



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350



Editor: John Churchett

email: secretary@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au

Presidents Report



The most significant thing I have to report is that the solar panels have been installed and connected to the grid.

What has staggered me is the amount of electricity

the club uses on a daily basis.

For example, on Wednesday the 27 November our consumption was 169.32 kWh, and for that week, the total was 648 kWh. That exceeded what I use at home in one month!

The solar panels produced 594 kWh in the same period.

So clearly the solar panels will reduce our electricity bill significantly.

Well done to Tim Porter for investigating the viability of solar panels and then following up with obtaining quotes from different providers and seeing it through to the final installation.

Tim has also been busy organising the rearrangement of the shelving for the library and Bridgemates.

There appears to be universal agreement that the new layout is a considerable improvement. There should be no excuses now that everyone can reach the book that they want from the library to help them improve their bridge.

We finally rearranged the position of the photos and shields in the foyer to enable the notice board to also be attached to the wall, rather than sitting on the easel waiting for an accident to happen. Hopefully this has made movement in the foyer easier for all members.

A big thanks to Henry Eastment, for arranging the updates to our various shields and boards.

I should also thank all of volunteers, the gardeners, the kitchen helpers, the board dealers, and especially our wonderful directors. The club would not function without you.

Finally, to all of our members, I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year, and I hope to see you at the bridge table next year.

Dave Roberts

Membership Secretary's Report

We now have 405 members; 333 home, 66 away and 6 life members.

Since Desley Hanrahan's last report we have welcomed 6 new or returning members:

Paul Davey
Ann Dujela
Valerie Lehman
Helen Poynten
Christine Stiles
Margaret York.

I do thank Desley for keeping such well organised files and for her years of hard work in this position. She has made my new job easier.

Also, many thanks to the, 242 members who have promptly paid their membership subscriptions for 2020. Very much appreciated.

Pam Davey

VALE HARRY GOODSON

Harry Goodson who passed away on the 16th August 2019 joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 1998 and formed a bridge partnership with Mick Hore until 2011 when Mick became ill. Harry never played with anyone else, saying that their wives (Lee Hore and Leni Goodson) who were amongst the top players in the club, just weren't up to their standard!!!



Playing against these two blokes, you had so much fun at their table - you almost forgot what you were doing except laughing. (Perhaps that was part of their secret strategy)

Trained as a pharmacist, Harry's great loves apart from his family were fishing and piloting his plane.

And perhaps a quote from his eldest grandson sums Harry up "Now I am a father, I can truly understand the important role a grandfather plays in a child's life, making them the very best person they can be".

Welfare Officer

Please contact Joan Mladen on (0490 489 053) or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or suffering a bereavement and Joan will respond suitably on behalf of the Club.

"When winning a trick, it is best to select your lead to the next trick before you play your winning card. At the very least select your lead to the next trick before turning over your card from the previous trick - leave it up on the table, this allows you to look back at everyone's cards."

— Robert S. Todd

VALE CHARLES LEICHT

1926 -2019



Charles joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in September 2004 with his wife Melba and they attended Joyce Benson's lessons which were held in her home. They were also very involved in the fund raising for our new club house.

Up until Melba passed away in 2018, Charles mainly played with her until her health problems began to limit her time at the club. Charles achieved the rank of National Master and with Melba won the Novice Teams Congress in 2010, the B Grade at both Lockyer and the Darling Downs congresses.

This year Charles has played with a variety of players, but mainly with Robbie Fulton who went out of his way to look out for him. Apart from Melba and his immediate family including numerous grandchildren who obviously adored him, Charles' great loves were golf, bridge and ...Doris Day – perhaps in reverse order given that all the songs at his funeral were sung by her.

He was a scholar and a gentleman – we will miss him greatly.

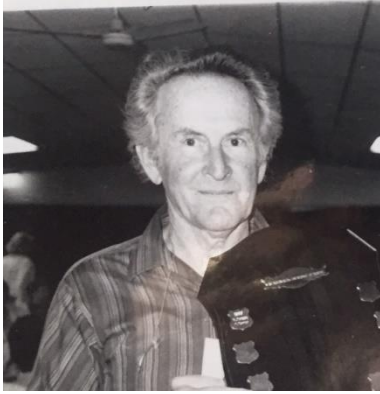
Three Wise Women

Would have asked for directions,
arrived on time,
helped deliver the baby,
bought wine,
cleaned the stable,
made a casserole,
and there would have been
PEACE on Earth.



VALE PHIL DOBNEY

1930 - 2019



Dr Philip Dobney was a founding member of the Toowoomba Bridge Club, served as Club President 1985-1988, Zone Rep, Committee member and was a Club Director until he retired from bridge in 2012.

I was absolutely astounded when his daughter Louise sent me a brief overview of his life. His sporting achievements in chess, life-saving, table tennis, golf, squash saw him winning State titles and club championships. This was also reflected in bridge where he won 4 Congresses, the club Singles Championship and represented S E Qld in the 1990 GNOT.

His working life was equally as prestigious. Having left school in Yr 11, he completed Officer Training School and served as 2nd Lieut training National Servicemen, worked for Qantas as a flight attendant then at the age of 25 completed his matriculation and began his very prestigious academic career with a Certificate of Teaching, Bachelor of Science with Hon and Doctor of Philosophy. His main fields of interest being Magnetic Resonance, Atmospheric Science, Computer Managed Learning and Personalised Student Instruction. Before he retired he was the Principal Lecturer for the Faculty of Engineering & Surveying at USQ. I was quite sad when Phil decided to stop playing bridge – as you can imagine he was a no-nonsense Director but could also be very kind when needed. And I missed him playing Devil's Advocate at AGM's which I think he rather enjoyed.

What a truly extraordinary man.

Thank you very much Glenys for researching and writing these eulogies

New Rankings



Rhondda Dean	Silver Life
Rebecca Knight	*National
Mavis Simpson	*National
Trevor Henderson	National
Beryl McKay	*State
Tony Thorne	State
Pamela Steele	State
Dennis Lincoln	State
Elizabeth Thorne	State
Joan Mladen	*Regional
Judy Hinchliffe	*Regional
Lawrence Price	Regional
Paul Barrett	Regional
Greg Munch	Local Regional
Carol Edwards	Regional
Tony Dunne	**Local
Isabelle Geldard	**Local
Kay Duncan	**Local
Rachel Klupfel	**Local
Robert Fulcher	**Local
Yvonne Blakeney	**Local
Bob Dodman	*Local
Michael Walsh	*Local
Lorrie Robinson	Local
Nuala O'Sullivan	Local
Christine Jean Gilshenan	Local
Helen Fitzgerald	Local
Helen Walsh	Local
Kathleen Carey	Local
Ian Spence	Club
Pam Gillespie	Club
Bill Barrett	Club
Susie Fraser	Club
Sandy Fraser	Club
Rene Wellsted	Club
Ian Moody Costin	Club
Jeanette Morgan	Graduate
Helen Poynten	Graduate
Stewart Russ	Graduate
Trish Harding	Graduate
Peter Harding	Graduate
Thomas O'Connor	Graduate
Murray Pietsch	Graduate
Simon Wicks	Graduate
Elizabeth Anderson	Graduate

Congresses 2019

A big thank you to all the helpers with the setting up, in the kitchen during the day, our caddy for the day, and everyone who helped tidy up afterwards. The biggest thank you to our director, Chris.

It was great to have such successful congresses to end the year.

Dave



1st place

PAMELA EVANS, TERRY O'DEMPSEY, JANEEN SOLOMON & JAMES EVANS



2nd place

LOUISE COLLINS, TERRY COLLINS, IVY LUCK & JOHN LUCK



Best Category B

IAN ARGENT, JAN ARGENT, JAMES WILLIAMSON 7, JANELLE WILLIAMSON



Best Category C

PAM DAVEY, DAVID J EDWARDS, CAROL EDWARDS & ANGELA WORRALL



Best Novice team

MICHAEL ROSE-MILLER, MICHAEL KAISER ROBYN JACKSON & MURRAY PIETSCH,

Bridge Classes for Beginners

CLASSES START

Wednesday 29th January from 9am to 1130am

Thursday 30th January from 7pm to 930pm

Each Lesson Costs \$5

ENQUIRIES

See Trudy or Denise for further details

Newsletter photos courtesy of Bruce, Ian S, Dave, family and anon.

Help Suit Game Tries

Help Suit Game Tries

1. You open one of a major and partner raises your major to the two level. Sometimes, as opener your decision to pass, invite or bid game is clear-cut. Other times, it is useful to consult partner.

The placement of partner's cards is often more important than his HCP holding.

2. It is most effective to use HSGT under the following conditions:

- You have an intermediate hand 15-18 HCP opposite a simple raise of your major suit
- You have a weak suit – at least three long and missing both ace and king (at least two losers).

3. Here is an example:

Partner	You	Your Hand
	1♥	♠ A K Q
2♥	3♣	♥ A Q J 9 3
		♦ 8
		♣ Q 4 3 2

4. Here you need help in clubs. You want to be in game if partner has:

♠ 6 5 3 ♥ K 7 5 4 ♦ 6 5 4 ♣ K J 7

But not if he has:

♠ 6 5 3 ♥ K 7 5 4 ♦ K J 7 ♣ 7 6 5

5. Let's look at another example:

Partner	You	Your Hand
	1♠	♠ A K Q 9 6
2♠	3♥	♥ 5 4 3
		♦ 10
		♣ K Q J 10

6. Here you need help in hearts, and middle honours in diamonds will be of no use at all.

7. **Responding to HSGT.** You are not being asked if you have a good or a bad hand for your single raise, only if you have the right kind of help, as follows:

- If you have length in the help suit, then you need a concentration of values in it, e.g. K J 5 4 or A 10 7
- Shortness in the help suit is useful if you have 4+ trumps so that partner can ruff his losers.

8. With help, jump to game in the major. Without help, sign off in three of the major. Here are two examples:

Partner	You	Your Hand
1♠	2♠	♠ K 9 8 3
3♥*	3♠	♥ 10 7 4
		♦ A J 5 4
		♣ 8 2

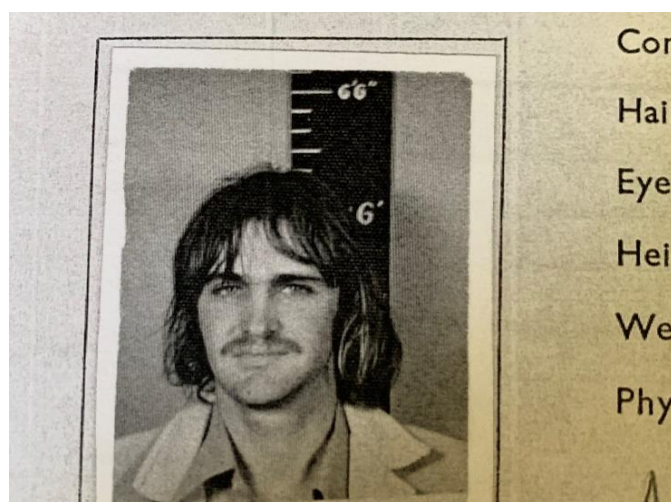
Note: With no heart support, sign off in 3♠.

