



Gold Coast Bridge Club

NEWSLETTER

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SEPTEMBER 2017

President's Message

A very happy hello to you all,

Once again a last - my last letter as President for our three monthly publication which is edited by our hard-working Neville de Mestre. Thank you Neville for all the time you put into this newsletter - it is read from cover to cover each edition by our members. I always hear great comments about it.

I am handing over the reins of the club after three years to Philip Roberts who as well as being my bridge partner has filled the role of Vice-President admirably this year. I know you will all support him as you have supported me for the last three years.

I am very proud of all that the Board and I have achieved during the last three years. We have made some much-needed improvements to the club such as a defibrillator and better first aid facilities, a dealer's room and disabled toilet, refurbished ladies and men's toilets, new flooring in part of the club, a well-equipped new library and teaching computer, new computers and a fantastic smart TV, new airconditioning, a new dishwasher, more security cameras and better security lighting for the club, new energy saving lighting through the club, solved the drainage problems, lovely new sideboards and side tables, an electric piano to add music to events, and many other problems have been dealt with and solved. Our latest project has been the covered entrance to the club. This was most generously donated by Odette Hall and we thank her so much as now our older members can be dropped at the bottom of the ramp and arrive dry in the club. We have also added a waterproof sail to the smokers area so no smokers will get wet when it is raining. I feel I am definitely leaving the club with better facilities for members.



We have also increased our members and our playing numbers have risen well also. Our teaching program is second to none and has meant lots of new members. Having non-playing directors for three days a week has been a worthwhile initiative and one much appreciated by our members. We also reintroduced prize tickets for winners in all sections. Our 50th Anniversary celebrations was also a wonderful day that I helped organise and coordinate.

I would like to thank all the Board members I have worked with. The Board has worked well, overcoming problems and dealing with issues in a professional and collegiate way. We have lively board meetings with plenty of discussions and diverse opinions, but we are all united in wanting the best for our members and to make our club an up-to-date, attractive, and friendly place to play bridge.



I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your support of me and I will continue on the Board for now still looking after the catering in the club.

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Director's Corner

Reflections

This will be my last Director's Corner article as I intend stepping down from my role as Chair of the Tournament Committee. I must congratulate the editor of the quarterly magazine, Neville de Mestre who has done an outstanding job in putting together this excellent bulletin of bridge news and information for the past 12 years and during this time I have contributed an article for each bulletin. Well done Neville and keep up the good work.

I am taking the liberty of reflecting on my role as a player and a director of the club. I have been a member of the club for 16 years and a director for 14 years and I would like to make some observations of my experiences during this time. The club has a very warm and friendly atmosphere and I consider members of the club as part of my family.

When I became President in 2006 I adopted a club philosophy which is well known to all members:-

Please come with a smile and leave with a smile and treat your partner and opponents with respect and dignity.

This statement hopefully has been adopted by all members of the club as they enjoy the challenges of bridge.

I realise that we all have differing personalities which I dare say can be related to human nature, our upbringing, the will to win, etc and these traits will affect the manner in which some players react to different situations at the table.

There is a time proven adage - *treat your fellow beings as you would them to treat you*. I believe if we adopt this adage, attitudinal problems displayed by a very small minority of the members will be a thing of the past.

As a player, I have witnessed many different attitudes by players towards opponents, especially when conflicts arise in determining the number of tricks won at the end of a contract, claims and concessions, etc and when these situations arise patience should prevail as some of these issues can be resolved without calling a director.

I have spoken many times on ethical bridge behavior at the table, ethics is something difficult to define, however it is a code of conduct which we should all abide by, knowing that a lapse in ethical behaviour can quickly become a talking point by members who have been effected by the poor ethical conduct of other players.

Where I am leading to, you may ask - in my first editorial as President I was asking for exemplary player behaviour and attitudes towards their partner and opponents, I now realise that this cannot ever be achieved, however tolerance and forbearance can greatly assist with a more peaceful mindset whilst at the club.

We all have a responsibility to ensure that the club philosophy is foremost in our minds as we move around the tables facing the challenges which confront us as bridge players.

