## Northern Suburbs Bridge Club

www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org





President: Diana Dick Editor: Greg Gosney

## From the President

Our July Congress was very successful. Thanks to our Director, Convenor, kitchen helpers and food producers. Pam Cash provided and presented a wonderful food experience which was greatly appreciated by everyone.

It was very disappointing to see the cancellation of the Club Championship Pairs due to lack of entries. Next year a change of format will hopefully attract more players.

Paul Roberts has trained some more Bridgemate operators. Two Bridgemate operators for each session is the aim, alternating weeks. Directors are always in short supply – please consider coming forward for a future role.

The Friday afternoon session has begun, run on the same lines as Tuesday afternoon; 1:15 pm start and no partner needed. The Friday morning session should finish by 12:45 pm.

Can every player at every session look out for Biro tappers? Perhaps we can stop this habit and spare our new tablecloths.

#### THANK YOU GAY TESTA

One of our longest serving directors, Gay Testa, has resigned from directing the Tuesday morning session. Gay has been a director for twenty plus years and has always been conscientious and caring for her players. She has made a great contribution to our Club, and deserves a sincere thank you from us all.

## ANC 2017 - Canberra

Andrew Gosney

The Australian National Championships were held in July down in Canberra and I played in the Youth team for the 5th year in a row. Coldest ANC I've played in so far that's for sure, negative temperatures most nights! This year was interesting for us as we lost half our team due to age (they turned 25 last year). so I ended up being the oldest and most experienced player on the team. This also meant we were going into this year's competition with a much weaker team than usual, so we were ready for anything to happen. Things got tougher the day I flew down, where one member of the team pulled out last-minute due to a rescheduled uni exam, so we had to play the whole week with a 5-person team.

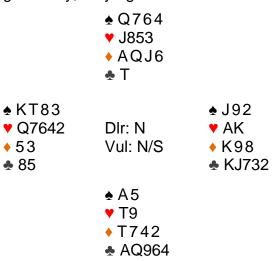
I played in a separate event before the teams and another one after the teams, and now found out I would be playing seventeen of the twenty 14-board matches. Needless to say, I was pretty exhausted by the end. Surpassing expectations, we had a really strong performance all week, situating ourselves in 3<sup>rd</sup> place most of the week! We even took a win against NSW (who won the event by a landslide). We only dropped to 4<sup>th</sup> at the very last match, with ACT beating us by just enough that the difference was a measly 0.1 VP. What a way to end the tournament!

In our win against NSW in round 13, there were 2 hands that are worth mentioning. The first is a system win that payed off nicely and the 2<sup>nd</sup> is an exciting shapely hand that resulted in only a +2 gain for the good guys.

On the first hand, you are South holding this hand:

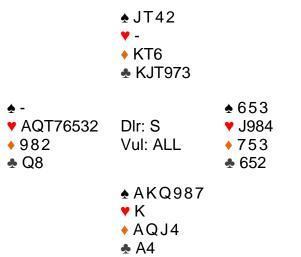
A5▼ T9▼ T742♣ AQ964

Partner opens 2 • (Which in my system shows 6-10 points and at least 4-4 in the majors) and East doubles. I pass, telling partner I have equal length in the majors and nothing to bid (with a 3-card major I would bid it, with 6+ clubs I would bid 3♣, so I am also inadvertently showing diamond length). West passes and partner also passes! So here we are, in 2•, with partner having shown at least 4-4 in the majors. My first reaction when partner passed was "Something's gone wrong here", when in reality something had gone very, very right. Here is the full hand:



We had arrived at the perfect contract, played from the perfect side AND we were doubled. Partner made 9 tricks, giving us +380 and +2 imps for the team (the other table were in 2 VX by West making only 6 tricks for -300).

The second hand got a little bit crazy. Here is the hand:



This was a straight-forward slam that East-West interference made very complicated. After the 2♣ opening from South, West chimed in with a pre-emptive heart call. From this point on, the grand was impossible to find, so 6♠ was the final contract, making all thirteen tricks exceptionally easily. Having dealt with the annoyance of West and still finding the slam, we were just hoping that the other table did the same thing and there would be a flat board, otherwise the other table might find the grand and we would lose a stack of IMPs. What actually happened ended up giving us +2 IMPs. Can you see what could have happened?

At the other table, our teammates also chimed in with a pre-emptive heart bid, and the opponents also found the small slam. The difference was our teammates decided to sacrifice in 7♥! Not often you see that! The best part for them: it worked – only down five tricks for -1400 against our +1460. Two crazy boards in the one round! Overall solid play from both partnerships gave us the win this round by 8 IMPs and a massive confidence boost for the last day and a half of play.

