



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER



April 2010

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President's Report



As reported by a letter to all members, Carmel Caton resigned as Treasurer effective as of 23rd February 2010 and Joyce Ziesemer resigned as Providore effective as of 23rd April 2010. Both of these members have contributed

greatly to the Club in many ways and the Management Committee accepted their resignations with regret and wishes them well for the future.

At its meeting on Saturday 10th April 2010, the Committee appointed Ray Moore as Treasurer until the Annual General Meeting in September 2010. All financial processes implemented to date will remain in place, in particular the use of MYOB as the club's accounting package which Carmel spent so much time and effort establishing.

Carol Lombardo will become Providore when Joyce's resignation takes effect. In the meantime, Joyce is very kindly "showing the ropes" to Carol. Carol will have a new paid helper, Elizabeth van der Syde, assisting in the kitchen to provide afternoon tea for members on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I am sure we will all make Carol and Elizabeth most welcome.

NEC Broadband for Seniors

Members might have noted a bit of furniture rearrangement recently. At the request of a number of members, we applied for a grant to establish a small "internet kiosk" to help increase the computer literacy skills of our members. We have just been advised that our application was successful and we will be receiving two computers, desks and chairs (thus the need to move furniture) and a subsidy to increase our club internet quota. The planned outcome for *Broadband for Seniors* is to increase the confidence and skills of older Australians in using computers and the Internet, as well as helping to build their community participation and social inclusion. The program teaches seniors the basics of how to use a computer, Internet Explorer, Gmail and WordPad. We will be running small training courses in general computer skills, but my first aim is to enable all members to be able to look at their Bridge results online ☺

[Many thanks to Annette for doing all the work in preparing the application and in liaising with NEC]

Our Association Rules (as approved at the last AGM and subsequently by the Office of Fair Trading) are now available on the club website. You can easily navigate to them via the "About Us" tab and then the link [Club Rules and By-Laws](#).

Thanks ☺
Chris Snook
President

Welfare Officer

Please contact Glenda Filbee on 4636-7622 or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or suffering a bereavement and Glenda will respond suitably on behalf of the Club.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Chris Snook
VICE-PRESIDENT	Bruce Hinchliffe
SECRETARY	Annette Sullivan
TREASURER	Ray Moore
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Glenys Clift Henry Eastment Pam Gebbett Denise Hartwig Floyd Wilson Joyce Ziesemer
MASTERPOINT SECRETARY PROVIDOR	Chris Snook
CONGRESS CONVENOR	Carol Lombardo
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Denise Hartwig
QBA DELEGATES	Glenys Clift Chris Snook/ Henry Eastment/ Bruce Hinchliffe
ZONE REPRESENTATIVE	Chris Snook/ Denise Hartwig
PRESS OFFICER	Kim Nicoll
LIBRARIAN	Henry Eastment
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Floyd Wilson
CLUB TEACHER	Glenys Clift
MEMBERSHIP BADGES	Pam Gebbett
TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR	Bruce Hinchliffe
GARDENING CO-ORDINATOR	Lise Moore
MAINTENANCE CHAIRPERSON	Will Higgins
HOUSEKEEPER	Bette Flamstead

Three sub-committees coordinate much of the work in the clubrooms:

Tournament Sub-committee: Talk to your Director or a Committee member about the activities of this sub-committee, which cover all facets of bridge play at the club.

Social and Fundraising Sub-committee: This group helps organise all the social events at the club such as Melbourne Cup party, Christmas party, Birthday party and perhaps a few other special events through the year.

Maintenance Sub-committee: This sub-committee, led by Will Higgins, looks after all of the building and surrounding gardens. If you notice something needs repair, then let Will know by having a chat to him (he tends to play Tuesday nights and Saturdays) or add a note to the "maintenance register" next to the results noticeboard. Tell the Director if you think the matter is more urgent.



