



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

July 2011

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350
PO Box 45, Northlands 4350



Editor: Floyd Wilson

email: secretary@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au

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President's Report



The Toowoomba Bridge Club will be celebrating on Saturday 9th July during the regular Duplicate pairs session. This date marks the completion of our fourth year in our new building, and it is the 29th birthday of the Toowoomba Bridge Club

Incorporated, which was formed by the amalgamation of the original Toowoomba Bridge Club, the Downs Club and the City Club.

Every week we seem to get busier and busier. You will see the results of our recent club competitions in my "Winners are Grinners" article, and our premier event, the Clive Berghofer Pairs championship (named for our Patron), will be held on Saturdays in July immediately following the Birthday Pairs. It will be good to have a large field playing in this red masterpoint event.

Glenys Clift has decided to step down from the position as Club Teacher, although she does have

a series of workshops planned for the coming months. About a third of the clubs members learnt their bridge from Glenys, or have improved their card play at one of her workshops. I am sure that all members join me in thanking Glenys for her outstanding efforts over many years.

Beginners Classes are essential to introduce new players to the game of duplicate bridge, as this ultimately leads to new members to our club. I am very pleased to report that Trudy Dunne has accepted the position as Club Teacher. Trudy's teaching style and modern approach are already proving popular with the "newbies". She started the current series of lessons in June and we look forward to these players graduating and joining the club in the near future. Henry Eastment has agreed to look at some Advanced Workshops when he returns from his current mid-winter holiday.

A climbing frame (for plants, not players!!!!) has been installed along the Western wall so that creepers can shield the building from the afternoon sun, helping to regulate the operation of the airconditioners. Ray finally has some good news for us with the contractors about to commence work on the carpark extension. Please be patient and park sensibly within the remaining carpark or along Stuart Street whilst this work is in progress.

Happy bridging
Chris Snook ☺
President

Welfare Officer

Please contact Glenda Filbee on her home phone (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	Floyd Wilson
SECRETARY	Annette Sullivan
TREASURER	Lorraine Sutton
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Glenys Clift Pam Gebbett Denise Hartwig Bruce Hincliffe Carol Lombardo Ray Moore Hugh Robinson
MASTERPOINT SECRETARY	Chris Snook
PROVIDOR	Carol Lombardo
CONGRESS CONVENOR	Denise Hartwig
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Glenys Clift
QBA DELEGATES	Chris Snook/ Denise Hartwig
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 Hincliffe
GARDENING CO-ORDINATOR	Lise Moore
CARPARK PROJECT MANAGER	Ray 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 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 the building and surrounding gardens. If you notice something needs repair, then let Will know (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:

<u>GRADUATE MASTER</u>	Gail Dinsey Gabrielle Elich John Elich Robert Cheesman Jill Pegler Patsy Thompson
<u>CLUB MASTER</u>	Kath Phillips David Lynch Bunny Powne Sue Wells
<u>LOCAL MASTER</u>	Hugh Robinson
<u>*LOCAL MASTER</u>	Joyce Ziesemer
<u>**LOCAL MASTER</u>	Byron Longford Annette Sullivan
<u>*NATIONAL MASTER</u>	Ian Jesser



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.

John Cox
Gregory Crank
Gerald Herden
Lesley Herden
Margie Maddison
Helen Ross
Shane Sullivan

Happy Bridging!

Note: Included with this newsletter is a list of new members and their contact numbers for inclusion into your Programme Booklets, plus changes in existing member's telephone numbers.

Glenys Clift
Membership Secretary



Treasurer's Report

At the end of May, 2011 the Club is in a very financial position. The Club has \$137,832.00 in the bank and Term Deposit of which approximately \$53,000 more will be spent on the new car park extension.

During this financial year the Club purchased new assets, notably a new PA system, the new trolley to hold the Bridgemates and we have spent to date approximately \$8000 on the new car park extension. During June the Club also replaced the main computer in the office and had installed a trellis on the western side of the building to keep it cooler in summer.

The biggest expenses of the Club are Kitchen Catering; ABF & QBA Membership Levies; cleaning of the club house; electricity and then the Council general & water rates.