## **Our Newest Grand Master**

Mary Ryan has been a member of Northern Suburbs Bridge Club since 1989. Back then the club was based in the Assembly Hall at Hendra High School (now Aviation High). There are not too many of our current members who can say they played there!.

A friend introduced Mary to bridge although she had been an avid card player for many years. One of her claims to fame is that she was a member of the first Northern Suburbs team to win the Interclub Teams event. The event was held at QCBC in 2001. Also on the team were Fred Witsenhuysen, Harry Sarafov and Bernice Carew.

Congratulations Mary.

I am Director for the Tuesday morning session. I am new to the role and still learning. Sessions are running smoothly though and I know players are enjoying their morning of bridge.

Session starts at 9:15 am finishing by 12:45 pm. We play between 30 to 33 boards.

Greg Gosney

## **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.

Angela Lawson

Maxene Bates

Diana Hotchkis

Vivienne Vessey

Bill Earnshaw

Russell Skennerton

Jenny Musgrave

Lorraine Canny

Karyn Aaker

Barbara Andre

Helen Choice

Carolyn McKinnon

Robert Wilkinson

Ewa Kowalczyk

## **Promotions**

The following home club members achieved Masterpoints Ranking promotions in June, July and August. Congratulations and well done.

## **Graduate Master**

Di Griffiths Arthur Ponting
Gayle Carter Jack Griffiths
Keith Roskam Margy Roskam
Donagh Lytras Judy Endean
Anne Fulton Patricia Miller

Club Master

Elaine Cawley Peter Taylor
Heather Taylor Robyn Lander

**Local Master** 

Julie Waters Vicki Lloyd

Gloria Lee Chesne McGrath

\*Local Master

Pam Cash Marea Flournoy Gerhard Sigel Enid Henderson

Don Jobbins

\*\*Local Master

Graham White Keith Hawken
Ann Sargeant Joan Kruger
Michael Shine Rhondda Phillips

Regional Master

Jan Schultz Kay Elliot Jeannette Wyman Pam Sexton

Jan Bampton

\*Regional Master

Sylvia Shackell Barry Shackell

State Master

Pat Eather

<u>Life</u>

Robyn Burnage

**Grand** 

Mary Ryan

## **NSBC Competition Results**

## Northern Suburbs Imp Pairs (Sun 16 Jul)

1<sup>st</sup> John Kelly & Peter Evans 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie Lu & Chuan Qin

3<sup>rd</sup> Nik Moore & Abigail Wanigaratne

1st B Cheryl Stone & Robyn Clark

2<sup>nd</sup> B Albert Loh & Judy Wilkinson

1<sup>st</sup> C Dawn Benes & Lorraine Pescatore

2<sup>nd</sup> C Anthony Grant-Smith &

Warren Brown



1st - Peter Evans & John Kelly



2<sup>nd</sup> - Charlie Lu & Chuan Qin



3<sup>rd</sup> - Abigail Wanigaratne & Nik Moore



1st B - Robyn Clark & Cheryl Stone



2<sup>nd</sup> B - Albert Loh & Judy Wilkinson

The past, the present, and the future walked into a bar. It was tense.



1<sup>st</sup> C - Dawn Benes & Lorraine Pescatore



2nd C - Warren Brown & Anthony Grant-Smith



Diana Dick & Pam Cash

## Hoffmann Tray (Wed PM 19 & 26 Jul)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Russell Skennerton & Natalie Bloch
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret Plunkett & Lex Ranke
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Helen McLauchlan & Richard McLauchlan

## Monday Shield (Mon PM 04 Sep & 11 Sep)

1<sup>st</sup> Bob Thomas & Christine Thomas

2<sup>nd</sup> Annette Hyland & Fay Jeppesen

3rd Andrew Gosney & Greg Gosney

Novice

1st Raelene Kell & Tiffany Mair

2<sup>nd</sup> Teresa Salvati & Rod Thomas

## **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.

## **Toowong Imp Pairs (Sun 25 Jun)**

Restricted Section 2<sup>nd</sup> B Wendy Casey & Barbara Moni

## Noosa Winter Teams (Sun 02 Jul)

2<sup>nd</sup> Abigail Wanigaratne, Nik Moore, Peter Nilsson & *Alan Boyce* 

## Redland Novice Pairs (Sun 16 Jul)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sumant Handa & Eugene Periera

## Redcliffe Swiss Pairs (Sun 20 Aug)

3<sup>rd</sup> Greg Gosney & Margaret Plunkett

## QBA Open Teams (Sat 26 & Sun 27 Aug)

Plate

2<sup>nd</sup> Bert Luchjenbroers, Geoffrey Toon, Annette Corkhill & Errol Miller

