

Brisbane Water Bridge Club Newsletter – October 2022



Editorial

Although Covid is still with us it seems that face-to-face Congresses are making a reappearance on the Bridge scene. This month's newsletter contains, as well as the usual Club news, reports on two recent congresses in which BWBC members have taken part, with some success. Numbers at club games are still down, but entries in recent special events are pleasing. From the comments we have received it seems that members found the last newsletter interesting. We did, however, make a mistake with the name of Kerry Robertson, a new member of the committee, and we apologise for this

Keeping the club clean is always an issue. The weekly Tuesday morning clean takes care of the bare minimum. However, we need more than this and Sylvia is looking into arranging for professional cleaning of the carpet and chairs (I can see the chairs costing a fortune ☹) Please help with the basics; rubbish in bin, cups in dishwasher, close a window, turn off a fan etc. Oh, and one other thing; Barry doesn't own the vacuum cleaner. It's OK for you to use it. Great for those lunchtime crumbs under your table.

Laurie Powell would like to see Wednesday morning sessions reinstated. To this end he will be phoning around some of the old hands hoping for some positive vibes.

Christmas Party

- 12th December at the Ettalong Diggers.
- Bridge (also at Diggers) start time 9:45.
- Lunch and presentation at the conclusion of bridge.
- Cost: \$30 members \$40 non-members.
- Enter via notice board.



Wednesday Afternoon Bridge

If you look at the history of Wednesday afternoons you'll note that it has always been in a state of change. The idea is to cater for the current cohort of players. Initially, beginner lessons were given and then at the conclusion the session turned into supervised play. As more groups completed lessons they joined the supervised play group. Slowly, this group morphed into a novice session with a variety of restrictions reflecting players' abilities. Currently, the session is limited to players with less than 300 MPs. Therefore, the session lines up with the ABF Restricted and Novice categories. It's taken quite some time but we've finally got there. By the way, the supervised play group is now on Friday mornings.

Results at a Glance

- ♣ **Spring Pairs** – **Open:** Marilyn Jarrett / Jenny Buckley
Novice: John Aldersley / Beryl Lowry
- ♣ **Labour Day Pairs** – **Open NS:** Sally Clarke / Jan Clarke
EW: Hope Tomlinson / Barry Foster
Under 50 MP: Blair Glass / Carolynne Mucharsky
- ♣ **Oktoberfest Pairs** – **Open N/S:** Christine Hadaway / Chris Hannan
E/W: Dasha Brandt / David Bowerman
Novice: Linda Cunningham / Ian Newton
- ♣ **Halloween Pairs** - **Winners:** Judy Wulff / Sue McCall
- ♣ **CCLCBC Congress** (see full report at the end of this newsletter)

A number of BWBC players attended this local event. Hope & Barry managed a 5th in the pairs. Team Tomlinson scored a competitive 5th in the Sunday Teams (Hope, Barry, Martin and Chris)

- ♣ **Muswellbrook Congress** (see full report at the end of this newsletter)

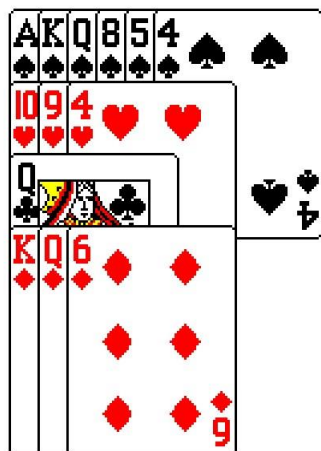
Best BWBC pairs result was 5th place by Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman. In the Sunday Teams our Team Bowerman finished 2nd (Dasha, David, Sylvia & Lorraine)

Player Promotions

Last month 5 of our members improved their player rankings. Congratulations all, no doubt you'll be hearing from a friendly club director soon.

BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB INC		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
Meaney, Ron	State	112.29
Russell, Cathy	State	93.83
Lowry, Beryl	State	92.53
Sheehan, Wendy	Bronze Regional	100.79
Newton, Ian	Bronze Local	26.94

At the Bridge Table - What is a Queen worth?



The answer is... it depends. Consider the hand shown.

- Clearly the Q♠ is worth a full trick.
- The diamond Q♦ is valuable because it combines KQx with the K♦ to provide at least one trick, two if the A♦ is onside.
- The club Q♣ is, quite likely, worthless unless partner has a Top honour in the suit.

This leads to the observation that simply counting points, with 2 for the Q, will not provide accurate hand evaluations, particularly for distributional hands. One needs to also consider how the cards work together. It is also important to listen to the bidding. For instance, if partner opens and rebids clubs then your hand improves in value substantially.

Volunteer Needed

Our tablecloths need regular cleaning. Thanks to Edith for doing the job for a long time and to those before her Kerrel, Patricia and others. The job involves regular changing (probably monthly) of all cloths. Also some special events involving food and drink generate plenty of work. Then there's the tablecloth cupboard. An iron will is needed to keep it tidy and maybe a big stick. Are you up to this job? Track down the club president and let him know.