Neil Raward
Tournament Committee

MORTON'S FORK COUP

This colourful label for a useful bridge play is named after Cardinal John Morton, who was Henry VII's chancellor and a zealous collector of taxes. He worked on the principle that those who lived ostentatiously could well afford to pay, while those that lived frugally must have plenty of money stashed away and so could also pay. In either case they became impaled on Morton's Fork.

When declarer recognises the situation in bridge it is a case of "Heads declarer wins, tails defenders lose." Consider the following hands with East as dealer.

	North		East
West	♠ AT65	♠ K2	♠ Q98
	♥ KQJ32	♥ A94	♥ void
	♦ 3	♦ AJT95	♦ KQ8764
	♣ Q43	♣ AKJ	♣ T876
	South		
	♠ J743		
	♥ T8765		
	♦ 2		
	♣ 952		

The bidding was as follows:

East	South	West	North
P	P	1D	X
5D	P	6D	P
P	P		

North led the HK. On viewing dummy, declarer has 27 HCP in the East/West hands, and since North doubled the opening bid, that must be where at least 12 of the missing points are. Therefore North has the important CQ and SA as well as the other Heart honours. Since dummy is void in Hearts the requirements for Morton's Fork Coup are all in place.

Ruff the opening lead (very important), play a small trump to the DA, and note that all defender's trumps are now gone. Now lead

the S2 and North is "on the rack" in Morton's Fork. If he plays the SA, declarer can discard the CJ on the SQ eventually. If North ducks the S2 lead, the SQ wins. Declarer now plays the C6 to the CA, cashes the well-kept HA discarding the SK, and ruffs the H9 ending in dummy. When dummy's last Spade is led, it is all over, because North must either lead a Club or concede a ruff and a discard.
Fred North

JUNE DOUBLE DUMMY SOLUTION

South is in 6 Spades on the lead by West of the S3 (excellent lead).

	North		East
West	♠ KT92	♠ 7643	♠ 5
	♥ AQ82	♥ T95	♥ KJ763
	♦ QT53	♦ 8	♦ KJ9
	♣ 5	♣ J9874	♣ T632
	South		
	♠ AQJ8		
	♥ 4		
	♦ A7642		
	♣ AKQ		



Play S2 and S8 on the opening lead. Now play the DA then the CA, CK and CQ discarding the D5 and DT on the last two. Next play the D2 to the DQ losing to the DK. Declarer now has five tricks and East has to return a Heart, his last Diamond or a Club. If it is a Heart, declarer wins with the HA, and then cross ruffs the rest with the six highest trumps for a total of twelve. If it is either of the other two, declarer wins with the S9, takes the HA and then cross ruffs three Hearts and two Diamonds.

How Long is Partner's Suit?

When partner bids and rebids her /his suit, bids a new suit, or raises your suit, are you able to tell with reasonable certainty how many cards she/he has in that suit?

Let's look at three very common auctions which involve partner opening 1♣ and rebidding 2♣. The question is: how many clubs does opener hold?

Auction 1

North East South West

1♣ P 1♦ P

2♣

Almost always, opener will have 6 clubs for this rebid. The guideline for working this out is one you can apply in many situations:

The more alternatives you skip when you rebid your suit, the longer your suit rates to be.

There is almost no hand that opener could have to rebid a 5-card club suit in this auction. Opener is skipping 3 possible rebids - 1♥, 1♠ (and thus denying a four card major suit) and 1NT. The exceptional type hand that opener might have to do this after partner responds 1♦ is:

♠ J82 ♥ 82 • QJ2 ♣ AKQ95

The reason opener will rebid the 5-card club suit here is because the only alternative bid (1NT) is worse! Two little hearts is not a good holding for a 1NT rebid and ♠J82 isn't very good either. Quite a lot of players *will* rebid 1NT with these cards because the hand is balanced. But back to the point of the hand: it really is highly unlikely that partner will have only 5 clubs to rebid 2♣ after a 1♦ response.

Auction 2

Now let's look at an auction where opener can frequently be showing a 5-card suit to rebid 2♣:

North East South West

1♥ P 1♠ P

2♣

In this case, opener is skipping only 1 rebid – 1NT. Consider this common hand type for opener:

♠ 8 ♥ AJ83 ♦ 873 ♣ AK1073

Opener does have a rebid of 1NT available. But this would violate two very important principles: opener has a singleton spade *and* opener has no values in diamonds. With two reasons not to

rebid 1NT, opener needs to look elsewhere. The rebid of 2♥ on this hand is definitely unavailable – while the hand shape is perfect (5-4) opener does not have anything like the 16HCP required to make this reverse bid. Opener's hand is definitely a minimum strength hand.

