



GOLD COAST
BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2021

President's Message



Firstly, I'm sure that you will all join me in thanking Julie Wicks for the valiant job that she's done in her role as President.

The return to single tables has been welcomed by members and we've seen an increase in attendance at the club as a result.

Unfortunately, Covid is here to stay for some time in the future. We still have many restrictions in place and who knows what will happen from week to week. It's important that we observe Covid protocols at all times so that we can continue to play the game we all love.

Our kitchen closing down and the retrenchment of Chris and Carole has been the most critical recent change at the club. I feel that I've addressed this by attending the main sessions and speaking to our members personally and giving them the opportunity to ask questions.

After researching and speaking to Kim Ellaway from the QBA, as of Monday 1st of March we will not be doing temperature checks as you enter. Also, no longer do you need to sign in, if you are playing during that session as we have a record of your attendance. This will definitely mean that you can enter the club more easily without queuing up.

I would like to thank the many volunteers that we have within the club. Many have been working behind the scenes for many years doing various necessary roles.

Due to Covid we have additional voluntary roles that are needed to be done, such as the washing of table clothes. I was astounded and thankful to see that many of you have put up your hand to volunteer and take on these tasks. It's right across the board, long serving members and also members that have just joined the club and want to assist. THANK YOU! It's showing true GCBC spirit and unity.

Keep well and safe
Odette Hall, President



TIPS FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

A great hand that was dealt to West on Thursday Feb 4th at our Club and was brought to my attention by a student wanting some advice on how it should be bid. It was part of Board 11 with South the dealer and no one vulnerable. The full board is

	North	
	♠ J5	
	♥ 852	
	♦ JT82	
	♣ A875	
West		East
♠ AK87432		♠ void
♥ K9764		♥ AQJT
♦ void		♦ K7653
♣ J		♣ K932
	South	
	♠ QT96	
	♥ 3	
	♦ AQ94	
	♣ QT64	

So let me share my take on the hand.

I'm Sitting West and South passes.

Wow!! 12 cards in two suits ... Doesn't get much better than this!

Firstly, West should recognize the enormous power of this extreme two suiter. A four- loser hand, despite holding only 11 HCP.

I start by opening 1S to hear partner bid 2D. Not a great start. My void opposite partner's suit is a drawback. I bid 2H to further the description of my hand.

Whether playing 2/1 Game Force or Standard, East might bid 4H as fast arrival because of her void in partner's first bid suit.

Over 4H I bid 4S (a cue showing first round control in Spades). This is a slam try in Hearts, our agreed trump suit. Once a **trump fit** has been agreed, a bid of any suit

is definitely a cue bid, and asks partner to cue first round controls up the line.

It should never be confused with wanting to return to Spades as a trump suit.

If partner now bids 5C showing 1st round control in Clubs, I will likely bid the slam, but if partner bids 5D (denying the CA), I will definitely sign off in 5H. However when East denies first round control in both Clubs and Diamonds, marking her with a good Heart suit, I'm tempted to take a punt on partner holding the essential HA and bid 6 Hearts, but probably not a good idea. Seems that now I've no way to find out about the HA and HQ. I would love to hear from anyone who has the system to do so.

I would certainly not blame anybody for not bidding this slam.

But other than bidding, there are two further important reasons that I wish to talk about this hand.

Firstly, the results revealed that very few pairs in the room found the Heart contract. Most were in 4 Spades which makes 10 tricks, but 12 tricks are assured in Hearts.

Secondly, of those who did play in the 9-card Heart fit, one declarer made 11 tricks and the rest made only 10 tricks.

Declarer Play and Defence tips

Let's now discuss the general technique that you as declarer should be using to play most 2- suited hands. It almost inevitably involves **establishing your longer side** suit by ruffing in the dummy.

Let's also discuss the **defence** and **opening lead** against this specific preference style auction, where Opener describes a 2-suitor and dummy prefers the second bid suit.

As defender on lead. Rather than lead the unsupported CA, perhaps try a trump. This may make declarer feel a little less comfortable. It doesn't alter the outcome on this hand, but it means declarer must play it perfectly.

As Declarer. Always be on the lookout for overtricks. On this occasion where you need to ruff and be careful of entries, be aware of the strength you hold in the trump suit. AKQJT9. Regardless of lead, declarer can count 12 tricks as long as Spades break 4/2, and trumps break as expected 3/1.

On the trump lead, Declarer needs to play carefully. Win the Ace and ruff a Diamond back to hand. Best not to play your SA or SK just yet, instead ruff the S2 in dummy with the HQ. Now ruff another Diamond low to hand, and lead a second small Spade ruffing with the HJ.

