



Editorial

Our club, Brisbane Water Bridge Club, was formed in 1975, 50 years ago. Our Committee has been discussing how to recognise and celebrate this occasion. Details will be given in coming months.

The Central Coast Bridge Club (Long Jetty) are celebrating the opening of their new clubhouse. Up to 10 pairs from each of the local clubs are invited to attend a social bridge function and a free luncheon. Check out the ad elsewhere in this newsletter.

Player Promotions

Last month only one of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations Peter. Well done. May all your finesses come off.

BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB			
NAME	ABF NO	HOME CLUB	RANK
Mackey, Peter	967920	2-036	State

Central Coast Bridge Club – Interclub Social Bridge Morning



Up to 10 pairs from each of the local bridge clubs are invited to attend a social bridge morning on Tuesday, 18th March, commencing at 9:30. The bridge will be followed by a delicious free lunch and drinks.

If you are interested please place your name on the noticeboard list and we will RSVP for all.

Beginners Lessons

Beginners Lessons

Cost \$50 for 6 lessons includes all materials etc.
Phone Christine 0488 194 737 for more information and to book your place.

Lessons commence Monday, 6th May
(9:30 -11:30)



Results - Club Special Events

♦ Australia Day Pairs (27TH Jan.)

A field of 17 pairs contested this event. Winners and runners-up were

NS	1 st	Matt Raj Mal and Brian Richardson	57.41%
	2 nd	Christine Hadaway and Donelle Foate	56.35%
EW	1 st	Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman	59.23%
	2 nd	Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	57.42%

♦ Club Swiss Pairs Championship (10th & 17th Feb.)

The event consisted of 6 x 9 board matches, held over two afternoons. Overall place getters were

1 st	Donelle Foate and Christine Hadaway	84.95VP
2 nd	Chris Hasemore and Chris Hannan	77.43VP
3 rd	Karen Ody and Jim Routledge	76.82VP

♦ Valentine's Day Pairs (15th Feb.)

1 st	Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	63.68%
2 nd	Karen Ody and Jim Routledge	56.20%
3 rd	Marcelle Goslin and Kevin Hughes	56.04%

Chocolates were kindly provided by Elaine Hume.

Results – Further Afield

♦ Gold Coast Congress (1st – 8th Feb.)

This has always been one of Australia's most popular and highly regarded congresses, usually with many New Zealanders and a few from further parts. It has also been a popular congress for Central Coast players. It was stated some time ago that it would not be held in future, due to venue issues, but current talk is that it may be possible to find another venue, perhaps not on the Gold Coast. Notable achievements by some of our members were

♣ Bobby Richman Pairs (Restricted)

Kevin Hughes and Marcelle Goslin – 13th (E-W) in Qualifying rounds

♣ Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs

Margaret Regan and Wendy Mitchell – 15th of 144 (seeded 77)

Di Coats and Jan Clarke – 46th of 144

♣ Monday Butler Swiss Pairs

Di Coats and Jan Clarke – 14th of 120

♣ Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Di Coats and Jan Clarke – 1st of 42. A great result!



At the Bridge Table – By Jaan

It is generally agreed that defense is the hardest part of Bridge. In many situations, if you make declarer guess, they may guess wrong. Here are some common defensive situations which newer players may be unfamiliar with.

Example 1.

Dummy
KJx OR KJxx

Axx



Declarer leads a small card towards Dummy

Imagine declarer leads a small card towards KJx or KJxx in dummy, and you hold the Ace but not the Queen. You need to play a small card, and play it smoothly, without hesitation. If you hesitate, a good Declarer will infer, correctly, that you hold the Ace. With no clues, declarer is likely to play the Jack, and partner may win the trick with her Queen. Even if it doesn't gain, this play is unlikely to do any harm. This play is also possible if you are on lead at some point. Underleading the Ace may gain your side two quick tricks in the suit.

Example 2.

Dummy
KJx OR KJxx

AQx



Declarer leads a small card towards Dummy

This time you hold both Ace and Queen. You cannot afford to play a small card as dummy's Jack will win you the trick, and declarer will probably place you with both missing honours, and make two tricks in the suit. Best is to win with the Ace, and immediately lead the suit through dummy's K,J. Declarer may be unwilling to try the finesse, although they probably should. This can become a case of bluff and double bluff.

Example 3.

