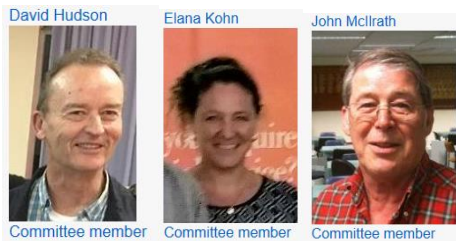




1. The AGM

The 2018 Committee



2019 Club AGM

This year's AGM and election of office bearers is to be held at Club Willoughby on Saturday 6th April at 11:30am. The timing allows you to grab a bite and attend our afternoon sessions: **red points at Club Willoughby** or the regular Saturday afternoon game at East Lindfield. This is your opportunity to obtain the latest update on how the club is faring, to hear from our President, John Brownie, and to ask any questions that you may have.

John Brownie, Les Grewcock and John McIlrath are stepping down, so we will be looking for a **new President, a new Treasurer and a new committee member.**

Nomination forms may be obtained from either venue or from the office, and if you can't be at the AGM, give a "proxy" form to a friend who can vote on your behalf. So, put it in your diary and we hope to see you there!

11:30am, Sat 6th April at Club Willoughby!

North Shore Bridge Club

Manager: Mike Prescott Phone: 0435 528 872
Editor: Kevin Davies Phone: 040 301 8979

Email address: mikeprescott7@hotmail.com
Email address: kdav1951@gmail.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Featuring the AGM and beginners
- 2 Bidding & Play Challenges
- 3 Club News
- 4 Club Events
- 5 Our Game of bridge
- 6 Bidding & Play Challenge Solutions
- 7 Teaching Corner for Newer Players
- 8 Congress News

Last opportunity for new players this semester:

The 2019 semester 1 for beginners at Club Willoughby is well underway, with both the morning and evening classes full, capped at **40 students in each class.**

The 6-week Introduction to Bridge at **East Lindfield** with **Ed Barnes**, starts 5th March, and there are still some vacancies, so **a few more students can be accepted.**

- Tuesdays at 2pm, from 5th March and
- Tuesdays at 7pm from 5th March.



Want to learn with Ed Barnes?

Call Sue Crompton on
0416 290 867

2. Bidding and Play Challenges

2a. Featured Slam Hand:

West	D NV	East	NV
♠ A Q J 9		♠ 8	
♥ K 4		♥ A Q J 7 6 3	
♦ A 8 7		♦ 9	
♣ K J 7 6		♣ Q 10 8 4 2	

Try bidding this slam hand with your regular partner.

Commentary on this hand follows at 2e in this section.

2b. Bidding Challenge: Hand 1

How would you bid this hand?

West	D V	East	V
♠ A Q 6		♠ K J 8 7 3 2	
♥ 9 8		♥ A K	
♦ A Q 9 8 3		♦ K 5 2	
♣ J 7 6		♣ K 8	

2c. Bidding Challenge: Hand 2

Or this hand?

West	D V	East	V
♠ K 8		♠ A Q 4	
♥ K 10 8 3		♥ J 2	
♦ Q 7 5 4		♦ A K	
♣ Q J 4		♣ A K 10 9 5 3	

Try bidding these hands with your regular partner.

Our solutions are in section 6 of this newsletter.

2d. Play the hand Challenge

North	South
♠ K Q T 3	♠ A J 5
♥ 8 6 4	♥ A K Q 2
♦ Q 7 5 4	♦ A 6
♣ 7 4	♣ J 9 8 5

The bidding:

West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Standard or 2/1 Bidding Notes			
1 ♣	Too strong (19 HCPs) for 1NT, so open 1 ♣		
1 ♠	Weakish hand, so bid Major first		
2NT	Shows 18/19 balanced, denies 4 spades		
3NT	8 HCPs, should be OK in 3NT		

T	Lead	3NT by South
1	W ♣ 2	East wins ♣ K
2	E ♣ 6	West wins ♣ 10 (♣ 6 .. Middle card normal from 3)
3	W ♣ A	West cashes top club tricks, North drops ♥ 4
4	W ♣ Q	West cashes club tricks, North drop ♦ 4
5	W ♦ J	West switches to ♦ J (normal). What now?

