

Editorial
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Your editors recently took part, as 'captains', in the 'Teams of 3' event at the club. Disappointingly, there were only 6 teams, as against 12 last year. This event has been on our calendar for many years, and is intended to both introduce our newer members to teams competition, and to have them play with a more experience partner. Teams competition is undoubtedly 'fairer' than the normal matchpoint pairs events. We enjoyed the occasion, but there is some anecdotal indication that some of the newer players found it intimidating and stressful. We would welcome constructive comments from any who took part, for our next newsletter.

Melbourne Cup



Play commences 10:00am
followed by lunch
Entries Close Saturday
TAB opens at 9:30
Cash only for sweeps



Sweeps Note: With cash disappearing we will not be able to change notes. There will be $2, $5 & $10 sweeps. Please bring the exact money.

Please enter and pay $15 by Saturday.

Got a problem... Call Caroline 0402 297 667

Player Promotions

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

BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB INC							
NAME	ABF NO	HOME CLUB	RANK	DATE	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Smith, Vince	1164546	2-200	Silver Local	Sep-26	35.06	6.32	8,359

Coming Attractions at BWBC

♣ Wednesday, 11th Nov., Remembrance Day Pairs – **Red Points** 12:30 start
♣ Saturday, 12th December, Summer Teams – 12:30 start

Coming Attractions at Nearby Clubs

- **Gosford :**
  - Tuesday,17th Nov., Club Restricted Teams – 9:30 start.

Christmas Party – Save the Date



From the Chief Director's Chair

It is against the regulations of our club for cards to be removed from a board during a sit out. The main reason being that it can often result in a board being fouled.



Dummy cannot draw attention to an irregularity during play. If partner plays from the wrong hand you cannot say anything. It is up to the defenders to decide whether they will accept the lead from the wrong hand or ask declarer to play from the correct hand.

Dummy is not to participate in the play by tapping on the table to remind their partner where to play from or placing their hands on the cards before declarer has called for a card.

If you can see your partner is about to play from the wrong hand you may say something then.

Results - BWBC Special Events

- **Labour Day Pairs (3rd October)**

  A field of 14 pairs took part. The winners and runners-up were

1st	David Adams and Deborah Guthrie	61.11%
2nd	Barry Foster and Jim Routledge	56.48%
3rd	Anne Birt and Joasia Zakrzewski	56.17%

- **Spring Pairs (15th October)**

  A small field of 10 pairs took part. The winners and runners-up were

1st	Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	61.11%
2nd	John Aldersley and Beryl Lowry	58.33%
3rd	Trish Byrnes and Donelle Foate	56.48%

- **Teams of 3**

  6 teams took part in this event, in which 3 novice/intermediate players are joined by a more experienced 'captain'. The winners and runners-up were

1st Team 4	(Anne Birt, Denise Edwards, Connie Lewis, Jaan Oitmaa)	40.36VP
2nd Team 1	(Janice Abberton, Judith Lambkin, Jennifer Tebb, Sylvia Foster)	33.54VP
3rd Team 6	(Susan Ashley, Chris Cayley, Dawn Spenser, Dasha Brandt)	31.94VP

Results – Away Events

- **Muswellbrook Congress (10th / 11th October)**

  This is always an enjoyable weekend, with great hospitality from the locals. Sadly, the attendance was small and must have been a disappointment to the organisers. We would encourage more of our members to put it into their calendars for next year. A few of our members did compete, with moderate success.

  In the Pairs Qualifying on Saturday morning, David Bowerman/Dasha Brandt finished in 1st place in the N/S field and Barry Foster/Jim Routledge 5th, making it to the final in the afternoon. Sadly, they could not repeat the morning's good form, and finished down the field. In the consolation Plate Wendy Mitchell/Margaret Regan finished 2nd and Sylvia Foster/Jaan Oitmaa 3rd.

  In the Teams event, on the Sunday, the Bowerman Team (David Bowerman, Dasha Brandt, Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa) finished in 4th place.

- **Sydney Spring Nationals (17th -25th Oct.)**

  This is a major event on the bridge calendar, held at Canterbury Racecourse in Sydney. The competition is as tough as it gets. A rather small number of local players took part.

