



GOLD COAST
BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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OCTOBER 2019

President's Message

In Neil Raward's monthly newsletter for September, I gave a brief summary of my thanks to all of you who have helped me in any way during my terms as president of this wonderful club. I will have more to say during my final presidential address at the AGM on Saturday 28th of this month.

The editor of the quarterly newsletter has already pigeon-holed me into telling my bridge history in the December 2019 issue, so you have not heard the last from me yet. Also, I will continue to support both of our publications with insightful articles about interesting bridge hands that may arise during my future play in this fascinating game.

Best of luck to the new board. Look after our club well!

Eva Berger



Eulogy - Hari Baumanis



Hari to many members of our club, was a person to be admired and loved. In 1988 Hari had a work accident which left him a quadriplegic and confined to a wheel chair for the rest of his life.

To Hari this only presented new challenges and one of these was to learn to play bridge and he quickly became a bridge player of note with his name featuring several times on our honour boards. Hari also become a club director and later a congress director and he was often called upon to direct many events and congresses at our club.

Hari was a mentor to me when I decided to sit for my club director exams in 2003. He provided advice and assisted with my studies and I could not thank him

enough for his assistance.

Hari was a snappy dresser who loved people, his family and having a good time with his many friends. He loved fine food and wine and could be described as a party animal, always wanting to be last to leave if a good time was to be had. In later years he was more dependent on family to look after his needs and had to bow out of playing bridge several years ago, although he continued to play on line.

Hari had a hard life, which he lived to the fullest and he never let adversity get in his way. Hari loved his wife Dianna, his two children and four grandchildren who supported and comforted him throughout his more difficult years in his later life.

Hari sadly passed away in June aged 70 years. Rest in peace Hari knowing that you will never be forgotten by your many friends in the bridge community.

Neil Raward



A JOB FOR SHERLOCK HOLMES

Board 12 in round 1 of the Club Championship

on 6 July was a classic case of deduction theory to bring the contract home. North opened 1NT with the following hand:

♠ Q86 ♥ AQ4 ♦ K65 ♣ AT52

East passed, and South bid 4S immediately (not a Texas transfer) with:

♠ AJT932 ♥ 5 ♦ AT7 ♣ K84

North bid 4NT (RKCB), and when South replied 5H, North set the contract in 6S.

West led the HJ and I haven't shown you the East/West hands yet, just as declarer would be faced with at the table.

Declarer (South) can see a loser in Clubs, a loser in Diamonds, and a possible loser in Spades. Also the Clubs might break 3/3 and dummy's last Club could be a winner to make the little slam.

Therefore South wins the HA and leads the SQ. East obliges by covering and South plays the SA followed by the SJ with both East and West following. South now starts on the Clubs with C2 to CK followed by C4 to CA, but "horror of horrors" East shows out. Sherlock Holmes to the rescue, please!

East had only one Club and two Spades, and therefore probably has 5/5 or 6/4 in the red suits. From the lead, South also knows that East has

the HK.

South can see six Diamonds, so West probably has only one or two. The chances that East will win the third Diamond trick played is now very high (thank you Sherlock). So now the Clubs are abandoned, and the next three tricks are the DA followed by the DK and give the defenders a Diamond. South is all smiles when East wins the trick.

The defender's hands were

E : ♠ K7 ♥ K7632 ♦ Q8432 ♣ 6

W: ♠ 54 ♥ JT98 ♦ J9 ♣ QJ973

and therefore this is the situation with East on lead and five tricks to be played.

North

♠ 8
♥ Q4
♦ void
♣ T5

West

♠ void
♥ T9
♦ void
♣ QJ9

East

♠ void
♥ K76
♦ 84
♣ void

South

♠ JT93
♥ void
♦ void
♣ 8

I am sure that any reader will know what to do to make the last 5 tricks, no matter what is now led.

Tie Rod

Cassowary Coast Bridge Congress

Six members of the Gold Coast Bridge Club attended the Cassowary Coast Matchpoint Pairs held at Mission Beach on 10 and 11 th August. Cairns Bridge Club worked hard to ensure a great congress, including bringing all the tables, chairs, boards and more from Cairns. What amazing dedication to bridge!



