

Editorial

October has been relatively quiet at the club, with numbers picking up slowly. Thursday and Saturday remain small but, hopefully, numbers there will also grow as the weather warms up.

Our club is committed to providing for players of all standards. To assist newer players to develop their bridge experience and skills, a mentoring or 'buddy' system has recently been introduced, and is discussed below. If you, the reader, have additional ideas the Committee would like to hear from you.

Have you ever wondered what makes the club function effectively? Of course we have our office bearers and management committee, but it may come as a surprise that there are a dozen or more tasks that are performed regularly by volunteers who take on various roles outside the committee. These range from large tasks like arranging the yearly events program, dealing boards, maintaining the club website, maintaining the masterpoint records to others too numerous to mention individually. Helpers are always welcome.

Club Special Events

Labour Day Pairs (2nd Oct.)

A relatively small field of 14 pairs played in this annual red-point event. Winners and runners up were

N/S	1 st	- Martin Johnson and Chris Hasemore	68.45%
	2 nd	- Christine Hadaway and Chris Hannan	55.65%
E/W	1 st	 Sylvia Foster and Barry Foster 	65.18%
	2 nd	- Janice Donohue and Meryl Duke	55.36%

Spring Pairs (12th Oct.)

Results for this event were

N/S	1 st	 Karen Ody and Jim Routledge 	67.86%
	2 nd	⁻ Chris Hannan and Christine Hadaway	62.80%
E/W	1 st	- Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	57.14%
	2 nd	- Hope Tomlinson and Barry Foster	55.65%

Away Special Events

Canberra in Bloom Bridge Festival (29th Sept. – 2nd Oct.)

This event is held as part of the annual month-long Floriade Celebration of Spring festival in Canberra. This year only a small number of BWBC members took part. Notable results were

Spider Orchid Restricted Swiss Pairs

- Richard Carter and Jay Novak 3rd place.
- Spider Orchid Novice Swiss Pairs
 - Marcelle Goslin and Carolynne Mucharsky 9th place.
- Federation Rose Novice Pairs
 - Marcelle Goslin and Carolynne Mucharsky 2nd place (5 wins, 2 losses)
- Muswellbrook Congress (7th 8th Oct.)

This is always a friendly and enjoyable congress, but this year suffered from low numbers. Four of our BWBC pairs took part, with considerable success.

In the pairs qualifying on Saturday morning Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa managed a good win with 65.60%, playing E/W while Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman finished 3rd N/S. In the afternoon Final Sylvia and Jaan finished 2nd with 57.40%, losing narrowly to the Armidale pair of Ian Price and Brian Glover.

The teams event on Sunday was won by our Hume team (Elaine and Peter Hume, Barry Foster and Chris Hasemore). Well done!

Sydney Spring Nationals (18th – 25th Oct.)

This event, held at the Canterbury racecourse, is always one of the toughest events on the Australian Bridge Calendar. The premier event, the Open Teams, featured all of the nation's top players, with the Ashton team (Sartaj Hans, Andy Hung, David Wiltshire and Sophie Ashton) winning the 112 board Final, coming from behind in the final 28 board session.

Mentoring Newer Players

The club has recently introduced a 'buddy' program, to afford our newer players a chance to play with an experienced partner in a regular session. As a trial, new players are playing a total of 4 sessions, over two months, with the same mentor. Fifteen new players joined the program initially, and feedback has been positive from all players.

Coming Attractions

- ♦ Halloween Pairs Tuesday, 31st October 12:30
- Melbourne Cup Tuesday, 7th November 11:00
- Remembrance Day Saturday, 11th November 12:30



At the Bridge Table – 'Seeing Through the Cards'. Part 2

Last month we presented two example hands from Jessica Brake's talk at the recent Coffs Harbour Congress. The theme of the presentation was how to use information provided by your hand, the bidding by partner and opponents, and the early play to draw inferences about the other hands. Ask yourself the following questions

- What points has each player shown or denied?
- What shape has each player shown or denied?
- What can you infer from the opening lead?
- Have the opponents done something unexpected in the play?

There are often vital clues to be gleaned. Full hands and Jessica's explanations can be found at the end of this newsletter.

From the Directors Chair



- It's starting to happen again!
- Please don't read out the bridgemate results.
- Players at tables near you can hear.
- Just pass on the bridgemate to others at your table (they can read for themselves).

Player Promotions

Last month 3 of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations players. Well done... may all your finesses come off.



Awesome

Save the Time & Date



Christmas Party and Presentation Day Monday, 11th December



Christmas bridge and party at Diggers Ettalong.



More info as it comes to hand.



From the Library



I asked Club Librarian, Karen Ody, to name a book with solid advice for all players. Karen chose 100 Winning Bridge Tips by Ron Klinger. Importantly, there's no need to read the whole book. Choose 1 tip, 2 tips, 10 tips; whatever you like. You won't get bogged down having to go through the lot. Most tips are explained in one page with examples.

To get you started Karen suggests looking at Opening Leads. Tips #48 through to #54 cover a huge spectrum of possibilities. If you want to follow up more go to pages 66 - 73.

Here's a sample tip...

In a trump contract, do not lead from an ace-high suit (unless it is headed by the ace and King.



You can read the full explanation of this tip at the end of the newsletter.

Note: you can't borrow the book just yet because I've got it!

Stay safe out there - Cheers Barry and Jaan

October Joke



The Difference Between Women & Men

Seeing Through the Cards Part 2 – by Jessica Blake

Continued...

Board 3 South Deals E-W Vul	 A8 K6 K64 KQJ1054 KQJ1054 WE 952 A87 86 Q72 874 QJ2 		
	► A 973		South
West	North	East	Pass
Pass	1 🌲	Pass	1 NT
Pass	3 NT	All pass	

West leads the Q of hearts, and Declarer tries the K which holds. Declarer counts 1S, 1H and 6C tricks. The best chance for a 9th trick is to sneak a diamond trick right now, playing towards the QJ. If East lazily plays "second hand low", declarer will grab their 9 tricks and run!

How can East realise to pop with the Ace of diamonds? They too, can count declarer's tricks. Looking at dummy it seems natural to play on clubs. When declarer doesn't, it must be because the clubs are already set up (i.e. they have the Ace). If we allow them to win a diamond trick they will make their Rise with contract. the Ace and triumphantly return a heart.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣



West leads the Ace and King of spades. If they continue with the Q, declarer can ruff high. If West instead switches (I would probably switch to a diamond), declarer can still deduce that the Queen of spades is with West, as East can only have 2 spades.

With the AKQ of spades in West's hand. all the other HCP must be with East. Declarer can draw trumps and take a club finesse. For bonus points, skip the diamond finesse (which you know cannot work) and cash the Ace and King. Here the Queen falls, and you are, rewarded with an overtrick.

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From the Library (sample tip continued)

Tip - In trump contract, do not lead from an ace-high suit (unless it is headed by the ace and king).

While leading from any honour entails a risk, leading from a suit headed by the ace (without the king is probably the riskiest lead against a **trump** contact. (It is all right to lead from such a suit in no-trumps,) The most common outcome of such a lead is that declarer makes more tricks than entitled, Take these layouts:

(1)	074		(2)	10963	
A 9 2	874	J 10 6 5	A 5 4		KQ
n 7 4	K Q 3	j		3872	
(3)			(4)		
-	762		4.0.2	K 7 4	J 10 8 5
A 5 4	K] 3	Q 1098	A 9 2	Q 6 3	11001

In each case, if West leads the ace, South rnakes two tricks. If West does not lead the suit, South can be held to just one 1 trick.

Given that declarer and dummy have the majority of points, the odds are that you are likely to set up winners for declarer rather than your side.

Instances when you can reasonably run the risk of the ace from an ace-high suit are;

- Against a pre-emptor, who unlikely to have a vital outside king.
- When partner is almost certain to be able to ruff the second round of the suit.
- Against a slam when you have a certain or almost certain second trick.

However, if you never lead from an ace-high suit in a trump contract for the rest of your life, you will enjoy far more happiness than regret.



Got a problem... Call Peter 0416 138 698