Partner	You	Your Hand
1♠	2♠	♠ K 9 8 3
3♦*	4♠	♥ 10 7 4
		♦ A J 5 4
		♣ 8 2

Note: This is the same hand, but partner now needs help in diamonds. With strong diamond support, jump to game in spades.

Ian Jesser

Mystery TBC Member circa 1971



Easy one for Lyn and Desley.

Bridge Quiz

Dir S ♠ 8 7 5 4
 N/S VUL ♥ Q 7 3
 ♦ A T 5 4
 ♣ Q 6

♠ A K T 9 3
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ A 2

South is in 6 ♠ with no E-W bidding. West leads the 4♥. Plan the play – West holds three spades. (Cover up the solution below).

South Deals	♠ 8 7 5 4		
N-S Vul	♥ Q 7 3		
	♦ A 10 5 4		
	♣ Q 6		
♠ Q 6 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J	
♥ J 9 5 4		♥ 10 6 2	
♦ 8 7		♦ J 9 6 3	
♣ K J 5 4		♣ 10 9 8 7 3	
	♠ A K 10 9 3		
	♥ A K 8		
	♦ K Q 2		
	♣ A 2		

Losers: 1 club and 1 spade with a bad break.

Win the ♥ A, then cash ♠ A and ♠ K and discover the bad break. The plan then is to eliminate the heart and diamond suits and put West on lead so they have to lead clubs, hoping that they hold the ♣ K. So play the three winning hearts, then ♦ K, ♦ Q and a third diamond to the Ace. Had the diamonds behaved and split evenly, declarer could've discarded the club loser on the extra diamond winner. When the diamonds provide no joy, declarer needs to exit with a third trump to put West back on lead.

Now West has the choice of either leading away from the ♣ K, to which declarer would play the ♣ Q and win, or he can lead his remaining heart, which would give declarer a ruff-and-discard, as there are no hearts left in either hand. Either way, the slam is home.

If West had turned up with four diamonds, South would ruff the fourth diamond and then exit with a trump to put West on lead.

Thanks Denise

A Bit of Bluff

I have recently been reading *Master of Bridge Psychology* by Jeppe Juhl. It features a number of hands played by Peter Fredin, a world class player who seems to have made a career out of exciting play and outlandish bluffs. One of these hands is below. The type of dilemma facing East is one that many novices face and are often quite unsure what to do. Fredin is playing South.

♠ Q953
♥ A10542
♦ 93
♣ Q5

♠ K3
♥ 87
♦ J87542
♣ J62

♠ 10
♥ 96
♦ KQ10
♣ AKJ10874

♠ AJ8764
♥ KQJ3
♦ A6
♣ 3

The bidding went as follows:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♠	3♣	3♥
Pass	4♠	5♣	5♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the ♣2 to the ♣Q and East's ♣K. East continued with the ♦K to Fredin's ♦A. There are two losers, one each in clubs and diamonds but the danger was of course the Spade K. Looking at the hand I would have thought that South should cross to dummy and take the spade finesse – the odds surely would be that East having been a spirited bidder would hold the ♠K. However, Fredin reasoned that because East had not hesitated when bidding 3♣ he must have held something like ♠Kx, ♥xx, ♦KQ, ♣AKJxxxx, otherwise he would have at least considered 3NT. Therefore, at trick 3 he led the ♠J from his hand. What does West do? Many a novice would rise with the ♠K. However reasoning from the bidding that South surely held 6 Spades, that would mean there could only be one Spade in East's hand (if in fact he held a spade)- but what was it? Lots of us have faced the situation where we play high (in the second hand) only to see our partner having to play the A on our K. West, wise to this dilemma, ducked and played the S3 arguing that even Fredin would not lead the J from the Ace-Jack. When the J held, Fredin cashed the ♠A and claimed 12 tricks! What a mind.

Thanks to Pam S

Winners are Grinnerers

The “Monthly Winners” are recognised as the “individual” winner of eclectic multi-session events that run on the same day over the course of a month.

July Monthly Winners

Monday Open Diana Drummond & Lyndall Hore
Monday Restr Bob Dodman
Tuesday Day Gwen Francis & Rae Capon
Tuesday Night Denise Hartwig & Roz Wright
Wed Open Glenys Clift & Trevor Henderson
Wed Restr Joan Mladen & Robert Fulcher
Thursday Night Lesley Parry & Roz Wright
Friday am Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Friday pm Will Higgins

August Monthly Winners

Monday Open Kathleen Beckwith
Monday Restr Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Tuesday Day Carol Wilson & Ian Jesser
Tuesday Night Mohan Trada
Wed Open Mearon Geldard
Wed Restr Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Thursday Night Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Friday am Paul Matthews & David Roberts
Friday pm Henry Eastment

September Monthly Winners

Monday Open Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Monday Restr Robert Fulcher
Tuesday Day Adrian Mayers
Tuesday Night Mimmo Centofanti
Wed Open Denise Hartwig
Wed Restr Juleen Cavanagh & John Laker
Thursday Night Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Friday am Robert Fulcher & Pamela Steele
Friday pm Adrian Mayers

October Monthly Winners

Monday Open Joan Mladen
Monday Restr Isabella Geldard & Cherylene
Offner
Tuesday Day Adrian Mayers
Tuesday Night Chris Snook
Wed Open Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig
Wed Restr Marion Hunt & Yvonne Blakeney
Thursday Night Ruth Hanson
Friday am Paul Matthews & David Roberts
Friday pm Adrian Mayers & Henry Eastment

November Monthly Winners

Monday Open Oliver Dashwood & Delma
Clark
Monday Restr Eleanor Johnson & Margaret
Roberts
Tuesday Day Adrian Mayers
Tuesday Night Henry Eastment
Wed Open Ian Jesser & Henry Eastment
Wed Restr Beverley & Ross McCasker
Thursday Night Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
Friday am Pamela Steele
Friday pm John Churchett

In recent club competitions:

Tuesday Night Pairs Competition

1st Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig
2nd Robert Fulcher & Mohan Trada
3rd David Roberts & Frank Elston

Tuesday Night Teams Competition

1st Eileen Josey, John Churchett,
Ross McCasker & Beverley McCasker
2nd Maurice Josey, Bruce Hinchliffe, Lawrence
Price, Hugh Robinson & Mavis Simpson
3rd David Roberts, Frank Elson,
Ken Orange & Helen Poynten

Tuesday Daytime Pairs Competition

1st Adrian Mayers & Jacqueline Henderson
2nd Desiree Fenaughty & Edwina Willis
3rd Gwen Francis & Rae Capon

Teams of Three – Novices

1st John Erlandson, Robert Fulcher,
Kathleen Beckwith & Joan Mladen
2nd Oliver Dashwood, Carol Edwards,
Jan Lindau & Maureen Grayson
3rd Pat Larsen, Alastair Nixon,
Anne Hall & Tim Porter

Teams of Three – Rookies

1st Desley Hanrahan, Murray Pietsch,
Pam Gillespie & Robyn Jackson
2nd Fleur Hopkins, Judith Watts,
Carol Dashwood & Helen Kemp
3rd David Edwards, Sandy Fraser,
Eleanor Johnson & Susie Fraser

Club Pairs Championship – Open

1st Elizabeth Zeller & Adrian Mayres
2nd Ian Jesser & Jim Wood
3rd Anne Kirkwood & Rebecca Knight

Club Pairs Championship – Novice

- 1st Joan Mladen & Robert Fulcher
2nd Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
3rd Carol Edwards & Diana McDougall

And on the recent Congress scene:

Lockyer Swiss Pairs

- B 2nd David Edwards & Carol Edwards
B 3rd Jane Lawson & Roz Wright

Toowoomba Novice Teams

- 1st Tony Thorne, Elizabeth Thorne,
Greg Munck & Lawrence Price
B 1st Robert Fulcher, Robyn Jackson,
Bob Dodman & Michael Walsh

QBA Open Teams – Best from country zone

- Chris Snook, Denise Hartwig,
Mohan Trada & Pat Larsen

Dalby Swiss Pairs

- 1st Jenni Buckley & Jim Wood
2nd Susan Spinks & Pat Larsen
3rd Elizabeth Zeller & Carmel Caton
B 2nd Floyd Wilson & Majella Wilson
C 1st Joan Mladen & Robert Fulcher

Kenmore Rookie (0-50) Pairs

- 2nd Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln

Sanctuary Cove Novice Pairs

- 1st Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln

Toowoomba Queens Birthday Congress – Pairs

- 1st Elizabeth Zeller & Alison Dawson
C 3rd Isabella Geldard & Robyn Pearson

Highest placed Toowoomba Pair:
Robbie Fulton & Laurie Sutton

BBC Novice Pairs

- 2nd Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln

QCBC Novice Teams

- 2nd Pamela Steele, Dennis Lincoln,
Joan Mladen & Robert Fulcher

Northern Suburbs Butler Pairs (2 day)

- B 1st Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig

Toowoomba Swiss Teams

- C 1st Pam Davey, Angela Worrall,
David Edwards & Carol Edwards

Toowong Graded Teams – B Grade

- 3rd Chris Snook, Denise Hartwig,
Ray Ellaway & Cheryl Stone

Queensland Wide Pairs (out of 365 tables)

NS 16th & Best <100 pair

Carmel Barrett & Paul Barrett

EW 20th & Best <50 pair

Kathleen Mulherin & Dave Mulherin

Well done everyone ☺

Cheers

Chris



Showing how it's done at the Seniors Expo at USQ

“Rule 1 when discarding – Do No Harm! (Do not give up a trick trying to signal.)”

“When on opening lead against 3NT ask yourself: What is Opener's 4-card suit? (Every hand has at least one 4+ card suit.)”

“Any Defender can take tricks with an Ace or King, good Defenders find ways to take tricks with 10s, 9s, and even smaller cards.”

— Robert S. Todd

Masterpoint Secretary's Report

Total masterpoints earned in the club over the past few months were:

	Green	Red	Gold	Tables
July	175.89	8.74	73.92	469.5
August	164.89	25.20		445.0
September	167.97	29.44		446.5
October	157.76	22.62		436.5
November	157.60	64.28		

A total of 1911.12 green points was earned by players in our club in the ABF census period of 1st Oct 2018 – 30th Sept 2019, which entitles us to 36 red masterpoint sessions in 2020. This is up from 1711.91 green points and 32 red sessions the previous census period. Comparing the two census periods, our total number of tables has increased from 4723.5 to 5215.5, an increase of 10%.

Members are reminded that the number of masterpoints you earn is based on the total number of tables in your section, the status of the event (supervised, club, red points, gold points and congresses) and your position in the top half of the field. Some of the red and gold point calculations can be complex, so masterpoints displayed on our noticeboards or website are provisional until approved at the end of each month.

If you feel that you are missing some masterpoints, check with the Club Masterpoint Secretary in the first instance, advising of the date and session that you played in, who your partner was and who the Director was. If you think you are missing points from an event, then tell me the event name and date. If you added up the points you think you might receive, and the actual amount is different, then tell me the points/events you think you did achieve. Remember that I only process club masterpoints. Those from congresses, nationwide pairs and other events are done by other people, usually months later.

Cheers
Chris



Don't forget you can always look up your approved masterpoints at the ABF Masterpoint Centre ...

