



New South Wales Bridge Association

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Editor: Bruce Minchinton

Chairman's Corner

The NSWBA is continuing to assist with directing and teaching seminars across the State. The most recent was a teaching seminar given by Joan Butts in Kiama. There were almost 40 participants from a wide area and it was another great success. Thanks to all those involved in putting it together. We plan to have a regular program of directing and teaching seminars across the whole of NSW.

The NSWBA also has a number of other planning activities and new initiatives underway so I thought I'd briefly outline the key ones:

1. GNOT. The ABF handed over responsibility for administration of some NSW GNOT regions to the NSWBA this year, and will hand over all remaining regions on 1 January 2014. In most cases you should not notice any great changes at a player level, but those involved in administering club heats and regional finals will see changes in procedures, etc. We will be in touch with those impacted.
2. Country carnival. We are giving consideration to introducing an annual Country Carnival (and have applied for some special ABF funding to help subsidise it). This will allow Country players to compete in various categories of events, culminating in finals which in 2014 we are planning to hold alongside the Sydney ANC. Details are still being worked on but I would encourage those eligible to get involved.
3. Restricted and novice State championships. We have received approval to introduce both pairs and teams State championships in Restricted (<300MPs) and Novice (<100MPs) categories. A huge proportion of registered players fall within these

categories so we are keen to introduce events catering more specifically for them. Several ABF events have seen significant growth in these categories in recent years and we are hoping to see that extended to State level events.

4. Strategic review. Several NSWBA Councilors participated in an externally facilitated review over the weekend of September 14/15th. We are aiming to look at the longer term vision and plans for bridge in NSW.

Until next time, happy bridging!!

Julian Foster

Chairman@nswba.com.au



October 23 - 31

Hallowe'en Pairs at the Spring Nationals

A new concept - a weekday Super Congress with B3 Masterpoints!

What: A two session pairs event.

Where: Canterbury Park Racecourse.

When: Thursday 31st October, 10:30am

Sponsoring this event is the Sydney Bridge Centre. Your Host for the day is William Jenner-O'Shea. Cash Prizes for Open, Restricted and Novice grades. Come in fancy dress, you could win a prize for the best costume. Trick or Treat Spot Prizes

For more information see www.abfevents/events/spnot/2013

CAPTAINS CHOICE

Beginners and Intermediates

Kath Kean

How great is it when you pick up a fantastic hand with heaps of points! If you're past the scardy cat stage and are beginning to really enjoy yourself, game and slam bells ring in your ears. You take a deep breath and prepare to sail off to the wonderful sea of strong bids.

Now, you wanna know what pards' got, 'cause you're the boss with the big hand, right? Wrong!

This is where bidding schemozzles begin. Many a good hand has sunk into oblivion through bad steering. Let's look at the following concept:

When you open 1NT, partner knows immediately that you have a specific number of points and a balanced hand. You've said everything and it's up to pard to carry on with the bidding or pass with a weak hand. Who is the captain of this contract? Why partner of course, because they will place the final contract. For example

1NT: pass: PASS: pass, or

1NT: pass: 2C: pass: 2H: pass: 4H

So how does this relate to big hands? Well, sailing along happily, you open at the two level. Now if you use strong twos, you would open your suit and you've said almost everything about your hand. However, if you use the 2C or 2D artificial strong openings, you tell your partner, after they've bid, what your suit is. For example:

2C: pass: 2D: pass: 2S - you've said everything about your hand - game force with five plus spades. Now it's up to partner to place the contract. Here's a good example:

N	S
♠ AKQ107	♠ J863
♥ AK109	♥ QJ43
♦ 6	♦ AK
♣ AKJ	♣ 1096

With points such as South's, some use 2NT as an enquiry. This is not such a good idea as often the good hand goes down as dummy and everybody can see where the high cards are.

Most average players use the 2D reply as negative or waiting to see just what partner's got. In this case it's of course, waiting. (If you hold a five card major, then by all means bid it at the two level).

As responder, if you've got a fistful of clubs or diamonds, don't jump to the three level, you are taking up too much room. Remember, partner doesn't need to know what you've got or how many points, but you need to know about their hand, best to find out at the two level before jumping any guns. If you don't have a fit with partner, also best to find out at the two level.

So, you're looking at 12 total points along with partner's game force spade hand. This is where you come into the picture as Captain and skillfully steer the contract into the brilliant waters of the slam zone.

There are always exceptions to every rule. For example, as declarer with a strong seven or more card suit, then you become the captain.

Salute!



COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS

As most readers are aware, the NSW Bridge Association is overseen by a Council, which is an elected body of volunteers. Four of these councillors represent the interests of clubs throughout NSW following nominations from each of four zones (Northern, Southern & Western, Metropolitan and Outer Metropolitan) into which the state is divided.

At its last meeting, Council decided to try to improve communication of its considerations. It was decided that an item in this newsletter would keep members better informed of decisions that may affect them or their clubs.

Other issues discussed at the last meeting included the following:

Staging of State Championship events

State Championship events are normally staged at the NSWBA premises in Sydney. Some events able to be held at State Championship level are not currently staged (for example some men's, women's, seniors and restricted category events). Council has decided to invite interested clubs to express interest in staging some of these events from 2015 onwards. Details will be forwarded to all clubs. Some trials of this process are taking place this year and next year at selected clubs.

Psyching

Earlier this year we held a forum for representatives from all the regions within NSW. One topic which was discussed was the issue of psychic bids. We agreed to put together a kit to assist clubs and individuals in dealing with issues which arise from this practice. This was effectively finalised at the last meeting and has now been posted on the NSWBA website.

Subsidy policy

The NSWBA has a small amount of money available for the promotion of bridge. We support an ABF program to improve bridge teaching, and offer sessions in various locations for those interested in becoming directors. Requests from clubs for assistance with promotional efforts are considered. The intention of the policy is primarily to assist the development and support of bridge in regional and rural areas rather than in metropolitan Sydney.

Strategic review

Council has decided to undertake a strategic review of its activities and the weekend of 14-15 September has been set aside for this purpose. Undoubtedly there will be a number of initiatives which will be developed over that weekend and I look forward to communicating these in future columns.

Richard Douglas
Secretary, NSWBA

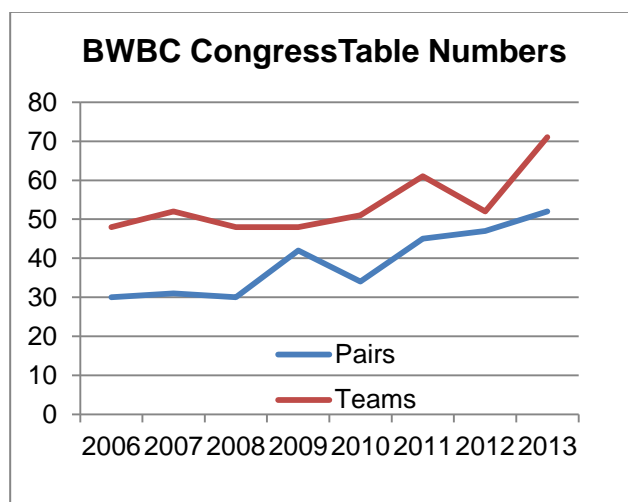
Keep up to date with the latest news from NSWBA. Check out the **Facebook page** & search for NSWBA Friends.

Brisbane Waters Super Congress Report

By

Our Congress has grown to be the second biggest in New South Wales, after the Coffs Coast Gold Congress. We had 52 tables in the pairs and 71 tables in the teams. This compares to the 46 and 62 tables that the Sydney Spring Nationals attracted last year. Competitors came from all over the place: Perth, Launceston, Gold Coast, Canberra, Manning, Northern Tablelands, Southern Highlands, Blue Mountains, Hunter, Sydney and the Central Coast.

A very strong field, there were at least 65 Grand Masters present on Sunday. The additional room that we started last year and the main hall were full almost to capacity on Sunday. Next year, we will be introducing a Novice section, in another room with a third director.



On Saturday, we had 20 tables in the restricted and 32 tables in the open Swiss Pairs, with separate NS and EW fields. The Open Pairs North/South was won by Kim Morrison and David Weston. The Open Pairs East/West was won by Marlene Watts and Michael Prescott. The Restricted Pairs North/South was won by Helen White and Terry Gidley-Baird. The Restricted Pairs East/West was won by Wayne Morgan and Jill Blenkey. The Novice Pairs North/South was won by Faith Ross and Carol Long. The Novice Pairs East/West was won by Michael and Richard McAuliffe.

On Sunday, we had 22 restricted and 49 open teams. The Open Teams was won by Kim

Morrison, David Weston, Marlene Watts and Michael Prescott. The Restricted Teams was won by Alison Lea, Sue Pullman, Wayne Morgan and Rodney Bell. The Novice Teams was won by Jon and Rhonda Nix, Mary McFadden and Jean Moran.

"MAKING GOOD DECISIONS IS CRUCIAL AT ANY LEVEL"
Peter Drucker, American Educator

Dealer E N/S Vul	♠ K65 ♥ 97 ♦ A874 ♣ AKJ2	LEAD: AS
♠ 97 ♥ 65 ♦ KQ9653 ♣ 1096	<i>North</i> <i>West East</i> <i>South</i>	♠ AQJT84 ♥ 102 ♦ J2 ♣ 843
	♠ 32 ♥ AKQJ843 ♦ 10 ♣ Q75	

<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>
2S	4H	P	4NT
P	5S	P	6NT

THE BIDDING

Even though South may not be strong North is justified looking for a slam. Using Key Card Blackwood South shows 2 key cards as well as the QH. North realises that if East has the AQ of spades and South has 2 spades then 6H will fail on a spade lead. North has 11 tricks on a spade lead and excellent chances for a 12th trick. So North bids 6NT to protect against the spade lead from West.

THE PLAY

East decides to take his AS whilst he can. After that North can claim 12 tricks. Had East led the QS North would have made 13 tricks. North's decision to bid 6NT was vindicated as 6H would go down on a spade lead from West.

POSTSCRIPT : Sometimes you need to be able to visualize the fact that the contract may be safer to be played from your side.

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Bidding after Interference

By Ian Lisle

Bidding is hard enough without the opponents interrupting the smooth flow of your systemic conversations as you surge towards the ultimate contract. Depending on what your hand type is, the interference may or may not be a problem. Sometimes the interference bid can assist in the description of your own hand as you talk to partner. One thing to remember is that opponents entering the auction does not change the basic values that you and your partner have.

We will consider auctions in terms of the standard American basic system with 5 Card major, 15-17 NT, and better minor. Hand strength evaluation is done using the Total Point Count (TPC) method of which comprises High Card Points (HCP) and distribution points DP when trump fit is found.

Apart from the obvious pass, normal responses to partner's opening without an intervening bid can be grouped into four categories.

1. **Fit raises**, such as 1D – 2D, 1S – 2S, 1H – 4H, using the normal limit raise structure
2. **New suit bidding**, simple new suit bids by responder are forcing for at least one round.
3. **1NT response to an opening bid**

When responder cannot support opener's suit and lacks the values in HCP to bid at the two-level, then they bid a suit at the 1-level if able. Only if no other bid is available does responder use 1NT. (N.B. a 1NT response without interference may not be balanced and may contain any shape including, even a 7 card suit or 6/6 shape). Because of the uncertainty of the shape of the 1NT response some partnerships play this as a one round force.

4. **No-trump bidding**

Openings and opener's rebids of 1NT & 2NT, and responder bids (unless the partnership has assigned a conventional meaning) and rebids of 2NT & 3NT are limited. They show balanced hands, and deny a fit in partner's suit.

Now, after partner has opened and the RHO has interfered, one of the four basic response

categories, (the “forced” 1NT response) becomes irrelevant and therefore is not used. Two new responses become available to express hand types which we’d like to show.

We still have:

- **Fit raises**
- **New suit bidding**
- **No-trump bidding**

No trumps are still limited bids that show balanced hands and at least one stopper in the opposition suit, and usually deny a fit in partner’s suit, and deny a 5 card major of your own. Additionally and usefully, responder can now bid 1NT to show this hand type, typically with 8-10 HCP.

The two new categories of bid that we can use to help describe our hand values to partner are:

- **The negative double**

A negative double tells your partner that you have something to say but were prevented by the intervening bid, or you have a hand not easily described. Most often, it will indicate length in unbid suits and appropriate minimum strength in high card points. A negative double firstly denies the ability to make a natural bid at the appropriate level for lack of strength or appropriate distribution. These days, negative doubles at your first turn to bid are usually a descriptive take out that shows one of three hand types.

1. Limited, promising the other suit(s) which would imply 2 (or more) possible contracts
 - At the 1 level 6+ points
 - At the 2 level 8+ points
 - At the 3 level 10+ points
2. Strong flat hands usually with insecure stopper(s).
3. A single suited hand;
 - a. Too weak in HCP cards to force if playing forcing free bids. Best reserved for major suit.
 - b. Strong enough to force if you play negative free bids.