An important point about opener's rebid of 2♣ on this hand: opener doesn't make this bid just because she/he has a good 5-card suit. Telling partner about a 5-card club suit is not a priority. The rebid of 2♣ with a 5-card suit simply says opener couldn't find anything better to do!

Auction 3

North East South West

1♣ P 1NT P

2♣

For example, opener holds:

♠ 9 ♥ A853 ♦ QJ7 ♣ KQ863

The 2♣ rebid with a 5-card suit is very commonly the correct rebid with this hand type.

Responder's 1NT bid has told opener 3 things: responder has a minimum response (up to about 10 points), no four-card major and possibly no four-card diamond suit. Therefore, responder has club support – often 4 of them. Opener should rebid 2♣ with this hand. Spades are a big concern. And again, opener has a minimum hand with nothing like the points required for a rebid of 2♥. Opener knows responder will have club support. This rebid of 2♣ with a 5-card suit should be automatic.

Another important guideline:

When the opening bids and rebids his/her suit, that suit is likely to be only 5-cards long on those occasions where a higher-ranking suit cannot be rebid due to lack of strength.

We hope you will take the time to digest these points. They form the key to one of the secrets of expert bridge players – experts are able to tell with reasonable certainty how many cards their partner has to rebid a suit. *If you already know these points and if you are applying them, you are entitled to be pleased with your game!*

27th August Charity Bridge Event at GCBC

The club held a charity bridge day on 27th August. All proceeds were earmarked for Hopewell Hospice, a 'not-for-profit organisation', providing valuable support to end-stage cancer and similar sufferers. The event, which had an Indian theme, was hugely and enthusiastically supported by the club members and was a sell-out at \$ 15.00 per person. Many members got into the spirit and dressed in Indian attire. Veena Chotai provided a home cooked Indian vegetarian meal and Ashok provided the liquid refreshments.



Lunch was followed by the highlight of the afternoon, a fun bridge game expertly run by Eva Berger. Pairs were made up by matching a lower ranking player (in masterpoints - a lot were under 20 masterpoints -) with a more experienced player or an expert player. There were spot prizes announced throughout the game, sometimes even for failing contracts. All prizes had been very generously donated by the club members.



The event was a huge success with everyone having a lot of fun.

Six of One, Half a Dozen of Another

South picks up the following hand as declarer, bids 1NT and all pass.

♠ K752 ♥ QJ4 ♦ AK3 ♣ AT2

West leads the C4. North puts down the following dummy.

♠ AJ8 ♥ T732 ♦ QT84 ♣ 96

Declarer counts six immediate winners with two Spades, three Diamonds and one Club. Using the Rule of Eleven she knows that East has three cards higher than the C4. Noting that the defenders have eight Clubs between them, she decides to hold up twice and win the CA on the third trick. East wins the first trick with the CQ, the second with the CK and fires back the C5 on the third trick. Declarer now knows that West has two more Club winners after the CA wins this trick, and she has a discard problem from dummy on this third trick. Will she throw the S8, the H2 or the D4?

But at this stage, she does some further thinking. She needs one extra trick eventually to

make her contract. The defenders will almost certainly make six tricks from four Clubs plus the HA and HK. So how can she make certain to get the thirteenth? Well, a Spade finesse or a Diamond finesse are each only a 50% chance. So she had better establish a Heart, which incidentally tells her what to discard when those two winning club tricks are played by West. Here are the East/West hands so that you can follow declarer's thinking.

West ♠ T43 ♥ A96 ♦ 62 ♣ J8743

East ♠ Q96 ♥ K85 ♦ J975 ♣ KQ5

Therefore, after winning the CA and discarding the S8 from dummy, she leads the HQ from dummy. West wins the HA and plays the CJ then the C8. Declarer discards the D4 then D8 from dummy and the S2 then S5 from her hand. West will cross to the HK in east's hand, but it is all over as declarer has all the remaining tricks including the HJ or HT for her seventh trick. ANTIDARK NEW

THE CASE FOR PLAYING AGAINST GOOD OPPOSITION

Regardless of which competitive game or sport you play, there is one tip for all and it's a simple one. Whether you are just learning the game or are an experienced player, playing against opponents who are better than you or more experienced than you is important.

