

President's Message



It is eight weeks since our AGM when I was elected as your club President. It is such an honor and I hope I can do as good a job as our previous Presidents. Talk about being thrown in at the deep end. One day before the AGM, I was advised about the sale of the Caltex Service Station in front of our club. Most fortuitously for me, my husband, Jeff, is well experienced in all matters concerning buying, selling and developing property sites. With the assistance of Paul Brake, Darryl Hennig and a number of others, Jeff kept the information flowing to the Board and the membership. An Extraordinary General Meeting was called but, in the end, the club could not fund the purchase and a potential group of members hoping to make an offer, were outbid by an interstate group.

Our Christmas party this year will be held on Saturday 7th December and I look forward to seeing many of you there. I realize some of you may not have even met your new President but I am making an effort to introduce myself to as many of you as I can.

We have an exciting new year ahead with several courses planned for beginner's classes and a packed diary of sponsored events and congresses. Bridge is not just for fun, but for good brain health as well. At our age this is no bad thing!

Julie Wicks, President



Bridge Thought for the New Year

Card sense is, when it is technically right to do something, the little man that sits on my shoulder or anyone else's shoulder says "Don't do that." And you say to yourself, "Well, wait a minute, that's the right way to play." And he says, "Yeah, but you don't wanna play that way." That instinct is card sense.

It's almost an ability to feel where the cards are. It's something that you can't buy, you can't find; you're born with it. The ability to do the right thing at the wrong time, or really to do the wrong thing at the right time. (Barry Crane)

[I'm gunna ask Santa for it this Christmas! Editor]

Potted Bridge History of REVERBAGE (aka Eva Berger)



Unlike my friend and bridge partner, Kathy Johnson, I wasn't introduced to cards until my university days and then it was poker, and I only played to subsidise my living expenses. Fast forward 13 years. I had finished my studies, married, had children, became a career person, got divorced, remarried, had another child and moved interstate from Sydney to Mackay in North Queensland.

At this stage, I am now 32 years old and working in Mackay Base Hospital in medical imaging. Just two of us in a very busy department, so we alternate our lunches to cover for each other. One day I return from lunch to find a packed waiting room; I search for my colleague and find him in the office reclining on a chair, legs on the desk reading a book. I asked what was so interesting that you allow the waiting room to fill up? He was trying to solve a bridge problem. I had never heard of the game. He was reading Mollo and Gardener - Card Play Technique.

The next day, when he went to lunch, he came back to a full waiting room and I was in the office reading his book (not absorbing a word). From then on during quiet times he would try to teach me the basics, and eventually I became brave enough to go the Mackay Bridge Club and play one night a week.

One evening this very attractive couple from the Gold Coast turned up for a game, and as we were moving to the Coast a month later, I asked if I could look them up and get introduced to the GCBC. For those who remember back that far, they were Don and Sylvia Linton.

By this stage I was hooked on the game, with my favourite author then, and still, being Mike Lawrence.

On arriving at the Coast, Sylvia introduced me around, but as I was still working full time I could only manage to play in the evening. I posted a notice on the large notice board in the annex something along the lines of:

"I am new to bridge and would like a patient person to mentor or learn with me one night a week"

This started a long partnership and friendship with none other than Heather Reid. (*Now we know why Heather is club member No. 1. Ed*) She took me under her wing, and we became not only bridge partners but good friends also. She worked across the road from me and we would meet at lunch times and discuss bridge. Thank you Heather, if not for you I may still be playing poker.

The Flower Girls

All who attended the Melbourne Cup luncheon would agree that the decorations throughout the club were magnificent. The colour and artistry displayed in the floral design was beyond compare. Our Christmas decorations of last year were also outstanding.

Kerry Wood has taken on the role of chief decorator for our important social events at the club and she has been ably encouraged by Jan Palm in this endeavour. This labour of love for our club did not happen overnight. Kerry had no background in floral art but after taking to Google she became inspired by the simplicity of work that is required to achieve what we can only marvel over.

Planning commenced in June and then Kerry called together a band of willing volunteers who wanted to assist in the production line. The Flower Girls met regularly at Jan Palm's home and had fun and enduring friendship during these regular working sessions. I also believe that for added inspiration there was also a wee tippie of wine to add to the work environment.