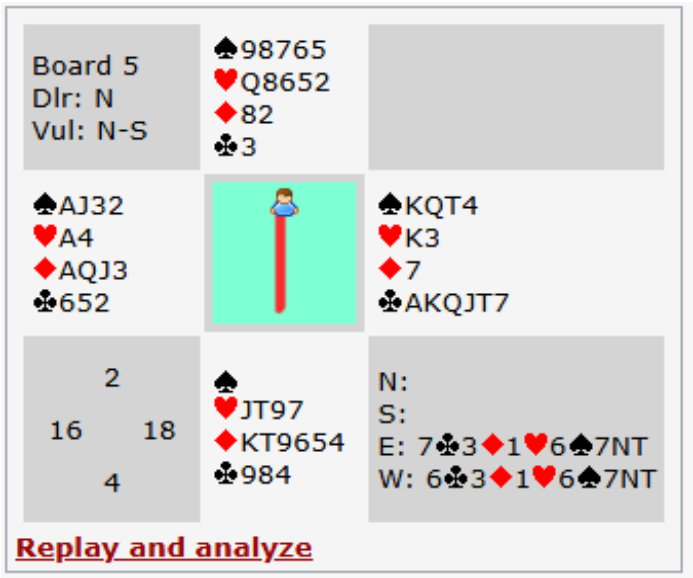
  In the pairs events, on different days, top third finishers were

Thurs./Fri. Caroline Nichols and Carolynne Mucharsky 7th (of 20) in the 7th in Restricted and 2nd in Novice Pairs.

At The Bridge Table by Jaan Oitmaa

Slam hands have a fascination for most bridge players. Some turn out to be easy to bid and make, others need some care in the play and yet others may seem impossible, but can be made because of a very fortunate lie of the cards.

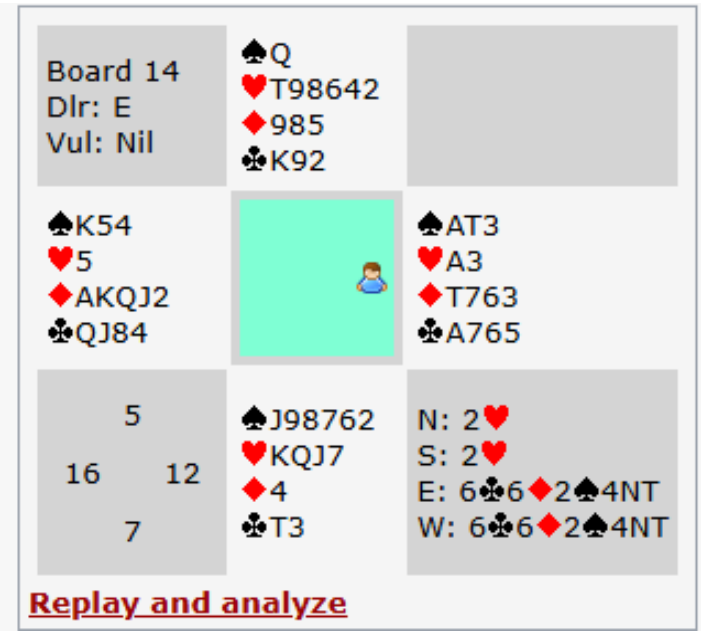
Here are two such hands, from the recent Muswellbrook Congress.



The first of these (match 4, board 5) is interesting for several reasons. Assuming that North passes, East has a choice to make – to open 1-club or 2-clubs (in standard bidding). A case can be made for either choice. The plus for opening 1-club is that it should make it easier to get spades into the picture, as a possible trump suit. The downside is that it makes it easier for the opponents to interfere, as happened at our table when I opened 1-club. Opening 2-clubs gets your values across to partner at once, and makes interference less likely.

As you can see, the optimum contract is 7NT, which was reached at 2 tables. Three tables got to 6NT, also making 13 tricks. I ended up playing 6-spades with a heart lead. After you win the first trick, in either hand, you lead a spade and discover the 5-0 trump split. The contract is still cold, provided you don't make the mistake of cashing your other top heart winner too early. Simply play off 4 trumps, and then play clubs from the top. At some point North will ruff with their remaining trump but, whatever they return, the rest of the tricks will be yours.

One declarer tried 7-spades, which failed because of the awful trump split. Another played in 6-clubs, which makes an easy 13 tricks.



The second hand is from match 5 (board 14). I opened 1-diamond in 1st seat, and finished up in 6-diamonds. Both partner and I were a bit optimistic in the bidding, but with IMPS scoring the slam bonus is worth a gamble. The opening lead was the heart King, which is completely normal. When dummy was tabled, I could see 2 seemingly unavoidable losers, a spade and a club. The identical distribution in the black suit (known as 'mirror hands') does not allow a long trick to be established in either of the suits. I tried

to develop an end play but failed, and ended up with 11 tricks. The computer says that 12 tricks can be made. That evening I finally saw how to do this, seeing all 4 hands. Rather than show this now, I'll leave it as a puzzle for readers.

Interestingly, it is straightforward to make 12 tricks in clubs. You just lose a trump trick, as the spade loser can be discarded on the long diamond. It is common knowledge that a 4-4 trump fit often plays better than a 5-3 fit. I cannot recall seeing a situation where a 4-4 fit plays better than a 5-4 fit.

Not Feeling Well...

It's probably best to stay home...



Christmas Party – Save the Date



Seniors Room

Council has advised that the Seniors Room is alarmed. If entered from our club room via the folding doors the alarm will be triggered and the club will have to pay a security attendance fee.



Stay safe out there... – Cheers Barry and Jaan

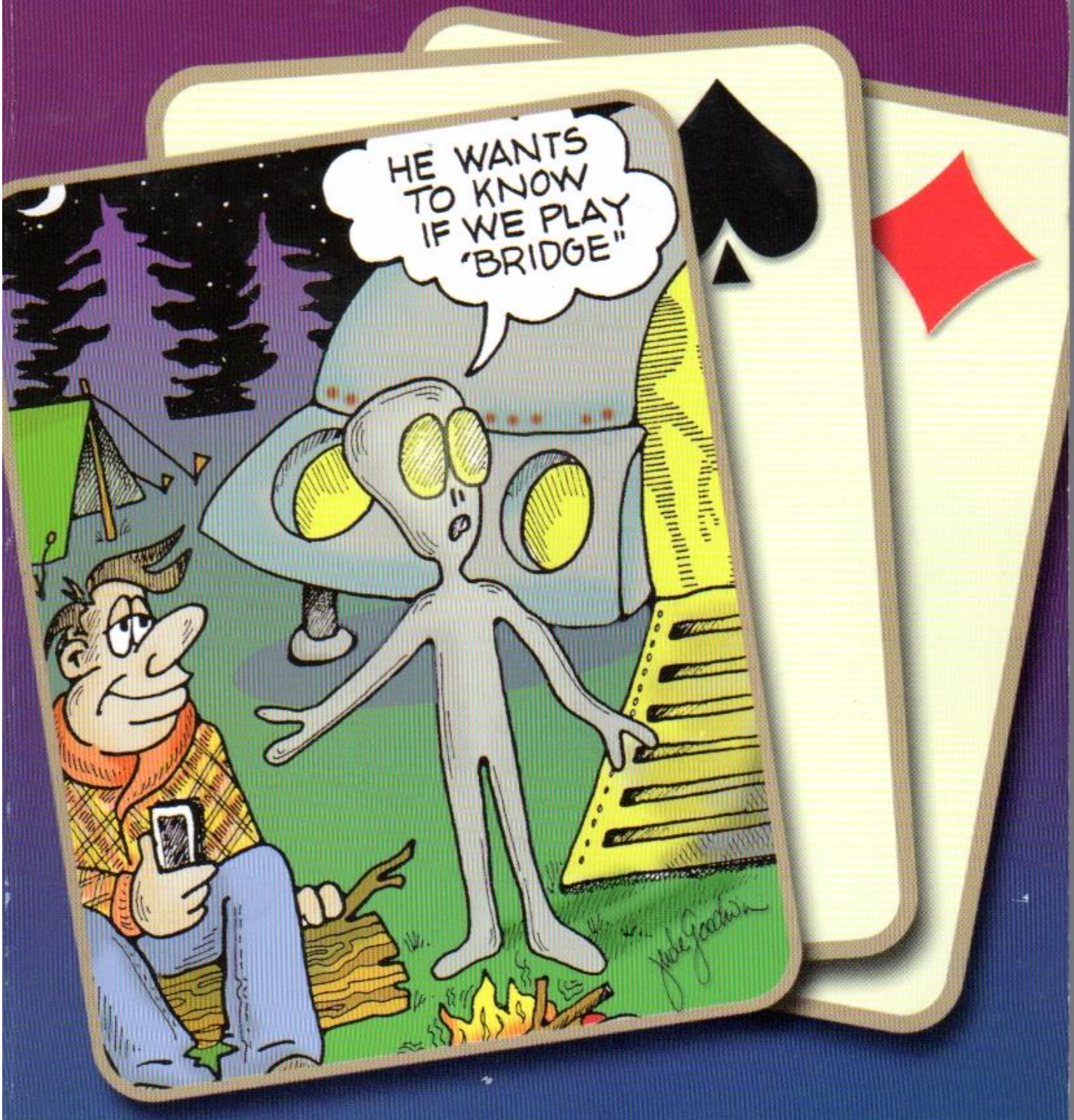


Sydney Spring Nationals





GO AHEAD, LAUGH!



COLLECTED BRIDGE HUMOR OF JUDE GOODWIN