(Negative free bids: new suit at 2/3 level in competitive auction intended as encouraging but not forcing)

Partner	RHO	You
1C/1D	1H/1S	X

At the one level, this would usually show 6-9 HCP and normally but not necessarily equal length in the other two suits. When you make this type of double you have to be able to tolerate the answer whatever partner bids, even if they repeat their suit. If partner has opened a major you are denying primary support.

Partner	RHO	You
1D	2C	X

At the two level, this would show 8+ HCP and at least a 4/3 in the major suits, preferable 4/4. It may even be 5/4 in the majors with the quality of the 5 card suit not being up to certain strength. This would also indicate no direct raise for diamonds and not balanced with club stopper for no-trumps.

Partner	RHO	You
1S	2H	X

This would show 8+ HCP and at least a 4+/4+ in the minor suits, no direct raise for partner’s spades, and not a NT structure.

Don’t make a negative double when you have a sensible alternative. Show a good 5 card major or if you are two suited and have the strength, show your suits in the usual way.

- **Cue bids – bidding the opposition suit**

Cue bids are usually stronger than a negative double and have **two** common uses, of which one is chosen by partnership agreement.

1. ***To raise partner’s suit with fit and high card strength (Cue Raise)***
2. ***To start a general forcing auction with the Unassuming Cue Bid (UCB)***

To be continued in next issue.
Ian Lisle conducts lessons for intermediate players at NSWBA on Fridays at 10am. Check out lesson page on nswba.com.au for complete details.

Sydney Spring Nationals



23-31 October 2013

For the second time the Sydney Spring Nationals will be held at Canterbury Park Racecourse, 96 King St, Canterbury.

The events are:-

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 23-25 October | Open Teams Qualifying |
| 23-24 October | Two Men & a Truck Restricted Teams (all players with <300 Masterpoints) |
| 26-27 October | Dick Cummings Open Pairs |
| 26-27 October | Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs (all players with <300 Masterpoints) |
| 28-31 October | Linda Stern Women's Teams Qualifying, then final |
| 28-31 October | Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams Qualifying, then final
(all players born < 1/1/1955)
Finals will follow each of the qualifying rounds shown above. |



This year sees the introduction of the Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs. Ted was well known on the NSW Bridge scene, as a Player, Director and Teacher. It is fitting that the new Restricted Pairs event will honour Ted.

Every event will attract **Gold Masterpoints**.
PQPs are awarded to all but the Restricted Teams and Pairs.

A cafeteria will be available for purchase of lunch and a bar will be open for a short time after play each day.

Free parking is available at the venue. **Canterbury Railway Station** is about 1 km away.

If you are coming by **taxi**, use address of 96 King St, Ashbury. This will get you to the best entrance gate.

Any player who enters both the Restricted Teams and the Restricted Pairs will be given a \$20 voucher redeemable with Paul Lavings Bridge Books and Supplies.

<http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/spnot/2013/index.asp#bro> gives some nearby accommodation options, full brochure and on-line entry facility.

CONGRESS RESULTS

Armidale Frost Bite Pairs

- 1 Ian Price & Rachel Price
- 2 Edward Hahn & Nicholas Wall
- 3 Brian Glover & Eric Baker

Trumps Winter Teams

- 1 Paul Weaver, Titus Ling, Catherin Zhang, Margaret Klassen
- 2 Marlene Watts, Michael Prescott, Andrew Peake, Kim Morrison
- 3 Tony Allen, Kelela Allen, George Biro, Kitty Biro

Taree Teams

- 1 Rosalie Broughton, Ken Wilks, Michael Johnson, Michael Simes
- 2 Matt Blackham, Michele Tredinnick, Kaylee Lemon, Ronnie Ng
- 3 Greg Mayo, Sharon Mayo, Sally Clarke, Garry Clarke

Grafton Swiss Pairs

- 1 Winston Guymer & Paul Cruickshank
- 2 Anne Jackson & Jean Lowe
- 3 Jamie McFall & Frances Gaunt

Brisbane Waters Super Congress

Open Swiss Pairs

NS

- 1 Kim Morrison & David Weston
- 2 Marilyn Chadwick & Toni Sharp
- 3 Bijan Annae & Dominic Kwok

EW

- 1 Marlene Watts & Michael Prescott
- 2 Wayne Smith & Chris Dibley
- 3 Val Carmody & Lisa Westwood

Restricted Swiss Pairs

NS

- 1 Helen White & Terry Gidley-Baird
- 2 Max Gilbert & Kathy Gilbert
- 3 Barry Foster & Hope Tomlinson

