



## Editorial

The past month has been fairly uneventful for our club, with a couple of special events deferred to later in the year. The other day we had our first 'upside down' pairs event which seems to have been enjoyed by all and, hopefully, provided some insights to both newer players and to 'captains'.

## Player Promotions

Last month two of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations. May all your finesses come off.

**AWESOME**

BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB INC		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
McLaren, Lin	Bronze National	201.72
Perceval, Julieanne	Local	16.11

## Beginners Lessons

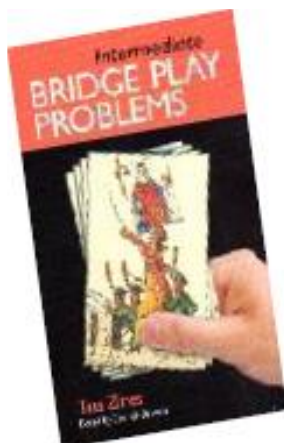
### Beginners Lessons

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, 6<sup>th</sup> May  
(9:30 -11:30)



## From the Library



### *Intermediate Bridge Play Problems – By Tina Zines*

The book features 50 puzzles that will test and improve your play and defence. No need to read the whole book. Work through a puzzle and turn the page for the solution. Too easy!

You'll find this book and many others to help develop your game in the club library. Remember to fill out the card and pop it back in the book when you return it.

## Results - Club Special Events

### ♦ Upside Down Pairs (24<sup>th</sup> March)

15 pairs took part, with the place getters being

1 <sup>st</sup>	Graham Woof and Robin Vaughan	61.22%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Merilyn Reid and Sylvia Foster	59.29%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Qi Hasemore and Matt Raj Mal	55.77%

## Results – Further Afield

### ♦ Great Lakes Congress (1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> March)

It was nice to see this congress running again after a hiatus of a few years. It has always been a popular event for our members in the past. Notable results were

- ♣ Swiss Pairs A: Jan Clarke and Sally Clarke – 2<sup>nd</sup> of 30
- ♣ Swiss Pairs B: Elaine and Peter Hume – 4<sup>th</sup> of 30
- ♣ Teams A: Jan Clarke and Sally Clarke (with Sydney players Helena Dawson and David Weston) – 2<sup>nd</sup> of 14.

### ♦ Tasmanian Festival of Bridge (20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March)

Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs

- ♣ Chris Hasemore (with Canberra player Peter Lardy) – 17<sup>th</sup> of 50

### ♦ Central Coast Super Congress (22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> March)

The 49<sup>th</sup> congress of the Central Coast Bridge Club was held in their recently renovated clubhouse at Long Jetty. Notable results were

- ♣ Open Pairs: Jan Clarke and Di Coats - 2<sup>nd</sup> of 30  
Sally Clarke and Sharon Mayo - 3<sup>rd</sup> of 30
- ♣ Restricted/Novice Pairs:
  - John Aldersley and Kevin Hughes 6<sup>th</sup> of 36
  - Caroline Nichols and Connie Lewis 19<sup>th</sup> of 36 (6<sup>th</sup> place among Novice pairs)
- ♣ Teams: 1<sup>st</sup> Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Sally Clarke, Sharon Mayo 90.70VP  
5<sup>th</sup> Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, with Canberra players  
Larissa Cowlshaw and Lesley Gunson 76.02VP  
6<sup>th</sup> Christine Hadaway, Donelle Foate, Gary Heyting,  
Stephanie Matthews 72.14VP  
9<sup>th</sup> Wendy Mitchell, Eunice Devries, with Sydney players  
Cath Whiddon and David Farmer 67.94VP  
13<sup>th</sup> Anne Grayden, Julie Saddler, Chris Williams,  
Pauline Caust 63.05VP

At the Bridge Table – By Jaan

Here are a couple of interesting hands from a recent club session, featuring both bidding and card play.

West	East
♠ AQ9	♠ 64
♥ Q	♥ K3
♦ JT763	♦ AKQ5
♣ QJ73	♣ AK642

Suppose you pick up the nice **East** hand shown (a nice 19 hcp). As dealer, what would you bid? The normal bid would seem to be 1 club, planning to show your strength next time around. I held this hand, and gave some thought to opening 1 diamond, thinking that after partner's most likely response of 1 heart or 1 spade, I could jump-shift to 3 clubs, showing both my strength and shape. In the end I bid 1 club. Partner made the natural response of

1 diamond (we are not playing transfers over 1 club, which seems to be a recent fad). What now? There seem to be 3 options, none of which is entirely satisfactory.