In our game of bridge today where our competition results are all on the internet almost immediately, we can study how our results compare with the ones of the better players. For example, we can see if our declarer play needs sharpening - if the better players all make 10 tricks, we want to as well. If the better players are bidding games we are not, we want to learn how to bid those games too. It's a very exciting time to be playing bridge! And a super fun time!

All of these things are well exemplified by our fearless (well, not quite!) 9 novices (some rookies) who travelled north with us to Mission Beach for the Cassowary Coast Swiss Matchpoint Pairs. (See Lorraine's article). While the field was divided into graded sections for the purpose of prizes, all 3 fields played as one - in other words, an Open Event. A daunting first Swiss round for our novices!

But not one novice was daunted. Everyone won at least two matches and, may we say, convincingly. For the most part, their matches were against more experienced players. And they had fun ... and learnt! And take Noni Affleck - one of our Rookie players. She & partner/daughter Liz, were one of only 3 pairs to bid 6♣ on the following hand (well, Noni sat South and was the one to bid the slam - a simple auction - 1NT from Liz, 6♣ from Noni!)

Thank goodness, we were one of the

3 pairs - our auction was a bit more technical, but same result. The only other pair to bid the slam were the eventual winners of the event. We say, "Well done, Noni & Liz!"

And well done everyone! We are so very proud of you all!

Cecily & Lynley

BD: 21	♠AKT	Dir: N					
	♥KT7	Vul: N-S					
	♦AJ985						
	♣T5						
♠98652		♠J7					
♥AJ9863		♥54					
♦63		♦KQT72					
♣		♣9872					
	♠Q43						
	♥Q2						
	♦4						
	♠AKQJ643						
	♠	NT					
N	6	2	-	2	5		15
S	6	2	-	2	5		5
E	-	-	1	-	-		14
W	-	-	1	-	-		6

SNIPPET...



Rumour has it that Geoff Roberts and Jane Swanson are travelling down to the Tweed Club each Tuesday to play bridge together. They were having a strong verbal disagreement about a hand at one table and one opponent asked if they were married. "No" replied Geoff, "but it probably sounds like we are."

RESULTS FOR JUNE 2017

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic

- 1st KATHY JOHNSON
- 2nd MERLE BOGATIE

Monday Evening Eclectic

- 1st LOU TILLOTSON
- =1st ROGER WEATHERED

Wednesday Eclectic

- 1st EVA BERGER
- =1st KATHY JOHNSON

Thursday Eclectic (Open)

- 1st CHRISTINE JOSLIN
- =1st CHERYL HENSEL

Thursday Eclectic (Restr)

- 1st MARIE MCGARRY
- =1st MARGARET DAY

Thursday Evening Eclectic

- 1st LOU TILLOTSON
- =1st SUE ROBINSON

Saturday Eclectic (Open)

- 1st JENNIFER SAWYER
- 2nd TREVOR FLETCHER

Saturday Eclectic (Restr)

- 1st BOB STILL
- =1st LESLEY SUTHERLAND

SPECIAL EVENTS

Gold Coast Zone GNOT Heat 3

- 1st PISKO- MERLE BOGATIE -
MARGARET PISKO - TRISH ANAGNOSTOU
SUE SPURWAY - KAYE DONALDSON -
TONY BERGER
- 2nd STEINWEDEL - ROSS STEINWEDEL -
ERIN WATERHOUSE - LOIS STEINWEDEL -
KATHY JOHNSON
- 3rd WEERASINGHE - NIMAL WEERASINGHE -
JOHN MASTERS - ANGELINE CHRISTIE -
TREVOR FLETCHER

Zeppelin Teams

- 1st ROSS STEINWEDEL - LOIS STEINWEDEL
- KATHY JOHNSON - MERLE BOGATIE
- 2nd ELAINE HENNIG - DIANNE RAYWARD -
MARGARET PISKO - LIZ JONES
- 3rd LOU TILLOTSON - ROGER WEATHERED -
ANGUS LIGHTBODY - RITA MORRIS