Congratulations Flower Girls you are truly an inspiration to the other members of the club for what can be achieved whilst having so much fun. The photo of the Flower Girls certainly speaks a thousand words of happiness not only for themselves but knowing that their efforts would be appreciated by the members.



Neil Raward



CROSS-RUFF OR NOT?

Board 19 occurred at the club on Saturday 21 September. I need only show the North and South hands which are as follows, and is all the information that declarer has after the opening lead..

Nth: ♠ AK9764 ♥ void ♦ T ♣ K76432
 Sth: ♠ T ♥ 753 ♦ Q8652 ♣ AQJ9

Note, first of all, the number of HCP's in the hands. As Marty Bergen says, "Points Schmöints". The bidding at our table was

S	W	N	E
P	P	1S	2H
P	P	3C	3H
5C	P	p	X
P	P	P	

East led HA. Make a plan!

Declarer has 8 immediate winners (6 Clubs,

2 Spades) and only one loser in Diamonds. The other three winners could come from cross-ruffs. But what if all the missing trumps (CT,C8,C5) are in the one hand?

Declarer plays C2 to CA and discovers that West shows out. Revise the plan! Perhaps the Spades break 3/3 or more likely 4/2. Play SA then SK, discarding H5. Now play S4 and, when East follows, ruff with C9. But West also followed, so the Spades broke 3/3.

Remove the Clubs with the CQ and CJ, ruff H7 and now play the three good Spades discarding Diamonds. Concede a Diamond on the twelfth trick played, and win the thirteenth with the CK for 11 tricks.

I leave it to the reader to decide what to do if the Spades had broken 4/2, or even 5/1.

Tie Rod

Vale: Joan Kent (1928-2019)

During her time on the Gold Coast, Joan, was perhaps best known for her support for newcomers to bridge. For twenty-five plus years she helped teach beginners and later supported them at supervised play.

This is best noted by one of the tributes she received:

"When we joined the Surfers club some 15 years ago, we were novices in every way. For some reason Joan took us under wing. Maybe she saw something in us or perhaps a challenge.

Joan would prepare special boards for us. At one time, laughing, she suggested we stand in front of a mirror and keep practicing saying PASS.

Without her guidance, sense of humour and her amazing knowledge of card play, we certainly would not be here today ... loving our cards and playing as often as possible. She helped us fall in love with the game. We will miss her greatly."

Having been a strong chess player, Joan wanted to play bridge and in 1947 tracked down the Queensland bridge club via the Courier Mail bridge correspondent, Frank Garnsey. The members were surprised when this young girl arrived at the Edwards Tea Building, as they thought she had lost her way to the dance hall.

She was adopted by some of the senior players including, Mick Sullivan, who gave her 'par point hands' to practice (See footnotes 1 and 2). If she solved one, she was given another. Partnered with Harold Hiley, they won the Queensland Par Point Championship the next year. During the 50's she twice represented Queensland at the Australian Championships. She was probably the longest survivor of those players.

A trained nurse, she then travelled to Tasmania, Perth and finally Sydney where she met her husband to be. She represented NSW as a member of the successful Women's Team in 1960.

Married in 1961, she and her husband, Michael, withdrew from competitive bridge to concentrate on their careers. Bridge was restricted to social games, enjoying 'rubber bridge' which has nearly disappeared since players concentrate on duplicate.

Retiring to the Gold Coast they again played competitively, representing Queensland at open and senior championships. They also won Queensland senior and open pair championships.

A donor life member of Surfers Paradise Bridge Club she was later recognised for her contribution to the club with an Honorary Life Membership.

Married to Michael for fifty-eight years she was a bright light in the world and will be missed by all who met her.

Footnotes

1. Par point hands are pre-set with only one solution for either defence or play. Players get points for reaching the right contract. The contract is then as directed. In play defenders are given instructions to ensure the perfect defence.

2. See "Mind Games", history of bridge in Queensland, pages 234-239, for Joan's early recollections. (Worth a read. Editor)



Precision: Opening 1 No Trump

Open 1NT with 13 to 15 HCP's, balanced and no 4-card major.