Left to right - Lindell Day, Carolyn Waters, Dianna Board, Lynley Jenkins, Elizabeth Downer

The weekend was a lot of fun - laughs, wine & the most fabulous fish & chips from the Mission Beach Chippie.

We played rounds 1-6 the first day and 7-9 on the second. Plenty of challenging boards came up. Board 4, Round 7 was one such board.

Bd 4 ♠ K2
 Dir: W ♥ KQT98
 Vul: Nil ♦ 42
 ♣ Q983

♠ AQ74 ♠ 96
 ♥ AJ ♥ 743
 ♦ AKQ987 ♦ J53
 ♣ A ♣ J7542

♠ JT853
 ♥ 652
 ♦ T6
 ♣ KT6

Carolyn Waters sitting West opened her 24 point hand 2 Clubs. East (me) with 2 points was ready to bid 2 Diamonds when North overcalls 2 Hearts. What to do? I passed. We ended up in a contract of 3 Diamonds, a positive result but not a good score. Juliet Rogers also playing West opened 2 Clubs, no overcall from North, East bid 2 Diamonds and Juliet went straight to 3 NT, calculating the Diamonds would produce 6 tricks and her 3 other aces would make 9 tricks. North led the HT , giving

Juliet an extra trick for a great score. Mike Lawrence advises when bidding against a strong 2 Club bid – ‘be heard on these hands’. He gives an example of overcalling a 2 Club opening on as little as S QJ984, H 8, D 86532, C 43

Mike says ‘you may be doubled.. and get a bad result, that’s life. Look forward to doing it again.’

Another board which gave us a chuckle and won our bid of the competition was Board 21 Round 9. Lynley Jenkins and Dianna Board reached the exciting contract of 6 Hearts (by North – Lynley), but Dianna decided she had more to say and cue bid 7 Clubs, and so 7 Hearts was the final contract. Most North Souths reached 6 Hearts but only two bid 7 – which made.

Lindell Day



Potted Bridge History of Johnathon Sky *(aka Kathy Johnson)*



Our cottage in Ontario, Canada, was on Kempenfelt Bay, on Lake Simcoe.

It was here that I first played cards at 9 years old with my father. He taught me gin rummy and cribbage, both of which I loved. In the winter months, when we weren't fishing through the ice, skating on the lake, or shovelling the snow to make a hockey rink for my brothers, we played cards. My parents had friends over for rubber bridge and I watched, fascinated. My mother was an excellent player. She played every week at our church, women only, no perfume allowed. Sadly, I never played with her, as she died quite young. My sister and I donated an annual trophy in her name for many years until my sister passed away 2 years ago. I read my mother's copy of the bridge book by Dorothy Hayden many times and it's now in the GCBC library.

After my first son was born, I took lessons with a friend at Kate Buchman's Studio in Toronto, but kept dropping out when I had four more children. Eventually I was able to have a weekly game at the Regency Club, where I was fascinated when a group of men emerged from a separate room. They were well known Canadian bridge champions who played for money in that room.

In 1979 we moved to Australia. I was watching Mastermind one day and there was Tom Strong. His subject was bridge history. I was very impressed when he answered every question correctly and won! Spurred on, I phoned the GCBC and asked if I could play there and could they find me a partner. I played with Mary Bull, who was so nice to me and encouraged me to play with other people to improve my game. So many partners later, Joy Duveck (Ducky) who taught me Acol, Stan Pogacic, who taught me Precision, Robert Slobom who played a different Precision, Marjorie Trollope, Lloyd Bell, who both preferred Standard American. I enjoyed trying them all and played in congresses in Queensland, Canberra, but always the Gold Coast Congress. Eventually, Lois Steinwedel became my most regular partner and friend. Playing Acol, we represented Queensland on the women's team many times. In thirty years, we've never had a cross word. She's also my hairdresser, the best! More recently, I also play with Eva, who is very clever in every area, fun, open, good friend, and has an amazing history.

(YOU ARE NEXT, EVA, FOR A POTTED HISTORY! The editor.)

Along the way, I needed to give back to the game what it has given me, so I taught beginners and intermediate lessons for 20 years, enjoying the experience immensely.

Bridge continues to challenge me; always something to learn. Reading Terrence Reese, Ron Klinger, Mike Lawrence, Louis Watson, so many writers, all helpful. Zia Mahmood was a favourite, whose book was entertaining and who I watched play in awe.