## Yeppoon Swiss Teams (Sun 3 Sep)

2<sup>nd</sup> Neil Gibson, Elizabeth Gibson, Ron Lorraway & Jan Dooner

## **Noosa Spring Teams (Sun 10 Sep)**

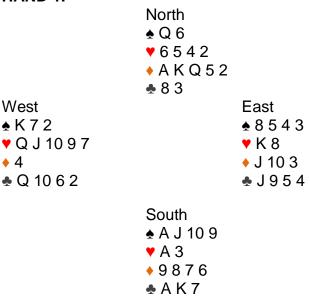
2<sup>nd</sup> Greg Gosney, Margaret Plunkett, Annette Hyland & Fay Jeppesen

## **Library News from the Bookworm**

The December issue of Library News featured an article on declarer play with a number of authors recommended for players of all experience levels. The article was prefaced by the comment that books on declarer play are seldom borrowed, and that

is still the case. There is a great little book in the library by Erwin Brecher and Danny Roth titled "80 Classic Problems – Declare or Defend" featuring mainly on declarer play, but with some hands on defence. Here are two examples from the book selected at random -

#### HAND 1.



South plays in 3 No Trumps. West leads Heart Queen covered by East's King and South ducks, taking the heart continuation with the Ace. How do you intend to make your contract?

#### HAND 2.

North	South
♠ 10 9 8 7 6	<b>♠</b> A K Q J
<b>y</b> -	♥ A 4 2
<ul><li>A 9 8 7 6 4</li></ul>	<b>•</b> -
♣ A K	♣ QJ10987

How do you intend to make 7 Spades against any distribution? West leads the Diamond K and east plays the 3.

Here is a great opportunity to test your declarer play skills. If you think you have the answer, submit your written declarer strategy via the competition entry box at the club. The first two correct entries for each hand will receive a free game voucher. Answers will be posted on the notice board on 6<sup>th</sup> October.



## **Events for Novices**

The following events are suitable for novice players (generally less than 100 Masterpoints). All are Red Masterpoint Congresses.

## **Novices Only**

Oct 22	BBC (Annerley) Novice Pairs
Oct 29	QCBC Novice Teams
Nov 12	Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs
Dec 10	NSBC Teams of Three

#### **Graded Events**

Sep 24	Redlands Graded Pairs
Oct 28	Surfers Paradise Graded Teams
Nov 26	Toowong Graded Teams
Dec 03	Redlands Graded Teams

## **Coming Events**

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

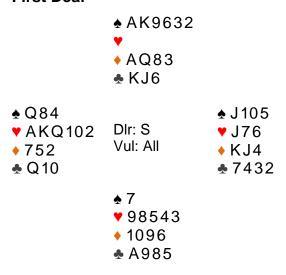
0 04	D. H. L. O. L. I. D. L.
Sep 24	Redlands Graded Pairs
Sep 30	Toowoomba Pairs
Oct 1-2	Toowoomba Teams
Oct 7-8	QBA Open Pairs (NSBC)
Oct 14-15	Brisbane GNOT Final (QCBC)
Oct 28	Surfers Paradise Graded Teams
Oct 29	QCBC Pairs
Nov 4-5	NSBC Imp Pairs
Nov 12	Toowoomba Swiss Teams
Nov 12	QBA Senior Pairs (Gold Coast)
Nov 18-19	Noosa Imp Pairs
Nov 19-26	Qld Wide Pairs
Nov 19	Gold Coast Teams
Nov 26	Toowong Graded Teams
Dec 03	Redland Graded Teams



## **A Few Interesting Deals**

After a Friday morning session, my bridge partner Andrew and I discussed some of the deals played. I thought they were an interesting selection so I decided to write them up in the newsletter and give my perspective on the bidding. I have also thrown in a couple of extra hands played elsewhere. I hope you enjoy the article.

#### First Deal



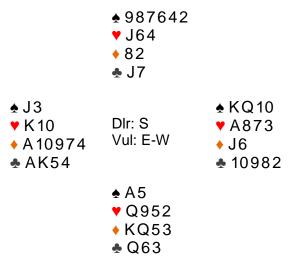
Andrew and I were sitting NS and west opened 1♥. As north, I doubled for takeout. With a strong hand (normally 16+ HCP) it is better to double first then rebid a suit to show strength rather than overcalling the suit in the first instance. East raised to 2♥, my partner passed and west passed.

With 17 HCP and the void in hearts, north's hand is very strong and 4♠ looked a real possibility. But there was a problem. North's hand has a tenace in diamonds and clubs and if south had no values then I would not be able to get to south's hand to try a finesse. In that case I would have to lead away from the tenace in the minor suits. Doing so meant I would lose too many tricks and not make 4♠.

However, if my partner had some worthwhile values and I could get to his hand then 4♠ would be a good chance to make. With the bidding at 2♥ by east, how did I find out if partner had worthwhile values and get to 4♠ if he did? Instead of rebidding 2♠ I made a jump rebid to 3♠ to show a very strong hand and good spade suit. If my partner had nothing he could pass and I would do my best to make nine tricks in spades.

Andrew understood the 3♠ bid and decided that the ♠A was sufficient to bid 4♠. He also knew from the bidding that I was void in hearts – opener had at least five, responder had three and Andrew had five, for a total of thirteen. Well done partner. The ♥6 was led and I made my contract.

#### **Second Deal**



The bidding proceeded as follows:

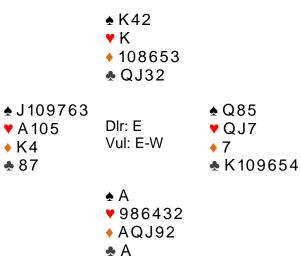
East has only 10HCP but they are short in diamonds and have at least three cards in each of the other three suits with good honours. In the pass out seat, a hand with 10 HCP and the right shape is enough to double for takeout.

As a general guide, when the bidding goes 1 of a suit, pass, pass, and you are in the pass out seat imagine you have another king in your hand and then decide what to bid. For example, as east if you had the •K instead of the ten and north opened 1• wouldn't you double for takeout?

In the hand above, if east doubles, west has the option to pass for penalty or bid some level of no trump, probably 3NT. Even 2NT will be a better result for EW than passing out the hand.

If EW have a game contract (they can in fact make 3NT) then they will have to keep south to three tricks if 1 doubled is left in for penalty – 600 points for making 3NT versus 800 points for 1 doubled down four tricks.

## **Third Deal**



Andrew and I didn't play this board but it was one brought up for discussion. How should the bidding go? South will open 1♥. West may overcall 1♠ or 2♠ (weak jump). Let's say west bids 2♠. With 9 HCPs North can double (negative double) to show at least 4-4 in the minor suits. East has a weak hand and 3-card spade support so may raise to 3♠.

As south I would not rebid the hearts. There are six of them but it is a lousy suit with no honours. Also, there is a known fit in diamonds thanks to north's negative double and it is a very good diamond suit. The best contract looks to be diamonds but at what level?

Let's assume east has raised to 3♠. West is known to have six spades and east should have three, maybe four. So north most likely has three spades and with their 4-4, at least, in the minor suits they will have shortage in hearts. This is good for south as there are no wasted values, all the honours are outside of hearts. South should be able to ruff a couple of hearts in dummy.

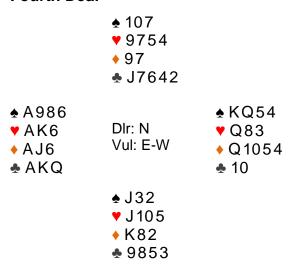
I guess it comes down to how confident or aggressive you are at the time. A bid of 4+ or 5+? Take your pick. If south bids 4+ north may raise to 5+ with their hand – five diamonds, shortage in hearts and a spade honour.

What if west overcalls 1♠? North has two options, respond 1NT or double (negative double). With a singleton heart and 5-4 in the minor suits, my preference is for a double to show the minors. East will raise to 2♠. Once again south will have the option of bidding 4♦ or 5♠. If north responds 1NT then as south I

would rebid 3♦ over 2♠ and see what happens. North should advance to 4♦ with their hand.

On the day, 4 was a good result and of course 5 was the best contract as eleven tricks could be made. Almost all NS pairs who ended in a heart contract earned a bad result.

#### **Fourth Deal**

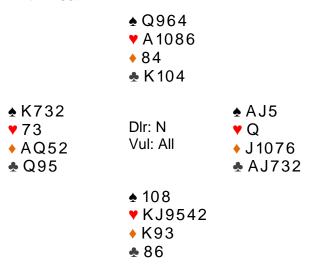


West's hand is balanced and has 25 HCP. Some players will open 3NT. Others will open 2♣ or 2♦ and rebid 3NT to show this hand.

