



Editorial

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2024. We hope the New Year brings you health and happiness, and much enjoyable (and challenging) bridge. The events programme for 2024 includes two 'upside down' pairs events and two 'Teams of 3', as well as the usual Novice and Restricted championship events, to cater for all players.

In the newsletters we will continue to list results for special club and congress events, provide information of general interest, and devote some space to discussing interesting bridge hands and aspects of bidding and play. We welcome any suggestions or queries from readers.

If you are deliberating on New Year Resolutions, we might recommend the following

- ♠ help to maintain a friendly and respectful club
- ♠ help to ensure that new players are welcomed and encouraged
- ♠ don't lead unsupported Aces!

Annual Fees

Fees were due at the end of December. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as you can. The fee for Home-club members is \$50, for Alternate members (Formerly Associates) \$10. The increase is due to increases in capitation fees to ABF and NSWBA, over which we have no control. The club component is unchanged from previous years. Fees can be paid at the club, or by bank transfer.

- ♠ Home Members \$50 Alternate (Associate) Members \$10
- ♠ Here are the details you'll need to pay online (your name is essential)
- ♠ *Your Name *BSB 032527 * Account #166855

Linda Brown - by Jenny Buckley

For some years Linda Brown has provided the club with her special gifts of pastoral care and counsel. For the time being she is stepping back from her role in order to focus her attention on her journey back to good health following major surgery. We are sending our thoughts, prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

New Grand Masters at BWBC – by President Jim Routledge

At the close of 2023 two of our members achieved the wonderful ranking of Grand Master. If quizzed about their journey they'd be able to tell many stories, some good and some perhaps not so good. It will have taken perseverance, dedication and a lot of hard work traversing clubs and congresses, accumulating experience, master points and many friends and acquaintances along the way. Our club is fortunate to have these two members who readily offer their knowledge and tips helping others on their way to improve their game.

Congratulations Hope Tomlinson (Home Member) & Anne Grayden (Alternate Member)

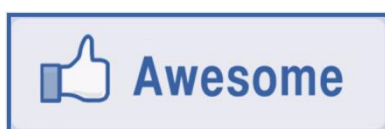


From the Directors Chair – by Australian Director Matthew McManus

Just because you say you counted your cards, it doesn't mean that you will have 13 of them at the end of the hand. The Laws require players to count their cards before looking at them at the start of the hand. It also requires that this count ensures that you have 13. Many players either don't count or count carelessly. If at the end you find you are missing one or more, expect the worst when the director comes.

Player Promotions

Last month 7 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
Grayden, Anne	Grand	1,128.26
Tomlinson, Hope	Grand	1,002.93
McCall, Susan	Silver Life	605.54
Dennis, Patricia	Silver National	372.50
Woof, Graham	Regional	51.01
Newton, Ian	Regional	50.09
Barker, Julie	Graduate	2.15

Club Special Events

◆ New Year Cup (1st Jan.)

At our first event of the year we welcomed a number of Gosford players. The winners were...

N/S	1 st	Di Coats and Jan Clarke	59.26%
	1 ^{st(eq)}	Judy Wulff and David Adams	59.26%
E/W	1 st	Chris Williams and Sally Clarke	59.23%
	2 nd	Martin Johnson and Chris Hasemore	56.00%

Away Special Events

◆ Canberra Summer Festival of Bridge

A few of our members have travelled to Canberra to compete in a number of the events, which run, in total, over two weeks. We are happy to report two outstanding results.

- ♠ The Coats team (Di Coats, Jan Clarke, Sally Clarke and Chris Williams), playing in the National Women's Teams, finished in 5th place after the qualifying rounds and were leading in their semi-final match with one set of boards to go, only to lose at the post.
- ♠ Richard Carter, playing with Jay Novak, finished 5th (out of 54 pairs) in the 500/750 Swiss Pairs.
- ♠ David Snow and Margaret Reagan managed to take 13th spot in the Swiss Pairs.
- ♠ Our other participants returned home with a few gold points, a few bruises, and many 'if only ...' thoughts.

Coming Attractions

- ◆ Australia Day Pairs – Saturday, 27th January – 12:30
- ◆ Club Championship – Swiss Pairs – Monday, 29th January (Session 1)
- ◆ Valentine's Day Pairs – Wednesday, 14th February.
- ◆ Club Championship Teams / Country Teams Qualifier – Saturday, 2nd March, 9:30.



BWBC Learn to Play Bridge Lessons

Tell your friends, enemies, lovers, lessons are on at BWBC. Brochures available at the club. Monday, 12th February, 10am.



An Interesting Hand from Canberra.

