: declarer had made his contract via five trumps, a diamond and four clubs.

Also, in the unlikely event that West had turned up with a diamond honour and given East a club ruff, declarer would cash the ace of trumps and make his contract as long as East had begun with a 2=5=5=1 shape.



West began with the ace, king and a third diamond. East ruffed dummy's queen with the seven of trumps. Declarer overruffed this with his nine of trumps and then led his two of spades to dummy's king. Next he ran dummy's eight of trumps to West's king. After winning the trump return with dummy's jack, declarer drew West's remaining trump with his queen. Next declarer cashed the ace, king and queen of clubs and was disappointed to see that East had four clubs. Declarer now led a spade to his jack and West's queen for down one.

"That was unlucky," wailed South. "East began with five spades so it was 5 to 2 that the finesse would win."

"Luck had nothing to do with the case" riposted North. "All you had to do was play your last trump, throwing a spade from dummy, before touching clubs. Then you cash the ace, king and queen of clubs learning that East still has a club winner. Now it's a two-card ending and when you lead a spade from dummy you know East's remaining card is a club. So you have no option but to play the ace of spades. As it happens, the queen of spades would fall under the ace, and the jack of spades would be your game-going trick."

### Queensland Open Teams



Richard Wallis

This is part of the Queensland Festival of Bridge at QCBC, incorporating the Open Teams and the Open Pairs, played over Saturday, Sunday and Monday, and this year the Open Teams was renamed the Reg Busch Shield to commemorate one of Queensland's tireless workers who recently passed. I was playing with Greer Tucker, and at the other table on Saturday was Anne Lamport and Ewa Kowalczyk and on Sunday Anne played with Paul Gosney.

A Swiss format of 8/9-board matches was used on Saturday and Sunday morning, after which the top four teams would be withdrawn to play off in the semifinals and final, and the remaining teams would play another match to decide the final order. The four finalists would be given exemption for the Sunday afternoon matches in the Open Pairs, and drop into the field on Monday morning in joint fifth place.

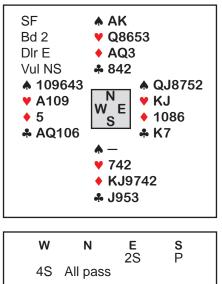
We started as team 2 of 52, and after a modest 7 IMP win in the first match, we had a 15 IMP loss in the second match to drop us back in the field. We won the remaining six matches but did not emerge from the pack until match 8, when we played team 12, the highest team we had faced, and this win moved us from 3rd to 2nd and into the semifinal!

The other finalists were: Richman (Andrew and Sandra Richman, and Andrew Braithwaite and Paul Hooykaas), Francis (Neville Francis

and Richard Ward, and Jill Magee and Terry Strong) and Moore (Nicholas Moore and Sebastian Langdon Macmillan, and Rachael Langdon and Kim Morrison). Richman chose to play Moore and had a modest win, whereas against Francis we had a comfortable win, so it was Tucker against Richman in the 20-board final.

In the final it was always close but they won both halves to finish up ahead by a mere 12 IMPs. In the play-off for 3rd and 4th, Francis came from behind to beat Moore by 19 IMPs. Since Richman was not an all-Qld team, we were awarded the inaugural Reg Busch Shield. Being the inaugural winners of the Reg Busch Shield was a big high and we did not come down on Monday to compete properly for the Open Pairs, but Richard Ward and Neville Francis went on to win comfortably.

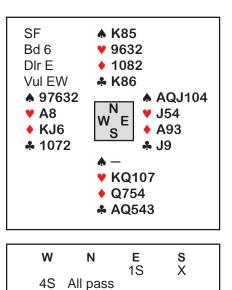
I have confined my report to the semifinal, and final as that was our dream result.



On the second board of the semifinal, I opened 2, showing a modest weak-2, and Greer had no hesitation in jumping to game, keeping North out of the bidding and, of course, South as well.

The opening lead was the  $\bigstar3$  and there was nothing in the play and we quickly scored up +420 for what appeared to be a flat board.

However, at the other table the bidding was a little more spirited and finally stopped in  $5 \pm X$ . Of course this had the same three losers so we scored up another +100 and 11 IMPs.

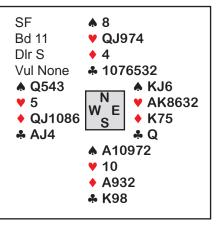


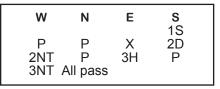
I opened 1 ★ with a modest hand and South doubled for take-out. Greer used a common modern bidding principle of jumping to game with 5-card support and a weak hand, effectively silencing North.

The opening lead was the  $\Psi K$ , which I won on the table to take a successful trump finesse, clearing the suit. Next, I exited with the  $\clubsuit J$ , and North won the  $\bigstar K$ .

After the take-out double and with North showing up with both black kings, it seemed that South must have the  $\diamond Q$ , and so it proved, making 10 tricks for +620.

The other table stopped in 3<sup>s</sup>, also making 10 tricks, but 10 IMPs to us.

