



Editorial

Most of the year is out of the way and we're all thinking about the Christmas/New Year period. Your committee is no different and discussions have been underway to finalise the Christmas Party/Presentation Day and the 2026 BWBC Calendar. Tournament Secretary, Peter Hume, has prepared a draft program which has passed through the Committee stage. Preparing the club program is no easy task and involves preliminary discussions with the other Central Coast clubs, fitting in about 30 BWBC special events in an orderly way, final screening with the other clubs and of course typing and printing. Thanks Peter and Elaine (wives always end up roped in to this sort of thing) for your effort. Thanks also to others who may have contributed in some way.

Our Melbourne Cup day always attracts good numbers. This year was particularly pleasing as we had to book the Seniors Room to handle two fields. Of course, we had to pay extra rental but it's something we would love to do more often.

Our new dishwasher is in place and should be simple to operate. Basically, it's press the '**on**' button; the dishwasher auto selects 29 minutes; press '**start**' button.

For men, who may use the dishwasher; you also have to put a cleaning tablet in!

It looks like this



Player Promotions

Last month 6 of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations all. Well done. May all your finesses come off.



WATER BRII		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
Hughes, Kevin	National	150.43
Mucharsky, Carolynne	State	88.36
Reid, Marilyn	Silver Local	35.13
Redgold, Spider	Bronze Local	25.45
Lempert, David	Club	5.18
Lunday, Ros	Graduate	2.08

Coming Soon to a Club Near You

- ♣ Sat, 6th December – Summer Teams (Red Points) – 12:30 start
- ♣ Tuesday, 9th December – Summer Pairs (Red Points) – 12:30 start
- ♣ Monday, 15th December – Christmas Party Pairs (Red Points) – 9:30 start
- ♣ Thursday, 1st January – New Years Cup – 12:30 start

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



Are you and your partner “**good**” at alerting? A good explanation of what needs to be alerted can be found on the Bridge NSW website. [Alerting-Rules-Summary.pdf](#)

I now provide you with a real-life situation.

You, WEST hold: -

♠ J876

♥ 532

♦ J3

♣ AKJ4

As the dealer (**W**) you pass and the auction proceeds

N: (1S): (E): passes:

S: (2C):, are you considering any action? No, so we continue ...

N: (2S): * alerted by South and now North says “perhaps I should have alerted the 2C bid”. This is called a “**late alert**” AND the Director should have been called!! We have an infraction. The bidding continued and North made 11 tricks in 4S, losing 1 Diamond and 1 Spade. The Director is NOW called and West is unhappy as they did not make their 2 Club tricks. They say they would have DOUBLED the 2C bid!!

So, what should have happened? Immediately, we had the **late alert**, the Director should have been called. At that point in time, the Director can ask questions, even offer West to change their original pass call. Doing it at the end of hand is NOT good. The Director cannot make a ruling on what may or may not have happened. Remember both sides are at fault, either should have called the Director. Upshot was that EW kept the table result but NS score was adjusted to 10 tricks under Law 11A.

Board 24

Dealer W
Vul None

♠ KQT9542

♥ Q7

♦ K8

♣ 96

♠ J876

♥ 532

♦ J3

♣ AKJ4

♠ 3

♥ T984

♦ AT7652

♣ Q2

♠ A

♥ AKJ6

♦ Q94

♣ T8753

Makeable contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2	1	2	4	2
S	2	1	2	4	2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Results - Club Special Events

♦ Melbourne Cup (4th November)

A sizable field of 26 pairs played in the morning bridge session, allowing for separate Open and Novice/Restricted fields. The winners and runners-up were

Open: N-S	1 st Barry Foster and Kerrel Walker	61.61%
	2 nd Helen White and Gai Mylne	56.85%
E-W	1 st Jorgen Boettiger and Deborah Guthrie	60.12%
	2 nd Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	56.85%
Restricted/	1 st Edith Marshall and Qi Hasemore	65.62%
Novice:	2 nd Fiona Templeton and Ross Templeton	60.30%

Remembrance Day Pairs (11th November)