The GCBC is my home away from home with a room full of wonderful, supportive, caring, people. I'm truly blessed.

Precision 1 Club Opening

(Positive responses) Part 2

After a 1NT response to the 1C opening, opener may bid 2D or 2H or 2S or 3C as an alpha bid asking responder to describe their hand in the appropriate suit. However a bid of 2C asks partner to describe their hand as follows.

2D, I have 4 Hearts and 8 to 10 HCP's.

2H, I have 4 Spades and 8 to 10 HCP's.

2S, I do not have a 4-card major but have 8 to 10 points.

2NT, I have 3/3/3/4 (unspecified suit) and 11 to 13 HCP's.

3C, I have 4 clubs and 4 of another and 11 to 13 HCP's.

3D, I have 4 Diamonds and 4 Hearts and 11 to 13 HCP's.

3H, I have 4 Hearts and 4 Spades and 11 to 13 HCP's.

3S, I have 4 Spades and 4 Diamonds and 11 to 13 HCP's.

3NT, I have 2/3/3/5 (poor minor) and 11 to 13 HCP's.

After 2NT response to 1C opening, the opener may now bid 3 of any suit as an alpha bid, 4C asking for number of controls or 4D asking for number of HCP's.

Now for the "unusual positives". After a 3C response to 1C opening, opener bids 3D asking which black suit is the singleton, while after a 3D response to the 1C opening, opener bids 3H asking which red suit is the singleton.

If there is interference immediately after the 1C opening just double for 8+ HCP's or bid normally if less than 8. If the interference comes after the responder's question use DOPI.

Tie Rod

SEPTEMBER DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM



North
♠ A1064
♥ K74
♦ K82
♣ Q94

West
♠ 3
♥ 8
♦ AQ1053
♣ AKJ1086

East
♠ KJ7
♥ AQ10653
♦ J7
♣ 75

South
♠ Q9852
♥ J92
♦ 964
♣ 32

You are West as declarer in 5 clubs, with no opposition bidding. North leads the SA, South playing an encouraging card. What is your plan to make 11 tricks?

There seems to be 3 losers. SA and CQ are inescapable, so what can be done about the DK? Two diamond pitches are available on a spade & a heart, but that's not enough. The heart suit can be established with the finesse & a ruff, but there's no immediate entry to dummy to enjoy it.

The answer is what is called a stepping stone play. At trick two, play SJ from dummy, covered by the SQ & ruffed in hand. Next, play the H8, finessing the HQ, then the HA, pitching a D in hand, & ruff a H back to hand, clearing the suit. Now cash the A and K of clubs, & throw north in with the CQ. North, only having spades & diamonds left, is helpless & must put you in dummy via the SK or the DJ. Your losing diamonds disappear on the long hearts & the SK. That juicy looking diamond suit was a red herring. Johnathon Sky

TIPS FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

SAFETY FIRST

As Dealer sitting South Vulnerable I pick up my first hand of the day. I sternly remind myself that we are playing TEAMS rather than duplicate PAIRS. Our very first teams event! Scoring is done with imps not matchpoints. . Different tactics are required for each form of the game.

One big difference for teams play is that overtricks are relatively unimportant . The major consideration is to make your contract at any cost. Another is to bid vulnerable games and even vulnerable slams more aggressively. Hard to understand maybe at first but the tactics are dictated by the scoring methods.

DEALER SOUTH ♠AK7 My hand
 VUL-NS ♥Q96
 ♦AKJ97
 ♣Q2

I open 1D and partner responds 1H - the auction proceeds

S	E	N	W
1♦	P	1♥	P
2NT	P	4♦	P
4NT	P	5♣	P
6♦	All pass		

Over my 2NT rebid showing 18-19 points balanced , partner jumps to show slam interest with 4 card or better diamond support. My 4NT is Roman Keycard Blackwood and partners response of 5♥ shows two keycards and the trump Queen. I happily (but nervously) bid the small SLAM in Diamonds!

The opening lead is ♥2. dummy is tabled and its time for my PLAN!

I can count 12 tricks. 5 diamonds 2 spades 3 hearts 1 club and a spade ruff in dummy.

If west has led from the K♥ I can make 13 tricks by taking the finesse.

