Northern Suburbs Bridge Club

www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org





President: Elizabeth Gibson

Editor: Greg Gosney

From the President

My thanks to all those people who have so generously donated to the Zephyr EOFY Charity Appeal. If you haven't yet contributed and would like to do so the bin will be left out until the 30th June.

Thanks also to those people who have given of their time to help at the ANC. Queensland always puts on a good show and you have all helped to ensure that this too is a success.

For those of you who are wondering why we have not yet taken possession of the new building – we are waiting on connection to the fire hydrant. On behalf of the Committee and all our Members I would like to thank David Lehmann, John Myerscough and Neil Gibson for the hours of hard labour they have expended to the completion of the fit-out of the new building.

Congratulations to the Novices who participated in the Australia Wide Novice Pairs. You have created a record. NSBC had the largest contingent of Players in Australia. Well done.

Cheers, Elizabeth

Thursday Bridge Lessons

These are on the first Thursday of each month (1.30-3.30 pm).

The June lesson was about Improving Declarer Play, and this theme is continued in the July 7th Lesson - Creating Entries to maximise your tricks.

More details will be in the monthly email sent out of upcoming events.

Everyone enjoys the lessons, and the handouts are always very much appreciated.

Regards,

Andy Slater

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Beginner Bridge Lessons

Beginner bridge lessons run free of charge for 8 weeks, with one lesson per week. At the conclusion of lessons, players can join the help-with-play session, social bridge or one of the regular playing sessions. Help-with-play sessions run for a further eight weeks after the lessons so players can gain confidence at the bridge table. The next beginner lessons are scheduled for:-

Mondays - 11 Jul to 29 Aug

- commencing 10:30 am

Wednesday PM - 20 Jul to 7 Sep

commencing 7:30 pm

RAMP Report

Our Rookie and Mentor Program has resumed for the last few months of this year. It was only fair that our mentors should have had a break from the responsibilities of playing with inexperienced players, and come back refreshed.

We have about 11 Rookies that for one reason or another never got to start or complete the mentoring process, and these are the players we are concentrating on.

The mentoring consists of 4 normal bridge sessions over a three month period. If they happen to be playing at your table, nothing out of the ordinary will happen - but if the mentor feels the need to explain a particular point about the bidding, play or defence, it will not be 'having a go' at their partner, but just helping them along.

Andrew Slater RAMP Co-ordinator

Membership Update

Last issue I indicated that our Home Club Membership was 567. By the end of April, this figure had risen to 578. Data from the ABF Masterpoint Centre Newsletter shows that this is 20 members less than at the same time last year. In May, the club welcomed another 6 new members.

The most recent ABF Masterpoint Centre Newsletter includes data on the Masterpoints of Home Club Members for all affiliated clubs. The members were "grouped into various masterpoint ranges, then expressed as a percentage of their total home club" membership.

The table below shows the figures for NSBC Membership and for all ABF members. As you can see, the largest group by far is the 0-20 masterpoints group. So, new members, don't feel "intimidated" at the table, you are in the majority – just enjoy your game.

Masterpoint Groups	NSBC Home Club Members	All ABF Members
0 - 20	47%	44%
20 - 50	15%	15%
50 - 100	11%	12%
100 - 300	15%	16%
300 - 1000	9%	10%
1000+	2%	4%

^{*} The figures in the table have been rounded to whole number percentages, so neither column adds to 100%.

Margaret Plunkett – Masterpoints Secretary

Masterpoints Ranking Promotions

The following home club members achieved Masterpoints Ranking promotions in April and May. Congratulations and well done.

Graduate Master

Helen McLucas Ruth Kassulke
Inta Devine Satish Sethi
Jim Ritchie Jean Gowans
George McLucas Michael Morrow

Club Master

Bridget Carmody Michael Perry Vadnae Furminger Ann O'Brien

Cecilia Gillespie

Local Master

Georgina Blum Penelope French

*Local Master

Jill Lukin Claudia Gibson Paulette Bourke Rosalie barry

Peter Paroz

**Local Master

Raelene Kell Jan Bampton June Morris Pat Deighton

Regional Master Kay Peachey

*Degional Mag

*Regional Master

Val Courtis

State Master

Audrey Lovemore Abigail Wanigaratne

*State Master

Barbara White Betty English

National

Jo Neary

*National

Dennis Sullivan

Bronze Life

Margaret Plunkett

NSBC Competition Results

Newstead Novice Shield (Thu 7 Apr & 14 Apr)