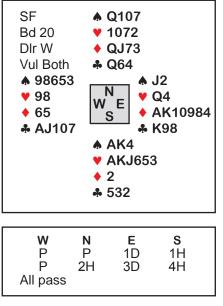




South opened 1♠, which was passed around to me and I doubled, intending to show a good hand. South rebid 2♦ and Greer bid 2NT, but

I carried on with my hand description and bid 3♥, over which Greer rebid 3NT. Having shown a good hand and with spade and diamond help for Greer, I contentedly passed 3NT. North has no clear-cut lead, so led the ♠8, and Greer was untroubled and eventually made 12 tricks for +490.

I did not get the bidding at the other table, but I presume that East jumped to 4♥ to protect his kings, and while this is a reasonable contract, the 5-1 heart break was a killer and we gained 11 IMPs.



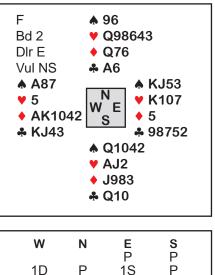
On the last board of the SF, South bid aggressively to 4**v** and Greer led

the  $\diamond 6$ . Declarer played the  $\diamond Q$  from the table, won by me with the  $\diamond K$ .

Only one diamond was missing, and I concluded from South's aggressive bidding that he did not have it, so I led the  $\pm J$  at trick 2, which gave nothing away.

Declarer had nowhere to go for 10 tricks now and we easily took our four tricks for +100

At the other table it was the same contract and same lead, but I presume that East tried to cash his second diamond to give his partner a ruff, which led to 10 tricks and another +620 and 12 IMPs.



In the second board of the Final I

All pass

2C



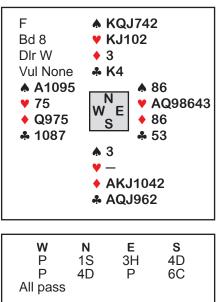
Reg Busch Trophy winners: Greer Tucker, Peter Busch (chief scorer), Richard Wallis, Anne Lamport and Paul Gosney, (missing Ewa Kowalczyk)

was in a quandary when Greer bid my 5-card suit, as game could be cold.

I gave some thought to bidding 3. but eventually decided to pass with my minimum hand since I did not have values in both her suits.

North assisted by leading the A and Greer made 11 tricks for +150, which looked like a potential loss to us.

However at the other table EW found their way to 3NT, which has no chance and went six off for another +300, so we gained 10 IMPs



South has a good hand and insisted on one of his minors by jumping to 6♣ over his partner's 4♣ rebid, duly passed out.

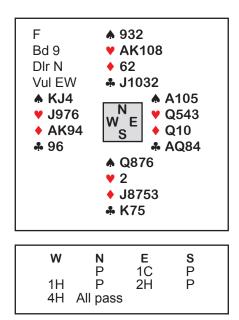
Holding a spade control herself, Greer led the  $\clubsuit7$  to protect her diamond holding.

Declarer won the  $\clubsuit 9$  at trick 1, making his suit good, and played the  $\bigstar A$  and  $\bigstar 2$ , ruffing on the table with the  $\bigstar K$ . He returned to hand by ruffing a heart and drew trumps, but when the  $\blacklozenge Q$  did not drop he had to concede one off for +50.

At the other table the contract was also  $6 \pm$ , but West did not lead a trump, and the slam made for +920 and 14 IMPs.

Double-dummy, the slam can be made by cashing the A at trick 2 and running the J, but declarer was not clairvoyant.

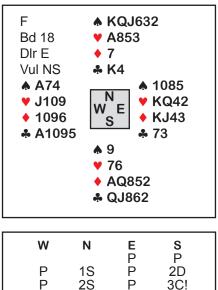
The difference between genius and stupidity at the bridge table is that genius has its limits



I had a routine 1♣ opening and 2♥ rebid, and Greer had a routine 1♥ response and 4♥ rebid, but the cards were against us.

North led the 6, so we were off to a good start, but when the hearts broke 4-1 and the club finesse failed, Greer had to concede one off; –100. At the other table it was the same contract, but this somehow went two off for +200, so we gained 3 IMPs.

While difficult to get to with a 4-4 heart fit, 3NT is cold.



3NT All pass

North opened 1♠ after three passes and rebid the spades after her partner bid 2♦.

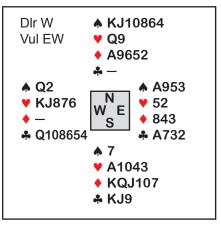
I am not sure if South was trying to get preference for one of his minors with the 3. rebid, but this excited North into bidding 3NT, possibly forgetting that South had passed on the first round.

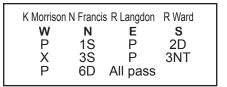
It seemed like a good idea to lead the unbid suit and look at dummy first, so I led the  $\forall K$  and Greer played the  $\forall J$ , guaranteeing the ten since she could not have a singleton on the bidding.

North ducked so I led the  $\checkmark$ 2 next and declarer had no real chance, finishing one off for +100.

At the other table the bidding stopped in a spade part score, making nine tricks for +140 and 6 IMPs to us in a low scoring second half.

NEVILLE Francis, in the play-off for 3rd and 4th in the Qld Open Teams, showed that he still has that expert intuition which sniffs out difficult-tobid slams.