I'm tempted to play low. But uppermost in my mind is ' make my contract - overtricks are not my priority .

Can calamity befall me if I play low at trick one?' The answer is a resounding yes! What if the lead is a singleton? East could win the K♥ and shoot back a heart for a ruff to defeat the contract. I claim 12 tricks and score +990.

Sure enough .. The whole hand

♠53	♠J108
♥AJ104	♥K8753
♦Q1083	♦4
♣A75	♣10943
♠Q9642	
♥2	
♦652	
♣KJ86	
	♠AK7
	♥Q96
	♦AKJ97
	♣Q2

LESSON. When your slam is on ice, its common sense to resist the finesse. Don't get greedy! Make your contract . The SAFETY PLAY is to rise Ace and draw trumps. If your opponents don't t bid the slam or attempt to make the overtrick you have just had a huge pickup! Teams is FUN!



EARLY REACTIONS TO PLAYING CARDS *By Barbara Grant*

Presumably, Club members share a common interest – a love of playing Bridge. Or perhaps it is an addiction. Card playing is a popular pastime all over the world, but did you know that hundreds of years ago it was considered quite unacceptable.

In the late 14th century in Western Europe, restrictions were placed on cards. Card playing was outlawed – but only for the working classes. French and Swiss upper classes were above the law.

By the mid 15th century, the playing of cards had become so popular that monks from the Catholic Church preached passionately against their evil. This spread to such an extent that large numbers of the populations were forced to burn their cards in public fires.

Although an Act of Parliament in England in 1463 prohibited the importation of playing cards, they were still obtained illegally and the practice of card playing persisted.

In 1526, Henry VIII tried in vain to stamp them out as he thought card playing had a "shocking effect on morals, religion and domestic happiness". So, in 1526, he passed a statute stating that "husbandmen, serving men, labourers and the like might play cards at Christmastide only and at no other time".

In 16th and 17th century England, the Puritans, of course, strongly denounced playing cards and pronounced them "the Devil's picture books". Nevertheless, playing cards have refused to be suppressed and over the last few centuries have become an enjoyable form of recreation. Let us give thanks for their survival.

• RESULTS •

JULY 2019

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic
1st Desley Qusted
=1st Geoff Dorber
Monday Evening Eclectic
1st Barry Coe
=1st John Sear
Tuesday Eclectic (Open)
1st Shirley Wanz = 1st Cecile Senior
Tuesday Eclectic (Restr)
1st Elaine Jones 2nd Margaret Mellick
Wednesday Eclectic
1st Ross Steinwedel =1st Lois Steinwedel
Thursday Eclectic (Open)
1st Julie Heib =1st Margaret Watson
Thursday Eclectic (Restr)
1st Margaret Bills
2nd Helen Ross-Johnson =2nd Ralph Spinks
Thursday Evening Eclectic
1st Roger Weathered
Friday Eclectic
1st Eva Berger =1st Tony Berger

SPECIAL EVENTS

Club Pairs Championship

1st Eva Berger – Tony Berger
2nd Raj Limaye – Robyn Fletcher
3rd Michael Aikin – Coral Aikin

SNIPPETS

The Director called skip. Jenny Linton still had her 13 cards in her hand and hadn't put them back. In her haste she skipped to the next table still holding onto the cards. This left 39 cards in one board at our table and 65 in one at the next. Danny arrived at our table, took one look, and said "What the hell is going on?"

Jenny quickly tried to bring the cards back, but knocked over a bidding box in doing so. What was she drinking?

AUGUST 2019

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic
1st CORAL AIKIN =1st MICHAEL AIKIN
Monday Evening Eclectic
1st JOHN SEAR
=1st BARRY COE
Tuesday Eclectic (Open)
1st SHIRLEY WANZ = 1st CECILE SENIOR
Tuesday Eclectic (Restr)
1st HELEN ROSS-JOHNSON =1st RALPH SPINKS
Wednesday Eclectic
1st KATHY JOHNSON 2nd ROSS STEINWEDEL =
2nd LOIS STEINWEDEL
Thursday Eclectic (Open)
1st RAYNOR LOEWENTHAL
=1st VEENA CHOTAI
Thursday Eclectic (Restr)
1st KERRIE GOLDSTON =1st ELIZABETH DOWNER
Thursday Evening Eclectic
1st TOM STRONG = 2nd KEVIN DEAN
Friday Eclectic
1st TONY BERGER 2nd EVA BERGER
Saturday Eclectic (Open) 1st LAUREN SOMERS
=1st MERLE BOGATIE
Saturday Eclectic (Restr)
1st MICHAEL HOGAN
2nd KIM MACMASTER