Session Rules Reminder

- Players should be **seated** 10 minutes prior to the start of play for a session.
- The Director makes the final decision on seating arrangements and on playing arrangements in the room (e.g. windows, air-conditioning).
- Only **green** and **blue** systems are permitted in club events.
- System cards are compulsory for competitions and red master point events and strongly recommended for all other sessions.
- NS are primarily responsible for the playing conditions at the table (bridgemates, management of boards and moving them if instructed to do so by the Director).
- EW are primarily responsible for tidy up and leaving the table in a good condition ready for the next session.
- All players should offer to help with general room clean-up to assist the Director.
- No notices are permitted on the noticeboards unless approval is given from the Management Committee.
- No trading is permitted on the club premises unless written permission is given via the Management Committee.
- Smoking is only permitted in the Designated Smoking Area or in the parklands off the premises.

Director Training Workshop

In January, we will resume our monthly lesson/workshop for people keen to train as future Directors. The first one will be on Laws pertaining to basic bridge housekeeping matters, and this will also be relevant to most players.

The workshop time will be determined by our current Trainee Directors.

Have a chat with me if you would like to join in.

Alerts and Announcements

Players appear to be getting lax in alerting their partners calls or announcing when the Regulations require them to do so! Thus, it is time for another lesson in the correct procedure when playing duplicate bridge.

1. Bridge is not a game of secrets. All agreements must be fully available and fully disclosed to the opponents.
2. Regulations enforce this disclosure by requiring each player to have a legible approved system card on the table at all times [It should be accessible to the opponents without them having to move handbags, cups, bridgemates, etc].
3. Special cases require you to **announce** the basic meaning of specific calls. It is the responsibility of the responder to make a prescribed statement (otherwise termed an ‘Announcement’) whenever their partner opens either 1♣ or a natural 1NT. The form of the announcement required varies depending upon the nature of the opening bid:
 - (a) **Announcements required after a 1♣ opening:**

For Natural-type systems (e.g. Acol or Standard), the minimum length of the club suit (i.e. “1+”, “2+”, “3+”, “4+”) should be announced.

For Strong Club systems (e.g. Precision); the word “Strong” together with the minimum HCP holding (i.e. “16+”) should be announced.

For systems other than those above (e.g. a Polish 1♣, which has multiple meanings), the word “Unusual” should be used.
 - (b) **Announcements required after a natural 1NT opening:**

The appropriate HCP range (e.g. “12-14” or “15-17” etc.) should be announced. These are the only words you say Nothing else.
4. Regulations also require a player to **alert**, which is a process to draw the opponents’ attention to any call from partner that is **not a natural call**, or has a **special meaning**, or has a **meaning the opponents may not expect**.
5. The fact that the system card explains the meaning of a call does not remove the obligation to alert it when required by these regulations.

6. Players should adhere to the principle of full disclosure (as required by the Laws) in following these Regulations and in explanations of calls. The principle is to disclose, not as little as you must, but **as much as you can**, and as comprehensibly as you can.
7. Merely to name a convention (e.g. Michaels, Lebensohl, etc.) is not an acceptable explanation. There are many variations of most conventions, and a more specific explanation is normally required. Similarly, the use of "Standard" or "Natural" to describe calls, signals or leads is rarely sufficient – nor are the terms "Weak", "Strong" or "Intermediate" - without appropriate qualification.
8. A **conventional call** is a call that, by partnership agreement, conveys a meaning other than willingness to play in the denomination named (or in the last denomination named), or high-card strength or length (three cards or more) there. However, an agreement as to overall strength does not make a call a convention. Opening bids and overcalls that show two or more suits, even if one of the suits is named, are by definition conventional.
9. A **natural bid** is a call that is not conventional. It conveys a willingness to play in the denomination named and shows high card strength or (at least 3 card) length in the named suit. A **natural NT** conveys a willingness to play in NT and conveys no other information about particular suit holdings. A **natural pass** does not convey any message about suit nor playing strength.
10. **Self Alerting Calls** are sufficiently strange such that they carry their own alert and should not be separately alerted. These include:
 - (i) Doubles
 - (ii) Redoubles
 - (iii) Cue bid of the opponents suit that they called or the suit that they have shown (eg a transfer)
 - (iv) All calls at the 4 level or higher (except conventional opening bids)
 - (v) Any 2C response to a 1 NT opening in a non-contested auction.
11. Players alert their partner’s calls, not their own. Alerts should be made immediately after the alertable call has been completed. Alerts are made by audibly saying, “Alert” and circling the call on the bidding pad. Circling a

call provides prima-facie evidence that it has been alerted.

Specific examples from the Club Standard American:

Opening 1C, our partner announces “three plus” because we play better minor. We don’t say “better minor”, we don’t say “opening hand”, we don’t say anything else.

Opening 1D, our partner does not announce anything and does not alert because it is a natural call.

Opening 1NT, our partner says “15 to 17”
They do not say balanced.
They do not say anything else.

... **1NT – P – 2C**, opener does not alert the 2C call because it is self-alerting, no matter what it means. In our beginner’s system, we all know it means Stayman, but some other partnerships may have a different meaning. If the opponents need to know in order to make their call, then they should ask what the auction means.

Transfers **1NT – P – 2D**, opener will alert the 2D call. If the opponents need to know what this means then they will ask and be told “it is a transfer to Hearts showing at least 5 and ...”. We do not alert openers 2H call which completes the transfer, because it does not convey any information – they are just calling it because they were told to.

Specific examples when using “the short club” and extended Stayman:

Opening 1C, our partner announces “two plus” because we only promise two clubs in the hand. We don’t say “prepared club”, we don’t say “short club”, we don’t say “could be short”, we don’t say anything else.

Opening 1D, our partner does not announce anything and does not alert because it is a natural call.