The Clubs overall net increase in income is slightly higher than the same period than last year.

Everyone involved has done a great job.

Larraine Sutton
Treasurer



Congress Convenor's Report

For those of you who enjoyed playing in the Novice pairs in March, there are another two local Novice Congresses coming up. The first to be held is a Novice Pairs event conducted by the Darling Downs Bridge Club and is being held at the Toowoomba Showgrounds on the 10th July.

The second Congress is being held by our club and is the Toowoomba Novice Teams on Sunday 7th August. It was really great to see so many members participate in the Ivy Dahler Novice

Teams recently. There were a total of sixteen teams who participated over two weeks on a Monday afternoon. Congratulations to the winners of the shield, Lesley Meyer, David Lynch, Barry Copley and Kath Phillips. I sincerely hope, and would love to see, many of the participants play in our Novice Teams Congress.

Entry forms are available on our notice board in the usual spot.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10 July Darling Downs Novice Pairs
- 24 July Zone heat of Qld Open/Novice Pairs held in Warwick
- 7 August Toowoomba Novice Teams
- 21 August Warwick Spring Pairs

Denise Hartwig
Congress Convenor

Providore's Report

The Providore, Carol Lombardo, has been taking a well-deserved break to enjoy some overseas travel. In her absence, the kitchen has been very capably run by her assistant, Elizabeth.



To make Elizabeth's task a little easier, if you wish to have tea/coffee prior to play, it would help if you use the Styrofoam cups. If you do use a china cup, please retain it and use it for your afternoon tea. As some days, especially Mondays, are very busy, Elizabeth doesn't have the time to wash cups prior to afternoon tea. Please ensure that cups are then returned to the "dirty cups" tray before 2.30. Your cooperation would be appreciated.

Club Teacher's Report

When I took over the role as Club Teacher from Jackie Henderson the only two things I had in my favour was that Ivy Dahler was available to help me set up the lessons and Peg Alcock said she would be my Assistant.

And even though I had been a member of the club for 20 years, I had never in all that time been to any organised bridge lessons so I found the whole situation slightly ironical. After talking to Ivy, Joan Butts and Jackie, I decided to teach Ron Klinger's Standard American mainly because of his reputation and there was a lot of resource material available.

So I went on one of the biggest learning curves I had been on for awhile, because if you are going to teach something, apart from the material being correct, you have to at least sound as though you know what you are doing. I have really enjoyed the last 6 years and met some really lovely people who have since become members of the Club and my friends.

Last year I asked Trudy Dunne to run the lessons during the second half of the year mainly because of her reputation as such a fine teacher at Downlands.

The feedback I received from people who went to her lessons was terrific and I think the Club is very fortunate in having someone as talented as Trudy, because she has now agreed to be the Club teacher. Plus Trudy has brought the teaching into the 21st century with her Power Point presentation.

As of next year, Henry Eastment has agreed to take over workshops for new and intermediate players who want to try more advanced conventions.

I would like to thank Peg for her continued support, Maureen Keegan who helped me with the evening classes and Shaunagh Cowell who helped me with this year's evening classes. I couldn't have done it without you.

Cheers

Glenys Clift
(Retiring) Club Teacher

WORKSHOPS

I apologise for the change in dates for the following workshops – but sometimes

family commitments have to take precedence.

For any of the following workshops to take place, I would need at least 8 people. If there is not enough interest, I am more than happy to pass on the notes to those who have put their names down.

Sunday 17th July 2011 at 9am

♣ Checkback

The advantage of using this convention is that it allows you to find out if your partner has 12, 13, or 14 points when they rebid 1NT. When you have 11 points this can solve your dilemma as to whether to bid on to game.

Sunday 31st July 2011 at 9am

Splinter Raises

Splinter bids are used to show good support for the last bid suit and a singleton in another suit. It is a game force bid with slam possibilities

Plus: **Roman Key Card Blackwood**

Sunday 28th August 2011 at 9am

Drury

The advantage of this convention is that it allows you to find out if your partner opened light in 3rd or 4th position, or if they had normal opening values.

Plus: **End Plays – strip and throw technique**

Thursday 6th October 2011 at 7pm and the following three weeks

Multi-Twos

This is a 4-week course covering all aspects of Multi-Two bidding.

Cheers,
Glenys Clift
Club Teacher



Project Manager's Report

Car Park Extension

Construction of the extension to the carpark should start within the next few weeks. The area will be blocked off until work is completed.

Ray Moore

Project Manager



Garden News



Some weeding and pruning of some small plants was carried out over the past couple of months. A big thank you to Noela Cribb and Ralph Geddes as usual.

Mulching around the trees has also been carried out.

The pipe and wire trellis was installed adjacent the western wall and star jasmine creepers have been planted. When mature, this will provide shade to the western wall that gets very hot in the summer months.

Lise Moore

From the Tournament Subcommittee

The Tournament Subcommittee is comprised of all the Directors and Trainee Directors of the club, and its most recent meeting was on Thursday 30th June.

A number of recent interesting and complicated rulings were discussed at length – especially those related to mis-bids (either by mistake or deliberately), misinformation (telling the opposition the wrong system) and unauthorised information. These rulings require quite a bit of bridge judgement and a good understanding of the systems in use at the table, and this can be hard for a playing

Director who must make the best decision that he/she can in the short time he/she has available. If you disagree with the Director's judgement, then accept it graciously at the table so the game can continue. Politely let the Director know that you wish to appeal their judgement and at the next break in play they will help you to document what is required. Normally, an Appeals Committee will be formed immediately after play and the matter will be resolved before results are released. Appeals are a natural part of bridge.

Some administrative matters were also discussed:

- Law 5 gives the Director the responsibility of assigning the initial seating positions for a session of play. Of course, if you need to be stationary, the Director will accommodate this whenever possible. If the Director asks you to move then it is for a reason, so please comply graciously. To argue is a breach of procedure which can be penalised.
 - System cards are encouraged for all sessions of play, but are compulsory for Club competitions and all red masterpoint sessions. This requirement will be announced in advance as part of the conditions of play for the contest.
 - Slow play continues to be a problem. It is the responsibility of everyone at the table to catch up if your table is behind. If the Director suggests you hurry up, they are trying to help so that you do not lose a board. It is highly inappropriate to argue back.
 - Please help the Director tidy and secure the room at the end of play. There have been too many cases where doors and windows have been left open (often opened late in the day whilst the Director is checking results and scoring up).
- We are also looking at a few new events for next year:
- Teams of Three (where three players get to play with an "expert" in a single session teams event);
 - Single session teams;

- Grading the field on some of the days where we have two or more sessions;
- Invitational Days where you may not play with one of your regular partners. A separate section may be run for those who still want to play with their regular partner.

Cheers,
Chris Snook

Winners are Grinners



May Monthly Eclectic Winners

Tuesday	Ian Jesser
Tuesday night	Mohan Trada & Chris Snook
Wednesday	Jean Crandell
Thursday night	Annette Sullivan & Byron Longford
Friday	Ian Jesser
Saturday	Henry Eastment

June Monthly Eclectic Winners

Tuesday	Rae capon
Thursday night	John Oxenham
Friday	Edwina Willis
Saturday	Merna Atkins & Pat Penberthy

Tuesday Singles Championship

Henry Eastment

Joyce Benson Cup

Glenys Clift & Jackie Henderson

Thursday Teams Championship

Lee Hore, Lennie Goodson, Kathy Weaver & Harvey Billing

Thursday Singles Championship

Bruce Meakins

Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs

Judy Glasby & Trevor Glasby

Ivy Dahler Novice Teams

Lesley Meyer, David Lynch, Barry Copley & Kath Phillips



Winners of the Ivy Dahler Novice Teams Event

Date Claimer – Zone Events

GNOT – Area Final – Hosted by Dalby Bridge Club – Sunday 11th September.

GNP – Grand National Pairs –
GNP Club qualifying heats A – Wednesdays 6th, 13th & 20th July.
GNP Club qualifying heats B – Saturdays 6th, 13th & 20th August.

Queensland Open/Novice Pairs – Sunday 24th July hosted by the Warwick Bridge Club, with top pairs playing in the state final on 15-16th October.

GNP – Area Final – Sunday 13th November, hosted by the Toowoomba Bridge Club.

Date Claimer – Club Events

Clive Berghofer Pairs Championship
Saturdays 16/23/30th July. Red masterpoints.

Presidents Cup – Tuesday nights 12/19/26th July. Red masterpoints.

The Melbourne Cup. Mark the first Tuesday in November in your calendar as there will be some great activities planned for this day.

Matchpoint Scoring

The most common form of bridge that we play is *matchpoint duplicate pairs*. This is the method of scoring that we use in our “normal” bridge sessions. To do well, it is important that we understand a little of how the scoring actually works

Let’s start by looking at one board, and work up from there...

Board: 14

Dealer: East Vulnerable: Nil

	♠ J7632	
	♥ Q85	
	♦ AKJ	
	♣ 62	
♠ AQT		♠ K98
♥ KJ3		♥ A97
♦ 87652		♦ T94
♣ 93		♣ AKQ7
	♠ 54	
	♥ T642	
	♦ Q3	
	♣ JT854	

The board starts on table 4, where NS4 plays EW4, and East plays in 3NT making 9 tricks – so NS gain a score of -400 and EW gain a score of +400. As the session progresses, more scores are added and at the end of the session, a full (travelling) score card would look like ...

NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Result	Score	Score	Match	Match
					NS	EW	NS	EW
1	5	3NTE	JC	9		400	4	8
2	7	3NTE	JC	8	50		12	0
3	2	3DW	6C	10		130	10	2
4	4	3NTE	5C	9		400	4	8
5	6	3NTW	5H	10		430	0	12
6	1	3SS*	3C	5		200	8	4
7	3	3NTE	3H	9		400	4	8

Then the matchpointing starts. The seven NS pairs are awarded 2 matchpoints for every other NS score that they 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 (0+0+1+2+0+1=4). 4/12 is 33.3% 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 (12-4=8) which is 8/12=66.7%. All of this is calculated at the end of the session.

Let’s look at some of these results

It looks like the most common contract was EW in 3NT making 9 tricks giving all these NS 33% and EW 66% on this board.

One pair were in this average contract but made an overtrick and thus NS gets 0% and EW gets 100% (all for one measly trick!!!).

One EW pair went off, and this costs a lot, as NS get 100% and EW get 0%.

(*) The other standout score is at table 6, where East opened 1C and a cheeky Chris threw in a 2S weak jump overcall promising 6-10 points and 6+ spades. West called 3D and my partner (John) raised to 3S (that's the problem when you psyche – your partner doesn't know and keeps bidding!!!). Luckily, there were then three passes and we avoided being doubled. I was surprised EW didn't grumble about my bid ... but I still reported the bid in the club Psyche Register. This Register is reviewed periodically by the Tournament Subcommittee to watch for any frequent psyches that might have become part of a partnership system/understanding. If it is part of a pairs system then they must disclose this at the start of play otherwise they are playing an illegal system and can be severely penalised.

The process of matchpointing is repeated for every board that was played during the session, and the matchpoints that you earned are all added up, and this total is divided by the total matchpoints you potentially could have earned (eg all the tops). The result of this is the percentage that is displayed as your score for the session.

It's a race

Matchpoint pairs can be thought of as a race. It doesn't actually matter how big a score you get on a board, it only matters that you get a slightly higher score than everyone else. There is no super big reward for bidding slam if everyone else just bid game. There is no super reward for taking the opposition down 3 tricks doubled if the rest of the room bid and made a part score in their direction – the fact you took your opponents down is the reason you get a good score.

So, at the end of the session, you need to think about how many times you might have achieved a better score than all the people sitting in your direction (most often by overtricks) and not dwell on the one or two really big scores. We often hear people are a little disappointed that they did not do well even though they got 1400 on one board!!! If this has happened to you then you might have received 100% on one board, but this result has to be added to the other 27 or so that you played.

In the next newsletter I will talk about how the scoring works in teams, and in a Butler Pairs event.

Chris