Once both defenders follow to both rounds of Spades you are home. Draw the 2 outstanding trumps by playing the HT from dummy and overtaking with the HK! Next the H9 draws the last trump. You can now triumphantly play all your winning Spades starting with the Ace and King. Finally give up one Club. Making 12.

On this occasion any Declarer who makes twelve tricks scores 100%!

Have fun.

Play the game.

Lynley Jenkins



MARCH DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM

Our esteemed editor is forever dreaming up double dummy problems, some he presents to me to solve. Having been a maths professor extraordinaire, they are thoughtful & challenging. I struggled with maths at school but admire his expertise & the problems he presents. The following problem was one such hand that he gave me to solve last year.

North
 ♠ 953
 ♥ AT98
 ♦ 65
 ♣ Q976



West
 ♠ K87
 ♥ 74
 ♦ AKQ82
 ♣ 542

East
 ♠ AQ42
 ♥ KQJ2
 ♦ 43
 ♣ AK3

South
 ♠ JT6
 ♥ 653
 ♦ JT97
 ♣ JT8

West is in 6 Diamonds on the lead of the C6. It appears that you have to lose a Heart and a trump. Plan your play to make 12 tricks. The solution is below. No peeking before you try yourself.

1. Win the CA.
2. Play D3-D9-DQ-D5.
3. H4-H8-HJ-H3
4. D4-DT-DK-D6
5. H7-HA-H2-H5 lost to North
6. C7-CK-CT-C4
7. HK-H6-C5-H9
8. C3-CJ-D2-C9

Three rounds of Spades ending in dummy and lead the S4. South is squeezed in trumps.

An astute reader may have noted that 6NT is almost lay-down because of the Spade and Heart distributions, even though there are only 31 HCP's in the E/W hands. Only the first three tricks are needed from the Diamonds in this contract.

Johnathon Skye

The Potted Bridge History of Skinny Nejelly (AKA Lynley Jenkins)



I am a Brisbane girl and studied Performing Arts, Speech and Drama at Brisbane Repertory Theatre (La Boite), Twelfth Night Theatre and Brisbane Arts Theatre. I married in 1966 and have a son Matthew born in 1973, and now two beautiful grandsons, Noah (12) and Sam (10).

I developed a great interest in fine Arts, and co-founded Lynley's Antiques in Clayfield, Brisbane in 1968 with my father. I branched into my own solo business, Chantilly Antiques and Art Gallery in 1974, where I specialised in early 20th century fine arts. I was a foundation Member of the Queensland Antique Dealers Association in 1968, and became both President and secretary of that organisation.

My Nana and Grand-dad were keen bridge players, as was my Mum. As soon as I could grip five cards in my hand I learned euchre, a great trick game for kids. As my fingers grew, it was 500, and inevitably the greatest card game of all, Bridge. I swear the first card advice Grand-dad spoke to me were. "They're walking in the streets of London cos they didn't lead trumps!"

It would not be possible to give my potted bridge history without talking of my partner Cecily. We met in 1984. She was 32, and had just completed a Bridge Beginners' course at QCBC. The story of her first lesson was a source of great amusement for me (and many) .. Having read her first bridge textbook from cover to cover, she arrived at her first class, still with no idea of what a trick was. She was from a Methodist background you see, and cards were strictly forbidden in her family! We became not only life partners but also Business partners, and of course Bridge partners. Together we enjoyed travelling around the country, successfully combining business-buying trips with Bridge Congresses.

The first Bridge Club we joined in the 80's was Brisbane Bridge Centre in Montague Rd, West End. Here Queensland's finest bridge players gathered on most days. Many were not only State, but Australian representatives, so we cut out teeth on the best. There were no restricted sessions in our day, so it took a while to get that first masterpoint! We were so very fortunate to learn and soak up the game from the best.

I have fond memories of heading off to Park Road, Milton at "Rue de Paris" after an evening bridge session, where bridge players would dissect each board well into the wee hours. Also after an all-day congress, descend upon the Regatta on Coronation Drive to solve the mysteries of each and every board!! These were the halcyon days of bridge!

In 1995 we sold the premises at Clayfield and relocated 'Chantilly' to Latrobe Tce, Paddington. About that time we started teaching Bridge at BBC, which continued for several years. We loved it.

By 2000, with the internet emerging, our business had moved online allowing us more time to indulge our favourite obsessions, Bridge and Antique hunting. Over the next years we travelled widely around Australia playing as many bridge events as we could manage.

In 2007 we moved to the Gold Coast and joined the GCBC. At this time, Cecily was diagnosed with breast cancer, which was to lead us down a long, difficult path over the next decade, with many plans and dreams on hold.