Some Interesting Hands by Jaan

14 E/-	♠ -	N S	♠ 4 4
	♥ 5		♥ 4 4
	♦ JT8	♦ 5 5	♦ 5 5
	♣ KQJT97652	♣ 9 9	♣ 9 9
♠ AKJ32	♠ 9754		
♥ JT98	♥ 632		
♦ A5	♦ KQ64		
♣ 43	♣ A8		
	♠ QT86		
	♥ AKQ74		
	♦ 9732		
	♣ -		
		E W	
		N 8 8	
		♠ 9 9	
		♥ 7 6	
		♦ 5 5	
		♣ 2 2	

Q. What do you call a 9 card suit? **A.** Trumps
I found myself with this North hand. Nine clubs!

- East commenced the bidding with a *PASS*,
- South (my partner) opened with *1H*.
- West with some lovely spades – *1S*
- North Now it's my turn to bid. ?

What would you bid? With such a freak hand high card points are not a good guide. One needs to think of tricks. I made what I think is the practical bid of 5 clubs. There is no way of telling what is best. As you can see, 5C will make on a spade lead but I got the lead of DK and could only make 10 tricks. The hand was played in 5C at 13 of the 9 tables, and 5 declarers got the spade lead and were successful.

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25 N/EW	♠ 7	N S	♠ 5 5
	♥ A974		♥ 4 4
	♦ 972	♥ 11 11	♦ 7 7
	♣ AK874	♦ 10 10	♣ 10 10
♠ 42	♠ AKQJ9853		
♥ T863	♥ -		
♦ KQJ843	♦ 6		
♣ T	♣ J532		
	♠ T6		
	♥ KQJ52		
	♦ AT5		
	♣ Q96		
		E W	
		N 2 2	
		♠ 8 8	
		♥ 2 2	
		♦ 6 6	
		♣ 2 2	

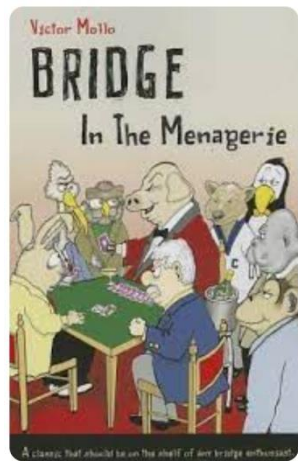
Here I held the East hand, and North opened 1C. I have 8 top tricks in Spades and I again made what seems the practical bid of 4 Spades, which might make on a good day or might preempt the opponents. This was a good day and I managed to make 10 tricks after the KH lead, although the contract can be beaten. It is also the case that the opponents can make 11 tricks in Hearts. 14 pairs played in 4S with 10 successful.

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21 N/NS	♠ 73	N S	♠ 5 5
	♥ J63		♥ 10 10
	♦ K964	♥ 2 2	♦ 10 10
	♣ KT87	♣ 5 5	♣ 5 5
♠ -	♠ KT862		
♥ AKQT985	♥ 742		
♦ J75	♦ 3		
♣ A94	♣ QJ63		
	♠ AQJ954		
	♥ -		
	♦ AQT82		
	♣ 52		
		E W	
		N 5 5	
		♠ 3 3	
		♥ 11 10	
		♦ 2 2	
		♣ 7 7	

This is one of the more interesting hands in the Teams event. At our table Hope Tomlinson held the South hand and I was East. Despite the 5-0 trump break, Hope played carefully and precisely to make 10 tricks. We missed the good sacrifice of 5H. 7 pairs played in a S contract and 8 in hearts.

Bridge Stories



The Hideous Hog

HH is a character created by British player and author Victor Mollo in the 1970's, in a series of collections of Bridge stories based on animal characters. The Hog is the best player in the Griffins Club, knows it, and therefore feels a duty to his less skilled partners to play most, if not all, of the contracts. Another character is the Rueful Rabbit, who rarely knows what he is doing, but is favoured by fortune and often succeeds where better players would fail. This series of books is probably out of print, but provides entertaining reading if you can find a copy.

Stop Press



We're always blaming covid for our struggle to maintain numbers. The great news is our special event Oktoberfest Pairs equalled our pre-covid numbers. Way to go... we'll win the numbers battle yet.

Stay safe out there ... Cheers Barry and Jaan



Full Reports

CCLCBC Congress

The Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club (CCLCBC) held their Congress over the weekend of 24-25 September, after a 2 year break due to Covid. While numbers were down and the field was not as strong as in pre-covid times, the competition was still tough, with many difficult and highly distributional hands. The event was well directed by Alan Bustany.

The Swiss Pairs, on the Saturday, was won by CCLCBC pair, Di Coats and Jan Clarke, who are also members of our club, with a clear margin over the runners-up Ian Lincoln

and Chris Williams. An excellent result was also achieved by BWBC pair Hope Tomlinson and Barry Foster who finished in 5th place, only 2.5 VP's below 3rd. The Teams, on the Sunday, was won by the top seeded Mayo team (Sharon and Greg Mayo, Michael Simes and Chris Dibley) with team Clarke (Sally and Garry Clarke, Di Coats and Jan Clarke) in 2nd place. Hope and Barry, with teammates Martin Johnson and Chris Hasemore, again did very well, finishing in 5th place with 5 wins and 1 loss. Other BWBC players finished down the lists.

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Muswellbrook Congress

This congress was held over the weekend of 8-9 October, again after a 2 year absence.

The **Saturday Pairs** event was won by Alison and Rex Hanson (from). Best BWBC result was 5th place by Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman. On **Sunday**, in the **Teams** event we had a great result, with the Bowerman team (Dasha and David plus Sylvia Foster and Lorraine Lindsay) finishing a clear 2nd, winning 5 matches out of 6 and only edged out by a strong Sydney/Newcastle team.