After Neville opened 1S as North, and heard the 2 • response, he knew that game was certainly on and manufactured a 3 • jump despite holding only 10 HCPs. Then, when South showed stoppers in the unbid suits, he blasted directly into slam. West led a club and, when the •Q was handily placed, 12 tricks were not difficult.



P

TBIB Teams, 3rd: Richard Ward, Jill Magee, Terry Strong and Neville Francis



TBIB Teams winners: Andy Braithwaite, Sandra Richman, Andrew Richman and Paul Hooykaas

THE Dalby Bridge Club held their annual one-day congress on Sunday, September 10.

The President of the club Rebecca Knight, welcomed Chris Snook as director and visiting players from Toowoomba and Goondiwindi.

Winners in the Open section were Toowoomba players Jenni Buckley and Jim Wood with Michael Doherty and Gus Govan the runners up.

In the B grade division Toowoomba players Sandy and Susie Fraser

#### Dalby

took the honours with Dalby sisters Grace Ireland and Ruth Sargent in second place.

Although the number of players was down this year, all the visitors agreed that it was a very pleasant day of bridge. Jenni Buckley on behalf of the visiting players thanked the Dalby club for their hospitality.

After the changes that were brought about by the pandemic, the Dalby club hopes to return to hosting two congresses next year.



Gus Govan, Jenni Buckley, Michael Doherty and Jim Wood.



Sandy Fraser, Rebecca Knight (President: Dalby BC) and Susie Fraser



Grace Ireland and Ruth Sargent.

### Manager's Travels

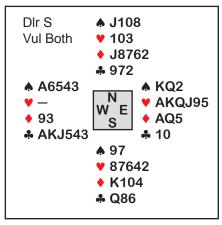


Kim Ellaway

One of my favourite congresses is the Northern Territory Gold - Alice Springs one year, Darwin the next. When I can possibly attend I do. The Darwin side of it is advertised elsewhere in this Bulletin but my airfares and accommodation are already booked. It is an excellent event with three sessions of matchpoint pairs (two qualifying, one final), three sessions of teams, and then four sessions of Swiss pairs and all Gold Points.

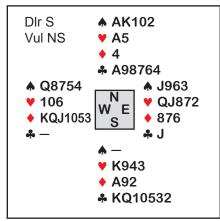
Ray and I did not shine in the matchpoint pairs: however we qualified for the final. We yo-yoed in the teams ending mid-field but the Swiss pairs was amazing for Ray and me. We beat first and second convincingly, however third and fifth place gave us a hiding. We finally came seventh which was excellent for us. A good friend told me 30 years ago that a grand slam should not be bid unless I could see 13 plus tricks. I bid one in the teams that went two off and my friend was the first person to phone reiterating the advice. In the Swiss pairs Ray bid two grands - the first one granted us 14 IMPs as it seemed small slams, let alone grand slams, gained the

partnership IMPs, whereas games, whether vulnerable or not, were usually averaged with zero.



Twelve of the 20 pairs did not bid the grand. South passed and, as West, I opened 2♣ clubs showing 11-15 points and six clubs any other shape. Ray bid 3♥ game force showing six and I bid 4♣ spades showing 6♣ and 5♣. Ray went though Roman Key Card and signed off in 7♣. He claimed after he ensured the spades were 3/2.

The next board was interesting but could have been dangerous for the opposition.



I was South and once again opened 2. Chris Depasquale, sitting West, overcalled 2. Ray once again lurched into Roman Key Card and found out I had two key cards and the ♣Q which saw him bid 7♣. Chris then bid 7+ which was doubled of course. However we only gained three IMPs because of this bid. Was it a brave overcall? You decide. Ray and I have to get off to the perfect defence which on the day was not easy. In the end game we took six tricks however on an original spade lead we take seven tricks. There were only two players who bid the grand, and Ray was one of them.

### Kenmore



Country Comes to the City

BRIDGE players from Roma and Dalby travelled to Brisbane in August not to attend the Ekka but to play bridge, renew friendships and generally have a good time at Kenmore. The event, a Kenmore Bridge Club initiative, was first held in the country in 2022 and hosted then by the Roma Contract Bridge Club. This year at Kenmore, nearly a hundred players competed for Queensland Bridge Association Red Points and cash prizes.

But it was not all competition! Throughout the weekend players had the opportunity to gain skills from an educational bridge seminar



Anne Russell and Chris Williams

conducted by Therese Tully, one of Kenmore's high-flyers, a National and International competitor. The weekend started with a "Meet & Greet" held at a Kenmore member's river-side residence Friday evening.

Everyone reassembled on Saturday for a challenging day of bridge held over two sessions and directed by Graham Rusher of Kenmore Bridge Club. While bridge was clearly the focus of the day, there was plenty of time throughout to enjoy the variety of delicious home-made offerings provided by Kenmore members for morning and afternoon tea breaks and lunch. A highlight of the lunch break was the drawing of over ten raffles ranging from tickets to the NRL and AFL Brisbane semi-final matches to a beautiful home-made lampshade.

