



NOVICE NEWS #14 AUGUST 2020

For those of you who are new to bridge and/or new to the club, the term Novice in bridge speak is someone who has less than 100 master points. At our club that is half or more of our membership. In pre-COVID days, we had 'Open Sections' and 'Restricted Sections'. Anyone can play in an Open section and many of our Novice players regularly play in these sections. Restricted sections were introduced so that beginners and inexperienced players with relatively low master points could gain more experience and confidence before moving to an Open section.

When we reopened the club on 11th July we needed to limit the number of tables due to physical distancing requirements. Currently there are 11 tables. We also needed to see how many people would return to the club. We therefore decided all sessions would be Open sessions for the time being. During our first three weeks of being open, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays are attracting the most players and it has been interesting to note that each session is a mix of Open and Restricted players. Everyone seems to be mixing well and we hope it has been a positive experience for all.

However, soon we hope to have at least one day (or one session) per week where Restricted players can have their own session. We have quite a few new graduates from the previous Beginners' course, now attending Lynley's Improver class. Dot is currently conducting another Beginners' course with graduation in one week. We will need to provide these 'Rookies' a safe haven in which to land for their first games at the club.

Great Names in Bridge

Oswald Jacoby (1902-1984) was a mathematics prodigy. He could play whist at six and bridge at ten and, at 21, he was the youngest person to qualify as an actuary. During World War 1 he joined the army at age 15 by lying about his age, but spent most of this time there playing poker. His talents were put to better use in WW2 and the Korean War in counter intelligence and cryptanalysis, when he gained his nickname the human computer.

During the 1920's he became recognised as one of the world's best bridge players and was the most successful American tournament player of the 1930's.

Jacoby was a prolific writer of books on bridge and other card games, and more than 10,000 newspaper articles. He pioneered many bidding ideas, including Jacoby transfers and the Jacoby 2NT bid. He was a multiple winner in just about every important American tournament and the 1935 world championships, as well as captaining two winning Bermuda Bowl teams. A true legend of the game.

Newsletters

Three newsletters are produced at the club at different intervals.

1. Neil Raward produces the monthly newsletter, keeping us informed of important dates, celebrations, upcoming events and other milestones.
2. Julie Wicks produces the Novice News every two months designed to inform our newer players on the workings of the club, bylaws, rules, etiquette and education tips.
3. Neville de Mestre produces a quarterly newsletter featuring bridge articles, history of some members, jokes, stories and generally a great read.

Back copies of these newsletters can be found on our website at www.goldcoastbridgeclub.com.

Bridge Rule

Bridge bidding is like a foreign language. We want to know what others are talking about when they converse in Spanish or German. Likewise, in bridge your opponents have a right to know what "language" you are speaking, ie what your bid means. That is why regulations require that each member of a partnership have an identical systems card. If an opponent asks for an explanation at his/her turn to call, you must explain accurately and fully.

Education Tip

Make your opponents make the last guess, not you. On highly competitive deals bid as high as you are willing to go immediately... then get out and watch them deal with the problem.

GCBC By-Law

The Director has the right to refuse entry to any person into the Club Rooms.

Etiquette

Players are not to leave the table without good cause, before an announcement to move to the next table has been called.

Review both your good results and your bad results away from the table to learn from them; be reflective and honest about aspects that need improvement. Bradley Lehman

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