West leads ♣ 2 and cashes the first 4 tricks. West now leads ♦ J. What to do now? Play the ♦ Q?

Decide what would you do before looking at the solution.

Our solution is in section 6 of this newsletter.

2e. Featured Slam hand

December 22 CW Sat 1:00 pm Dup - Open

Board 12

North		V	
♠	K 4		
♥	10 9 8 5		
♦	K Q 6 5 4		
♣	A 5		
West		D	NV
♠	A Q J 9	♠	8
♥	K 4	♥	A Q J 7 6 3
♦	A 8 7	♦	9
♣	K J 7 6	♣	Q 10 8 4 2
South		V	
♠	10 7 6 5 3 2	HCPs	
♥	2	12	
♦	J 10 3 2	18	9
♣	9 3	1	

East	5	-	6	-	3
West	5	-	6	1	3

Suggested standard or 2/1 bidding:

West (D)	N	East	S
1 ♣	1 ♦ or X	1 ♥	P
2NT	P	3 ♥	P
4 ♥	P	4NT	P
5 ♣	P	6 ♥	P
Pass	P or X		

Explanations of Standard or 2/1 Bidding	
1 ♣	3+clubs, too strong to open 1NT (18HCPs)
1 ♦ or X	Prefer 1 ♦, lead directing for partner
1 ♥	5+ hearts, 8+ HCPs
2NT	18-19 balanced, diamond stopper, <3 hearts
3 ♥	6+ hearts, forcing
4 ♥	OK, I have 2-card heart support
4NT	Keycard in hearts, we have a ♣/♥ fit
5 ♣	3/0 keycards in hearts, assume 3 after 2NT
6 ♥	Pushy, missing a keycard
P or X	X is risky, gets only 5% extra Matchpoints, may help declarer play the hand

The final contract of 6♥ (maybe X) is a reasonable spot on the likely double fit in clubs and hearts, using the singletons to ruff diamonds and spades.

The possible final X by North is unnecessary, as any EW score going off will be good for NS.

Note that the director has awarded one late table an Average, as they didn't play this hand:

Matchpoint scoring:

EW Contract Details						EW Matchpoint Results		
Fequ	Con	D	T	L	Score	MPS	%	
1x	3NT	W	7	♦ K	-100	0.1	0%	
1x	3NT	W	9	♦ K	400	2.2	7%	
1x	AVR	Director Avr Award				16	50%	
12x	4♥	W	12	♦ K	480	16	50%	
1x	3NT	W	12	♦ K	490	29.8	93%	
1x	6♥ x	W	12	♦ Q	1210	31.9	100%	
17 Tables						Max MP = 16x2 = 32		

Matchpoint comments:

- Highest score wins
- 3NT is a poor game choice with extreme shapely hands
- Average game 4♥ making 12 tricks
- Slam gets TOP 6♥x making 12 tricks

International Matchpoint (IMPs) Scoring:

EW Contract Details						EW IMP Results		
Fequ	Con	D	T	L	Score	Diff	IMPS	
1x	3NT	W	7	♦ K	-100	-580	-11	
1x	3NT	W	9	♦ K	400	-80	-3	
1x	AVR	Director Avr Award				0	0	
12x	4♥	W	12	♦ K	480	0	0	
1x	3NT	W	12	♦ K	490	10	0	
1x	6♥ x	W	12	♦ Q	1210	730	12	
17 Tables						Average Score = 480		

IMPs comments:

You must make your contracts!

- 11 IMPs 3NT went down
- 3 IMPs 3NT made, but is the wrong game, East should bid 4+♥
- 0 Just making your heart game
- +12 IMPs Making slam with bonus X

The Play in 6♥ by East

Best South Lead:

♦J is a standout card, although ♦2 (count card) is also OK.