That night, pre-dinner drinks. sponsored by K.M. Smith Funeral Directors, started the celebrations at a Toowong restaurant dinner. A special feature of the evening was the presentation of awards for the day's bridge sessions. Jane Gordon and Fay Donoghue of Roma came first in the morning session. The afternoon session winners were Kenmore members, Anne Russell and Chris Williams. Steve Weil made the presentations sponsored by Tony Bemrose Insurance Brokers (TBIB). The next day, those with the energy cruised the mighty Brisbane River to relax, enjoy the scenery and partake in a BBQ lunch.



Jane Gordon and Fay Donoghue with Steve Weil (TBIB sponsor)

Kenmore's videographer Margaret Mobbs and photographer Anne Russell expertly captured all the festivities of the weekend for posterity. The plan is for the three clubs to meet annually on a rotational basis. Clearly there are benefits of meeting members from the visiting clubs. For the host club, tasks undertaken during the preparation and execution of such an event reveal the many skills and interests of fellow members and strengthen bonds. Next year, the City will visit the Country at Dalby when their turn comes to host Kenmore and Roma. We, at Kenmore, can't wait for another round of bridge competition and fun.

### Darling Downs

The Darling Downs Bridge Club celebrated its 25th anniversary at their recent annual bridge congress held on the 26/27th August.

Over the years, we have built up a reputation as a friendly, hospitable club with a lovely atmosphere. The recent Covid pandemic decimated our numbers, but we welcome new members, and today are celebrating our silver anniversary with our annual pairs and teams congress.

The Darling Downs Bridge Club was founded by Grand Master and bridge guru, Enid Busch, 25 years ago next month. Enid gathered 20 or so of her then students at St Bart's Church Hall in Middle Ridge. We formed a skeleton committee, and played on Mondays in fairly haphazard form. We named it The Toowoomba Social Bridge Club.

As word spread, we outgrew St Bart's, and moved to the University Centre at Mt Lofty, with a lovely green outlook towards Boyce Gardens. We were an all-girls team, and as this was a multi-function hall, we had to store our tables and equipment across the courtyard, and set them up each time we played, which by then was twice a week.

Being a resourceful lot, we decided to hold an invitation day, and invited our husbands, and any men we knew who had ever held a pack of cards. This was a multi-pronged success and again our numbers swelled.

Enid continued her lessons, and



Barbara Wippell and Roey Kelly conducted directors' courses, we morphed to a fully-fledged bridge club, becoming affiliated with the Australian Bridge Federation, and the then committee spent a lot of time and effort searching for a new home to purchase or lease. We threw ourselves into fund raising, in many and varied ways, including a stall at the Sunday markets. Committee member, Gerry Dawson groomed three of our promising minds for a TV guiz show which offered large cash prizes, It was called something like 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire.' Doctors Jim Blaikie, Nev O'Connor and Ned Kelley were outfitted in jazzy promotional t-shirts and applied for an audition. Sadly, the show folded before they made the stage, but undaunted, we set their minds and those of committee to seeking government funding. This resulted in us being awarded a generous grant from the Gambling and Community Benefit Fund.

By this time we had found our present premises, an initiative of the Toowoomba Show Society named the Down Under Bar. The decor was 'Bush'- corrugated iron, saddles, bridles, multiple XXXX signs and the like. With the blessing of the Show Society we set our funding to use camouflaging the bar settings, bringing the rather basic kitchen up to pass the pub test, converting the Band Stand to a well equipped office, and invested in Bridgemate technology. We were the first bridge club in Queensland to move into computerised bridge.

Roey Kelly

### Hervey Bay

Audrey Bonnick has been a stalwart member of the HBCBC for nearly 30 years. She has been honoured with Life Membership.



She joined the club in 1996 and since that time has assisted the club, undertaking numerous duties which has enabled the successful running of our bridge club.

In the early days of her membership she was not averse to rolling up her sleeves to scrub toilets, wash and vacuum floors, gardening and assisting in any way that was needed.

She was asked onto the committee within a few months of becoming a club member. When the clubrooms were purchased in 1998 one of the earliest positions she took on was that of providore.

Back then Friday was the biggest playing day with 12-14 tables, and Audrey would bake goodies every Friday for afternoon tea.

In 2000, congresses were started. The first one was at the RSL but they were subsequently transferred to the clubrooms. Audrey took on many roles to help with the smooth running of these congresses.

First she was a caddy, the only resident one, for eight years.

Providore duties and organizing the catering for the congress was another undertaking for her. In the early days sandwich-making would start at 7 am which resulted in a long day. This job she also did for several years.

She also assisted with scoring. Before Bridgemates. scoring was done manually at first & she would be required to read the scores out to the director and then every score had to be checked back. No doubt a time-consuming task which added to the length of the day.

When the club was sufficiently financial to buy some extra boards, the boards were stripped by members, put into suits, then she and Les would hand set the congress boards at their kitchen table.

Over the years dealing cards for club sessions was yet another chore she was willing to help out with. She not only did this manually but also when the Dealing Machine was purchased.

Assisting Les when he was teaching also proved to be a very rewarding experience for her and one she thoroughly enjoyed.

2013 saw Audrey taking over as the editor of the Trumpet a job she still undertakes today.

Over the 30 years there were several stints on the committee for Audrey and she came out of retirement in 2020 to become club secretary, her second stint as secretary and she is still there three years later.

Being secretary is a full-on position which takes a lot of personal time.

The Wide Bay Zone has been a passionate interest for her since she first arrived in the Bay and she has willingly worked towards the betterment of it.

In between all these undertakings she also managed to improve her bridge and has now acquired over 1000 Masterpoints. In August this year she has gained the rank of Grand Master. A commendable achievement.

I think you will all agree that Audrey is truly deserving of becoming a Life Member of the HBCBC.

Carol O'Hara

### Directors' Corner



Hurry up and Take Your Time

Chris

Snook

MOST players will assert that "slow play" lessens their enjoyment of the game. The feeling is across the board. If your club expectation is that a three-board round will take 20 minutes (including move time) then the fast players might finish after 15-16 minutes and have a 4-minute wait on every move. The average player might wait a minute or two. If a pair is "always" slow then they have the stress of being told to hurry by all those around them. None of this is fun.

As director we should keep the movement progressing on time. We shouldn't slow the whole room down to the pace of the slowest pair(s). This means we will have to help these slow pairs to speed up, but don't be a slave to the clock. Law 8B1 states:

"In general, a round ends when the director gives the signal for the start of the following round; but if any table has not completed play by that time, the round continues for that table until there has been a progression of players".

If you watch slow players, you will see that much of their time is spent on non-bridge activities. Being slow to move to the next table (and usually last to sit down), slow to take cards from the board, count their cards face down on the table one at a time, chatting instead of starting the hand, etc. The non-playing director may be able to hover near the table and help to hurry them up. It is more difficult for the playing director, but you may be able to do so some of the time or you might get an experienced player that is sitting out to help occasionally. If you cut down the time wastage, then most slow play issues go away. There are a few clubs that still allow a "late play" which is a bit like making

a "late play" which is a bit like making the teacher/director and the four

players at the slow table to stay back and play a board that was missed during the regular schedule. It can be done but is not popular in these times of instant results. More common is that the director takes away a board not played in the allotted time. This is a board that was scheduled to be played but has not due to an infraction so the director must award a bridge score (an artificial adjusted score) for that board. It is not a "no play". The director assesses responsibility for the slow play (if it is obvious) and awards Av+/Av/ Av- to each contestant based on this responsibility. Most times it might be 50%-50%, but if NS have tried to keep to time and EW were continually wasting time despite director instruction then there might be merit in awarding Av/Av- or similar. Keep the "No play" button for situations where the schedule has changed and no-one will be playing that board.

#### Tempo

Players need time to think, provided it is for valid bridge reasons. Some think for a second or two and some take a lot longer to reach the same conclusion about a bridge decision. Law 73D tells us that it is desirable, though not always required, for players to maintain steady tempo and unwavering manner. Unintentionally varying tempo or manner in which a call or play is made is not an infraction. Inferences from such variations (such as where a missing card might be) are authorized only to the opponents, who may act upon the information at their own risk.

#### **Deception!**

A player may not attempt to mislead an opponent by means of a question, remark or gesture, by the haste or hesitancy of a call or play (as in hesitating before playing a singleton); by the manner in which a call or play is made; or by any purposeful deviation from correct procedure.

If the director determines that an innocent player has drawn a false inference from a question, remark manner, tempo or the like, of an opponent who has no demonstrable bridge reason for the action, and who could have been aware, at the time of the action, that it could work to his benefit, the Director shall award an adjusted score.

#### **QBA Director Exams**

In June we had 9 nominations for accreditation assessment with seven people passing both papers. Congratulations to new Club Directors: Dusk Care (Cleveland Bay), Michael Gearing (QCBC), Mark Harnack (Caloundra), Jim Harpley (Noosa), David Reid (Noosa), David Richards (Coolum) and George Topfner (Gold Coast).

- Proficiency exam is online and can be taken at any time by players early in their Director development. It covers the basics focused on running a single session in your club.
- QBA Club Director exam. The next exam is on Saturday 11th November.
- QBA Congress Director exam. The next exam is on Saturday 18th November.
- Registration forms for Club and

Congress Director exams are available through clubs and on the QBA Directors page.





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### MyABF

The steady increase in My ABF users continues. At the time of writing there are now 15,383 users. Of those 9,173 have registered with their own account and 6,210 have been added as members by their clubs.

All the upcoming national congresses (Canberra in Bloom, Spring Nationals, Golden West Swiss Pairs, GNOT National finals, Summer Festival 2024, Gold Coast 2024) are listed on My ABF and taking entries. There are also an increasing number of club and state events being listed. The long term aim remains that this page becomes the definitive listing for all major bridge events in Australia rather than having lots of disparate systems at state and club level all around the country, some of which only handle entries and not payment. There are other advantages to a single listing as well:

- As we build up records of events over several years that allows organisers to look at trends.
- It forms a basis for a future national results database.

