



New South Wales Bridge Association

162 Goulburn St, East Sydney
 Phone 02 92648111 ABN 61 000 438 648

Email: office@nswba.com.au

Web : www.nswba.com.au

♠ ♥ Bulletin ♦ ♣

Editor: Bruce Minchinton

Chairman's Corner

I would like to start this edition by welcoming our new bulletin editor Bruce Minchinton and thank him for agreeing to take on the role. Bruce is an experienced marketing professional having worked in the Wine Society and later the online dating industry. He spent several years working in Canada and returned to Australia in 2011. Bruce learned the game of bridge after a friend gave him vouchers to bridge lessons as a Christmas present. He is a popular director at Bridge Inner West, North Shore and Strathfield bridge clubs as well as a fill in director at Hunters Hill. Bruce has also edited a club newsletter before but in a very different field to bridge – a dog breed club, The English Setter Club of NSW.

Those of you who attend the NSWBA premises in Sydney either to play regularly or for State events will notice several recent changes. The floor has been recarpeted and some other redecoration is underway to make the place look a lot smarter. A huge thank you to those volunteers who helped with moving furniture and equipment and to our staff, directors and regular players for coping with the disruption. Remember, this is the headquarters for bridge in NSW so any member of any affiliated club is always welcome if you are visiting Sydney for any reason.

Finally, I would like to offer my congratulations to Lillian Hughes, a regular player at the North Shore Bridge Club who celebrated her 100th birthday on 4th March.

Enjoy your bridge!

Julian Foster
Chairman@nswba.com.au



Teacher Training Programs

Teaching new players is critical for achieving growth in the numbers of bridge players and ABF members. We need to produce teachers who are effectively trained.

The ABF National Teaching Coordinator, Joan Butts, conducts these programs (TTP's) in different Australian states each year. They are based on Audrey Grant's Better Bridge Teacher Accreditation Programs, (USA), and offer proven advice that, if followed, will give teachers the tools to deliver top-quality bridge lessons. TTP's, each lasting nine hours, offer a closer look at course content, resources, and teaching methods to best present the subject matter, for beginners and other levels of lessons. Teaching ideas are developed through discussion and practical demonstrations. Sample lessons illustrate how to implement the educational tips. There are also marketing and promotional tips, and ongoing support offered from the ABF National Teaching Coordinator. On completion of the 9-hour course, teachers are presented with a certificate of achievement.

The 2013 schedule includes workshops in NSW. These will be held at Orange on June 22 & 23, then Kiama on August 10 & 11.

If you are interested in attending contact Lynn Kalmin, lynn@nswba.com.au or alternatively Joan Butts at teaching@abf.com.au or 0413 772 650.



4♠ Contract at NSWBA January 2013

North (Dummy)

♠ K 7 6 2
♥ K J 9 8 7 6
♦ Q
♣ K 8



South

♠ A Q J 10 9
♥ A 4 3
♦ 8 4
♣ 9 7 6

Dealer W, Nil Vul

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	3♣ ^{weak}	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Opening lead ♣J. It goes ♣K, ♣A, ♣6.
East cashes ♦A, then ♠Q (*West follows with ♣4*)
and exits with ♣10 on which West plays a low diamond.

You ruff this in dummy and draw trumps in three rounds ending in hand as East follows to the first round of spades then discards two small clubs.

You ruff your remaining diamond in dummy and play ♥6 to your ace as East follows with ♥5.

Its crunch time..... at trick 10 you play ♥4, West ♥10 and.....what do you play from dummy ?

Answer page 6

What do Bridge Players do in their spare time?

Well at least one, Martin Clear, creates palindromes; those sentences that spell out the same whether reading in either forward or reverse direction.

Martin's palindromes have now brought him celebrity. At the inaugural Symmys awards he came 2nd in the short palindrome category, equal first in Poetry then first and second in the long palindrome category. Here's the palindrome that earned him 2nd place in Short category:

"I made Rihanna hirsute, familiar, frail: I'm a fetus
Rihanna hired, am I?"