EW

- 1 Wayne Morgan & Jill Blenkey
- 2 Michael McAulliffe & Richard McAulliffe
- 3 Beverley Sivewater & Molly O'Neill

Open Teams

- 1 Kim Morrison, David Weston, Marlene Watts, Michael Prescott
- 2 Richard Douglas, Helena Dawson, David Beauchamp, Ross Stuart
- 3 George Fleischer, Ron Speiser, Margaret Gidley-Baird, Wendy Ashton

Restricted Teams

- 1 Alison Lea, Sue Pullman, Wayne Morgan, Rodney Bell
- 2 Maurice Ripley, Michael Box, Bruce Nelan, Susan Nelan
- 3 Jenny Swanson, Andrew Swanson, Anne Crittenden, Sally Irwin

Wagga Wagga Congress Pairs

- 1 David Thompson & John Yoon
- 2 Mary Francis & Phyllis Logan
- 3 Alison Farthing & Janet Kahler

Teams

- 1 Ross Crichton, Pam Crichton, Bernard Waters, Roy Nixon
- 2 Jamie Thompson, Stephen Williams, David Thompson, John Yoon
- 3 Mary Francis, Phyllis Logan, Dorinda Sullivan, Geraldine Phillips

Moree Pairs

- 1 Howard Jeffery & Liz Jeffery
- 2 Andrew Webb & Nola McMillan
- 3 Mona Assef & Antoinette Rees

Peninsula Swiss Pairs

- 1 Marlene Watts & Michael Prescott
- 2 Marilyn Chadwick & Kim Morrison
- 3 Terry Bodycote & Paul Weaver

Coffs Coast Gold Congress Open Swiss Pairs

- 1 Kathryn Tule & Ken Yule
- 2 Kim Morrison & Simon Hinge
- 3 Bruce Neill & Arjuna De Livera

Restricted Swiss Pairs

- 1 Bijan Assaee & Alex Ngan
- 2 Michael Bush & Philip Moroney
- 3 Malcolm Cliff & Kathy Cliff

Open Teams

- 1 Gabriella Bremner-Moore, Matthew Thomson, Paul Gosney, Michael Whibley
- 2 Fred Whitaker, Michael Sykes, Paul Marston, Ashley Bach
- 3 David Beauchamp, Marlene Watts, Pele Rankin, Therese Tully

Restricted Teams

- 1 Denise Barnes, Peter Barnes, Judy Zhu, Henry Chu
- 2 Robert Hurst, Rowan Corbett, Robert Erskine, Rhonda Thorpe
- 3 Ian Bailey, Fran Campbell, Anne Symons, Sallie Quarles

Toronto Swiss Teams

- 1 Rosalie Broughton, Margaret Geddes, Michael Simes, Ken Wilks
- 2 Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Mary Wood, Rhonda Innes
- 3 David Harrison, Ann Harrison, Sue O'Brien, Paul Collins

Kings and Queens Swiss Pairs

- 1 George Bilski, Terry Brown
- 2 Marlene Watts, Michael Prescott
- 3 Ewa Kowalszyk, Gheorghi Belonogov

Blue Mountains BC Congress Treeview Estate Swiss Pairs NS

- 1 Carola Hoogervorst & Andre Korenhof
- 2 Frank Dreyer & Lee Dreyer
- 3 Sally Lazar & Richard Lazar

EW

- 1 Marlene Watts & Michael Prescott
- 2 Frank Budai & Paul Lavings
- 3 Julie Wyr & Paul Mazoudier

Bygone Beautys Teams

- 1 Marlene Watts, Michael Prescott, Orlando Wu, Andrew Peak
- 2 Terence Palmer, Andy Milne, Peter Wong, Keith Jebb
- 3 Patricia Grigson, Bina Kassam, Annette Marshall, Bruce Fox

Latest Book Releases

Diamonds are a Hog's Best Friend

By Victor Mollo

The second collection of the lost Menagerie gems, for the first time in book form (following The Hog Takes to Precision in 2011). The 3rd and final volume is due next year.
\$29.95 or \$19.49 as an ebook

Defensive Play at Bridge: A Quizbook

By Barbara Seagram & David Bird

Winner of the 2013 American Bridge Teachers Association Book of the Year Award. A companion to Declarer Play Quizbook. Great for Newcomers
\$24.95 or \$14.99 as an ebook

Death in Duplicate

By Carole Coplea

Another title in the increasingly popular murder mystery genre of bridge books. Entertaining, escapist stuff – no bridge hands but a good read.
\$29.95 or \$19.49 as an ebook

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