18 pairs took part. In a very close finish, the eventual winner and runners-up were

1 st Jim Routledge and Chris Hasemore	62.05%
2 nd Christine Hadaway and Kevin Hughes	61.61%
3 rd Donelle Foate and Matt Raj Mal	59.15%

Away Special Events

♦ State Open Pairs (1st/2nd November)

A small number of players from the Central Coast travelled to Sydney to compete in the NSW State Open Pairs championship. Wendy Mitchell and Eunice de Vries did well to finish 3rd in the E-W section of the qualifying component, on the Saturday, with the top 7 from each direction progressing to the Final on Sunday. Others, who missed the cut-off, played in the NSW Spring Swiss Pairs on the Sunday, in which Margaret Regan and Robyn Rogers finished a creditable 7th in a field of 16, with 3 wins and 3 losses.

♦ GNOT Non-Metropolitan Final (22nd November)

Eight teams from non-metropolitan regions around Australia competed in the final, after progressing through various regional events. The Central Coast(2) Team, Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Sally Clarke and Sharon Mayo finished in 3rd place, in very strong competition. Well done!

♦ State Novice and Restricted Teams (22,23 Nov.)

Four of our newer players, Kerry Anderson, Steve Anderson, Kerry Robertson and Susan Ashley, took on the challenge of playing in this event, held at the Central Coast Bridge Club, Long Jetty. It was tough going, against more experienced teams, but they did have 4 wins over the two days. The experience will serve them well.

Festive Season Cancellations



At the Bridge Table – By Jaan

I found this interesting hand from the recent Mudgee congress. East is the dealer. Would you open this hand with 1 club? I wouldn't but some might because of the favourable vulnerability and the good shape. Suppose East passes. Would South open a weak 2 diamonds, if that is part of their system? I wouldn't, but if the heart Q were the diamond Q it would seem OK. There is no record of the actual bidding at the various tables, but the most common final contracts were 2-hearts by North (17 tables, of 43) and 3-hearts by North (12 tables).

Suppose you are North, in a 2-heart contract, and get the normal spade Q lead. How would you proceed (cover the E-W hands)? As usual, you count your top tricks and make a plan. Outside the trump suit,

there are only 3 top tricks – A,K of spades and A of clubs. The diamond K may provide a trick if the Ace is onside. Therefore you will need 4 or 5 tricks from hearts, the trump suit. You might take the Ace and lead a second trump towards the Q. This will get you 4 tricks if the trump K is with East and the suit splits 3-2. But it is risky, and as the cards lie you will be in trouble.

I'm not sure what the absolute best line is, but it seems best to try to make as many trumps as you can, separately. You could let the spade lead run to you K, and then lead the diamond-4 towards dummy. East will take the Ace, establishing your K for a later trick. East's best defence would seem to be a trump at this point. This is covered by the 10, J from West and you win with your trump Ace. You can then lead a small spade to dummy's A, cash the diamond K, discarding a club. At this stage you have taken 4 tricks, and the lead is in dummy. You can now ruff a diamond in hand, ruff a spade in dummy, and come to hand with the club Ace. Your contract is now safe, as you still have 7,6,5 of trumps in hand and the Q in dummy. West has K,8,3. If you now lead your last spade and ruff with dummy's Q, West can overruff, but you will make two more trumps, for an overtrick.

This is a fairly tricky hand. Of the 17 players in 2-hearts, 3 made 7 tricks, 7 made 8 tricks and 7 made 9 tricks.

BOARD 18					
BD: 18		♠K953 ♥A7652 ♦4 ♣AT2		Dir: E Vul: N-S	
♠642 ♥KJ83 ♦QJT ♣K43		♠QJT7 ♥9 ♦A72 ♣QJ875			
		♠A8 ♥QT4 ♦K98653 ♣96			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	2	3	-	-
S	-	2	3	-	-
E	-	-	-	1	1
W	-	-	-	1	1

		11	
10			10
		9	



Message from the Chief Director by Sylvia Foster

A new group of beginners will be joining our bridge sessions soon. Please make them feel very welcome and show kindness towards them. We request that you do not play multi twos against them and play natural responses to 1C openings. Please do not offer any advice at the table as it may conflict with what they have been taught. New players can find this very confusing.

