



GOLD COAST
BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2019

President's Message

Message on behalf of the President

President Eva has asked me to write the message for the quarterly newsletter due to unforeseen circumstances that have popped up. My pleasure Eva.

I am going to dwell on the topic of leadership. They call Australia the Lucky Country and I call the Gold Coast Bridge Club the Lucky Club.

Being the President of a bridge presents many challenges for the unwary, and leadership skills are paramount if the club is going to meet these challenges in the uncharted waters that lay ahead.

To achieve success as a President you must be a leader, and if you fall into this category you will then have many members who will come forward and follow your plans for the year. Eva, you are a leader and this is personified by the accomplishments that have been achieved by your band of loyal supporters.

Firstly, the board has been cohesive and worked as a team – most important because a happy board is readily recognised by the members.

Secondly, the successful gala events have been as a result of many volunteers putting their hands up to ensure the success of your plans. The Melbourne Cup, Christmas and Australia Day parties speak for themselves by the many accolades that have been bestowed upon your band of workers that have ensured their success.

Thirdly, and most importantly, is the friendship and the camaraderie which is generated by the club members as they play bridge and enjoy the company of each other. One can always judge a happy club by the buzz that emanates from the many friendships that have been formed over the times that we have been in each others company.

Congratulations Eva for being our leader. Leadership is about setting the example and you have certainly done that.

Neil Raward



Bridge In Mudgee

Packed the car, first things in are the twenty bridge books, Audrey's coded cards, lesson notes from Lynley and the long haired chihuahua.

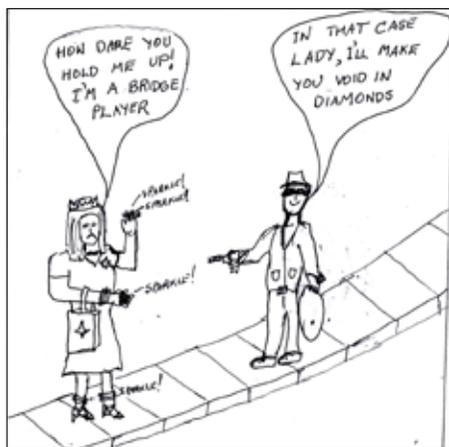
We old bushies (Mum and I) have been asked to care take an olive grove with 3,500 olive trees producing award winning olive oil outside of Mudgee. Owing to the drought we were kept very busy maintaining the property and had little time to think about bridge. Finally time for bridge and we arrive at 10.30 am at the Mudgee Bridge Club, set in the local show ground. With systems card and bridge badges we are ready and so proud of our Gold Coast Bridge Club and can't wait to meet the locals.

Locals are there, many of them, a gold life master and many other life masters. We are all in together. I am now looking at the door and saying, "Mum maybe we should escape whilst we can." A lady welcomes us with open arms, we have no chance of escaping. I am ok at the thought it won't take long and as Mum said, "there will be plenty of time to visit a couple of wineries on the way home today". Perfect as this is our first outing away from minding the farm.

Table upon table, this is a popular bridge club. I don't wish to be rude, but I am sneaking glances at my watch as the hours are ticking over. Still smiling at others, I become anxious, not about my hand or Mum's hand but the wineries closing. Five pm and we are on our last board. I am googling the planned wineries for our trip home, only to see closing, closing now, closed!

We return home to the drought at our back door. We pour a little gin and tonic, we look up our bridge results. 52% and half way down the list. We are thrilled and celebrate with another g and t.

Liz and Noni Affleck



The Unwritten Rules of Bridge for Beginners

1. Never trump your partner's winning Ace.
2. Always lead partner's suit, unless you are void in that suit or you forgot what partner bid.
3. Try to avoid leading from a suit which only has a King as an honour card plus little ones. If you have four suits like this, try to get your partner to lead out of turn.
4. Against a No Trump contract lead your 4th highest from your longest suit. This proves to be very difficult when you have unknowingly dropped a card on the floor and have only three left in each suit. You can be saved if you paid attention in maths classes at school.
5. Partner opens the bidding with 2 Clubs (strong). The next person passes, but before you can bid partner excuses himself from the table for a call of nature or a quick smoke to calm his nerves. Although you have 15 HCP's, this is the best time to call 2Diamonds as the standard WAITING bid!

POWER OF A LONG SUIT

On the hand below, partner, sitting West, reached the bid of 6 No Trumps and received the lead of the Diamond 8 taken by the Ace. Dealer was East.

	North	
	♠ QT92	
	♥ Q96	
	♦ 9876	
	♣ 84	
West		East
♠ K63		♠ A8754
♥ AJ8		♥ K74
♦ K5		♦ AT2
♣ AKJ93		♣ Q5
	South	
	♠ J	
	♥ T532	
	♦ QJ43	
	♣ T762	

Looking at both East and West hands, 6 Spades and 6 No Trumps are good contracts, but when partner leads towards the King of Spades it seems ominous when the Jack pops up.

At trick 3, declarer leads a small Spade and dummy also plays small to keep control of the suit in case it breaks badly, while South shows out.

North now plays another Diamond won by West's King.

Declarer runs the club suit with North safely pitching 2 Diamonds, but on the third discard cannot afford to throw a Spade, so pitches a Heart. South has a similar problem, and has played a Heart on the second Spade plus a Diamond on the fifth Club.

At this point West leads towards the Spade Ace forcing South to drop a Heart to keep the Diamond winner.

East has doubleton King of Hearts and the ten of Diamonds and declarer has Ace, Jack, small of Hearts and declarer now

knows that the Heart finesse is no longer required, since both opponents had to keep a stopper in the side suits and therefore only had 2 Hearts each.

While the Heart finesse is 50 percent and was the play chosen at the table, the squeeze worked on this occasion and was a no-cost play.

Without going into the theory, the squeeze will not work unless you are within one trick of your contract. So in this example you need to lose a trick to the opponents early. Please try it with a pack of cards and find the opponents have an extra card to discard. Recap: 6 Spades has no chance while being a good contract, although the long suit can provide a good result if attempted.

The opponents may also provide an indication that you are on the right track by slowing the play and agonising on the discards.

Tony Berger



CLUB PERFORMANCES AT THE CONGRESS

Notable performances by club members at the recent Gold Coast Bridge Congress at the Convention Centre were as follows:

Monday Butler Open Swiss Pairs

Patricia Beattie & partner
2nd E/W out of 65 pairs

Ivy Dahler Swiss Pairs

Charlie Howard & Kerry Wood 4th N/S,
Tony Berger & Merle Bogatie 7th E/W

Seres McMahon Matchpoint Pairs

Kathy Johnson and Eva Berger 9th

Intermediate Teams - Peter Lloyd was in a team that finished 8th

Weekend Matchpoint Pairs

Kathy Johnson and Lois Steinwedel
22nd, Eduardo Besprosvan and Richard Misior 27th in a field of 140.

TIPS FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

Recognising A Suit better led by a defender

As a GCBC member you are most fortunate to have an extensive State of the Art Bridge lending library at your disposal. Arguably the best in Australia. If you haven't checked it out lately, I would recommend you do so.

The following hand comes from Audrey Grants publication "Five Steps to Simplify the Endplay". Copies are on sale or available for borrowing.

CONTRACT 4♠ S		DUMMY	
LEAD Q♦		♠ QJ96	
		♥ 654	
		♦ AK9	
		♣ AQ5	
♠842	N	♠ 53	
♥AQ87		♥ J109	
♦QJ10	W	♦ 8642	
♣963	S	♣ 10842	
	DECLARER		
	♠ AK107		
	♥ K32		
	♦ 753		
	♣ KJ7		

Firstly make a **PLAN!**

There are 9 top winners and 4 potential losers. Nothing can be done about the deep diamond loser. A finesse is available in the heart suit for your 10th trick. If East holds the ♥A then the ♥K will win a trick. That's a 50% chance.

BUT is there a better way?

Perhaps without realizing it, you have already **recognised a suit best led by the defenders.**

If West could be somehow forced to lead a heart then you will win the ♥K 100% of the time. Regardless of who holds the ♥A.

The opening lead gives you the clue. You are entitled to hope that West having led the ♦Q is likely to hold the ♦J and possibly the ♦10 as well. You have identified the **Exit Card.** The

♦9. You plan to attempt to force the lead on West by allowing her to win the 3rd diamond trick.

Now for the **EXECUTION!**

Although not always possible, some hands provide the opportunity to force your will on the defender. But we first need to set the scene.

Draw trumps thus **eliminating** West's spades. Play 3 rounds of Clubs **eliminating** clubs from both your hand and Dummy and as it happens also from West's hand. This elimination of neutral suits is referred to as a **STRIP PLAY.**

The scene is now set. Cash A and K of diamonds and exit the ♦9, saddling West with the lead. Referred to as the **THROW IN PLAY.**

This is the final position with West on lead after nine tricks have been played

		DUMMY	
		♠ J	
		♥ 654	
		♦ -	
		♣ -	
♠ -	N	♠ -	
♥ AQ87		♥ J109	
♦ -	W	♦ -	
♣ -	S	♣ 10	
	DECLARER		
	♠ 10		
	♥ K32		
	♦ -		
	♣ -		

You have successfully **ENDPLAYED** your opponent. Regardless of which heart West leads the ♥K is your 10th trick. Your losers are two hearts and a diamond. Even if West has only 3 hearts and a club the lead of a club provides a **ruff** and a **sluff** for declarer, and you lose just two hearts. On this occasion the finesse was failing but you still made your contract. *Clever you!*

Lynley Jenkins

Mary Murray Novice Shield



Lindell and Greg Day with
Mary Murray, aged 100

I attended this Novice pairs competition at the Sunshine Coast for sentimental reasons. Mary Murray had been a great friend and bridge partner of my mother, Ingola Meldrum. Mary is now 100 and until recently had driven herself to bridge several times per week. Mary was a woman of many talents - a nurse in WW2, rally car driver, opened and ran a driving school for women at a time traditional schools did not teach women, prolific fund raiser including for the purchase and building of the SCBC, and later president of the club, mentor to many aspiring bridge players, mother of 6, wife of Fred and one of the best joke tellers I ever met.

My somewhat reluctant partner was husband, Greg. On arrival at the club we were very impressed that the first name on the Club Championship Board for 1975 was John Glennie; and then each year to 1978 when he and my mother won. We were also impressed at the terrific array of food for the players - just like at GCBC. Their excellent sandwiches are made by Meals on Wheels (a fundraiser for Meals on Wheels).

Greg and I were in the B section of the competition. Our morning rounds saw us score only once above 50%. Realising that husband needed a lift, I was overjoyed to note the bar was open for lunchtime drinks. This worked a treat as our scores then soared. From 35th we rose to 6th and won the B section. We were thrilled that Mary was there to congratulate us, but we couldn't be named on the shield as that was restricted to Sunshine Coast Club members.

I would definitely recommend the event to Novices. You will be well looked after. Sadly, Mary Murray has just passed away since the event.

Lindell Day



The Gold Coast Congress introduced a great service this year.

Between matches they sent a message to phones and in my case also to the Apple Watch. Showed your results from the just completed match and more usefully, the draw for the next round; namely where to go.

(Ross Steinwedel)



Director's Corner

When is a card "played"?

"I saw that card – now you have to play it" is sometimes heard at a bridge table. The situation is more complex than that. There are separate rules for defenders and declarers.

Defender:

If, as a defender, you detach a card from your hand and hold it in a way that it is 'possible' for your partner to see the face of the card, then it must be played. This does not mean that your partner did actually see it, only that your partner could have seen it. It doesn't matter, for example, that your partner at the time was looking the other way out the window - if the card was in such a position that in the normal course of events it would have been visible to your partner, then you are deemed to have played it.

The fact that declarer saw the defender's card, or it was possible for declarer to see the card, is irrelevant. This issue is whether or not it was possible for the partner of defender to have seen it.

Declarer:

If you are declarer and playing from your

own hand, then you must play any card that you have "held face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played." The key aspects are that the card has to be both faced and stationary or semi-stationary. People have a variety of habits in regard to how they actually manipulate their cards. Some just detach a card from hand and place it directly on the table, while others hold the card upright on the edge of the table before letting it fall over to be revealed. Still others pull out a card and hold it in mid-air, sometimes waiving it around. A subset of these players irritatingly repeat this procedure several times with different cards, while they reconsider which card to finally contribute. A declarer need not play a card just because he has taken it out from his hand and an opponent has seen its face. If a defender sees declarer's card, but declarer is not deemed to have played it, if declarer decides to play another card, the only consequence is that the defender now knows about one of the cards declarer has in his hand.