Declarer's Plan:

Count losers: Must lose ♣A

Count winners: 6♥+4♣+1♦+1♠ = 12 tricks

The Full Hand

North V	
♠ K 4	
♥ 10 9 8 5	
♦ K Q 6 5 4	
♣ A 5	
West D NV	East NV
♠ A Q J 9	♠ 8
♥ K 4	♥ A Q J 7 6 3
♦ A 8 7	♦ 9
♣ K J 7 6	♣ Q 10 8 4 2
South V	
♠ 10 7 6 5 3 2	HCPs
♥ 2	12
♦ J 10 3 2	18 9
♣ 9 3	1

Card by Card:

Claim 12 Tricks.

T	Lead	East is in 6♥, 12 tricks needed
1	S ♦J	West wins ♦A, North follows and encourages
2	W ♥K	West wins the trick - all follow
3	W ♥4	East wins ♥A (South showing out, 3/1 break)
4	E ♥Q	East wins ♥Q, drawing last trump
5	E ♣2	East claims 12 tricks (giving away ♣A). The East hand is high

The play in 3NT by West presents an interesting problem!

Best North Lead:

♦K is a standout card, retaining your ♣A as an entry, and still having the ♠K as another likely trick.

Declarer's Plan:

Count losers: Must lose ♣A and maybe 4+ diamonds.

Count winners: 6♥+1♦+1♠ = 8 tricks

How can you make 9 tricks?

The spade finesse looks unlikely to be successful, as North made a vulnerable overcall so is marked with the points.

If North has the ♠K and the ♣A, we can force a diamond discard by running 6 heart tricks (he has to keep ♠Kx), then throw North in with their ♣A.

Card by card for improver players:

T	Lead	West is in 3NT, 9 tricks needed
1	N ♦K	West wins ♦A (no point in ducking)
2	W ♥K	West wins, all follow
3	W ♥4	East wins ♥A, South shows out (not a problem)
4	E ♥Q	East cashes out the Q♥, North follows
5	E ♥J	East cashes out the J♥, North follows
6	E ♥7	East cashes out the 7♥, North pitches ♣5

After 5 running heart tricks, declarer envisions the North hand has these cards left:

North	
♠	K4
♥	
♦	Q654
♣	A

Now East cashes the last heart, squeezing North, who will probably discard the ♦4.

Now you throw North in with a club! And he cashes his 3 diamond tricks only.

7	E	♥6	East's ♥6 squeezes North, who pitches ♦4
8	E	♣2	North wins ♣A
9	N	♦Q	North cashes ♦Q
10	N	♦6	South wins ♦J
11	S	♦T	South cashes ♦T, West keeps ♣A and ♣J
12	S	♠T	West wins ♠A
13	W	♣J	West cashes winning club for 9 tricks

Note: a clever thinking North may risk barring his ♠K and when in with the ♣A, may cash 4 diamonds.

Nothing is 100%!

3. Club News

3a. From the Manager



We are relaunching the Tuesday championship nights at East Lindfield. A number of events (all Red or Gold point) are programmed to develop a good competition night. Please support this initiative by joining in.

The first event is the East Lindfield Mixed Pairs championship in March, followed by the GNOT and a Swiss Pairs event.

The Club Championship events list has been updated. The Blue Ribbon Pairs was not run, and has been replaced by the addition of the **Stratified Pairs**, a Saturday based competition run across merged fields at both our venues in August.

3b. From the Club Library

We need your help!! A number of books are missing from the Club Willoughby Library. We would very much appreciate it if you could look around your home in case a book has slipped under another book, been put on the shelf and / or forgotten. If so, please would you place it in the Returns plastic bin at your earliest convenience.

We very much appreciate your support, thank you. From Fiona and Marion.

3c. Club Champion Leader Board

Pos	After 2 of 18 Qualifying events	Pts
1=	Jim Bean	10
1=	Lorna Ichilcik	10
1=	Lynn Kalmin	10
1=	Tim Mountjoy	10

3d. February 2018 Monthly Winners

East Lindfield

Monthly Comp	2019 February Winners at East Lindfield	
Mon	Open 9:30am	Mary Sifis & Elizabeth Travers
	Open 1pm	Marilyn Grass & Barbara Madeley
Tue	Open 10am	Graham McMahon & Yu-Shiun Chen
	S'vised 2pm	Eleanor Dalton & Paula Rowan
	Rookie 2pm	Leo Vilensky & Ilia Vilensky
	S'vised 7pm	N/Q
Wed	Open 10pm	Catherine Else & Janet Crocker
Thu	Open 1pm	Julie Norton & Ian Plummer
Fri	Open 10am	Pam Koroknay & Kim Black
Sat	Open 1pm	Judy Sharp & Margot Lander

Club Willoughby

Monthly Comp	2019 February Winners at Club Willoughby	
Mon	Open 10am	Ed Truscott & David Smee
	Restr 10am	Sue Johnston & Jenny Scully
	S'vised 2pm	Pam Drury & Helen Clark
	Rookie 2pm	Monica Vilensky & Ilia Vilensky
	Open 7:30pm	Christine Vinson & Frances Garrick
Tue	S'vised 10am	Catherine McReady & Doug Leigh
	Rookie 10am	Helena Boden & Kevin Melville
	Open 1pm	Alice Balog & Vita Winestock
	Open 7:30pm	Peter Whitford & Diana Neale
	S'vised 7:30pm	N/Q
Wed	Rookie 7:30pm	Sasha Bennett & Liz Morell
	Open 10am	Elli Urbach & Judy Osie
	Restr 10am	Wendy Fine & Bev Fisher
	S'vised 2pm	Sally-Ann Lucas & Sally Hay
	Rookie 2pm	Julie Bendel & Judy Bihari
Thu	Open 7:30pm	Christine Vinson & Bruce Dalglish
	Open 10am	Arthur Bragg & Allan Pike
Fri	Rookie 2pm	Robyne Fleming & Sue Gordon
	Open 10am	Helen Lowry & Frances Lyons
Sat	Restr 10am	Shirley Gatliff & Joan Colley
	Open 1pm	Kay Moyes & John Brownie
Sun	Open 1pm	Peter Koorey & Guy Jarvi

3e. Masterpoint Promotions

The following members were promoted to a higher ABF masterpoint rank in January:

NAME	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK in Jan19
Mordo, Mark	CW	Grand
Strickland, Tina	Trumps	Grand
McCallum, Karen	CW	Life
Meyers, Kit	CW	National
Beeby, Philip	CW	National
Chen, Yu-Shiun	EL	*Regional
Li, Ming	CW	Regional
Whalley, Wendy	CW	Regional
Nickson, Jean	EL	Regional
O'Brien, Jeanette	CW	Regional
Stewart, Marion	CW	**Local
Pavli, Helen	CW	**Local
Nye, Geoff	Trumps	**Local
Francis, Sue	CW	**Local
Harvey, Marie	CW	**Local
Cummins, Anne	Turra	**Local
Kaytaz, Bulent	CW	*Local
Close, Yve	CW	*Local
Camilleri, Joe	CW	*Local
Craven, Mary	CW	*Local
Guy, John	CW	*Local
McDonnell, James	CW	Local
Fong, Francis	CW	Local
Goddard, Rachel	CW	Local
Belcher, Sandra	CW	Local
Douglas, Helen	CW	Local
White, Garry	CW	Local
Turnbull, Kay	CW	Club
Mirzadeh, Jamileh	CW	Club
Finlayson, Kay	CW	Club
Pudig, Karen	CW	Club
Egger, Jeannie	EL	Club
Andrews, Valda	CW	Graduate
Hinton, Jan	CW	Graduate
Barling, Kerry	CW	Graduate
Ferns, Jennifer	CW	Graduate
King, Jenny	EL	Graduate
Lewis, Kathy	CW	Graduate
Hay, Sally	CW	Graduate