1st Jan Moore & Jill Lukin

2nd Pat Eather & Lyndel Hewitt

3rd Daina Geise & Raelene Kell

McLaney Tray (Sat 21 May & 28 May)

1st Mary Ryan & Sunil Mukherjee

2nd Errol Miller & Bert Luchjenbroers

3rd Judy Wilkinson & Albert Loh

Friday Rosebowl (Fri 3 Jun & 17 Jun)

1st Jane Farguhar & Yolande Coroneo

2nd Margaret Plunkett & Lorraine Collins

3rd Elizabeth Gibson & Neil Gibson

Home Club Members' Achievements

These are successes by home club members playing in external Congresses since our last newsletter. Players listed in *italics* are not members of NSBC.

QBA Novice Pairs (Sun 17 Apr)

3rd Tiffany Mair & Raelene Kell

QBA Mixed Pairs (Sat 14 & Sun 15 May)

1st B Abigail Wanigaratne & Nikolas Moore

Sunshine Coast Graded Teams (Sun 29 May)

1st Andrew Slater, Ken Dawson,

Pyan Touton, Pichard Touton

Ryan Touton, Richard Touton

2nd B Gregory Gosney, Margaret Plunkett, Alan Boyce, Joan Jenkins



Ryan Touton, Richard Touton, Ken Dawson, Andrew Slater

Arana Teams (Sun 5 Jun)

1st B Gregory Gosney, Margaret Plunkett, Lex Ranke, *Jack Rohde*

QBA Graded Teams (Sun 12 Jun)

1st C Lin Kendall, Hazel Parkins, Cheryl Archibald, Reid Archibald

Australia-Wide Novice Pairs

The Australia-Wide Novice Pairs Competition is an annual national bridge event run by Australian Bridge Magazine for novices (fewer than 50 MP) in clubs all around Australia. Northern Suburbs participated with a novice event on Tuesday afternoon, 31st May.

In our club there were 39 pairs competing in two sections. One section was for players with fewer than 10 MP. Winning pairs in both sections for the day were as follows:

Under 10 MP

 1^{st} NS Ann O'Brien & Aileen Arnold 1^{st} EW Lesley Peek & Julie Forster

Under 50 MP

1st NS Jeanette Wyman & Greg Barbe 1st EW David McEvoy & Ron Adam



Ann O'Brien, Aileen Arnold, Lesley Peek, Ron Adam, Julie Foster, David McEvoy, Jeanette Wyman, Greg Barbe

Ann O'Brien and Aileen Arnold won a book prize for bidding and making 5C on board 8. Their score for the board was in the top 1%.

New Members

We warmly welcome our new members. We wish all new players a long and happy association with the club. Please give them your encouragement and support.

April

Pepita Comiskey	Moira Graham
Lee Panting	Attilio Bertinato
Mary Northfield	Diane Stretton
Bernadette Callum	Judy Endean
Arthur Ponting	Marion Inglis

May

Maggy Moncrief	Rhonda Kingston
Margaret Morison	Lynette Rose
Wendy Breeze	Susan Leader
Willemina Garner	

Events for Novices

The events listed below are suitable for novice players (generally less than 100 Masterpoints). All are Red Masterpoint Congresses. Some of the events are exclusively for novices. Others are graded and will be divided up in to separate sections based on players' rankings. In a graded event you only play against other players within the section you are allocated to.

Novices Only

Jul 10	Redland Novice Pairs
Aug 7	Toowoomba Novice Teams
Aug 21	Hervey Bay Novice Pairs
Aug 28	Noosa Novice Pairs

Graded Events

Jul 24	BBC Graded Teams
Aug 21	Redcliffe Graded Pairs

Coming Events

Coming events for the next few months are as follows (excludes Novice events):

Jun 25 – Jul 7	Australian National Congress
Jul 3	Lockyer Swiss Pairs
Jul 3	Noosa Teams
Jul 10	Northern Suburbs Imp Pairs
Jul 16-17	QBA Butler Pairs
Jul 20 & 27	NSBC Hoffmann Tray (PM)
Jul 23	Surfers Paradise Imp Pairs
Jul 24	Surfers Paradise Swiss Teams
Jul 24	BBC Graded Teams
Jul 30-31	Moreton Bribie Pairs & Teams
Jul 31	Darling Downs Swiss Pairs
Aug 7	Sunshine Coast Teams
Aug 7	Sunnybank Teams
Aug 20	Surfers Paradise Swiss
	Matchpoint Pairs
Aug 21	Surfers Paradise Teams
Aug 21	Redcliffe Graded Pairs
Aug 27-28	QBA Open Teams – Toowong

Sudoku

	3	100000000000000000000000000000000000000			7	6		
enaezi			4				9	
		7				4		
2				1				4
9			6		5			1
7		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		2				8
		6				7		
	7				3			
		1	5				8	

^{*} Solution can be found on second last page.