You can find Martin playing bridge most Tuesday nights at NSWBA.

Directors Regional Workshop – Club Level South West Region

This Workshop will be presented by Tony Howes, Head of NSWBA Director Accreditation, and will deal with aspects of directing needed to run most basic sessions at club level. The Workshop would be suitable for existing directors so they can brush up on their skills, and also for all other people who are interested and might have a desire to become a qualified director. The emphasis however, will be on existing directors.

The Workshop will cover:

Laws - The most common calls for the director.

Movements - Simple Howell and Mitchell movements and basic teams movements.

Scoring - All aspects of matchpoint scoring.

At the conclusion, a take home exam will be available for those wishing to become qualified as a director at club level.

Date:	Saturday April 6, 2013 10:00Am – 4:00pm
Venue:	Wagga Wagga Bridge Club 32 Bolton St Wagga Wagga 2650
Cost:	\$20.00 per person (inc GST). Cheques Payable to NSWBA and handed to John Dare
Enquiries	John Dare, Wagga Wagga Bridge club 6921 8289
& Bookings:	Adrian Thompson, Regional Representative 6962 5331 Tony Howes, 9960 1354 NSWBA, 9264 8111

♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

Board and scoring security

This may sound like a dry topic but is it something your club has considered recently?

Nowadays we nearly all use computer dealt boards and computer scoring. This opens up several integrity issues that did not exist before.

For example when we used to deal boards by hand, it was impossible to see the hand before it was played. Not so with computer deals. They are created beforehand – so someone will have had access to the hands before the session they are played at. Definitely whoever deals the boards have access; potentially other people too.

It's sad to think that someone might want to cheat at our wonderful game by looking at hands in advance but it could happen. It could also be infrequent. Very few people would be stupid (or sad) enough to try and cheat every week (!) but maybe someone gets tempted at a larger event – perhaps a major club Championship or a Gold point heat?

Obviously no-one wants to make a direct accusation; no-one enjoys the awkward conversations that might ensue afterwards, and it's usually almost impossible to prove whether or not something dubious has gone on anyway. Therefore, the best outcome for a club is simply to make sure that good procedures are in place all the time so that it can't easily happen in the first place.

Let's imagine for a moment that someone really did want to cheat. What could they do?

- Arrange to deal some boards they have seen before somewhere
- Look at the actual boards in advance of a session
- Look at the hand-records on a computer in advance of a session
- Look at a printout of the hand-records in advance of a session
- Input incorrect scores skewed in their favour (Manual scored events)
- Amend scores in their favour after input (Computer scored events)

Once we've identified what dubious things could be done, let's think how would we go about stopping it?

Boards

Clearly there need to be procedures in place so that whoever deals the boards for a session isn't playing in that session. Then the boards need to be stored securely between the time they have been dealt and the session. Who does that? Where are they stored? How secure is it? Who has access to them? Ideally only people that are not playing in the session.

Hand records

How are they generated? By whom? Who has access to the computer from which the deals are generated? When are the hand records printed out? By whom? Where are the sheets of paper stored? Once again all these functions should be done by people not playing in the session – in many cases the director. Computers should be suitably password protected. If hand records can be printed on the night and not in advance, so much the better.

Scoring

Does the club use electronic scorers? If so are the EW pairs checking the results input by NS all the time? Who has access to the computer that receives the scores to produce the results?

If scoring is done manually, who does it? Did they play in the same session? Does someone else check the data input afterwards to make sure it's accurate?

There are no perfect answers here but aside from the obvious password security on a computer, one simple thing you might consider is to display more than just the simple results. For example in a matchpoint pairs session the main results will list the total matchpoints and percentage each pair scored. But most systems allow you to also display the results each pair achieved on each board. If these are printed out or at least displayed online, it allows players to compare their own personal scoresheet against the official results. If someone had altered a score the difference is going to be visible now. But if you are just looking at a list of percentages you have no way of knowing whether your score is correct on every board.