We owned a wonderful old hardwood shack in Koala Park at Burleigh Heads, where we had enjoyed many weekends over the years, many of them playing bridge with friends. We loved it there and it was to become our home until 2016.

All things considered, we achieved well as a bridge partnership. We won or were placed in numerous Pairs and Teams Events over the years, including a selection on the Queensland Women's Team at the Australian National Championships Adelaide in 2013 and winning the Qld Seniors' Pairs Championship title in 2015 .

We began to teach bridge here at GCBC around 2012. I continue to really enjoy the interaction with all my new students and future bridge champs.

Snippets

In the first preliminary round of the zone qualification for the 2021 GNOT, two teams from our club have already qualified, beating some more fancied teams. They are Margaret Pisko's team of Trish Anagnostou, Krystyna Homik, Frank Hymus, Sue Spurway and Margaret followed by Jane Swanson's team with Sue Robinson, Barry Coe, John Sear and Jane. There are three more preliminary rounds to go.

Poetic Challenge

Some time ago I tried to encourage at least some of you to contribute bridge cartoons to the Quarterly newsletter. This unfortunately failed except for two submitted by Rita Kahn from the American Bridge magazine. So now I am asking members to submit a verse or two on bridge for future Newsletters.

Here are two examples. The first is extracted from the poem "*Bridge Blues*" written by Edda Strong and her son Terry, a top bridge player also. It was published in the June, 2013 edition of the newsletter.

*"A single lapse, a revoke just once,
We end up feeling like a dunce.
52 cards will dance in our head,
While tossing and turning in our bed."*

The second example is a limerick.
*"Since bridge is a game at our place,
I often have smiles on my face,
When making a slam.
Yet I often say "Damn!";
If my partner ruffs in on my Ace."*

Over to you all!

The best will be published after being judged by Les Murray, Clive James, 'Banjo' Patterson and the editor.





Director's Corner

(by Paul Brake, Chair, Tournament Committee)

Are You a Good Dummy?

In a casual bridge game with your friends, being dummy is your chance to get some snacks, take a peek at partner's cards, or chat with another player. I'm sure you realize by now that the same is not true in a duplicate game. The dummy has rights and responsibilities, and of course, should be aware of the regulations governing dummy's behaviour.

Cardinal Rule Number One:

- *"Dummy must not participate in the play, nor may he communicate anything about the play to declarer;*
- *dummy may not call attention to an irregularity during the play;*
- *dummy may not initiate a call for the Director during play unless another player has drawn attention to an irregularity."*

Let's see if you pass the "Beginning Dummy" test.

1. The opening lead is made. It happens to be a club, and you have a singleton club. When you're laying down the dummy, do you take that club and place it in the played position? If so, you flunked the first test. Dummy plays the cards only as directed by the declarer – even if declarer has only one option.
2. You're watching the play and realize that one of the opponents revoked. You immediately tell your partner. Uh-oh! Wrong again! Dummy must wait until the play of the hand is over before pointing out an irregularity and/or calling the director.

Let's move on to the "Intermediate Dummy" test. The dummy is declarer's agent and must play the card designated by the declarer. Proper designation of a card includes the statement of both suit and rank, but just in case a declarer fails to provide this complete designation, there are rules to be followed. Do you know them? Here's your hand, as play progresses:

1.	2.	3.	4.
♠AJT73	♠JT73	♠T73	♠T73
♥QJ2	♥QJ	♥QJ	♥J
♦A8	♦A8	♦8	♦
♣Q53	♣Q53	♣Q53	♣Q53

1. The opening lead is the ♥4 and partner says, "Play." What do you do? If you ask, "Which one?" you're incorrect. When declarer designates a suit but not a rank, the card played is the lowest card in the suit. You should play the ♥2.
2. Your partner won a trick with the ♠A. He now says, "Jack." Did you ask, "Which one?" Wrong again. When declarer names a rank but not a suit, he is deemed to have continued the suit in which dummy won the preceding trick. You should play the ♠J.

3. Partner wins a trick in dummy with the ♦A. He now says, “Queen.” Did you ask, “Which one?” If so, you’re right! There is no ♦ Q, but there are two other queens. Declarer must designate the one to be played.
4. Partner plays the ♦Q from his hand and says, “Play anything.” You start to play the ♠3, and a defender says, “Play the ♣Q.” What do you play? The ♣Q, of course. If declarer fails to designate both rank and suit, the opponents are allowed to tell dummy what card to play!

What are your rights as dummy?