Opening 1NT, our partner says “15 to 18”
They do not say balanced.
They do not say anything else.

... **1NT – P – 2C**, opener does not alert the 2C call because it is self-alerting, no matter what it means. We all know it means some sort of Stayman, but some other partnerships may have a different meaning. If the opponents need to know in order to make their call, then they should ask what the auction means.

... **1NT – P – 2C – P - 2H** <alert> Responder alerts the 2H because it says I have 4 Hearts but now only 15-16 HCP.

... **1NT – P – 2C – P - 3H** <alert> Responder alerts the 3H because it says I have 4 Hearts but now have 17-18 HCP.

Transfers with “super accepts”.

... **1NT – P – 2D**, opener will alert the 2D call which starts the transfer sequence. If the opponents need to know what this means then they will ask and be told “it is a transfer to Hearts showing at least 5 and ...”.

... **1NT – P – 2D – P – 2H** <alert> Responder would alert openers 2H call, because it shows additional information about the limited strength of the hand.

Specific examples with other systems/conventions:

... **1NT** , Acol people will announce this as 12-14.

... **1NT** , Toowoomba Precision will announce this as 14-16, and traditional Precision will announce this as 13-15.

If **1C – (1H) – 1NT** does not promise a stopper in Hearts then the 1NT must be **alerted**.

If you “can’t leave partner on 1C because it might be short”, then you are playing some form of Diamond Bust system, and if your partnership will respond to 1C with less than 5/6 points (typically 1D) then the response must be **alerted** so that the opponents are aware of your unusual system.

Opening 1D: Alert 1D if it may, by agreement, contain less than 3 diamonds. Of course, you should have also told the opponents when you first sat down.

I don’t know of any Toowoomba folk who play this.

Precision 1D opening: This typically shows (11)12-15 HCP and no five-card major. It may or may not contain diamonds. There is no willingness to play in diamonds and the call contains other information thus 1D must be alerted.

Precision 1D response to 1C: In a Standard American auction 1C-P-1D, responder would show (5)6+ HCP and typically 4D+. The Precision 1D response must be altered because it is not a willingness to play in diamonds and is 0-7 HCP which most people will not expect.

Inverted Minors: In a normal auction that proceeds 1D-P-2D you would expect responder to have around 6-9 HCP's and if the auction proceeds 1D-P-3D for responder to have a fit in diamonds and 10+ HCP. If a partnership is playing "inverted minors" such bids are reversed so that 1D-P-2D shows 10+ and 1D-P-3D is a limited hand with 6-9. This is not what most people would expect and thus opponents might not compete in the bidding – thus the inverted minor response must be alerted.

Negative Free bids: Using traditional systems, responder requires (10)11+ HCP to bid at the two level after the opposition has interfered in the bidding.

eg 1H-(1S)-2C (the 2C bid shows 11+) or 1S-(2C)-2H (the 2H bid shows 11=). Some partnerships are playing "negative free bids" and their 2C bid is less than 10HCP and some partnerships will play down to 0 points. They usually have some other response (like a double first) to show a positive hand. These negative free bids are done on playing strength the opposition might not expect and must be alerted.

Weak Jump Responses: While not so common nowadays, a jump response used to show an opening hand opposite Openers hand, or at least is forcing to game. Other pairs play that a jump shift response shows a weak hand.

eg 1H-P-2S shows a very weak hand only worth playing in spades (it might be 0-4 HCP and 6 spades). This is certainly not what most people would expect and thus such weak jump shifts should be alerted.

Multi-two bids: Any 2-level bid with a multiple meaning is alertable. The conventional responses, including correctable bids are also alertable.

Strong 2C or 2D: Alert these strong artificial bids. Also alert any artificial responses such as "waiting bids".

Weak-twos: Do not alert a 2 level bid if it shows a single suit, no matter whether the bid is weak or strong (eg 2H showing 6 hearts).

Alert : Forcing 1NT response

Alert : Jacoby 2NT

Alert : Transfer bids below 4C

Alert : Unusual NT

I understand beginners make mistakes so Directors will be gentle if you try to comply with the Alert Regulations but make the occasional boo-boo. Experienced players, however, are expected to know and comply with the Alert Regulations at all times. If a conventional call is not alerted and the non-offending side's score could possibly have been damaged by the failure to alert, then the score will be adjusted in all cases.

Happy and transparent bridging!

Chris

A Walk in the Web

There are two facets of our web presence; our website hosted by Altosoft Pty Ltd and our results and membership website hosted by Pianola Pty Ltd. The information on each site complements each other to give use a breadth of detailed information. I thought I may give you a bit of a guided tour.

The main entry point is via our website:

www.toowoombabridgeclub.com.au

or you can do a web search for "Toowoomba Bridge Club".

[Home] The main page has nine buttons across the top of the page: [Home], [Sessions], [Results], [Calendar], etc.

Next on the left of this page is general information about the club of interest to visitors, and on the right are links to the weekly "Directors announcements", "breaking news" and "upcoming events".

[Sessions] This lists the session start and notional finish times and is most useful for visitors.

[Results] This page lists our main results for the last 30 days. Scroll down to the bottom of this page if you want to see older results (such as all 2019 or all 2018, or the last 90 days, etc).

Home Sessions Results Calendar Events Lessons

Results - Last 30 Days

Filter by day: All sessions ★ Month View Individual History Grand Slams 70% Club

DATE	SESSION	Results	Board Summary	Detailed Boards Analysis
13-DEC-19	FRIDAY AFTERNOON IAN (13-DEC-19)	Results	Board Summary	Detailed Boards Analysis
13-DEC-19	FRIDAY MORNING - CHRIS (13-DEC-19)	Results	Board Summary	Detailed Boards Analysis

“Individual History” is where you can search for your own name (or a friends) and see your recent results. Use the dropdown arrow to search for the “Player name”. You can also look for a specific Partner if you wish.