New Master Rankings

Congratulations are extended to the following members who have achieved new Master rankings since the last newsletter:

GRADUATE MASTER

Michele Alroe
Ria Molenaar
Tricia Morton
Rosemary Rouse
Jill Young
Anne Arnold
Moya Bryant
Elizabeth Cox
Tony Dunne
Corellie Longwill
Lesley Meyer
Lesley-Ann Parry
Helen Walsh

CLUB MASTER

Bette Flamstead
Helen Higgs
Norm Higgs
Rozalyn Wright
Janice Davis
Lucy Parker
Hugh Robinson
Bernadette Williams

LOCAL MASTER

Margaret Bradford
John Burnett
John Clift
Nancy Geiger

*LOCAL MASTER

Anneke Bierenbroodspot
Gail Blencoe
Sharyn Courtney
Michael Doherty
Desiree Fenaughty

**LOCAL MASTER

Chris Evans

REGIONAL MASTER

Delma Clark
Judith Briggs
Lise Moore

STATE MASTER

Elizabeth Zeller
Brian Wippell

*STATE MASTER

Jane Lindenberg
Kim Nicoll

SILVER LIFE MASTER

Jennifer Buckley



WELL DONE!



Membership Secretary's Report



NEW MEMBERS

We would like to give a very warm welcome to the following new members who have recently joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club.

Kay Behrend
Richard Behrend
Cecily Cooke
Margaret Devine
Jan Fitzgerald
Anna Goldsmith
Jan Harris
Pam Hosfield
Steve Hosfield
Lorraine Labrom
Philippa Montgomery
Bunny Powne
Mavis Simpson
Mary Rose-Miller
Wendy Stevens

I would like to thank all our members for paying their subscription fee well before the cut-off date. It certainly made my job a lot easier.

We currently have 307 Home members which makes us the 5th largest club in Queensland. Our total membership including Alternate members, Junior members and Associates now numbers 375. Every Club has the problem of natural attrition through ill health and relocation, therefore it is really important that we look after and encourage our newer members.

We have approximately 30 people going through beginner classes and I know as they come to Supervised Play and the Restricted sessions, our Members will make them welcome and feel part of the club.

Actually the most common comment from visitors is how welcome they have been made to feel. So, well done everyone.

Cheers,

Glenys Clift

Membership Secretary



Providore's Report



Meet our new Providore, Carol Lombardo, and our new afternoon-tea assistant, Elizabeth Van der Syde. They take over from our retiring Providore Joyce Ziesemer and her assistant, Pauline.

Outgoing Providore

The Novice Congress on March 28th was a resounding success. The food was simple, easily prepared with excellent assistance.

Due to extenuating circumstances beyond my control, I tendered my resignation effective from Friday April 23rd, as does Helen Walsh my assistant and Pauline Graham from Wednesday 21st April.

I extend thanks and appreciation to all those loyal supporters and helpers who continually offered their services as required, also those who so cheerfully supply food on a regular basis.

Thank you to Helen Walsh my recently appointed assistant, also to people in charge of sessions who have carried out that duty conscientiously.

Pauline Graham has been a real treasure. She is very efficient and contributed way beyond her regular duties. She has been a tower of strength to me - both in the kitchen and personally - and we will all miss her smiling face. Thank you Pauline!.

Carol Lombardo has accepted the position of Providore with Elizabeth Van der Syde her kitchen assistant. Carol brings to the position extensive experience in catering and business. I know you will benefit from her professional style and pleasant demeanour.

Please welcome Carol and Elizabeth and support them in the same manner as you supported me.

Perhaps now my bridge will improve and I look forward to seeing you at the table.

Joyce Ziesemer
Retiring Providore



Editor's Note: Although no longer the assistant Providore, Helen Walsh has undertaken to provide ad hoc assistance to the new Providore as required.

Incoming Providore

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee members for giving me the opportunity to work as the providore of the Bridge Club. I realize I have very large shoes to fill, but I shall endeavour to maintain the very high standard set by Joyce. I would also like to thank Joyce for all the hard work and organisation she has provided in the past three years and personally the help she has given me in taking over this job.

I look forward to my first Congress in May. Like other events at the Club we will be looking for volunteer help. There will be a roster list in the foyer of the Club for kitchen helpers and also for donations of cakes or savouries. A little bit of help from each and everyone can go a long way in making this event a great Congress.

We will now have a full time person making sandwiches on Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. Her name is Elizabeth van der Syde. There will be a roster for cakes or savouries if you would like to donate on any of the dates empty. If you don't want to cook something, then something from the bakery would be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I look forward to the job ahead and also look forward to any suggestions you may have, you can leave suggestions in the suggestion box in the Club Foyer or see me personally.

Thank you
Carol Lombardo
Providore



Vale

Since the last newsletter, regular club players, Nette Brekelmans and Eric Condell passed away. Our condolences to their families.

Congress Convenor's Report

The Novice Pairs was held on Sunday 28th March 2010. Thirty pairs participated including players from Northern Suburbs, QCBC, BBC, Arana, Ipswich, DDBC, Dalby, Warwick and Goondiwindi. There was a total of thirteen pairs outside of Toowoomba, including tremendous support of five pairs from Goondiwindi.

Some of the players had mentioned to me what a great day it was, especially the players from Goondiwindi – they are really looking forward to playing in the Novice Teams on Sunday August 1st.

The day would not have been such a success without lots of helpers.

A lot of work goes on behind the scenes and often goes unnoticed by many, so firstly I'd like to thank the Director on the day, Chris Snook for all the work and time he has put in, which contributed to the event running so smoothly.

Also thanks to Joyce Zeisemer and the numerous volunteers who assisted with the catering. It was a wonderful spread for morning tea & lunch and helped make the day a great success.

Fleur Hopkins and Michele Alroe did an excellent job selling the raffle tickets. Bruce Hinchliffe did a great job attending the bar and as well as assisting Annette Sullivan and myself in setting the room up for the event, so thank you all.

Winners:

Championship

- 1st Evelyne MANDER (BBC) & Beverley JENNER (BBC)
- 2nd Caroline MORGAN (Ipswich) & Sandra HILTON (NSBC)
- 3rd Laurie MCROBERTS (Tmba) & Judith BRIGGS (Tmba)

B Section (pairs seeded 16-30)

- 1st Michele ALROE (Tmba) & Hugh ROBINSON (Tmba)
- 2nd Beverly COULTON (G'windi) & Lea WOOD (G'windi)

Enid Busch Trophy - (both players under 50 masterpoints)

- Chris EVANS (Tmba) & Sharyn COURTNEY (Tmba)

UP-Coming Events

May Congress (1st – 3rd May):

- Toowoomba Pairs Saturday May 1st
- Toowoomba Teams Sunday May 2nd and Monday May 3rd

Entries close Wednesday 28th April 2010

Goondiwindi Butler Pairs – Saturday & Sunday
29-30th May

Denise Hartwig

Congress Convenor



Car Park Extension

Unfortunately we are having problems with the excessive fall from the side verandah to the southern boundary of the proposed lease on the southern side of the clubhouse [2 metres].

We have Council Parks and Gardens approval for a 29 car park but due to engineering difficulties we may have to cut this back to about 20.

We should resolve this with Council before the end of April and submit the final plan to Council for approval.

Ray Moore

PS: Thanks to Colin Clift who came with his Dumpy level and helped me twice with final levels. That saved the club about a \$1000.

The Club Gardens

The club gardens have survived the long dry and are in reasonable shape. We have done some replanting of native shrubs where necessary, and Ralph Geddes [Bless his Soul] unfailingly mows the club grounds, trims hedges and does anything else that needs doing.

Our ill-fated working bee, cancelled due to the rain and fog, went ahead belatedly with help of Noela Cribb and Ralph. Apologies to Shaunagh Cowell who turned up before I could ring her and Glenys and John Clift who wanted to come but I was able to let them know of the cancellation.

The gardens will now need weekly watering if we don't get rain. Shaunagh Cowell is prepared to continue with the necessary watering but will need help. It should not be left to the few who have

helped in the past. Volunteers please contact either Lise or Ray Moore.

I have re-potted a number of native shrubs obtained from the Council Nursery for planting in the new car park when constructed.

They were very root bound but should be OK when needed. A BIG thanks to all who gave up their council vouchers.

Lise Moore



Bridge Humour from Eddie Kantar

Patrick Jourdain, a famous bridge player-teacher from Wales is called over to a table at one of his classes where a hand has just passed out, but 4th hand had 17 high card points. "So why did you pass?" asks Patrick. "Because you told us after three passes the bidding is over, so I had to pass."

More Patrick: Again he is called over to a table and this time a lady tells him that she has opened 1H and there have been three passes back to her so this time she bid 2H. Again there were three passes back to her, but this time she wants to know if she is worth 3H?

This lady, Charlotte, plays very slowly. She is asked to speed it up a bit. She says: "I'm sorry, but I can't think and play bridge at the same time."

Guy going out with this girl for some time and they play bridge regularly, but not much is happening romantically. Finally, she puts him in this God-awful slam and says: "If you make this contract, I'll sleep with you." He tries his hardest, but trumps don't break and a couple of finesses don't work and he winds up going down three! She says: "That's close enough".

Man and woman who have never played before get involved in a heart-spade war each trying to outbid the other. Finally woman, who has a terrific hand, bids 7H. Not enough, her partner bids 7S. When the dummy comes down he sees that 7H is cold and 7S doesn't have a prayer. He knows there is going to be trouble after the hand so he begins his apologies early by saying: "Sorry, I should have withdrawn." "You should have withdrawn?" says the lady, "Your father should have withdrawn!"

For more Eddie Kantar humour visit:

<http://www.kantarbridge.com/humor.htm>

Club Teacher's Report

NEXT BEGINNER LESSONS

Our next round of beginner lessons will start on Wednesday 2nd June. If you have a friend who is interested in coming, could you ask them to contact Peg Alcock or myself and we will be more than happy to give them all the information they might need.

	Wed 9am	Topic
1	2 nd June	Introduction to Bridge
2	9 th June	Opening 1No-Trump
3	16 th June	Stayman over 1NT
4	23 rd June	Revision of 1NT Bidding
5	30 th June	Opening Unbalanced Hands with a Fit
6	7 th July	Opening Unbalanced Hands with No Fit
7	14 th July	Opening Balanced Hands with 12-14 or 19-20
8	21 st July	Revision
9	28 th July	Benjamin Two Openings - Weak Two's
10	4 th August	Benjamin Two Openings - 2C and 2D
11	11 th August	Both sides in the bidding, Overcalls, and Take-Out Doubles
12	18 th August	Both sides in the bidding, Negative Doubles, and Balancing Doubles
13	25 th August	Pre-Emptive Bids at the Three Level
14	1 st September	Looking for Slam

Members are welcome to come to any class that they would like a refresher on.

Student in class has xxx facing AQJ in dummy. She leads low and puts in the jack which holds. She plays the ace next. Teacher asks why she didn't take the finesse again? She says: "You told us that only one of two finesses work."

SUPERVISED PLAY PROGRAM MAY TO AUGUST

For
MONDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHT

The Supervised Play program has been revised to accommodate the classes which will be finishing on the 10th and 13th May. As from the 20th May, Thursday night will run a Supervised Play session with Glenys and a Restricted Session with Chris.

Monday	Thur	Topic
10 May		Doubling 1NT
17 May	20th	Opening light in 3rd position
24 May	27th	Pre emps at the 3 level
31 May	3/6	Slam bidding
7 June	10th	Benjamin Twos – Opening 2H/2S
	17th	Bidding after suit interference
21 June	24th	Benjamin Twos – Opening 2C/2D
28 June	1/7	Benjamin Twos – balanced hands
5 July	8th	1NT Simple & Extended Stayman
12 July	15th	Take out doubles and overcalls
19 July	22nd	Negative Doubles
26 July	29th	Bidding 4 card suits up the line and Forcing vs Non-Forcing Bids
2 Aug	5th	Balancing doubles
9 Aug	12th	Cue bidding the enemy suit
16 Aug	19th	Discards and Signals - McKenney

WORKSHOPS FOR 2010

The following workshops will be held in May, June and July. If you are interested in coming, could you fill in the attendance sheets which will be put on the entry Notice Board at the beginning of each month?