Normally, 33 HCP is needed to make a small slam in no trumps (will not be missing two or more aces). East will know partner has 25+HCP and they have 9 HCP for a total of 34 HCP. So, after the 3NT rebid by west, east can just bid 6NT, even with the singleton club.

There is a spade fit but not easy to find after the 3NT rebid.

#### Fifth Deal



The bidding proceeded as follows:

W N E S
- p 
$$1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} 2^{\checkmark}$$
X<sup>2</sup> p  $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$  p
 $3^{\checkmark}$  p

- Weak jump overcall
- <sup>2</sup> Negative double
- <sup>3</sup> Cue-bid

This was a hand I played sitting west in a club game at Toowong. South made a weak jump overcall of my partner's 1♣ opening. Holding 11 HCP I doubled to let partner know I had at least four spades and my partner rebid 3♠.

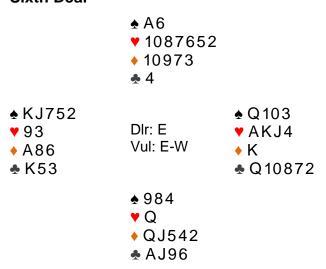
Normally 11 HCP opposite a minimum opening is not enough for game, however when opponents interfere with a weak overcall I am more willing to respond higher with fewer points.

At this point I chose to bid 3, a cue-bid of opponent's bid suit. The cue-bid implies that I have no stopper in hearts and asks partner to bid 3NT with a stopper.

East doesn't have a stopper in hearts so must make a bid other than 3NT. A bid of 3♠ is best as it further describes their hand and partner will know they have three spades – they can't have four as they didn't rebid spades opposite west's negative double. Also, west could have more than four spades.

Which minor do you open if you have 4-4 in the minors and no 5-card major? If it is diamonds then west can easily work out the shape of east's hand after the 3♠ bid. It must be 3-1-4-5 or possibly 3-0-4-6. On this hand EW can make game in spades or the minors.

## Sixth Deal



This was a hand played at the Noosa Spring Teams. Marg and I were sitting NS. The final contract was 4♠ by west (I don't remember the exact bidding).

My opening lead was the singleton ♣4. Marg won with her ♣A and returned a club. I won the trick by ruffing with the ♠6.

I had the A which would give us three tricks, but how could we make another trick to defeat the contract? I could see four hearts to the AKJ in dummy and I had six hearts so partner was likely to be short in hearts. With total control of the trump suit I would have a second shot at the heart suit if partner had a singleton. I played a heart.

West won the trick with the ♥A in dummy and immediately started to draw trumps. Too late! Partner and I had found the correct line of defence. I won with my ♠A and played another heart which partner ruffed with a spade. The contract was defeated by one trick. Plus 100 for us.

At the other table the contract was 5 doubled by South. Plus 500 for our team mates Annette and Fay.

# Revised Teaching Program, Semester 2

### **OCTOBER**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>: Mini-Lesson 8 - Tips on

**Declarer Play** 

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>: Hand Analysis

**NOVEMBER** 

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>: Hand Analysis

Tuesday 21st: Mini-Lesson 9 – your choice.

Signals?

#### **NOTES**

<u>Hand Analysis</u> is really just a chance to explore the best way to get to the optimum contract – you can bring along your own hands, or just ask questions about using various conventions.

These sessions start approximately 1pm to allow time for players to have lunch

<u>Mini-Lessons</u> are a refresher half hour to help players reaffirm their basic bidding skills.

After a short presentation, a few questions and a handout, it's on to the Tuesday afternoon game.

These lessons start at 12.30 promptly to allow time for the afternoon director to work out the movement.

The cost for these lessons is \$2 for expenses Regards,

Andy Slater

## 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge

LAW 7 - CONTROL OF BOARD AND CARDS

A. Placement of Board

When a board is to be played it is placed in the centre of the table where it shall remain, correctly oriented, until play is completed.

Keeping boards correctly oriented in the centre of the table reduces the chance of a board becoming fouled. Also, players can easily check vulnerability.

LAW 20 - REVIEW AND EXPLANATION OF CALLS

- F. Explanation of Calls
- 1. During the auction and before the final pass any player may request, at his own turn to call, an explanation of the opponents auction. ...
- ...The partner of a player who asks a question may not ask a supplementary question until his turn to call or play.
- \* Unless that player is required by law to pass.

During the auction, players must wait until it is **their turn to bid** before asking questions about the opponent's auction.

### From the Editor

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

gjgosney@bigpond.com.

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