- ♣ Dummy may ask declarer, but not a defender, when he has failed to follow suit to a trick, whether he has a card of the suit led.
- ♣ Dummy may try to prevent any irregularity by declarer. For example, if partner is about to play from the wrong hand, you may remind him where he is, but you cannot do so if the play from the wrong hand has already been made. Nor should you routinely indicate to partner which hand is to lead before every play. This would be considered by many directors to be participating in the play of the hand.
- ♣ Dummy may draw attention to any irregularity, but only after play of the hand is concluded. (Remember rule number one?)
- ♣ A player (including Dummy) may draw attention to a card pointed incorrectly, but this right expires when his side leads or plays to the following trick.

Cardinal Rule Number Two:

“Dummy may not exchange hands with declarer; dummy may not leave his seat to watch declarer’s play of the hand; dummy may not look at the face of a card in either defender’s hand.” If you do any of these things, you lose many of your dummy rights, and partner may be subject to penalties if you say anything. For instance, if you’ve broken rule number two, and you then warn declarer that he is about to revoke, or has revoked (but it has not been established), partner may be penalized with an established revoke, if he did have a card in the suit led.

Cardinal Rule Number Three:

“Dummy must never, never, never tell declarer how he should have made the hand – at least, not until the game is over and you’re discussing the hands over a nice meal.” You won’t find this rule in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, but it’s a great dummy rule, nevertheless. Above all, dummy should be a considerate partner.

Closing Tip:

You’re dummy and partner is playing a no trump contract. When laying down the dummy, place your longest suit to your left – as far away from the usual trump suit position as possible. Even world champions have been known to forget the contract when tempted by a long suit in the trump position.

Taken (with some updates for law changes and other modifications) from S. G. Johnston, The EZ Game, August 22, 2008

• RESULTS •

December 2020

ECLECTICS

TUESDAY

Equal 1st Ralph Slick, Pamela Jessep,
2nd Lorraine DeNett, Heather Reid

WEDNESDAY

Equal 1st Eva Berger, Kathy Johnson,
2nd Merle Bogatie, Tony Berger

THURSDAY

Equal 1st Ralph Slick and Pamela Jessep,
3rd Lisa Basile

FRIDAY

Equal 1st Angeline Christie, Ed Hahn,
3rd Lois Steinwedel

SATURDAY

Equal 1st Merle Bogatie, Neil Raward,
Pam Jessep

January 2021

ECLECTICS

MONDAY

Equal 1st Lynn Allen, Lyn Thompson,
Equal 3rd Angela Nichols, Fran Taylor

WEDNESDAY

Equal 1st Ross Steinwedel, Lois Steinwedel,
Equal 3rd Eva Berger and Kathy Johnson

THURSDAY A SECTION

Equal 1st John Leach, Melanie Mills,
Equal 3rd Patricia Powis, Barry Coe

Thursday B section

Equal 1st John Lemarchand & Alan Kesten-
berg,

3rd (equal) Lyn Allen, Lyn Thompson

PRESIDENT'S CUP

1st Eva Berger and Kathy Johnson
2nd Edward Hahn and Angeline Christie
3rd Kerry Wood and Nadya Tuxworth

ROB SLOBOM PAIRS

1st Tom Strong and Bob Hunt
2nd Saftica Popa and Ken Moschner
3rd Sue Robinson and Lou Tillotson

Club Pairs Championship

1st Tom and Edda Strong

WHY YOU SHOULD COUNT!

Dealer North

Vulnerable All

North

♠ 73
♥ A
♦ J875
♣ AK8632

West

♠ AJ9854
♥ K52
♦ T9
♣ J5

East

♠ QT6
♥ T98
♦ AK3
♣ QT97

South

♠ K2
♥ QJ7643
♦ Q642
♣ 4

The hand above is a good example of the usefulness of showing the number of cards held in a suit.

For Board 29 on Wednesday 9/12/20 the best result was four Spades doubled and making by West resulting in a very poor result for North/South. Could it have been different?

North started by playing the HA and then switched to the CK, with South playing the C4 and West false carding with the CJ, after some time considering.

However North continued with the club Ace, now the contract could not be beaten.

What information did North have to determine who had the singleton Club?

North/South play natural count ; Hi/Low showing an even number, while Low/High shows an odd number of cards in the suit led.

In this case the C4 was the lowest card remaining in the suit as North can see the C2 and C3 in the North hand. Therefore South must have one or three Club cards, it cannot be three as declarer would have ruffed the CK. Hence North can now safely continue with a small Club at trick 3 for South to ruff and lead the HQ through the West hand to beat the contract by 2 tricks and a good score to North/South.

Tony Berger