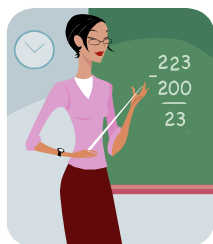
Transfers Over 1NT - Last Thursday in May.

Hamilton (Capalletti) Defence Over 1NT - Last Thursday in June.

Ace Asking With CRO Responses - Last Thursday in July.

PLANNING THE PLAY

The demand for "Planning the Play of a Bridge Hand" by Barbara Seagram and David Bird was so huge Australia wide, that the Bridge Shop ran out a couple of weeks after they received their first shipment. The second shipment has now arrived and our order for 20 has arrived. 10 have been pre-ordered by members and the remaining 10 are available for sale. The cost is \$25 which is the discounted price we negotiated for bulk orders. Normal price is roughly \$30 plus postage. If you want a copy, please let Glenys know as soon as possible as this will be the last order the club will be doing for this book.



Cheers,

Glenys Clift
Club Teacher



WE JOINED THE MOB OF LOSERS

By Geraldine Dawson

The Cadbury bag squirmed in shame
As we searched and searched for chocs in vain
The lonely Barley Sugar seemed a trifle shy
Perhaps it knew it soon would die

We lathered our skin with the cocoa butter
And my glam partner had the boys all a flutter
We thirsted for coffee and craved a fix
To hone alertness to hands that tricked

Most players were friendly so we managed a
laugh

No doubt thought us a little bit daft
We made many mistakes for the cards had us beat
And humbled we bowed and accepted defeat

The Casino tempted for it was near
So to drown our sorrows we changed gear
And Eureka! We won! Oh what a pleasure
But I've got to admit – the Bridge had our
measure

Librarian's Report

The Club has purchased the following DVD's by Ron Klinger below to enhance the collection:

1. Opening Leads 1
2. Opening Leads 2
3. Competitive Bidding 1
4. Competitive Bidding 2
5. Defensive Play
6. Card Combinations for Declarer
7. Advanced Bidding Technique
8. Bidding over Pre-empts
9. Improve Your Hand Valuation
10. Responder's Strategy
11. Signals and Discards
12. Tips on Bidding

As there will most likely be several members who would like to access these DVD's, members who borrow them are asked to abide by the following:

- One (1) Month Loan only.
- One (1) DVD per member per loan
- Enter the required details on the DVD's card when borrowing and returning the DVD. The cards are in the plastic container in the middle shelf of the library cabinet with the DVD's.

Videos may still be borrowed under the usual conditions.

At its meeting on 10th April, the committee decided to allow people attending bridge lessons at the Club to borrow from the Library under the same conditions as members of the Club.

If you have any issues associated with the library, please contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation, enjoy your library and Happy Bridging.



Henry Eastment
Librarian



Individual Fun Day Saturday 22nd May 2010

This is the day we welcome new members who have just finished the classes. This is the fourth year we have run this event and it is a delightful afternoon very capably run by Chris. He uses a Rainbow Movement where you play one board with one person and then everyone changes partners. Believe it or not, you actually get master points for this event.

They are certainly not days for serious bridge but rather an opportunity for people to mix and allow our more experienced members to make people who have just finished lessons feel welcome. Beginners are allowed to bring their notes and ask for help with the bidding.

There will be a notice going up at the beginning of May for people who would like to participate to put their names down. The problem for me is not getting our members to put their names down, but rather encouraging new members to come – as they feel they will be entering the lion's den and they are terrified of making a fool of themselves. However the consensus from our new players over the last three years has been surprise at how much they enjoyed it and how nice people were to them.

To make the event something special, it would help if members could contribute to the afternoon tea and we will probably put on some drinks to finish the day.

Glenys Clift.

Two wives are discussing how badly their respective husbands had played the previous evening - each convinced that their husband plays worse than the other.

The first wife says, "Just let me tell you what happened last night. My husband was playing 7NT, vulnerable, with 12 top tricks and he needed a spade finesse for 13. Dummy had the AQ of spades and he had a couple of small ones and the finesse was onside. So, what do you think he did? He took the first 11 tricks and ended up in DUMMY with the AQ of spades and then led the queen from the dummy at trick twelve!"

"So what's so bad about that?" says wife number two. "Against my husband, that play works!"

*(From Eddie Kantar's website
<http://www.kantarbridge.com>)*

The "old-school" Psyche

Setting the Scene

Here is an example of a very old and classical psyche (discussed in a discussion forum on the internet at <http://bridgeclubsites.blogspot.com/>). It is worth a closer examination to see the types of calls that the European Bridge Union calls a psyche and what the effects are. NS are vulnerable and EW are not, and West is dealer.

North

♠ AJ964

♥ KQ72

♦ A4

♣ KQ

You have 19 HCP and are ready to make a nice constructive bid when West opens with 3D. In virtually all standard systems this is a pre-empt with typically 6-10 HCP and seven (or more) diamonds. This doesn't scare you and you double for take-out.

Then East makes the call of 4S. This must be one of those freakish hands with an odd distribution! Partner (South) passes as does West. Now the call is back to you. East must have a long spade suit and at least some points to add to West's promise of about 6-10, so EW might have 14-18 HCP between them. This might leave partner with hardly anything. It is hard to imagine 4S making by East, but they might have all the missing spades and could be void in Hearts and/or Clubs. So you reluctantly pass. Besides, if you double they might run back to Diamonds and not go off as many tricks.

The hand is played and East makes 1 trick! You take them down 9 for a score of +450. Then you see East's hand

East

♠ T

♥ A95

♦ 9753

♣ 96543

You made 12 tricks in spades, so if you had bid game you would have scored +680 and if you bid the baby-slam you would have scored +1430. I bet you would not be pleased with East!!!! You feel you missed a good score because you fell victim to a **psyche call**.

The Law

1. The definition of a psyche is “*a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or suit length*”. East’s call certainly meets this definition.
2. **Law 40A3** states that a player may make any call or play without prior announcement provided that such a call or play is not based on an undisclosed partnership understanding.
3. **Law 40C1** expressly forbids a partnership having *implicit understandings* and warns that repeated deviations from the system can establish such an understanding (in other words, partner has done this before so you are very cautious in your subsequent bids or play). If you feel that a player has “fielded” a psyche, then explain your concern to the opponents and call for the Director. The Director will examine the hand and find more out about the partnership agreements. If they determine that the psyche has been fielded then they will work out what would most likely have happened without this unauthorised information and will award an adjusted score if the original score to the non-offenders was worse.

But is it a psyche?

Example 1: ♠72 ♥K4 ♦AQJ6 ♣KT963

You are allowed to apply bridge judgement in bidding your hand. Whilst you “should” open your longest suit, many players will open 1D so that they have a cheap rebid later on (without being forced into a reverse bid). This is not a psyche, but if you and partner have agreed that you do this then, if asked, you should disclose this information to the opponents.

Example 2: ♠Q95432 ♥6 ♦853 ♣J52

Partner has opened 1H and right hand opponent passes. You have nothing for partner and know your side does not have game values, and you don’t want the opposition to have an easy overall. You are playing these horrid super weak jump shifts so bid 2S. If partner alerts your bid and, if asked, gives a true description of your system then there is no problem. If partner doesn’t know what you are up to then you have made a psyche call!!!! If partner knows but does not alert the call then you are in breach of the ABF/QBA alert regulations and if your opponents feel their score is damaged because of you hiding this information about your system, then the Director may consider an adjusted score (changing the contract and

number of tricks to what they deem would have occurred with the correct information being available).