Without interference responder's first bid (R1) is:

Pass (0 to 9 HCP, no 5+ card major or 6+card minor)

2C (10 to 11, or 12+ with majors not stopped)

2D/2H/2S/3C (transfers with 5+major or 6+ minor)

3NT (12+, balanced, majors stopped)

3D/3H/3S/4C (16+, alpha bids)

After interference by a double (for penalties or for a long suit):

Pass (flat hand)

2C (with 4/4 in majors)

2D/2H/2S/3C (transfers)

2NT (weak majors, 4/4 in minors, and opener chooses the best minor)

After interference by an overall:

Pass (0 to 9, no 5 card suit)

2 level suit (0 to 9, 5 card suit)

3 level suit (10+, 5 card suit)

Double (10+, no stoppers and no 5 card suit)

2NT (10+, stoppers in their suit)

Tie Rod



CARDS AND THE CALENDAR

The Chinese invented playing cards about AD 1000 - so herewith some interesting facts and observations about the traditional deck.

- There are 52 weeks in the year and there are 52 playing cards in a deck.
- There are 13 weeks in each season and there are 13 cards in each suit.
- There are 4 seasons in a year and 4 suits in the deck. (Mathematically obvious)
- There are 12 months in a year and there are 12 court cards. (namely Jack, Queen, King in each suit.)
- The red cards could represent Day, while black cards could represent the Night.

DECEMBER DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM



Try this hand.

South is in 5 Diamonds and West leads the C3. See if you can make 11 tricks.

North

♠ AKQ
♥ 9876
♦ K2
♣ T987

West

♠ 876
♥ QJT.
♦ Q97.
♣ KJ43.

East

♠ 5432
♥ 543
♦ A
♣ AQ652

South

♠ JT9
♥ AK2
♦ JT86543
♣ void

East plays the CA, trumped by declarer with D3. Cross to dummy three times in Spades to ruff the three remaining Clubs with D4, D5, D6. Exit HA, HK & another Heart to West's HQ on the tenth trick. Here is the situation with three tricks to go. West has 3 trumps as does South. Dummy has 2 trumps & a Heart, East has the singleton DA along with a Spade & a Club.

West leads a little Diamond which is ducked by dummy to East's DA. When East leads a black card, declarer rises with the DJ. West cannot take a trick with the guarded DQ even though dummy has a stiff king. It's called a smother play. Johnathon Sky

- Valuing Jacks = 11, Queens = 12, and the Kings = 13, then add up for any one suit yielding $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots$ to 13 = 91.
- Multiply this by 4, for the 4 suits, obtaining $91 \times 4 = 364$,
- Add another 1 for the Joker and you will arrive at the number 365 being the days in a year.

TIPS FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

PLAYING and DEFENDING NO TRUMP CONTRACTS

When playing NT contracts, our source of tricks can sometimes be difficult to recognize. For both Declarer and Defenders, making extra tricks from your longest combined suit is often the answer.

An example
Dir South
Vul NS

	♠K2	
	♥J94	
	♦76542	
	♣AQ3	
♠J8		♠Q964
♥K65		♥10872
♦KJ3		♦Q10
♣109874		♣652
	♠A10753	
	♥AQ3	
	♦A98	
	♣KJ	

The Bidding

Playing a 15-17 NT, South is too strong to open 1NT so opens 1♠, planning to jump in NT on the next bid to show a balanced hand with 18-19 points. North has an awkward bid but with 10 points and a 5card suit may choose to bid 2♦(10+points) upon which South will jump to 3NT.

The Defenders Plan

The opening lead is the ♣10 Top of a sequence. It is often wise to lead your longest suit against NT contracts, attempting to establish tricks through length and hoping to turn those little clubs into winners. You are also hoping for a little help in the club suit from partner. This time partner doesn't hold any high cards but can still help a little because she holds 3 cards in your 5 card suit making an 8 card fit. Whenever either defender wins a trick during play, they

should continue to lead clubs. West hopes that the couple of Kings they hold may be usefully placed as entries to established tricks later. So for now it's a good idea to hold on to those possible entries.

Declarers Plan

First count sure winners - 2 spades, 1 heart, 1diamond and 3 clubs. Declarer needs to develop 2 extra tricks to make this 3NT contract. When deciding which suit to develop in No Trumps the factors to take into account vary.

On this hand

1. Declarer determines that she can afford to lose the lead twice.
2. Declarer examines the two long suits her side possesses. Spades and Diamonds. Between us we hold 7 spades and we hold 8 diamonds.
3. declarer considers the possible divisions of the outstanding cards

This simple exercise should point you in the right direction most of the time.

- When the opponents hold six cards in a suit the suit will break 4-2 a large percentage of the time.
- When the defenders hold five cards in a suit the likely division is 3-2

Our spades look much stronger but if they break as expected, the spade suit will likely provide only one extra trick. It is the longer fit, that is more likely to provide the two extra that we require even though it appears to be such a weak suit .

The Play

South wins the first club trick with the King and leads the ♦8. Second hand plays low and the trick is won by east. East plays a club won by the Queen in the dummy. A small diamond is played to the Ace and both opponents follow. We now know we are making our contract. We knock out the remaining diamond , establishing our little diamonds on the dummy. Our entry to dummy being either the ♠K or if the opponents continue clubs, the ♣A.

Making 9 tricks. Well played.

Lynley Jenkins

• RESULTS •

SEPTEMBER 2019

ECLECTICS

Monday Evening Eclectic

1st EDDA STRONG =1st TOM STRONG

Tuesday Eclectic (Open)

1st MARY JOJKITY 2nd COLIN LEWIS

Tuesday Eclectic (Restr)

1st MARGARET MELLICK =1st PENNY GRACE

Wednesday Eclectic

1st EVA BERGER 2nd ROSS STEINWEDEL

= 2nd LOIS STEINWEDEL

Thursday Eclectic (Open)

1st JOHN LEACH =1st MELANIE MILLS

Thursday Eclectic (Restr)

1st KERRIE GOLDSTON 2nd FRANCES TAYLOR

Thursday Evening Eclectic

1st TOM STRONG = 1st KEVIN DEAN

Friday Eclectic

1st KATHY JOHNSON

=1st LOIS STEINWEDEL

11/11/2019 2

Saturday Eclectic (Open)

1st PATRICIA POWIS =1st PATRICIA POWIS

Saturday Eclectic (Restr)

1st BARBARA HUDDY

=1st GEORGINA SIEVERS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Stan Pogacic Memorial Pairs

1st EVA BERGER - KATHY JOHNSON

2nd RITA MORRIS - PATRICIA POWIS

3rd HEATHER REID - KERRY HISCOCKS

QBA SENIORS PAIRS CONGRESS

(Nov. 10 at our club)

4th Lol & Louise Garnett

5th Eva & Tony Berger

OCTOBER 2019

ECLECTICS

Monday Eclectic

1st LOUISE GARNETT =1st LOL GARNETT Mon-
day Eclectic Eve

1st LOU TILLOTSON =1st ROGER WEATHERED
Tuesday Eclectic (Open)

1st MARY JOJKITY =1st COLIN LEWIS

Tuesday Eclectic (Restr)

1st JULIAN EGERTON-VERNON

2nd DIANA BOARD

Wednesday Eclectic

1st LOUISE GARNETT =1st LOL GARNETT

Thursday Eclectic (Open) 1st EUGENE KRAUSZ
=1st ALAN JONES

Thursday Eclectic (Restr)

1st GRAHAM MALE 2nd PATRICIA ADAM

=2nd CHARLIE DACEY

Thursday Evening Eclectic

1st ROGER WEATHERED

2nd ANN HAIGHT =2nd TREVOR HAIGHT

Saturday Eclectic (Open)

1st ROBYN FLETCHER =1st RAJ LIMAYE

Saturday Eclectic (Restr)

1st LORRAINE TWYFORD 2nd CHERYL MILLAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Anniversary Teams