OOPS!

The following hand was played in a club session:



At one table, east opened the hand 2NT as both minors. West believed it to be a strong balanced hand and it was passed out at 2NT. Poor east played the hand and made **zero** tricks for an outright bottom! It is a good example of how important it is to know your system. The pair did go on to win the session as EW.

Interestingly, NS can make 12 tricks in spades, hearts and no trumps. However, no NS pair bid a slam on the hand.

A Few Interesting Science Facts

If you could fold a piece of paper 50 times, its thickness would exceed the distance from here to the Sun.

There are 10 times more bacterial cells in your body than body cells.

Humans share 50% of their DNA with bananas. (Does this mean that bananas are more human than we think or is it that humans are more bananas?)

The human brain takes in 11 million bits of information every second but is aware of only 40.

Human saliva contains a painkiller called opiorphin that is six times more powerful than morphine.

Library News from the Bookworm

In this issue we will take a break from books on bidding to review three new books into the library, all by David Bird. We have several of his books in our library and for very good reason as he is always very instructive, easy to follow and has clever little tests and answers for each chapter.

Firstly, "Winning Duplicate Tactics" comes compliments of Don Jobbins who bought one for himself and one for the library. It is aimed mainly at the intermediate level but is good reading for any player who is keen to improve his or her game. Whilst it mainly deals with duplicate tactics, there is also good advice on tactics at IMP's.

There are 24 chapters spread over 238 pages dealing with a broad spectrum of bidding, defence and declarer play facets of the game. Some of the more interesting chapters include –

Pre-emptive openings Choosing the right part score

Contesting the part score Dislodging the opponents from NT

Lead directing bids & doubles Penalty doubles

Sacrificing Playing in a Sacrifice

Opening leads Should I make a risky switch Safety Plays Helping partner in Defence.

The chapter on opening Leads is so revolutionary that the Bookworm just had to have the following two new books by David Bird and Taf Anthias:-

Winning Suit Contract Leads Winning No Trump Leads

The authors have used an entirely new methodology to this subject – computer simulation on 5,000 hands for each opening lead situation over a range of auctions for either suit or No Trump contracts and have come up with results which work best for either IMPs or match points.

The book on Suit Contract leads covers 16 different auction scenarios. Some examples:-

One suit game auctions Part score Competitive part score

When partner has opened When declarer has a two-suiter Pre-emptive raise

When to lead a trump Singleton or doubleton leads Leading against a slam

Leading from different combinations

There are 13 different lead situations in "Winning No Trump Leads" including, amongst others:-

Leading a major or minor Leading from longest suit Leading from a weak hand

Which card from specific holdings Leading into 2NT opening Leading against Slams

Leading after a transfer sequence Leading after a Stayman sequence

The computer results are surprising. These two books have turned years of previously accepted practice on its head and are recommended reading for the advancing player.

Articles from Members

Interesting Hands

(by Greg Gosney)

Below are a few hands played in recent competitions. I hope you find them interesting.

What to Bid?

Sitting north in a teams event, I am dealer with everyone not vulnerable. What would you bid with this hand?

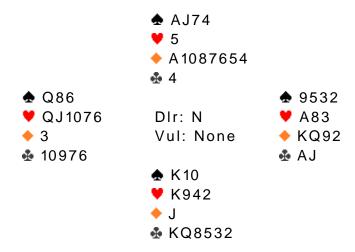
♣ AJ74♥ 5♦ A1087654♣ 4

I dismissed a pre-emptive 3 bid due to the decent 4-card spade suit. Some opened 1 but the nine HCPs was not enough for me in first seat. My choice was to pass and see how the bidding progressed. Maybe I could make a useful bid at my second opportunity.

East opened 1, my partner overcalled 2, and west passed. Hmmm, now what to bid? What do you suggest? I couldn't bid 2, as that is a good raise in clubs in our system. Even as a natural bid I would not be keen on bidding a suit bid by the opponent on my left. Maybe spades was the spot to be, but I wasn't going to bid 2, with only a 4-card suit. Once again I chose to pass and see how the bidding progressed. Well, it was passed out at 2, and I wondered if we missed a part score or game in spades.