Example 3: ♠T ♥A95 ♦9753 ♣96543

This is our example as discussed above. There is no doubt in anyone’s mind that this is a psyche.

Example 4: ♠KJ86532 ♥AJ5 ♦9 ♣93

This hand is too strong to open as a three level pre-empt, and many people would open 1S and happily repeat it once if necessary. Is this a psyche?

A reasonable rule of thumb is that a call that deviates from the promised length by two cards or strength by more than a king (eg 3 points) might be considered a psyche.

Psyching cannot be banned as it is part of the game, but it can be frowned upon, especially against beginners. Please refrain from psyching in our social sessions.

If you feel you must psyche, do so when you are playing against a top player such as Ron Klinger or Neville Francis, and see what sort of scores you get 😊

And Speaking about Psyche Bids!

This one fellows loves to psyche, but his partner has his fill and tells him that from now on he is going to fine him 20 dollars every time he psyches. The 'psycher' agrees and everything is going along just fine until the psycher winds up playing against a guy he hates. The psycher is the dealer. He says to his partner: "By the way, here is the 20 dollars I owe you, one spade!"

Club Competition & Novice Pairs Congress Results

It has been a busy time with many club competitions held over the past month or so. Congratulations to the winners of:

- Val McClement and Eileen Josey (**Ivy Dahler Cup**)
- Lee Hore and John Churchett (**Tuesday Night Pairs Championship**)
- Rosemary and Jorden Steenbeek (**Wednesday Handicap Cup**)
- Val Buchanan, Lee Hore, Kathy Weaver and Lennie Goodson (**Thursday Perfect Teams Championship**)
- Shaunagh Cowell, Carmen Powell, Anneke Bierenbroodspot, and Jackie Horne (**Ivy Dahler Novice Teams Championship**) – see photo below:



Also, at our recent Toowoomba Novice Pairs Congress:

- Laurie-Marie McRoberts and Judy Briggs were third overall;
- Michele Alroe and Hugh Robinson won the plate – see photo; and
- Chris Evans and Sharyn Courtney won the Enid Busch Perpetual Trophy for their highest placing amongst players with less than 50 masterpoints – see photo.

It was an enjoyable congress for all local players and many visitors. Many thanks to Joyce and her team for the catering and Denise for the organization.

The May Congress will soon be upon us. This is a major event on the club and QBA calendar and I encourage as many people as possible to play in the One Day Pairs on Saturday or in the teams event on Sunday and Monday.

Chris Snook



Toowoomba Novice Pairs Championship winners were Evelyne Mander and Beverley Jenner, Brisbane, pictured with Congress Convenor Denise Hartwig (centre).



Toowoomba Novice Pairs was won by Michele Alroe and Hugh Robinson.



Winners of the Enid Busch Perpetual Trophy (under 50 masterpoints) were Chris Evans and Sharyn Courtney, pictured with Enid

Evolving Bridge Scores

The most common form of bridge that we play is *matchpoint duplicate pairs*. To do well, it is important that we understand a little of how the scoring actually works

Consider the following board from a recent Tuesday night.

Dealer: West Vulnerable: EW

	♠ 94	
	♥ AT54	
	♦ JT542	
	♣ 73	
♠ Q6		♠ A832
♥ KJ9762		♥ Q83
♦ Q6		♦ AK3
♣ AJ6		♣ T92
	♠ KJT75	
	♥	
	♦ 987	
	♣ KQ854	

The board starts on table 4, where NS4 plays EW4, and West plays in 4♥ making 9 tricks – so NS gain a score of +100 and EW gain a score of -100. As the session progresses, more scores are added and at the end of the night, a full (travelling) score card would look like ...

NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Result	Score NS	Score EW	Match NS	Match EW
1	5	4HW	C7	9	100		10	2
2	7	4HW	S9	9	100		10	2
3	2	4HW	S4	10		620	5	7
4	4	4HW	DJ	9	100		10	2
5	6	4SXS	CA	6		800	0	12
6	1	4HW	C7	11		650	2	10
7	3	4HW	C7	10		620	5	7

The seven NS pairs are then awarded matchpoints, 2 for every other NS score that they are beat and 1 for every NS score that they tie with. If they beat every other score they get 12 which would be a top on this board. In our current example, NS1 gets (1+2+1+2+2+2=10). 10/12 is 83.3% on this board. The same process is done for the EW, but as you might notice their score can also be found by subtracting the NS score from 12. Thus EW5 gets (12-10=2) which is 2/12=16.7%. All of this is calculated at the end of the session.

But what happens **during** the session? What does the Bridgemate see and say?

At table 4, our journey starts - the board has only been played once and thus there is only one score ... so NS4 and EW4 get 50% thus far.

At table 3, the board has been played twice and the scores are as shown below. Here EW2 made 10 tricks in 4H and scored 2/2 = 100%. Thus NS3 has 0% so far because their score is lower than the other score that has been recorded. You might guess that at the other table, 4H went off or they only bid part game.

3	2	4HW	S4	10		620	0	2
4	4	4HW	DJ	9	100		2	0

At table 2, EW7 only makes 9 tricks in 4H for a score of -100. They see a percentage of 25% and NS2 scores 75% (so far). A board that is played 3 times will normally produce scores of 0%, 50% and 100%, so I know the 25% is a shared bottom.

2	7	4HW	S9	9	100		3	1
3	2	4HW	S4	10		620	0	4
4	4	4HW	DJ	9	100		3	1

At table 1, EW5 makes 9 tricks in 4H and sees a percentage of 33.3% and so NS1 has 66.6% so far.

1	5	4HW	C7	9	100		4	2
2	7	4HW	S9	9	100		4	2
3	2	4HW	S4	10		620	0	6
4	4	4HW	DJ	9	100		4	2

At table 7, EW3 makes 10 tricks in 4H and sees a percentage of 87.5% and so NS1 has 12.5% so far. Up till now, NS3 has been sitting on a top for each round but now has to share with NS7.

1	5	4HW	C7	9	100		6	2
2	7	4HW	S9	9	100		6	2
3	2	4HW	S4	10		620	1	7
4	4	4HW	DJ	9	100		6	2
7	3	4HW	C7	10		620	1	7

At table 6, EW1 makes 11 tricks in 4H and sees 100% (10/10), and NS6 score 0%. As the board has now been played many times, the percentages are more accurate.

1	5	4HW	C7	9	100		8	2
2	7	4HW	S9	9	100		8	2
3	2	4HW	S4	10		620	3	7
4	4	4HW	DJ	9	100		8	2
6	1	4HW	C7	11		650	0	10
7	3	4HW	C7	10		620	3	7

And finally, the board is played at table 5, and the percentages shown for NS5 and EW6 are the final percentages.

In general, when looking at the percentages on Bridgemates, remember:

- On the first round you always score 50%.
- On the second round, you get a top (100%) a bottom (0%) or the same score as the other table (50%).
- On the third round, you might see a top (100%), a middle (50%) or a bottom (0%). If two pairs share a top then the percentages will be 75/50/0. If two pairs share a bottom you see 100/50/25. If all three scores are the same then everyone sees 50/50/50.
- On early rounds, the percentages don't mean much. A 0% might just mean the only other score is higher than you. Later in the session, there might be a number of lower scores and so your percentage on this board could creep up to a second top!
- On later rounds, the percentages are more accurate.
- Blurting out that you got 100% on a board might be considered by some as demeaning to the opposition.
- Moaning about getting 0% on a board might make partner feel terrible but can also make the opposition feel uncomfortable.

Did you know that you do not see the contract and score history at Congresses? Many people say it is a more enjoyable game because you get to spend your mental effort on the present hand, not one ones that have already gone.