1st LOL GARNETT - LOUISE GARNETT -

CORAL AIKIN - MICHAEL AIKIN

2nd ROSS STEINWEDEL - LOIS STEINWEDEL -

EVA BERGER - KATHY JOHNSON

3rd FAYE ATKINSON - DIANNE RAYWARD -

CONNIE ISAACS - KERRY WOOD -

CHARLES HOWARD

Friday Red Point Pairs

1st PATRICIA POWIS - RITA MORRIS

2nd LOU TILLOTSON - ROGER WEATHERED

3rd PAT BEATTIE - ROBYN FLETCHER



Director's Corner

ALERTING BIDS

How well you know and understand the rules of alerting that are in place in the QBA and our club? These are stated in a detailed 12 page document available from the ABF web site at <https://www.qldbridge.com.au/documents/2019/QBAregulationsJune2019.pdf> Have you read and digested these regulations recently?

We shouldn't feel too bad about that: after all, you probably don't peruse the rules of golf (now there's a document and a half!) before entering your club's annual championship. Still, this might be a good time to recap the highlights of the Alerting Regulations. Despite the document's size, the alerting rules are based on common-sense. That common sense is that you:-

(1) DO alert bids that are artificial in nature: bids that are not what they "sound" like, because they convey a meaning other than

- willingness to play in the denomination named (or in the last denomination named) or
- having high card strength or length (3 cards or more) there.

Typical example of artificial bids are transfer bids, multi and 2-suited openings (even if one of the suits is named), Bergen raises, suit openings that could be very short in the suit, pass-or-correct bids, and the like.

There are a number of potentially artificial bids that do not require an alert: they are designated as "self-alerting bids". They are: All doubles and redoubles, a bid of a suit shown by an opponent, the 2♣ response to 1NT opening in an uncontested auction, and any bid (other than artificial opening bids) higher than 3NT. Players should be aware such calls by opponents may not mean what they assume, and ask if necessary.

(2) DO NOT alert bids that are natural, unless

- The call is forcing or non-forcing in a way the opponents are unlikely to expect. Example: "negative free bids": you open a suit, they overcall, and partner bids a new suit which is non-forcing ... you must alert that natural bid.
- The meaning of the bid is affected by other agreements which the opponents are unlikely to expect. Examples: (a) A natural NT overcall (or response in the direct position), which does not promise a stopper in the overcalled suit. (b) A weak/preemptive jump raise (or jump shift in a new suit) by responder in an uncontested auction after a one-level opening

bid. Note that the regulations specifically provide a weak jump shift by responder is alertable, but a weak jump overcall by the overcaller is not alertable!

For players playing (or playing against) a "Two over One" system

- A natural "Two over One" bid, such as 1♠-2♦, that promises game forcing values (rather than merely 10+ Hcp as per Standard American) is NOT alertable. You do not alert a natural forcing bid just because it is forcing to a higher level than what other people may play.
- A NT response to 1Major opening is NOT alertable if it does not force opener to bid again just because it is somewhat stronger (say 6-11/12 Hcp), rather than 6-9/10 Hcp Standard American response.

There are two other types of alert (other than alerting during the auction).

The Pre-Alert is made at the start of a round or match. This is where you alert your opponents to really unusual aspects of your system, for which they may need to discuss a defence. You have to use your judgment on what requires a pre-alert: examples would be transfer responses to 1♣ or transfer openings /pre-empts. In particular, pre-alert unusual self-alerting bids (say where you play doubles with an unusual meaning), as you are not allowed to alert them during the auction. You should also pre-alert non-standard defensive carding methods, for example, leading low from a doubleton at trick 1.

A Post-Alert is where the declaring side, at the conclusion of the auction, draws attention to any unusual aspects of their auction. If your partner has failed to alert an artificial bid of yours, you need to raise this point now, and clear up any confusion. The defending opponents have the right to know your actual system agreements.

The rules for alerts can occasionally get quite complicated, particularly if there has been a system misunderstanding. But you will not go far wrong if you stick to the simple principle of alerting any bid that is artificial in nature: a suit bid that does not show only that suit, or a notrump bid that does not indicate a desire to play in notrumps.

Paul Brake, Chair, Tournament Committee

Adapted from an anonymously authored Article in the November 2011 Victorian Bridge Association Bulletin