Dummy
KQT

AJx



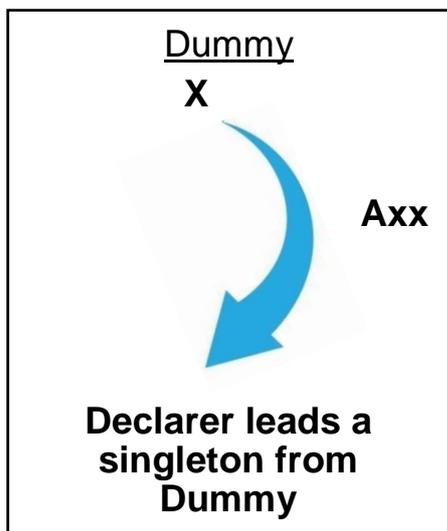
Declarer leads a small card towards Dummy

Declarer leads a small card towards K,Q,T in dummy, and calls for the K. Should you take your Ace or not? Most players would automatically do so ('aces were meant for kings', as they taught you).

The trouble with that is that, later in the play, declarer may finesse against partner's hypothetical Jack, and make two tricks in the suit. If you duck the first time, most declarers will assume that the Ace is in your partner's hand, and will later lead up to the Q. Your side then has an excellent chance of two tricks in the suit.



Example 4.



If declarer leads a singleton from dummy, and you hold the Ace, should you play it? If it is the setting trick then probably. If not, then probably not, if you have foreseen this situation and can duck without a blink. The situation may be like example 1, with declarer's and dummy's hands reversed. If declarer holds K,J they may play the J. They may not know where the Q is. This takes strong nerves, but is unlikely to cost. If you jump with your Ace, declarer's K will be set up for a probable later trick. If declarer misguesses, you have a trick for free.

The lesson in all of these examples is not to be too hasty in playing aces, as long as you can duck smoothly. Holding up an ace can turn out badly, but you will be ahead in the long run. Getting a reputation as a tricky defender can do you no harm.

Coming Attractions

- ◆ 27th February – Interclub Teams at Gosford – 9:30 start (Entries Closed)
- ◆ 10th – 15th March – Charity Week
- ◆ 24th March – Upside Down Pairs 12:30 start

New to our Club

Welcome to our newest members

Phoebe Tang and Brian Poon

I trust you will enjoy many good bridge times at our club.



Are You Interested in Becoming a Director?

There is a Directors' Course coming up in Maitland on 11th March.

Contact: John McIlrath – Chair, Directing Committee Bridge NSW

email: - directing@bridgensw.com.au

Charity Week



More details when they come to hand.

From the Directors Chair – by John McIlrath (Chair, Directing Committee Bridge NSW)



Do you ever CLAIM?

At the recent Gold Coast Congress, there were many Director Calls surrounding CLAIM situations because the players were not in agreement / querying the Claimant's statement.

It is not good practice to say that “the rest are mine!”. Firstly, there may be a trump outstanding. Secondly, you may be in the wrong hand or have trouble getting to dummy. Because of an incomplete statement, it may be classed as a “lazy” claim.

Here was one of those examples with an incomplete one. With 5-tricks to play, South. the declarer said Spades (being trumps) and the Clubs are good.

S. ----

H. ----

D. Q8

C. QJ8

S. ----

H. ----

D. 43

C. T52

S. ----

H. xx

D. xxx

C. ----

S. AJ

H. ----

D. ----

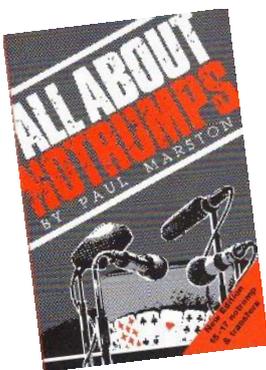
C. 764

In this situation, the Directors (after discussion amongst the group) only awarded the Declarer FOUR tricks, not five.

Yes, you may ask why? West holds the C10. Declarer had led the SA, “checking for lurkers” and now made the statement “Spades (being trumps) and the Clubs are good”.

There are various ways that Declarer should have made all 5-tricks. They forgot the DQ was high (not stated). When east showed out on first Club trick. They could have trumped a Diamond and then finesse the C10. Regrettably none of these lines were STATED in the Claim.

From the Library - (All About NOTRUMPS)



All About Notrumps is a comprehensive book on basic notrump bidding and play. It covers all the necessary topics for those wishing to learn or revise notrump concepts. The book is on the short side (not much thicker than your phone) so you should be able to get through it over the weekend. There are plenty of examples and tips which clearly illustrate the subject matter being treated.



Written by Paul Marston this book covers the basics for inexperienced players. Why not check with our librarian, Karen Ody, to see this and other books that are available to help your game.

Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan

