



Editorial

The past month has been quite busy for the club, with a couple of special events. Numbers have generally been good. The coming month also looks busy, with two championship events as well as the first 'upside-down' pairs event. Arguably the best way for new players to progress is to play with or against those with greater experience.

One of your editors was recently reading the latest issue of 'Australian Bridge' and was struck by a remark in the Editor's page on scoring anomalies. Quoting from the paragraph: '..... I think most players would be shocked if they knew how many result-changing errors go unreported in a typical duplicate session'. In recent months I have picked up a number of such errors when reviewing my own results. It should be possible, with due care, to reduce such occurrences. In particular, checkers need not only to verify the score but to ensure that it is entered in the correct direction.

Player Promotions

Sadly, no promotions this month...



From the Directors Chair — by Matthew McManus (National Director)



Just because an opponent claims a certain number of tricks, it does not mean that that is the result if they have already won more than that. For example, declarer is in 1NT and takes the first seven tricks. He then concedes the rest, saying, "One off ". You have a responsibility to correct him – "No, you made your contract."

Coming Attractions at BWBC

- ♣ Sat, 7th March – Club Championship for Open Teams – 9:30 start
This event doubles as a Country Teams Qualifier
- ♣ Friday, 13th March – Upside Down Pairs – 9:30 start
- ♣ Tuesday, 17th March – Autumn Pairs (Red Points) – 12:30 start
- ♣ Wed., 25th March - Club Championship for Novice Pairs #1, 12:30 start
- ♣ Wed., 1st April - Club Championship for Novice Pairs #2, 12:30 start

Coming Attractions at Nearby Clubs

- ◆ Wed., 4th March – CCBC GNOT – 9:30 start
- ◆ Thurs/Sun 19th /22nd March – CCBC Congress
- ◆ Tuesday, 24th March – Country Teams – Gosford
- ◆ Wednesday, 25th March – Club Championship for Mixed Pairs – CCBC 9:30 start

Results - BWBC Special Events

◆ Club Championship for Swiss Pairs

The event consisted of 8 x 7-board matches, held over two afternoons. A sizable field of 20 pairs took part, including many newer players. Overall place getters were

1 st	Chris Hasemore and Jaan Oitmaa	110.68VP
2 nd	Judy Wulff and David Adams	105.36VP
3 rd	Karen Ody and Jim Routledge	104.95VP
Restricted:	Pamela Lumby and Carol Long	84.82VP
Novice:	Susan Ashley and Anne Birt	75.78VP

◆ Valentine's Day Pairs (14th Feb.)

A total of 17 pairs took part. Winners and runners-up were

1 st	Judy Wulff and Susan McCall	61.38%
2 nd	Joan Walsh and Jenny Buckley	58.63%
3 rd	Christine Hadaway and Donelle Foate	56.88%

At the Bridge Table — By Jaan

Here are two freakish hands from recent club events.

BOARD 27					
BD: 27	♠ 752				Dir: S
	♥ T6				Vul: None
	♦ KQ97				
	♣ A952				
♠ 943				♠ QT	
♥ 7				♥ Q98	
♦ JT82				♦ 6543	
♣ QT874				♣ KJ63	
	♠ AKJ86				
	♥ AKJ5432				
	♦ A				
	♣				
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	1	3	6	6	6
S	1	3	6	6	6
E					
W					

The first hand comes from the Valentine's Day Pairs. Imagine you are sitting South and pick up this monster. Naturally you open a strong 2-clubs and, after some bidding, have learnt that partner has some values but has been unable to support either of your suits, hearts or spades. There has been no opposition bidding. What do you do? The only values in partner's hand which would be of any use to you are the major-suit queens, and there is no way of discovering this. I was sitting East at the table and South, after some thought, bid 6-hearts, which ended the auction. This was clearly a gamble, but not an unreasonable one. As you can see, the contract makes, not because North produces one of the queens but because my spade queen falls

doubleton. Lucky!

There is another aspect to this. In a difficult bidding situation it often pays to bid what you think most of the field will bid. This way, even if you are wrong, you will pick up some matchpoints from the other in the same spot.

The board was played 8 times. Four declarers bid and made the diamond slam.

The second hand comes from the final match of the Swiss Pairs event, two days later. I was sitting East, and this was the bidding at our table.

	/	H5	H3	
	S5	N	S	
	S5	W	E	/
		S	/	
	AH	/	/	

BOARD 25				
BD: 25	♠ 4	Dir: N		
	♥ KT87543	Vul: EW		
	♦ J96			
	♣ 96			
♠ AKQ98		♠ J53		
♥ J		♥ Q62		
♦ KQ87543		♦ AT2		
♣		♣ T753		
	♠ T762			
	♥ A9			
	♦			
	♣ AKQJ842			
	♣	♥	♠	NT
N	3	4		
S	4	4		
E		6	5	
W		6	4	
				4
				15
				7
				14

My partner, vulnerable, had bid 5-diamonds and then 5-spades with no encouragement from me. Clearly he must have an enormous 2-suiter, probably at least 5 spades and 6-7 diamonds. I bid 6-diamonds, not with any expectation of making, but to limit the possible damage. I could foresee problems in a 5 spade contract. If partner was forced to ruff in hand several times, there was a real risk of losing trump control and going many down. It was a pleasant surprise when 6-diamonds turned out to be cold. One other declarer also bid and made the diamond slam, but I have no idea how the bidding went at that table.

Hands like these do not really provide anything very instructive, but they do add some spice to the game.

BWBC Memory...

Long time club members Carol Long and Faith Ross won the Novice Pairs at our BWBC Super Congress in July, 2013.



Where's Jorgen? Episode Two – By Deb Guthrie

Oh, the highs and lows of running bridge on a ship!

George just toasted 50 morning and 20 afternoon players saying goodbye as they left the ship. And collected 2 (yes 2) beginners for his next two week segment from Bali to South Africa. It pays to remain philosophical!

Actually, they have a great turn up in the afternoon so that will be fun. But won't there be rather a lot of "at sea" days on the way to South Africa? Time to take up Albatross sighting.

George says hello to everyone. Is he just missing us a little bit? Let me know.

Deb x

Great Lakes Congress (Forster/Tuncurry)

14 of our members are
heading off to the
Great Lakes Congress
this weekend
Best wishes all.



Gentle Reminder

Club Championship for Open Teams

Entries are open for our premier teams event of the 2026 calendar. This is our Club Championship decider. Get your team together now. How will your team rank in the final analysis?

- ◆ When: Sat, 7th March (9:30 start)
- ◆ Lunch: Light lunch provided.
- ◆ Entries: Online or Notice Board
- ◆ Note: For interested teams this event also doubles as a Country Teams Qualifier.
- ◆ Cost \$35
- ◆ Director: Peter H



Upside Down Pairs

Here's an opportunity for newer players to play with an experienced partner.

Friday, 13th March, 9:30 start

You'll need to sign up for this one. See the list on the notice board.



February Special Event Winners



Stay safe out there - Cheers Barry and Jaan