Bill Rex Pairs Open

- 1st ANGELINE CHRISTIE -
NIMAL WEERASINGHE
- 2nd PHILIP ROBERTS - DI HODGES
- 3rd JOHN COX - MARGARET PISKO

Bill Rex Pairs Restr

- 1st LISA BASILE - TONY PEARLMAN
- 2nd CHERYL MILLAR - BARBARA HUDDY
- 3rd EDIE TONKIN - JIM WHALEN

Thursday Red Pairs Local & Below**

- 1st CAROLINE AUSDEN - NOLA SAUNDERS
- 2nd ELINOR MCCLOSKEY -
LORRAINE TWYFORD
- 3rd LESLEY SUTHERLAND - BOB STILL

Thursday Red Pairs National* & Below

- 1st VEENA CHOTAI - RAYNOR LOEWENTHAL
- 2nd LIONEL NICHOL - TONY PEARLMAN
- 3rd ODETTE HALL - SUSAN HERSE

RESULTS JULY 2017

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic

- 1st KATHY JOHNSON
- =1st EVA BERGER

Monday Evening Eclectic

- 1st LOU TILLOTSON
- =1st ROGER WEATHERED

Tuesday Eclectic (Open)

- 1st JANET PEZARO
- =1st WENDY WALSH

Tuesday Eclectic (Restr)

- 1st MARILYN BIDEY
- 2nd JUDY MARTIN

Wednesday Eclectic

- 1st BOB HUNT
- =1st DENNIS JOHNSTON

Thursday Eclectic

- 1st ODETTE HALL
- 2nd CHRISTINE JOSLIN
- =2nd CHERYL HENSEL

Thursday Evening Eclectic

- 1st TOM STRONG
- =1st KEVIN DEAN

Friday Eclectic

- 1st KATHLEEN TOTH
- =1st ROMAN MORAWIECKI

Saturday Eclectic (Open)

- 1st EVA BERGER
- =1st EDUARDO BESPROSVAN

Saturday Eclectic (Restr)

- 1st LISA BASILE
- =1st LORA HEAL

SPECIAL EVENTS

Julian's Rookie Pairs Challenge

- 1st SONJA BAILEY - BARBARA GRANT
- 2nd JIM WHALEN - WENDY CLARK
- 3rd LINDA STANTON -
JULIAN EGERTON-VERNON

R E S U L T S

Cassowary Coast Pairs Congress

What fun we had at the Cassowary Coast Pairs Congress 11-13 August !!

At the instigation of Carolyn, who had access to a wonderful house in the heart of Mission Beach facing the Coral Sea, six of us were able to stay together

Nine hopeful Novice players set off to earn a few Redpoints in the Matchpoint Swiss Pairs – alas it was not as promised due to insufficient numbers in each grade to allow for even movements, so there we were all thrown in together A's, B's and C's to sink or swim – thankfully some were able to swim better than others. Penny and I were matched in the first round with the A's that went on to win the tournament, so you can imagine after a dodgy start it was onwards and upwards.

The camaraderie and socialising, together with teachers Cecily and Lynley, more than made up for any setbacks at the bridge tables. That is the great benefit of these little getaways with Bridge as the focus – the opportunity to get to know our club members better in a different setting thus enhancing the whole Bridge experience.



Standing from left: Lynley Jenkins, Carolyn Waters, Liz Affleck, Julie Wicks.

Seated from left: Cecily Critchley, Anne Sandeman, Penny Grace, Lorraine Twyford, Noni Affleck

I thoroughly recommend “playing away” - and we all secured some Redpoints !!

Lorraine Twyford

Gold Coast Bridge Club

SEPTEMBER DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM

South is in 7NT with the D7 led by West. Plan the play.

North

♠ Q
♥ Q
♦ AQT8632
♣ K752

West

♠ K842
♥ K962
♦ 75
♣ QT9

East

♠ 97653
♥ 87543
♦ 9
♣ J8

South

♠ AJT
♥ AJT
♦ KJ4
♣ A643



From left at the back: Jeff Wicks, Julie Wicks, Carolyn Waters, Anne Sandeman, Penny Grace, Noni Affleck, Lorraine Twyford and Liz Affleck.