- ❖ 3 diamonds, which does not really do justice to the hand, but leaves open the chance of 3NT. If partner is very weak and passes, perhaps that is all there is in the hand.
- ❖ 4 diamonds, which shows the strength but bypasses 3NT.
- ❖ 2NT, showing the strength and pretending you have a spade stopper. Fortunately, in this case, partner does have a spade stopper and all works out. It's possible partner could have nothing in spades and opponents rattle off 5 spade tricks.

I polled some of our highly ranked players. Everyone opted to open 1 club. After partners diamond response, 3 diamonds was the popular choice (5) with one response of 4 diamonds and one of 2NT.

- ❖ At the table, I bid 3 diamonds and partner went to 5, making 13 tricks with an opening spade lead.
- ❖ Deep finesse says the 6 clubs can be made from either side, though it seems hard to find. West can also make 6NT, also hard to find.

27

S/-

♠ A4

♥ AKQ7

♦ AQ853

♣ A4

5

23

4

8

♠ 9

♥ T9852

♦ 7

♣ KQ9652

♠ JT7652

♥ J64

♦ J4

♣ JT

♠ KQ83

♥ 3

♦ KT962

♣ 873

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West finds herself in 3NT, with 27 hcp between the two hands. What would you lead as North? Beginners are taught to lead 4<sup>th</sup> highest of their longest and strongest suit against a notrump contract. This is generally a good idea, but there are cases when this might give away a trick and the contract. If RHO has shown a very strong hand, as here where West opened a passive defence may have more success. I suspect that many

people, defending against 3NT, would lead either the K or 6 of clubs. Here, leading the K does not cost, but it could easily have done so, while leading the 6 allows 3NT to make easily. The heart 10 looks safer to me.

Despite holding 27 hcp the only game that can make is 4 spades, and that needs very careful play, after the club K lead. Can you see how West could make 4S?

## Coming Attractions

- ♦ Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April - Open Teams /Country Teams – 9:30 start - \$20 pp
- ♦ Wednesday, 16th April – Teams of 3 -
- ♦ Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Pairs – **Red Points**

### Club Teams Championship

Entries are open for our premier teams event of the 2025 calendar. This is our Club Championship decider. Get your team together now. How will your team rank in the final analysis?

♥ When: Sat, 5th April (9:30)

♥ Cost \$20pp

♥ Lunch: BYO lunch

♥ Director: Peter Hume

♥ Entries: Online or Notice Board

♥ Note: For interested teams this event also doubles as a Country Teams Qualifier.



## From the Directors Chair – by Matthew McManus (Australian Director)



**Just because** an opponent claims without stating a line of play, it does not mean that you can tell them how to play the cards. With 5 cards to go, declarer has this club suit:

A K Q J 2 opposite 7 6 5 4 3

and just puts their hand face up on the table. You have T98. You cannot make them play a low club first, so you can make a trick. If you object to the claim, you must call the director. The Laws set out a procedure that the director follows in the event of a disputed claim. If there is a careless way that the claimer could lose a trick, then it will be awarded to the opponents. However, an irrational line of play will not be forced upon the claimer. Here to play ♣ first is clearly irrational and ridiculous.



From the Internet – YouTube

Go to YouTube and search for ‘Wednesday Morning Tournament’. International masters, Rob Barrington and Gavin Wolpert, take you through a tournament discussing the pros and cons of each hand. They discuss all the options and work out the best way to proceed with the hand. Although the tournament takes some time there’s no need to watch the whole show. Watching one board will take 5 minutes and you can leave it there or keep going to fit in with what time you have available. These guys have a real bridge brain and you’ll soon find out how little you know.

MPs

50.0%

D

1

THE WMT

N AdvGIB 2/1

W AdvGIB 2/1

E AdvGIB 2/1

W N E S

PassPass

Pass 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

K 7 5 3 A K 9 7 5 K 9 8 7

S nycpro 9

Robert Barrington

Gavin Wolpert

Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