Here is a hand from the Summer Festival of Bridge which is currently running in Canberra. This is from the TBIB Open Swiss pairs, with 142 pairs competing. This particular hand is board 20 from round 7

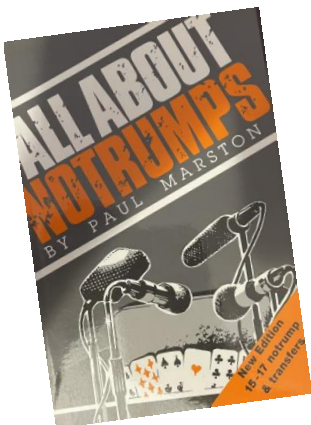
BOARD 20					
BD: 20		♠ AJT942		Dir: W	
		♥ A		Vul: ALL	
		♦ K54			
		♣ 973			
♠ Q7				♠ K6	
♥ 873				♥ Q9642	
♦ J72				♦ A963	
♣ KT652				♣ Q4	
		♠ 853			
		♥ KJT5			
		♦ QT8			
		♣ AJ8			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	1	1	2	4	4
S	1	1	2	4	3
E					
W					

At 63 of the 72 tables, the contract was 4 spades, by North. At almost all tables the lead was either the 2 or 4 of hearts. 42 declarers made their contract, 21 failed. Remember, these are all strong players, so it was no pushover. How would you plan the play?

Chris Hasemore and Chris Hannan picked up a nice 11 IMPS when their opponents made only 9 tricks. The lead that really makes life difficult for declarer is the unlikely diamond Q, which happened at 3 tables. Two went down while one made, I suspect with some help from defenders. You can, in fact, make 10 tricks after this lead also, but in practice nobody would find the correct line. Even seeing all 4 hands I

challenge our grandmasters to find the line. The analysis will be given in the February newsletter.

From the Library



All About Notrumps is a great book for novices who have settled into the game, understand their system and want to make sure they have all aspects of notrumps covered. 18+ months experience would be great. As the name suggests it covers all aspects of NTs but, at a grass roots level. Hope Tomlinson and I pretty much used this book as a NTs bible throughout our novice and restricted years. When we found ourselves in the open division at congresses we moved on from the book with a few more advanced bids.

The book was written by Paul Marsten one of the 'Australian Greats'. You can find it in our club library. During your novice and restricted years it's worth reading every 6 months.

At the Bridge Table - Deceptive Declarer Play (Part 2) - by Jaan

In an earlier newsletter I gave some examples of deceptive play by declarer, which make use of the fact that defenders cannot see declarer's or each other's hands. Here are a few more examples – the first three are simple, if you think of them. The fourth is somewhat brazen. The basic idea is to conceal certain vital cards, and give one of the defenders a legitimate choice. Sometimes they will make the wrong choice.

Continued at the end of newsletter...

From the Internet – Joan Butts Lessons

At some time or other we are going to want to bid over our opponents 1NT. There are many ways to do this and most duos will have their favourite system. Joan Butts is a fan of the Capaletti system. In her video on the topic Joan takes the viewer through the entire how's and why's of the system and finishes with a full demonstration.

If you would like to see what Capaletti is all about click on the link and you'll be taken to Joan's video lesson.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebM_ILcSs30

Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan



At the Bridge Table - Deceptive Declarer Play (Part 2)

by Jaan Continued

Suppose you hold the following cards, in some suit,

dummy	Jxxx
declarer	AKxx

LHO leads a small card and you play the J. RHO plays the Q. You might think it doesn't make any difference whether you win the trick with the A or the K, but it could. If you win with the K, an astute LHO will know that you also hold the A, since LHO would play the A on the first trick if he/she had it. If you win with the A, the location of the K remains unclear. This could work to your advantage later in the play.

dummy	x
declarer	KQJx

You are in a suit contract. You hold in a side suit declarer KQJT and dummy has a singleton. If you lead the K, LHO will surely cover with the A if he/she has it. If you lead the T there is just a chance that LHO will play small, not wanting to 'waste' their ace. If this happens, you have stolen a trick, and may get a second

trick in the suit via a ruffing finesse.

dummy	xx
declarer	KQJxxx

This is a bit similar to the previous case. You are in a suit declarer contract and the trumps are as shown. LHO has led what looks like it could be a singleton in a side suit, and you want to draw trumps, while avoiding a ruff. If you start by leading the K, LHO will take the ace and possibly get their partner in, in another suit,

to get their ruff. You improve your chances by starting with the Q. If it is allowed to win, you can immediately lead another trump and maybe avoid the ruff.

This time we consider all four hands. The hands have been constructed, but are not unusual.

		North	S – Qx		
			H – Jxxx		
West	S – Axx		D – Kxxx	East	S – Kxxxx
	H – Kxxx		C – 98x		H – Tx
	D – xxx				D – Jx
	C – KTx	South	S – Jxx		C – AQxx
			H – AQx		
			D – AQxx		

You find yourself in a contract of 1NT and West leads a small heart, which you run to your Q. You can see 6 tricks, provided the missing diamonds split 3-2, but no legitimate prospects of a 7th before the defenders take 7 tricks (2 spades, the K of hearts and 4 clubs). What to do? One chance is C Jxx to take 3 diamonds, ending in dummy, and lead the club 9. While this might look silly, seeing all four hands, it may appear to the defenders that you are trying to establish a club trick, and they may attack the apparently weak spade suit. If they do this, you will get your 7th trick!

There are countless more examples of this kind. The important point is that what is apparent to you, as declarer, may not be clear to the defenders. What's more, even if your ploy does not work, in most cases you will be no worse off.