### Duplicate pairs results display

I have started to get some feedback from players and clubs about the pair's results display. This is great – the more people use and see something the more feedback we get; hence the more we can improve things for you! When a club publishes results of a session you played in, you get an email notification (you can opt out of this if you wish on your Settings page) with a link to the results. You can also see them on your My ABF dashboard. Here's an example of what it looks like there:

Your Recent Results				
Date	Partner/Te	am Event	Result	
18 Sep 20	023 Adrienne	Monday Afternoon - Section A (18-Sep-23)	4th	
16 Sep 20	023 Adrienne	Saturday Afternoon - Section A (16-Sep-23)	1st	
14 Sep 20	023 Verna	Thursday Afternoon - Section A (14-Sep-23)	5th	
11 Sep 20	023 Adrienne	Monday Afternoon - Section A (11-Sep-23)	5th	
7 Sep 202	23 Verna	Thursday Afternoon - Section A (7-Sep-23)	9th	

Each of these is a link direct to the session results where your own position is highlighted and from there you can, as usual, view your or any pair's scoresheet and every result on every board played.

The box on your dashboard shows just your 5 most recent results. A more comprehensive view is available through the Results page on your main menu:



That page contains sections showing all your own results, results for your teammates (i.e. people you have defined as teammates in your profile – usually those you play with regularly), all results for your club and all results for all clubs.

Of course you can only see results from your club if the club chooses to publish them in My ABF. If your club isn't yet publishing its duplicate results why not encourage them to do so?

Note at this stage results display is limited to duplicate pairs. Obviously in time the plan is to accommodate all the common tournament formats as well – swiss pairs, swiss teams, knockouts, etc.

### How clubs become active in My ABF

Of course the starting point to any of this is for the club to become active in My ABF. All clubs have now been set up in My ABF but to become active a club needs to have an initial administrator who sees their Club Admin menu and can then control who else should have access. Just let us know who you want that to be and your club can be ready to go in a matter of seconds!

#### Club membership management

Let me next explain membership aspects a bit more. This is a list of the features around managing members, showing which ones are currently operational and which ones are still to be built.

Feature	Status in My ABF
Set up types of membership for your club.	Available and working
Upload a list of club members (from the masterpoint centre or external sources like Pianola, Compscore or a spreadsheet).	Available and working
Make changes to maintain that list as current.	Available and working
Download a report of members.	Available and working
Track home club members.	Built but deliberately not yet made visible so as not to conflict with the masterpoint centre
Send email communications to members or tagged subgroups of them.	Available and working
Use membership status to calculate different member and visitor table money rates for club sessions.	Available and working
Use membership status to calculate different member and visitor entry fees for tournaments.	Not yet available
Track dates for which players' membership is paid up to.	Not yet available
Facilitate payment for member annual renewals (by bridge credits or other means).	Not yet available

What this means is that clubs can maintain a list of their current members and use that list for communications and to calculate table money at club sessions. But they can't yet fully track the history of their members and process their annual renewals.

For a small to medium sized club where members don't change that much this probably isn't much of an issue. For a larger club that's using something like Pianola or Compscore to manage your members you will probably want to continue to use that for now.

Nevertheless, you can still use My ABF. Several larger clubs have uploaded their members, maintain the current list and use it for processing club sessions. Yes at this stage there is a small amount of extra handling to keep the member listing up to date in My ABF and another system. But the convenience (both for the club and the players) of running club sessions and accepting payment with bridge credits far outweighs that!

#### **Recent work**

In the last couple of months travel and absences by members of the My ABF project team, including myself, has resulted in limited progress on the platform. The Steering Committee is currently reviewing timelines and planned release schedules, such as the highly anticipated 'membership management' enhancements and the "masterpoint" rollout for clubs. Our ambition and hope were to deliver this functionality by the end of this year, but resourcing challenges - yes, this affects us too – are impacting our timelines. We will provide an updated schedule sconest. Stay tuned!

By the way, the My ABF project team is always seeking augmentation. If you know of any Python developers that might be able to lend a hand, please let us know. We are actively looking! Other skills we are always interested in are solution architecture, change management and communications.

If you want more information about the possibilities for clubs there are written and video guides here: <a href="https://www.abf.com.au/member-services/my-abf-resources/clubs/">https://www.abf.com.au/member-services/my-abf-resources/clubs/</a> Alternatively drop us a support request and we can talk to you individually. Help is available every step of the way to get going.

Julian Foster My ABF Project Manager Julian.foster@abf.com.au

#### JULY

TOOWOOMBA TEAMS [Director – Chris Snook]: UNDER 500 MASTERPOINTS 1 Trevor Henderson / Mavis Simpson / John Erlandson / Patrick Kelly; 2 Lawrence Price / David Edwards / Greg Munck / Ngaire Wills; NOVICE 1 Susie & Sandy Fraser / Tim Porter / Roger Green / 2 Rhonda & Allan McLucas / Joy & Gerry Orrin. TOOWONG PAIRS [Director - Alan Gibson]: OPEN 1 Pele Rankin / Paul Hooykaas; 2 Jill Magee / Terry Strong; B Winny Chan / Wendy Gibson; C Sherrell Cardinal / Peter Lang; UNDER 150 MASTERPOINTS 1 Marge Henry / David Sydes; 2 Jacqui Dudurovic / Althea Crowley; B Alice Edwards / Jenny Andrews

BUNDABERG CONGRESS [Director – Julie Jeffries] PAIRS 1 Malcolm Saunders / Adrian Lohmann; 2 Jan Randall / Don Cameron; B Carol Black / Rhonda Chantler; C Marie & Selby Downing; TEAMS 1 Maurice Williams / David Priol / Nikki Riszko / Andrew Struik; 2 Ann McGhee / Mattie Baljet / Michael Stoneman / Marcel Hoevenaars; B Judy Zeller / Hugh O'Malley / Trevor Galletly / Selwyn Nitschke; LOCKYER PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Hema & Shanaal De Zoysa; 2 Tere Wotherspoon / Ziggy Konig; B Elizabeth & Tony Thorne; REDLAND PAIRS [Director – Chris Snook] UNDER 500 1 Michael Macrossan / Paula Lennon; 2 Sonya & Shayne Palfreyman; NOVICE 1 Louise & Stephen Bennett; 2 Jacqui Dudurovic / Althea Crowley

SURFERS PARADISE CONGRESS [Director – Alan Gibson] PAIRS 1 Edward Hahn / Neven Burica; 2 Cathy & Philip Hocking; B John Rivers / Sameer Pandya; TEAMS 1 Ann Liu / Usher Zeng / Anthony Tuxworth / Kevin Steffensen; 2 Anne McGregor / Ernie Sutton / Robyn Fletcher / Pat Beattie; B John Rivers / Sameer Pandya / Winny Chan / Dewi Eastman; MACKAY NOVICE PAIRS [Director – Geoff Taylor] 1 Geoff Cowan / Sandy Patterson; 2 Sandra Morris / Ann Whitmore; MORETON BRIBIE TEAMS [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Eugene Pereira / Martin Wu / Vesna & Voyko Markovic; 2 Val Roland / Michael Stoneman / June Glenn / Alan Hamilton; B Noreen Weyling / Tony Davidson / Peter Gruythuysen / Ross Shardlow

**CAIRNS SHOW PAIRS** [Director – Julie Jeffries] 1 Josephina Burrie / Gideon Azar; 2 Alexander Long / Tony Lusk; 3 Andrea & Dave Mathieson; **B** 1 Patricia Ottone / Kate Gargan; 2 Klarika Tortely / Camilla Nicholson; **C** Sonja de Rooy / Annemarie Stevenson;

QLD CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB GRADED TEAMS [Director – Alan Gibson] OPEN A 1 Ben Leung / Kate Macdonald / Tere Wotherspoon / Siegfried Konig; 2 Kevin Steffensen / Carolyn Miller / Usher Zeng / Ann Liu; OPEN B 1 Margie Knox / Sheila Wills / Carol Loth / Carmel Wikman; 2 Jan & Ian Argent / Bernadette O'Connell / Narelle McIver; NOVICE 1 Debbie Carroll / Jacinta Lee / Louise & Stephen Bennett; 2 Jenny Thompson / Peter Fredericks / Carol Findlay / Carolyn North

#### AUGUST

BRISBANE BRIDGE CENTRE TEAMS [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Ross Murtagh / Barbara Kent / Jack Rohde / Lex Ranke; 2 Tere Wotherspoon / Siegfried Konig / Maha Hoenig / Janeen Solomon; B 1 Jenny McGowan / Vanessa Brewis / Oliver Goodman / Ming Shu Yang; QCBC NOVICE TEAMS-OF-THREE [Director – Chris Snook]: A Tony Treloar / Louise Purdie / Jenny Neuss / Sue Green; B Barry Williams / Christine Jensen / Brian Weigel / Simon Byrne; C Ross Murtagh / Kathy Van Geest / Karen Johnston / Suzanne Adams; CALOUNDRA PAIRS [Director – Steve Murray]: RESTRICTED 1 Keith Cohen / Jenny Hays; 2 Ian Pitts / Bob Hannam; NOVICE 1 Robert King / Mike O'Reilly; 2 Phoebe & Mark Harnack

TOOWOOMBA PAIRS [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Adrian Mayers / Elizabeth Zeller; 2 Lech Kaszubski / Terry O'Dempsey; B Susie & Sandy Fraser; CLEVELAND BAY TEAMS [Director – Jan Smith]: Jayne Dalton / Jan Smith / Pat Leighton / Bill Redhead; SUNNYBANK TEAMS [Director - Julie Jeffries]: 1 Larry Moses / Richard Wallis / Charles Howard / Kerry Wood; 2 Paul Hooykaas / Therese Tully / Pele Rankin / Greer Tucker; B Paul Brake / Lindell Day / Darren Brake / Oliver McCarthy; C Daphne Young / Sheila Parsons / Andrea & Speros Pappas

REDCLIFFE PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Raelene Clarke / Richard Fox; 2 Ivy & John Luck; B Margaret Plunkett / Greg Gosney; C Barbara & Warren Holmes; GOLD COAST PAIRS [Director – Steve Murray]: UNDER 500 1 Sew Yoon Yap-Giles / Liz Moss; 2 Cheryl Hensel / Odette Hall; NOVICE 1 Fiona Evans / Anne Moase; 2 Deb Carroll / Robyn Kronenberg; CASSOWARY PAIRS [Director – Julie Jeffries]; 1 Bill Redhead / Pat Leighton; 2 Peerapan Maslen / Tony Lusk; B Margaret Azar / Sonja Ramsund; C Patricia Ottone / Kate Gargan