Paul Brake

Tournament Committee

MARCH DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM



	North	
	♠ A72	
	♥ AK543	
	♦ 842	
	♣ 53	
West		East
♠ 6		♠ 543
♥ QJ6		♥ T87
♦ QJT75		♦ 96
♣ KJ74		♣ Q9862
	South	
	♠ KQJT98	
	♥ 62	
	♦ AK3	
	♣ AT	

MARCH Solution: Win the DA. Play one round of trumps winning with the SK. Play a heart & duck it. Win any return. Draw another trump with the SQ, and cross to the HA. Ruff a heart back, cross to the SA removing the last of East's trumps. Now you can obtain two discards on the HK & the remaining long heart. It is important to remember this play of ducking a trick as it ensures an extra entry in effect when a suit contract depends on the establishment of a side suit.
Johnathon Sky

Contract is 6S by South. Lead is DQ fortunately. Over to you before you look at the solution.

• RESULTS •

DECEMBER 2018

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic

1st EVA BERGER =1st KATHY JOHNSON

Monday Evening Eclectic 1st TOM STRONG

=1st EDDA STRONG

Tuesday Eclectic (Open)

1st NAOMI RYAN =1st MARGARET WATSON

Tuesday Eclectic (Restr) 1st PENNY GRACE =1st

MARGARET MELLICK

Wednesday Eclectic 1st KATHY JOHNSON =1st

EVA BERGER

Thursday Eclectic (Open) 1st CHRISTINE JOSLIN

=1st CHERYL HENSEL

Thursday Eclectic (Restr) 1st DIANNE MORRIS

=1st ANN MCCALLUM

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Thursday Evening Eclectic 1st PAUL BRAKE

=1st BARRY COE

Friday Eclectic

1st KATHY JOHNSON =1st LOIS STEINWEDEL

Thursday Eclectic (Restr)

1st WENDY CLARK

=1st ETHNE HUDDLESTON

Thursday Evening Eclectic

1st DALE WELLS

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Friday Eclectic

1st MERLE BOGATIE

=1st RITA KAHN

Saturday Eclectic (Open)

1st LAUREN SOMERS

=1st MERLE BOGATIE

Saturday Eclectic (Restr)

1st MAUREEN SMITH

=1st DOBY STEPANEK

SPECIAL EVENTS

Gold Coast Graded Swiss Teams Congress – January 6 , 2019

1st TONY TRELOAR - PETER EVANS - RICHARD
WARD - THERESE TULLY

2nd NEVILLE FRANCIS - MURRAY PERRIN -
PAULA MCLEISH - DAVID MCLEISH

3rd EVA BERGER - TONY BERGER - KATHY
JOHNSON - LOIS STEINWEDEL

Surf Parade Pairs

Open

1st ROGER WEATHERED - LOU TILLOTSON

2nd MARGARET PISKO - MERLE BOGATIE

3rd TOM STRONG - EDDA STRONG

Restricted

1st JEFF WICKS - JULIE WICKS

2nd JULIET ROGERS - MARGARET DAY

3rd EDIE TONKIN - WENDY CLARK

JANUARY 2019

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic

1st KATHY JOHNSON

=1st EVA BERGER

Monday Evening Eclectic

1st ROGER WEATHERED

=1st LOU TILLOTSON

Tuesday Eclectic (Open)

1st CHERYL HENSEL

2nd COLIN LEWIS

=2nd MARY JOJKITY

Tuesday Eclectic (Restr)

1st MAUREEN SMITH

Wednesday Eclectic

1st HEATHER REID

2nd KATHY JOHNSON

=2nd EVA BERGER

Thursday Eclectic (Open)

1st MARLENE DWYER

2nd PAULA PETTERSSON

DEFENSIVE TIPS *from Eddie Kantar*

1. You can't defend properly unless you remember the bidding.
2. You can't defend properly unless you know what system your opponents are playing.
3. You can't defend properly unless you watch the cards, particularly the little fellows.
4. You can't defend properly unless you COUNT.