This displays the results of a selected player over the last 12 months.
 The list can be filtered further to just show their performance with one selected partner.

Player Name: Partners Name:

List of club sessions played by CHRIS SNOOK over the last 12 months

Club Session	Partner	Place	Tables	%	Masterpoints
TBA Friday Morning - Chris (13-Dec-19)	ANGELA WORRALL	4	8	52.4	0.08
TBA Thursday Night - Chris (12-Dec-19)	DENISE HARTWIG	4	11	54.1	0.11
TBA Wednesday Afternoon Open (11-Dec-19)	DENISE HARTWIG	1	12	57.9	0.36
TBA Tuesday Night - Denise (10-Dec-19)	MOHAN TRADA	1	5	69.0	0.30
TBA Monday Afternoon Open - Chris (9-Dec-19)	ANGELA WORRALL	1	13	61.7	0.39
TBA Saturday Afternoon Christmas Party (7-Dec-19)	DENISE HARTWIG	3	22	59.3	0.55
TBA Wednesday Afternoon Open Glenys (4-Dec-19)	DENISE HARTWIG	1	14	68.5	0.42

“Grand Slams”, as the name suggests, is a list of players who have bid and made a Grand Slam – and this is always a talking point after the round has finished.

Grand Slams - Last 12 Months

PLAYERS	CONTRACT	SESSION	DATE
MARIE NEWBURY / HENRY GLENNIE	7D W	WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON RESTRICTED GLENYS (4-DEC-19)	4-DEC-19 ★
ROGER GREEN / TIM PORTER	7D W	WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON RESTRICTED GLENYS (4-DEC-19)	4-DEC-19 ★
TREVOR HENDERSON / GLENYS CLIFT	7H W	WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON OPEN GLENYS (4-DEC-19)	4-DEC-19 ★
KAY DUNCAN / AINO JAATINEN	7NT E	MONDAY AFTERNOON OPEN - CHRIS (18-NOV-19)	18-NOV-19 ★
ANN DUJELA / ALASTAIR NIXON	7S E	MONDAY AFTERNOON OPEN - CHRIS (18-NOV-19)	18-NOV-19 ★
JOHN OXENHAM / LYNDA OXENHAM	7S N	FRIDAY MORNING - DENISE (15-NOV-19)	15-NOV-19 ★
JILL CORY / LYN VARY	7NT E	MONDAY AFTERNOON (4-NOV-19)	4-NOV-19 ★

Whilst on a bit of a nostalgia trip, I found this one !!!!

BOARD 26

BD: 26 Dir: E
Vul: Both

<p>♠ A8532</p> <p>♥ 95</p> <p>♦ T942</p> <p>♣ T6</p>	<p>♠ QT9764</p> <p>♥ 7</p> <p>♦ Q8763</p> <p>♣ 9</p>
<p>♠ KJ</p> <p>♥ AKJT43</p> <p>♦ AKJ</p> <p>♣ K3</p>	

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	
N	7	-	7	-	6	9
S	7	-	7	-	6	4 4
E	-	1	-	1	-	23
W	-	1	-	1	-	

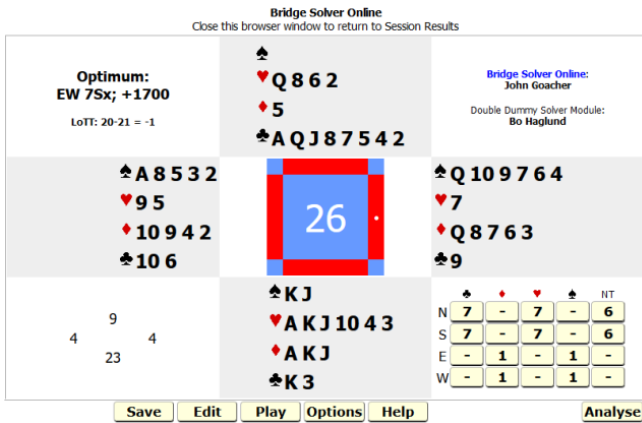
Denise and I were NS (which means I would have been North), but the contract was recorded as 7H by North making 13, when it was obviously bid and played by South. I guess that’s why Denise doesn’t let me use the Bridgemate anymore!

It was a heavily competitive auction, so all the usual bids and gadgets did not apply. It went something like:

2S: X: 3S: 4C:
 Pass: 4H: 4S: 5H:
 Pass: 6H: Pass: 7H

Have a chat with your partner(s) and see what you come up with.

A new feature on our results pages is the link “Replay with Bridge Solver”. This link leads you to a page with all four hands showing. You can click on the little table in the lower left of the page and BridgeSolver will let you play the hand whilst showing the number of tricks each pair are likely to make as you play the cards. Give it a try.



“70% Club” shows a list of pairs who have achieved a session score of 70% or higher – which is always an impressive performance.

Now back to the Home page.

[Events] is where you enter the major club competitions and congresses, and is where you can see the list of entries at any point in time.

[Documents] lists other documents of relevance to most players, including our Rules of Association, By-Laws, Strategic Play for the club, membership information, honour boards, dates for Nationwide Pairs, and a brief history of the Toowoomba Bridge Club.

The last button [About Us] lists Management Committee and Office Bearers, and a list of links to other sites of interest such as the other clubs in our zone, the QBA, ABF and ABF Masterpoint Center.

From the Home page you can also access a link to Pianola where you can see results similar to the above, and if you login you can see considerably more detail about your playing performance. You can then also access the Partnership Finder page.

A quick look at my results reveals they are up and down like a yoyo. I fill-in with a lot of different players and we do sometimes have varying results all in the name of fun! I also note that sometimes I do get a high session score but can have an atrocious “bidding accuracy”. I guess when you overbid you have to compensate by a stronger declarer play.



If you want to access Pianola but don't have or don't recall your login details have a word with Trevor Henderson, Pam Davey or myself and we'll help get you back on track.

Cheers
Chris

Gardens Report

The last year began with a burst of planting many new plants around the gardens. However, the on-going low rainfall, did create some difficulties, though the gardening group continued to look after most plants and remove rubbish as required. This year, members were very generous in donating their Toowoomba Regional Council plants to us. We will continue next year to ask members to give us any unneeded TRC gift plants for the TBC gardens as this gift allows us to replace plants that have died and have new plantings. The purchase of a new light weight leaf blower has assisted the team in keeping the garden and driveway clear from leaves. This is an extra challenge because of the abnormal number of hot and windy days that are being experienced.

Your Garden Group for this year:
Hedges: Neville Lutton
Watering; Ralph Geddes, John Ryan, Margaret Tucker
Mowing: Martin Carey, John Ryan, Peter Bryce

John Ryan co-ordinator

Step Bridge Australia

AN INTERNET BRIDGE CLUB

Stepbridge is run by members and is affiliated with ABF and SABF.

It is on every night 8-10pm EST and Sat and Sun 4 – 6pm EST

Of course, that is an hour earlier here in Qld during summertime.

You get 5 free sessions before you have to decide whether or not to join and it is only \$5 to join if you already belong to a club. From then on it costs \$2.25 per session.

Many participants don't like driving at night or live in places where clubs have small numbers and so they get a chance to play more often .

I am enjoying using this as a learning platform with my husband, Paul, who is returning to bridge at Toowoomba club.

What we really enjoy about it is that after the "tournament" we participate in, we receive a report which includes all our bidding and all our card play.

And you can earn green and red masterpoints!

24 boards in two hours....I love it.

Pam Davey

<http://admin.stepbridge.com.au/show.php?page=tournamentinfo&activityid=7511&username=PaulDa>

Christmas Appeal

I would like to thank our members who so generously donated gifts and/or money to the Salvation Army as part of our Christmas celebrations. Captains Dale and Darlene Murray gratefully accepted these donations whilst highlighting the work the Salvation Army has done and continues to do in supporting fire fighters and citizens involved in the recent and ongoing fires.

Without naming them, I would also like to thank members for bringing a plate, for decorating the rooms, managing the catering, taking photos, preparing and presenting the awards and in other ways making the party successful.

Regards
Henry

Caterer and Providore

We have had a wonderful year with very good attendances at Congresses and events.

However, these don't just happen as there is a lot to do.

Naturally, I particularly want to thank all the members who readily help out in the kitchen, make those scrumptious slices we love to eat and those members who are happy to take home the tablecloths etc to wash. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

I would also like to thank Brenda Parry and Maree Neale who have decreased my workload by taking on the task of asking for helpers for these events.

Lastly, until I see your smiling face across from the bridge table, I would like to wish each one of you a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Leonie Spence

I would like to wish everyone including my coworker on a Wednesday a safe and happy Xmas. See you all in the New Year.

Your happy Providore.

Keith Jenkin

"It is important to understand why we learn conventions. They are tools to help us better communicate with partner. But we must become a craftsman and learn to use our tools effectively. Until we do, we will not be able to get the most out of them.

The process of learning to use a new convention can be a difficult one. We will often take one step back (make mistakes or have bidding mixups) in an effort to move forward. It is important for us to recognize this and realize that adopting a new convention and learning to use it effectively is a long term investment in improving our game."

— Robert S. Todd

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	David Roberts
VICE PRESIDENT	Trevor Henderson
SECRETARY	Pam Steele
TREASURER	Greg Munck
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Kerry Brown Pam Davey Henry Eastment Joan Mlalen Tim Porter Elizabeth Thorne Jill Young

MANAGEMENT

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR	Chris Snook
CONGRESS CONVENOR	David Roberts Ken Orange
MASTERPOINT SECRETARY PROVIDORE	Chris Snook Keith Jenkin
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Pam Davey
QBA DELEGATES	Chris Snook Greg Munck Denise Hartwig
ZONAL DELEGATES	Chris Snook Denise Hartwig
PRESS OFFICER	Kim Nicoll
CLUB TEACHERS	Denise Hartwig Trudy Dunne Chris Snook Ian Jesser
LIBRARIAN	Barbara Davies
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	John Churchett
HOUSEKEEPER	Jill Young
SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR	Henry Eastment
WELFARE OFFICER	Joan Mladen
FIRST AID KIT, WH&S	Neville Lutton
RECORDER	Ian Jesser
TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR	Bruce Hinchliffe
INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY & WEBMASTER	Chris Snook
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	Tim Porter
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	John Ryan
BOARD DEALING COORDINATOR	David Lynch
BIRTHDAY CLUB	Pam Davey
PARTNERSHIP ARRANGER	Pam Gebbett

As well as the elected and appointed positions, the Toowoomba Bridge Club has three sub-committees to help coordinate the running of the club:

TOURNAMENT SUB-COMMITTEE:

Chris Snook (Chair), Glenys Clift, Henry Eastment, Denise Hartwig, Ian Jesser, Leonie Spence, Floyd Wilson, Liz Zeller and the President (ex-officio).

FUNCTION AND CATERING SUB-COMMITTEE

Leonie Spence (Chair), Desley Hanrahan, the Providor (ex-officio) and the President (ex officio).

TEACHING SUB-COMMITTEE:

Denise Hartwig, Trudy Dunne, Ian Jesser, Chris Snook, Leonie Spence and Liz Zeller.