QUEENSLAND GRADED TEAMS [Director – Jan Peach]: 1 Michelle Radke / Ian Halford / Paul Collins / Ian Afflick; 2 Tere Wotherspoon / Siegfried Konig / Patrick Bugler / Tim Runting; UNDER 750 Eugene Pereira / Martin Wu / Lyn Tracey / Richard Spelman; UNDER 150 Linda & Peter Neil / Stuart Stoddart / Sue Calthrop; TOWNSVILLE NOVICE PAIRS [Director – Charlie Georgees]: 1 Nina Doyle / Ian Leach; 2 Jeff Stephens / Lyn Gadsby; 3 Frances Summerhayes / Terry Hughes

#### SEPTEMBER

QUEENSLAND GRADED PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson] : 1 Lyn & Jim Martin; 2 Paul Collins / Ian Afflick; UNDER 750: 1 Winny Chan / Sheila Wills; 2 Kathleen Clifford / Oliver Goodman; UNDER 150: 1 June McNamara / Lee Pitt; 2 Lois Munro / Anna De Borah; TROPICAL WINTER CONGRESS – MALANDA [Director – Steve Murray]; 1 Angela Little / Robyn Nolan; 2 Tony Lusk / Peerapan Maslen; B Ann Smith / Heather Colbert; C Kate Gargan / Patricia Ottone; MACKAY PAIRS [Director – Geoff Taylor]; 1 Diane & Max Holewa; 2 Jan Randall / Don Cameron; B Faye Wright / Christine Nice; C Sandra Morris / Annie Lynch NOOSA SEPTEMBER TEAMS [Director - Peter Busch]: 1 Ivy & John Luck / Terry O'Dempsey / Ralph Parker; 2 Rosemary Green / Philippa Barnett / David Harris / Tim Ridley; B Bev Connell / John Reiter / Don Scown / John Newton; DALBY SEPTEMBER PAIRS [Director - Chris Snook]: 1 Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; 2 Michael Doherty / Gus Govan; B Susie & Sandy Fraser; KENMORE NOVICE PAIRS [Director - Julie Jeffries]: UNDER 50 1 Carmel Sedgman / Marc Greenbaum; 2 Jenny Fryar / Irene Koman; UNDER 100 1 Renuka Mahadevan / Mary Fletcher; 2 Jim Pope / Peter Wilce; MAGNETIC **ISLAND TEAMS** [Directors – Jan Smith & Leigh Owens]: 1 Frances & Alan Brown / Janelle Conroy / Tex Sheedy; 2 Betty Hobdell / Rosemary Glastonbury / Ian Patterson / Ched Twyman; 3 Helen Lovegrove / Joh Tredrea / Russell Woolley / Charlie Georgees INGHAM HINCHINBROOK CHALLENGE PAIRS [Director - Charlie Georgees]; 1 Joy Trigg / Joan Campbell; 2 Stephen Vigg / Danny Benedetto; B 1 Cobie & Simon van Kruistum; 2 Dusk Care / Kay Goodwin; C 1 Korma Byrne / Sandy Mollenhagen; 2 Jeanette Cockburn / Wendy Coe; REDLAND PAIRS Director – Julie Jeffries]; A 1 Kim Morrison / David Smith; 2 Ian Afflick / Paul Collins; 3 Neville Francis / Patrick Bugler; **B** 1 Deanne Gaskell / Geoff Saxby; 2 Jennifer Finigan / Joanna Bratko; 3 Janelle & James Williamson; **SUNSHINE COAST PAIRS** [Director – Peter Busch]; 1 Alison Dawson / Janeen Solomon; 2 Ivy & John Luck; **B** 1 Sonya & Shane Palfreyman; 2 Vesna & Voyko Markovic; **C** 1 John Rivers / Sameer Pandya; 2 Moira Gibbens / Peter Hagan.

GYMPIE CONGRESS [Director - Steve Murray]: 1 Patricia Mann / Gordon Kellerman / Nevin Burica / John Morris: 2 David Christian / Geoff Olsen / Andrew Dunlop / Stephen Hughes; B Lilly Jia / Wendy Cuthbert / Astrid Korfgen / Sue Mittermair; TEAMS-OF-3 [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Jacqui Dudurovic / Althea Crowley / Helen Baran / Richard Wallis; 2 Robin Bishop / David Sydes / Marge Henry / Laurie Skeate; 3 Louise & Stephen Bennett / Debbie Carroll / Tony Treloar; B Lynette Rose / Trish Aroney / Sue Witt / Richard Fox; SURFERS PARADISE CONGRESS [Director – Alan Gibson]: PAIRS 1 Pele Rankin / Paula McLeish; 2 Jane Swanson / Bob Hunt; B David Grout / Bijan Assaee; C Lois & John Rolls; TEAMS 1 Ivy & John Luck / Sue O'Brien / Paul Collins; 2 Sonya & Shayne Palfreyman / Eva & Tony Berger; B Yvonne Kilvert / Val Holbrook / Jocelyn & John Steele.