Practicalities

Of course many of these issues are difficult and in many clubs there is a small core number of people involved (perhaps with a playing director) so it is simply not practical for all these functions to be carried out by people not playing the session(s). In that case you sometimes have to rely on the honesty and integrity of the people involved. In 99.9% of cases that will be perfectly fine. But in a rare case where it might not be, how would your club handle it if someone raised an accusation? Is there someone independent that could be approached to investigate impartially? Are there some written procedures? All these things are worth considering – just in case!



New Year testers

The new year offers plenty of opportunities to play Swiss Teams in Sydney as the Trumps Festival rolls over into the Summer Congress and New Year Masters Teams at NSWBA.

Partner and I got the 2013 bridge year off to its customary catastrophic start with a near-maximum loss in the first round of the Trumps Festival Teams. Derrick Browne and Joshua Wyner contributed to our woes by bidding accurately on Board 5. What will you rebid with this hand after your 1D opening as dealer gets a 1S response from partner?

♠ AQ93
♥ AT6
♦ QT964
♣ A

It's often asserted that one should not splinter with a singleton ace, but Derrick Browne did splinter with 4C, after which Joshua Wyner promptly rolled out 4NT RKCB. They were thus one of only two pairs (out of 14) to reach 6S, which was cold.

Board 5 ♠ AQ93
Dir: N ♥ AT6
Vul: N-S ♦ QT964
♣ A

♠ 875	♠ 6
♥ QJ2	♥ 8754
♦ K73	♦ J82
♣ K875	♣ QJ632
16 ♠ KJT42	N: 5♦3♥6♠3NT
9 4 ♥ K93	S: 5♦3♥6♠3NT
11 ♦ A5	E:
♣ T94	W:

Joshua's view was "I had first or second round control in each of spades, hearts and diamonds, with no wasted values in clubs, so it appeared to me that we were effectively playing with a 30-point deck". When, to his surprise, he found that Derrick also had ♣A, he considered playing in 7S if partner held both the trump queen and ♦K, but this proved not to be the case.

Bidding 6S after a jump raise to 4S by North is much more difficult. Joshua suggested that the 4S bid should be more tightly defined, showing around 18-19 balanced with 4-card support. Both partners agreed that if South had opened and North was responding, a splinter would not be a good idea. Derrick's view was that an immediate splinter by responder (e.g. 1H-4C) should never include a

singleton ace, because responder has so many other strong/forcing options.

Does your partnership know what it's doing in these situations?

In the Summer Teams at NSWBA on the following Sunday, I had the opportunity to use one of my much-loved but rarely-used conventions: a 3-level jump cue of their suit to show a solid 7-card minor suit, inviting partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in their suit and something outside.

Board 26 ♠ KJ653
Dir: E ♥ AKQ4
Vul: All ♦ Q83
♣ 9

♠ A9	♠ Q72
♥ T875	♥ J932
♦ 542	♦ AKJT9
♣ T875	♣ 4
15 ♠ T84	N: 4♣3♠1NT
4 11 ♥ 6	S: 4♣3♠1NT
10 ♦ 76	E: 1♦1♥
♣ AKQJ632	W: 1♦1♥

After RHO opened 1D, I bid 3D because I held the perfect hand for this convention. Indeed, unless East finds a spade lead against 3NT by North, declarer takes 10 or 11 tricks.

The convention doesn't work quite so well, however, if partner forgets and (noting that EW are playing better minor) passes, believing that 3D is natural. Gulp! Here I was in 3D ... West led the ♠A and continued a spade, presumably hoping for a ruff. I took the king, played three rounds of hearts pitching a spade and a club, then ruffed a heart. I now led clubs. East ruffed the second club honour and returned the spade queen, which I ruffed, discovering to my amazement that West couldn't overruff. So I played another club and East, who was down to ♦ AKJT, had to ruff and was then endplayed to give dummy the last trick with ♦Q. Only one off! Perhaps they wouldn't reach 3NT at the other table and we might lose only 6 IMPs ...

No, that's not how it turned out, because at the other table, they didn't have the benefit (!) of our convention. South played in 3NT, Gary Clarke led the ♠A to find out what was going on, then switched to a diamond and our teammates set the contract 2 tricks. We gained 3 IMPs!!*! Most NS pairs played in 4S going one or two off, one played 3C by South making overtricks, and one played 3NT by North making 10 tricks.

Now for a bit more discussion about bidding theory. Playing negative doubles (doesn't everyone?), when should you re-open with a double? Some believe that after e.g. 1m-(1M)-P-P or 1M-2m-P-P, a reopening double is mandatory if opener is short in overcaller's suit. Others hold that the double shows shortness in the overcalled suit but also 3+ support for unbid suits. There's a good discussion of many of these issues in the "12 Habits of Highly Effective Bidders" series on one of my favourite bridge sites, Karen Walker's Bridge Library at <http://home.comcast.net/~kwbridge/> Karen focuses on offensive/defensive potential and emphasises the importance of *not* being void in the overcalled suit.

Board 7 ♠ 853
 Dir: S ♥ AKJ84
 Vul: All ♦ KT6
 ♣ KJ

♠ QJ964	+	♠ A2
♥ 2		♥ QT9763
♦ AJ542		♦ 8
♣ A9		♣ T852

15 ♠ KT7 N: 1♣1♦1NT
 12 ♥ 5 S: 1♣1♦1NT
 6 ♦ Q973 E: 1♥1♣
 7 ♣ Q7643 W: 1♥1♠

After a 1S opening by West, the perfectly reasonable overcall of 2H by North was passed by East and South. Looking at all 4 hands, the preferred action is obvious. But at the table, would you be concerned about not having support for clubs and finding partner with something like x-Qxxx-xxx-KTxxx, when both 2Hx and 3C are potentially ugly outcomes? The NSWBA field voted 7:3 in favour of a reopening double of 2H, with declarer going off 2 or 3 an equal number of times. Maybe you and partner need to sort this out. We still haven't....

On to the New Year Masters Teams, which threw up a fascinating bidding problem the very next day. With the hand below, after a 1C opening by East (what? you wouldn't open that hand? oh well, I did) the bidding gets tricky for West. At our table it went 1C-1H-1NT (11-13 hcp)-2C (checkback)-2S (4 spades, not 3 hearts) and partner decided to use RKCB (which in this sequence inquires in spades) to discover that I held the heart ace and spade king. But what about the heart jack and the club queen? Finding out about those was just too hard, so he signed off in 6H, making an overtrick. To my mind, this was sensible bidding, because you really ought to be able to count 13 tricks to reach for a grand slam. That we lost 13 IMPs because our opponents

said "no guts, no glory" and bid 7H anyway was, in my opinion, purely coincidental.

Board 22 ♠ Q852
 Dir: E ♥ 73
 Vul: E-W ♦ Q986
 ♣ T76

♠ AT		♠ KJ73
♥ KQ8542	—	♥ AJ
♦ A		♦ J74
♣ AKJ8		♣ Q532

4 ♠ 964 N:
 21 12 ♥ T96 S:
 3 ♦ KT532 E: 7♣7♥5♠7NT
 ♣ 94 W: 7♣7♥5♠7NT

However, Deep Finesse points out that this hand offers 3 making grand slams: shouldn't it be possible to bid accurately to at least one of them? George Finikiotis provided the answer to this. As he noted, after our bidding sequence above, East must have 4-2-3-4 shape because with 4 diamonds, the opening bid would have been 1D. Therefore, playing 4-minor RKCB (aka Minorwood) West bids 4C, then over the 4H response (which shows one keycard, obviously the ace of hearts) bids 4S to ask for the queen of trumps. East replies 5S to show the club queen and the spade king: now, provided there are no horrible breaks, 7C is an excellent contract! In practice, although 3 pairs out of 12 bid 7H, only one pair managed to reach 7C. We could and should have done so. Could you?

Rakesh Kumar

BEGINNERS BRIDGE LESSONS IN 2013

Most bridge clubs have programs for teaching bridge. Contact your local bridge club or visit www.nswba.com.au/lessons to see links to other clubs offering lessons.

Listing your club's lessons on the NSWBA website is a free service provided by the NSWBA and is just one of the ways you can promote your club's lessons.

To have your club's lessons listed send the details to webmaster@nswba.com.au

Intermediate's Teaser

In following NSWBA bulletins we plan to have regular articles on how clubs can help their Intermediate players (people with 5+ years playing experience) further their bridge knowledge. For this issue though I will pose the following problem.

You are East and hold:

♠ A 10 6
♥ 7 6
♦ A K Q 10 5 4 3
♣ 9

North is dealer and bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
-	p,	1♦,	3♠
p,	p,	?	

What do you bid?

The experts consulted on this said it was an automatic 3NT.

Here's the reasoning. Your RHO failed to open, so has less than 12 HCP. Your LHO has 9 or less HCP. You have just 12 HCP, so partner will have 8 or 9 (or more). You have 8 top tricks and hence need just one from partner. The odds are looking pretty good! The hand came up at a club session where the standard was mixed, including some regular congress players. 3NT was bid just once and made as partner came down with the K & Q hearts and A Clubs.

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

Vu-Bridge

The Bridge Shop has announced a partnership with Vu-Bridge to sell Vu-Bridge products.

You can play bridge interactively on line as well as receive newsletters. There are two different levels namely beginners and intermediates. For all the details go to the Bridge Shop web site and select **Vu-Bridge** from the menu bar.

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

Answer to 4♠ Contract at NSWBA January 2013

♠ K 7 6 2
♥ K J 9 8 7 6
♦ Q
♣ K 8

West

♠ 8 5 3
♥ 10 2
♦ K J 9 7 6 3
♣ J 4

East

♠ 4
♥ Q 5
♦ A 10 5 2
♣ A Q 10 5 3 2

South

♠ A Q J 10 9
♥ A 4 3
♦ 8 4
♣ 9 7 6

Dealer W, Nil Vul

At the table South decided to finesse on the second round of hearts losing to the queen and was down 1. The winning and correct play is to play ♥K. Why?not because you have nine hearts in the two hands but because **if East began with 1-1-5-6 shape** then surely he would have bid the unusual 2NT (both minors) rather than 3♣. Thus you should play East to have started with 1-2-4-6 shape.

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

Resources for Bridge Directors

The Australian Bridge Directors Association (ABDA) web site has been revamped. Please check it out! At the ABF Home Page select the **Directors** tab. Halfway down the menu bar at the ABDA home page you will see **FORUM**. Click on that and you will find a lot of material that can be viewed for free. You need to be a registered member in order to post comments - except in General Discussion where anyone can post.

CONGRESS RESULTS

NSWBA Summer Teams

- 1 Garry Clarke, Sally Clarke, Margaret Foster, Anita Curtis
- 2 George Finikiotis, Steven Bock, Kevin Davies, Lester Kalmin
- 3 Cevet Emul, Catherine Zhang, Bina Kassam, Margaret Klassen

Double Bay IMP Pairs

- 1 David Hudson – Anita Curtis
- 2 Linden Raymond – Michael Courtney
- 3 Ervin Otvosi – Jeremi Stepinski

Kings and Queens Summer Teams

- 1 Paul Gosney, Liam Milne, Sartaj Hans, Adam Edgton
- 2 Ishmael Del'Monte, Michael Prescott, Vera Rowland, Marlene Watts
- 3 Robert Krochmalik, Paul Lavings, Terry Brown, Avinash Kanetkar

Inverell-Delvyn Pairs

- 1 Eric Baker – Brian Glover
- 2 David Tucker – Michael Johnson
- 3 Jill Spilsbury – Pam Moore

Double Bay Teams

- 1 Julian Abel, Rakesh Kumar, Garry Clarke, Sally Clarke
- 2 Bob Richman, Sue Ingham, Michael Prescott, Marlene Watts
- 3 Anthony Burke, Peter Gill, Martin Bloom, Tony Nunn

Great Lakes Teams

- 1 Frances Lewin, Peter Lewin, Christine Chandler, Anita Stiller
- 2 Sharon Mayo, Greg Mayo, Ken Wilks, Michael Simes
- 3 Saima King, Barbara Griffiths, Chris Manser, Barry Thomas

Trumps Summer Teams

- 1 Tony Leibowitz, Louise Leibowitz, Mannie Ichilcik, Lorna Ichilcik
- 2 Joshua Wyner, Derrick Browne, Julian Foster, Michael Waring
- 3 Andrew Peake, Orlando Wu, Helena Dawson, Sartaj Hans

Forbes Swiss Pairs

- 1 Helen Cameron, Robyn Pearce
- 2 Jennifer Hector, Liz Scorer
- 3 David Lander, Helene Lander

Upcoming State Events

Several state championship events are due to commence soon. Two of these are being held at North-Shore Bridge Club in Willoughby whilst the others are at the NSWBA in Goulburn St, Sydney.

At North-Shore Bridge Club

April 4 (Thursday) at 7:30pm for 3 weeks
State Men's and Women's Pairs

April 9 (Tuesday) at 1pm for 4 weeks
State Veteran's Pairs

At NSWBA, 162 Goulburn St, Sydney

April 8 (Monday) at 7:30pm for 4 weeks
State Mixed Teams

April 25 (Thursday) at 12:00 for 3 weeks
ITS O/W Final

May 13 (Monday) at 7:30pm for 4 weeks
ANC Open Butler Pairs

May 13 (Monday) at 7:30pm for 4 weeks
ANC Women's Butler Pairs

May 18 & 19 (Sat/Sun) at 10am
ITS Seniors Selection

May 19 (Sunday) at 10 am
ITS Youth Selection

Check

<http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/calendar.asp?T=S>

for all the details

DIARY OF UPCOMING CONGRESSES IN NSW

At our web site, go to **Tournaments** then select **Calendar** for more congress details

Date	Club	Event	Contact	Phone
April 7	St George Bridge Club	Swiss Pairs	Robert Tims	9525 8550
April 13	Hawkesbury Bridge Club	Pairs	Elaine Pugh	9627 4756
April 14	Hawkesbury Bridge Club	Teams	Elaine Pugh	9627 4756
April 14	Taree Bridge Club	Swiss Pairs	Judy Scott	6553 7878
April 20 & 21	Tamworth Bridge club	Teams	Roy Cottage	6766 4131
April 21	Peninsula Bridge Club	Teams	Sue Riley	0412 175 367
April 27	Yamba Bridge Club	Swiss Pairs	Annie Green	6646 1341
April 28	Tilligerry Bridge Club	Swiss Pairs	Janey Kieran	0408 606 787
May 4	Port Macquarie – Hastings Bridge Assoc	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Carol Briscoe	6583 3767
May 4,5	Bathurst and District Bridge Club	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Doreen Kjeldsen	6331 4694
May 18,19	Leeton Soldiers Bridge Club	Sat: Swiss Pairs Sun: Teams	Helen Taylor	6953 3117
May 18	Coffs Harbour Bridge Club	Teams	Helen Blewitt	0419 523 566
May 19	Strathfield Bridge Club	Teams	Deborah Turner	9745 2443
May 19	Canberra Bridge Club	Southern Highlands Teams	Manager CBC	6282 2382
May 26	NSWBA	Autumn Swiss Pairs	NSWBA	9264 8111