



Editorial

May has been a busy and successful month for the club. As well as holding two important events, the club Grand National Open Teams (GNOT) qualifying session and the annual Jean Pelham Charity Day (more details below), our club hosted the Regional Final (Central Coast) of the NSW Country Teams event.

Our Committee has recently discussed and approved a short document setting out issues of bridge etiquette and simple procedural matters such as alerting and dummy's role during play. You will receive this as a separate pdf document and we urge members to try to follow these procedures.

With the early onset of wintry weather people will be looking to spend more time indoors. What better way than playing bridge?

Player Promotions

Last month 2 of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations players.

Well done... may all your finesses come off.



BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB INC		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
Walker, Kerrel	National	249.28
Newton, Ian	Silver Local	35.75

ABF Fee Rise

Our spies tracking the last ABF Board Meeting discovered our capitation fees will be increased to \$20 per member. No doubt the Committee will be taking this into account when fees are set later this year.



Hamman's Law

Robert (Bob) Hamman has been one of the world's top players for a number of decades. He is reputed to have stated: 'if 3NT is a plausible contract then bid it' – which has become known as Hamman's Law. If one looks at the results of a top level congress, over many boards, one indeed finds that 3NT is the most frequent making game contract. Hamman's Law can never be proved wrong – if you bid 3NT and it fails, partner can always say that 3NT was not a plausible contract.

Reports

- ◆ Club Championship Swiss Pairs for Restricted Players <300MPs
Congratulations to Faith Ross and Elaine Hume our latest Club Champions. They won with 4 wins, a draw and 1 loss. They were pushed all the way by John Aldersley and Beryl Lowry in what turned out to be a close encounter. Well done all.



- ◆ GNOT Qualifying (12 May)

Eight teams competed in the all day (gold point) event playing 8-board matches against all other teams. The winner was the Wulff team (Judy Wulff, Susan McCall, Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman) with the Caust team (Pauline Caust, Alan Bustany, Julie Saddler and Anne Grayden) finishing a close second, only 1.1 IMPS behind.

- ◆ Jean Pelham Charity Day (18 May)

This annual event raises funds for a local charity, this year being the SDA Charity Pantry located in Woy Woy. About \$1500 was raised, from entry fees and raffles. Soups and rolls provided a delicious lunch. The winners and runners up were

N-S	1 st - Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman	- 58.41%
	2 nd - Felicity Fane and Heather Brown	- 56.20%
E-W	1 st - Karen Ody and Jim Routledge	- 61.94%
	2 nd - Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	- 61.26%

- ◆ Country Teams Regional Final (7 May)

Eight teams from Central Coast clubs competed in this all-day event, which was hosted this year by our club. The winners were the BWBC1 team (Lorraine Lindsay, Chris Hannan, Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa) with the CCBC1 team (Stephanie Matthews, Gary Heyting, Sandy Whally and Berenice Air) in second place.

Coming Attractions at BWBC

- ◆ Teams of 3 – A teams event where Novice/Restricted players get to play with an Open Player Captain. Wednesday, 14th June. - Note 12:00 start time.
- ◆ Winter Teams – Saturday, 24th June. - Note 12:00 start time.
- ◆ Club Championship for Restricted Pairs <300MPs.
2 x sessions - Wednesday, 28th June and 5th July. - Note 12:30 start time.

Coming Attractions – Away Events

- ◆ Teams of 3 at the NSW home of bridge in Sydney. All day 4th June.

This is an event not to be missed for our Novice and Restricted players. It's on Sunday next weekend. Get together with some of your BWBC buddies and form a team of 3. You'll have the opportunity of playing with and against some of the BIG names in NSW bridge. Whatever it is you've got on next Sunday cancel it. This bridge opportunity is too BIG to miss.

- ◆ GNOT at Central Coast BC. – Wednesday 7th June, 9:30 start – Gold Points.

Full details see flyer on display bench.

At the Bridge Table

This month I will discuss a bidding problem based on a hand played recently at our club. As always, this is aimed at our newer players.

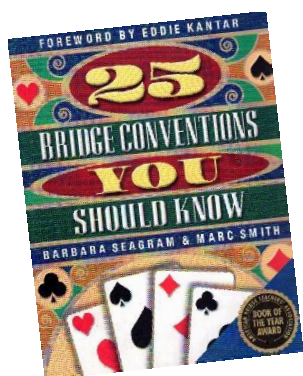
BOARD 27					
BD: 27	♠ Q4			Dir: S	
	♥ 9763			Vul: Nil	
	♦ J9876				
	♣ T7				
♠ KJT		♠ A7			
♥		♥ AKJ54			
♦ T5432		♦ AKQ			
♣ KQ853		♣ AJ4			
	♠ 986532				
	♥ QT82				
	♦				
	♣ 962				
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					3
S				9	26
E	7	5	5	3	7
W	6	5	5	3	7

This is board 27 from the 3rd match of our Novice teams event (26 May).

Yes, East has 26 hcp! Most of us have never picked up a hand like this. While 7NT can be made, you definitely want to play in at least 6NT. Only one pair reached this spot, with four pairs in 3NT, making 12 or 13 tricks, and one declarer in 4 hearts, opposite a void, but still managing 10 tricks. What went wrong? I can only guess. It is not easy to bid hands such as this. In standard bidding systems East will open 2C, showing a game force or near game force. West is faced with a difficult decision, whether to give a positive or negative response. This depends on system agreement. I think, with 9 hcp and a void, a

positive response of 3C is warranted. East should then drive to slam, and an immediate bid of 6NT seems practical. Experts have fancier systems, which might lead to the best contract of 7 clubs, but you should be happy to reach 6NT, which is unbeatable.

From the Library - (Barbara Seagram Books)



Barbara Seagram is one of my favourite Bridge authors. Each book is highly organised into specific chapters making it easy to find something on the aspect of bridge you are looking for. I really like the way it's not necessary to read the whole book to get something out of it. Usually, you choose a topic and in no time at all you can find half a dozen pages treating that facet with tips, main point summary and some examples with answers for you to work through. We have most of the Seagram books in our library. Why not check with Chief Librarian, Karen Ody, to find the best book to help you

and your partner.

Bridgemate Etiquette

North/South are in charge of the Bridgemate scoring devices. Please observe the following points to ensure play proceeds quickly and checking is fair for all players...

If you are the operator put down your opening lead before entering data. This enables declarer to study dummy. Declarer will take a few moments to plan the play and during this time the data can be entered making a considerable saving in time.

When checking scores quickly look and pass it around without reading aloud the percentages and scores. Every player can check and read themselves if they so wish.



Player Etiquette

BWBC Vice-President, Jim Routledge, has spent considerable time over some months compiling a 'Player Etiquette' resource for our members. To complete his work Jim worked through a variety of documents on the topic. Now we have an easy to read club document that covers all you need to know. Thanks Jim for your time and effort creating this must have player etiquette guide.

Covid

Covid is still about. Don't be afraid to wear a mask at the club. If you've got any symptoms it's best to stay at home and test yourself. Free test kits are available at Service NSW.

BWBC Super Congress

Our congress dates are locked in 22nd & 23rd July. Online entries are progressing well with the teams close to half full. If you're not sure how to enter just ask. The congress is our big bridge show of the year please support it.

Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan



Random Thought...

I've been married to a communist and a fascist, and neither would take out the garbage.

- Zsa Zsa Gabor