Thoughts from our Club Teacher by David Adams

“Bridge is a partnership trick-taking card game.” That sentence comes from English Bridge Union.

The World Bridge Federation (WBF) goes further: “bridge is the ultimate trick-taking card game, easily the greatest source of enjoyment that four people can have with a pack of cards.” Looks to me that the WBF need to get out more.

Both definitions include two important words.

Firstly, “game”. That indicates that it has rules but is to be enjoyed. It is played at all sorts of levels of competition, but it still is to be enjoyed.

Secondly, “trick-taking”. It is a game of tricks. When we bid, we try to predict how many tricks we will take. While we are playing, we work on taking tricks. After the game is over, we count how many tricks we have taken. So, why do we constantly talk about high card points?

One speaker at the 2023 BAMSA conference stated that “bridge can be easy, but people make it difficult.”

At the recent on-line seminar of Australian Bridge Teacher’s Association, speakers stressed that bridge teachers need to keep bridge simple and enjoyable. One speaker stated that “New players get an immediate thrill of making their contract.” It is irrelevant if they could have made more tricks, they made their contract.

In 2026, the first lesson will be an introduction to playing bridge. Then we progress to four levels of lessons. Each level will take 4 weeks. Each level is designed to give students the basics of bidding and playing before encouraging them to go onto the next level to extend their knowledge of the joys and frustrations of bridge.

However, the overriding task is to keep bridge simple. It is also to make bridge enjoyable and fun so that the students make bridge a part of their lives.

From the Treasurer - Membership Fees

Note: fees become due in January. This year our fees are set at \$50 for Home Members and \$10 for Non-Home Club Members.

Pay online or at the club

Here are the details you’ll need if you wish to pay online.
(Your name is essential)

***Your Name *BSB 032527 * Account #166855**

Please include your name in the description on your bank deposit or if paying at the club, on the EFTPOS docket.





CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT THE CROCKETT'S

All are invited to see the magical display of Christmas lights at the Crockett's, 380 Booker Bay Road, and Booker Bay. Bring your children and grandchildren. You never know you may even run into Santa Claus himself.


Funds are being raised to support Vision Australia. Last Year over \$3250 was raised and we hope to eclipse that amount this year, so bring your wallet as every little (or big) bit helps.

Enter the '*Count the Santa's Competition*' and have a chance of winning a fabulous prize!

Have your photo taken in Santa's sleigh.

If you adventurous enough crawl thru the '*Crawl Thru*' and award yourself a tasty sweet at the end in celebration.

So don't delay set off to the Crockett's with your loved ones to help celebrate this magical season.



From the Library

Club Librarian, Karen Ody, has been checking through our collection of library books. It seems that some members are borrowing books but not filling out the card inside. As a result we have lost a significant number of books! The library system is fairly simple. Choose your book, write your name on the borrower's card and leave it with the others in the container.

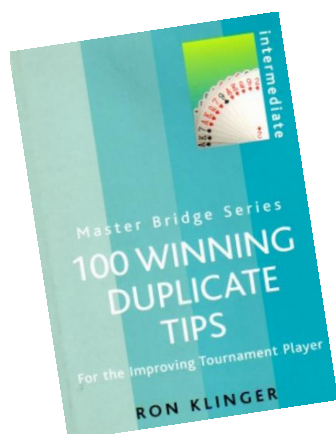
100 Winning Duplicate Tips – by Ron Klinger

Over the years Ron Klinger has published a plethora of bridge material. I'm not into reading whole bridge books so I particularly like this one because you can read as many tips as you like without having to read the book cover to cover. Each tip is numbered and has a page or so of backing examples.

Tip 64: *When your side is strong in every suit outside trumps a trump lead is often best.*

Read 1 tip or 100 tips this book is sure to improve your game.

Note: I'm still reading it so you can't borrow it yet but I'll return it next week ☺



Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan