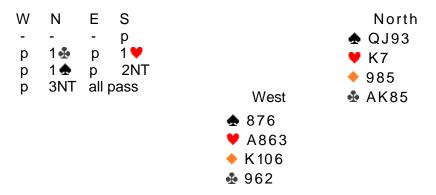
My partner made eight tricks and it turned out to be a good result. NS at the other table bid to 3NT going off three tricks. Sometimes it is better to pass than risk getting the partnership in to a poor contract.

The full board is shown below.



Defending 3NT

My bridge partner, Margaret, and I found ourselves defending a 3NT contract on this hand. Dealer was south, north opened and the final contract was 3NT by south. I was sitting west and while most players led a small heart, I led the ♠8 − top of nothing. My hand and dummy along with the bidding are shown below.



Declarer played a small spade from dummy and Margaret won with her ace. She then switched to diamonds leading the queen. A good switch as diamonds was the unbid suit and diamonds in dummy were only 985 (Yes, I know, I should have led a diamond). South played a small diamond and I played the •6. Margaret correctly deduced I was encouraging and continued the suit leading the •2 from her hand. South went up with the •A. As west, how would you proceed in order to defeat the contract? Pause for a moment and think it through.

After winning the first two tricks we needed three more to defeat the contract. If I had played the ◆10 under south's ace I would only win two more tricks - ♥A and ◆K – for a total of 4 tricks. South would make their 3NT contract. The winning play is to play the ◆K under declarer's ◆A retaining the ◆10. That is what I did.

When my partner switched to the ◆Q on trick two, I was confident she had the ◆J with length in diamonds. With 7 HCP in my hand, my partner could only have 7-8 HCP. She had played the ♠A and ◆Q so I was certain that her ◆J was the only entry back in to her hand. Ditching the ◆K under south's ace earlier allowed me to lead the ◆10 when I regained the lead with the ♥A. Margaret overtook my ◆10 with her ◆J. She started with four diamonds and played her last remaining diamond. We won one spade, one heart and three diamond tricks, a total of five tricks and the 3NT contract was defeated.

The full board is shown below.



Playing double dummy, the best lead is a diamond. It defeats the contract as east will still have an entry with the ♠A after the ♦A has been played. After a spade lead, if south holds up their ♦A until the third round of diamonds, they will make nine tricks as there will be no entry back in to east's hand to cash the fourth diamond.

Play a Slam Hand

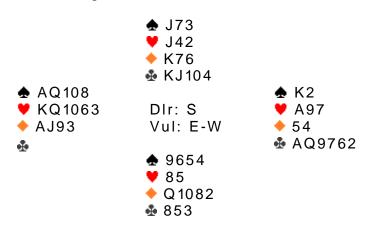
Sitting west, my partner and I bid a small slam in hearts. North and south passed throughout the bidding. I was declarer and north led the ♥2. Dummy goes down and, assuming north is not leading from five hearts, I counted 10 tricks off the top - 3 spades, 5 hearts, 1 diamond and 1 club. West's hand and East's hand are shown below. After the two of hearts lead, how would you play the hand to give yourself the best chance to make 12 tricks?



I played the ♥7 from dummy and south covered with the ♥8. I won the trick in hand with the ♥10. Drawing trumps wasn't going to get me to 12 tricks. I could see I needed to ruff at least one diamond. Playing the ◆A then losing a diamond to ruff a diamond in dummy may work but it meant giving up a trick early and seemed too risky.

As I had the top three spades, I decided that my best chance was to throw one of dummy's diamonds on the third round of spades. I needed a favourable distribution in spades and hearts. There are seven spades out and the chances of a 4-3 split are good (62%). Before playing the spades I played the VK from hand to draw another round of hearts and reduce the risk of a ruff. North and south both followed with a heart so it was a favourable trump split. On the third round of spades, the J fell under my Q and I discarded a losing diamond from dummy.

From there I played ◆A, ruffed a diamond in dummy with the ♥A (the ♥J is still out), and played ♣A to discard a losing diamond in hand. Then a small club from dummy ruffed in hand with a low heart followed up with the ♥Q which drew the last heart. The only loser was the last diamond in hand, making 12 tricks. The ♦6 or ♥2 were the most popular leads. Here is the full hand.



2C Response to a 1NT Opening

A 2C response to a 1NT opening is never alerted in an uncontested auction. This is always the case regardless of the meaning of the 2C bid. However if the 2C bid shows a natural club suit and is not Stayman then it needs to be prealerted.

Dawn Benes - Director

Opener's Rebid - Showing Balanced and Unbalanced Hands

(by Paul Roberts)

Most people bid 4-card suits up the line. Some play transfers opposite a 1C opening or 1C:1Major showing at least 5 cards in the major. There is another way which I prefer for opener to describe the shape of their hand efficiently.

The system I like is Better Minor and a 15-17 No Trump. Better Minor means opening with your <u>longer</u> minor and if your minors are equal in length (44, 55 or 66) then you open 1D, but if you are 33 in the minors, then you open 1C.

So what do I do that is different? If I open my better minor with a balanced hand and

- my partner responds with 1H or 1S, and
- I do not have a fit with my partner's major,

then I (the Opener) will bid No Trumps, either 1NT showing a maximum of 14 HCPs or 2NT showing 18/19 HCPs. *I do this even if I have four cards in the other major*. Since 48% of all hands are balanced (4333, 4432, 5332), this will be a common occurrence and if you're going to play No Trumps, isn't it better that opener plays the hand?

If opener's rebid is not No Trumps, then they are showing an unbalanced hand. Knowing that makes it easier for Responder to work out what opener has. Some examples:

1C:(p):1H:(p)

1S

Opener is not balanced, also doesn't have "4414" (4S, 4H, 1D, 4C), otherwise opener would have supported Hearts, so therefore must have 5+ Clubs and 4+ Spades

1D: (p): 1H(p)

1S

This time there is a 92% chance of 5 Diamonds and 4 Spades and 8% chance of "4144" (4S,1H,4D,4C).

1D: (p): 1H: (p)

2D

This is a single suited hand 6 cards or longer. Opener did not bid Spades or Clubs therefore it must be a single suit.

1C: (p): 1S: (p)

2C

This time there are 3 choices for opener's shape.

- 1) Single suited hand,
- 2) 5 Clubs + 4 Diamonds, or
- 3) 5 Clubs + 4 Hearts

In the 2nd or 3rd cases, this is showing a limited opening hand, not strong enough to reverse.

52% of the time we have an *unbalanced* hand, and as you can see above, opener's second bid is telling a lot about their hand. 25% of all hands are 54xx, 19% single suited and 8% 5/5, 6/4 etc.

This means that most of the time, opener has fully described their shape in their second bid and only 8% of the time will they have more shape. The more you know about your partner's hand, the better your decisions become.

Also, more flexibility is given to responder when opener has rebid 1NT. Responder can make a free bid when they have an unbalanced hand. They are saying "I have an unbalanced hand and I believe it is better to play it in this suit, but I do not have any more points".

1C:(p):1H:(p)

1NT: (p): 2D Showing 5 Diamonds and 4 Hearts, < 11 points. With less than 11 points,

priority is given to showing a major before the other minor as opener has opened their Better (most of the time, longer) Minor. With 11+ points, responder can bid the minor first and then show the major at the 2nd level to

best describe their hand, but with fewer values, bid the major first.

1D: (p):1S:(p)

1NT: (p): 2H Showing 5 spades and 4 Hearts, < 11 points. Opener is expected to pass or

correct to Spades.

1D: (p):1S:(p)

1NT: (p): 2S Showing 6 spades.

1D: (p):1S:(p)

1NT: (p): 2C This is Checkback, it asks partner do you have 3 cards in my Major, but to do

this you need to be either Invitational or Game Forcing. The negative is 2D.

Another convention that works well with this system is Inverted Minors for when responder does not have a Major and a limited hand with 5 card support.

From the Editor

Hi all. I hope you enjoyed reading this issue.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed and provided assistance. If you have any comments or would like to contribute to the next newsletter, you can email me at ggosney11@bigpond.com or the bridge club at nsbc4011@optusnet.com.au.

Remember, if you attend a congress, please take a photo or two of placegetters if they are home club members and forward them on so they can be included in the club newsletter. Thank you.

Sudoku Solution

6	8	3	9	7	9	l	7	Þ
9	7	ļ	ε	Þ	8	6	L	9
9	Þ	L	7	6	ŀ	9	8	ε
8	9	6	Þ	7	3	9	L	7
L	L	7	9	8	9	ε	Þ	6
Þ	ε	9	6	l	L	8	9	7
3	9	†	8	9	Z	7	6	L
L	6	8	l	ε	†	7	9	9
7	L	9	7	9	6	Þ	ε	8

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