SPECIAL EVENTS

Masters Pairs

1st Andrew Richman – Sandra Richman
2nd Louise Garnett – Lol Garnett
3rd Yvonne Kilvert – Neven Burica

Club Teams Championship

1st RAJ LIMAYE - ROBYN FLETCHER -
TONY BERGER - EVA BERGER
2nd SHIRLEY WANZ - CECILE SENIOR
PAT BEATTIE - RICHARD MISIOR
3rd TRISH ANAGNOSTOU - MARGARET PISKO
JOHN MASTERS - NIMAL WEERASINGHE



Director's Corner

Asking questions during the auction.

(By Mathew McManus, reproduced by kind permission from ABDA Bulletin No 58, September 2019)

First, a lead question. Playing matchpoints, you find yourself on lead against 3NT with this uninspiring collection:

♠ 8653

♥ 1074

♦ Q9843

♣ J

The auction has been this (with just the opponents bidding)

1♣ 1♦

3♣ 3♥

3NT

If you ask what the auction means, you discover that the opponents, playing Standard, are an occasional partnership without any special agreements. So what do you lead?

By a process of elimination: clubs is declarer's main suit, so a lead of the ♣J is likely to just help declarer. Diamonds is your best suit, but they have been bid on your left, there are unlikely to be many tricks there with the suit sitting over you. So that leaves the majors. You could lead a spade – the unbid suit – although declarer is likely to at least have a fairly solid hold there. Alternatively you could follow the principle of leading through strength and lead a heart. You only have three points, so your partner must have some reasonable values as the opponents have not made any move towards slam. It is a line ball whether to lead a heart or a spade.

Let us ask another question – same hand, same auction. This time however, after 3♥ partner asks the opponents, "What does 3♥ mean?" He gets the same response as you did ("no special agreements") and passes. What do you lead? Now it is easy – you lead a spade. Why? Because of the Laws of Bridge....Law 73C says (paraphrased): when a player gets unauthorised information from his partner, such as from a remark or question, he must carefully avoid taking any advantage from that information. Partner's question suggests that he has some interest in the heart suit. You become aware of this purely because of partner's question, not because of any calls he made in the

auction. Therefore, you should go out of your way to not take advantage of this – even if it may seem that this could work to your side's detriment. This does not mean that you can never lead a heart. If your natural lead would be a heart and nothing else, then it is fine to lead that suit. (For instance, say you held the hand above but with ♥KQJ.)

So, what does this mean for the player sitting on the other side of the table? The Laws of Bridge give a player the absolute right to ask about the opponent's bidding at his turn to call. However, it is a right which should probably be used sparingly. First of all, when you do ask, it is better to ask about the meaning of the whole auction, rather than of specific bids. Secondly, it is almost certainly going to be better for your side if you restrict your enquiries during the auction to situations where you are likely to take some action other than Pass unless you get an unexpected response to your question. In the example hand above, the player who asked about the meaning of 3♥ had a reasonably strong holding in hearts. They would have liked a heart lead. It would have been simple to get this – by doubling 3♥. However, once they asked the question and then passed, they almost certainly precluded a heart lead from an ethical partner.

The principles to be derived from this example:

- 1) If you do ask about the meaning of the opponent's auction while the bidding is still "live", you should strive to make some call other than Pass unless you receive a quite unexpected reply to your query.
- 2) If your partner asks a question during the auction which suggests that he might have a good holding in a particular suit – and then doesn't follow it up with a double or a bid to show that suit – then you should strive to lead a different suit if that is at all a possible alternative on your hand.

The payoff for following the second principle is, firstly, you are being ethical and following the Laws of Bridge. You should feel good about this! Secondly, if you steadfastly refuse to be influenced by partner's questions, then you may eventually (hopefully) stop him asking and passing when he wants a particular suit led. You have contributed by improving the ethics of another player.