3f. Interstate Team Selection (ITS)

NSW Open Team Selection

NSWBA ITS Open Team Qualifiers Home club members ITS Stage 2)	(NSBC who made
Nicky Strasser - George Bilski	
Yixiang Zhang - Wayne Zhu	
Ruth Tobin - Tony Ong	
Heather Cusworth - Frances Lyons	
Robert Case - Margaret Gidley-Baird	
Lynn Kalmin - Lorna Ichilcik	
Peter Jeffery - Yumin Li	
Jane Beeby - Michael Wilkinson	
Axel Johannsson - Arthur Ramer	
David Fryda - Michael Cartmell	
David Hudson - Anita Curtis	

3g. Northern Suburbs Interclub Teams Challenge

The Northern Suburbs interclub team challenge is to be held at the Trumps Bridge Centre on March 10th. Last year this event was won by **Trumps** and we at the NSBC do not want this to happen again! Here are our representative teams for this year:

We currently have interest from only 7 teams (all from Club Willoughby) and Mike would love to get at least one team from East Lindfield.

This is a graded event with teams playing teams of equal standing. These grades are:

- Open,
- Restricted <750MP
- Novice <100MP.

Get a team of 4 together and play at Trumps (Mosman) and represent your club. Final team selections will be made in first week in March... **It's still not too late**

4. Club Events

4a. Completed Events

Men's Pairs Championship

Pos	Men's Pairs Championship at CW	%	CC Pts
1	Tim Mountjoy & Jim Bean	230%	10
2	Gary Lane & Julian Abel	221%	7
3	Michael Cartmell & Nick Fahrer	220%	5

Winners: Tim & Jim



Women's Pairs Championship

Pos	Women's Pairs Championship at CW	%	CC Pts
1	Lorna Ichilcik - Lynn Kalmin	233%	10
2	Giselle Mundell - Avril Zets	224%	7
3	Helene Pitt - Helena Dawson	208%	5

Winners: Lorna & Lynn



CW State Mixed daytime Championship

Pos	State Mixed Pairs Qual at CW Daytime	%
1	Fiona Lavery & John Jongkind	180%
2	Alicia Mercer & Leo Goorevich	179%
3	Jeanette Abrams & Derek Maltz	161%

Winners: Fiona & John



4b. Upcoming Club Events

CW - Tournament events (Mar/May)			
Thursday Championship nights @ 7:30pm			
Date		Event Details	Status
28/Feb	1/4	Club Mixed Pairs Championship (+ State Mixed Qual)	In Progress
7/Mar	2/4		
14/Mar	3/4		
21/Mar	4/4		
28/Mar	1/4	Men's & Women's Teams Championship	bookings Required
4/Apr	2/4		
11/Apr	3/4		
18/Apr	4/4		
25/Apr		No Night Session - ANZAC Day Holliday	
2/May		No Night Session - ANOT (Adelaide)	
9/May	1/5	GNOT Direct Qualifier to ABF Final in Tweed Heads (Gold Points)	bookings Required
16/May	2/5		
23/May	3/5		
30/May	4/5		
5/Jun		No Night Session - VCC Melbourne	
13/Jun	5/5	GNOT Direct Qualifier finals	

CW Tuesday Daytime @ 1pm			
Date		Event Details	Status
21/May	1/3	CW Pairs Championship (Daytime Qual State Pairs)	bookings Required
28/May	2/3		
4/Jun	3/3		

6/Apr	Club AGM (11:30am) @ CW		
6/Apr	Red point Saturday Bridge @ CW		
22/Apr	Easter Monday CW 1:00pm Red point Bridge		
25/Apr	ANZAC Day Holiday CW 1:00pm Red point Bridge		
6/May	CW 10am Open - Bridge for Brains Red point event		
6/May	CW 10am Restricted - Bridge for Brains Red point event		

EL - Tournament Events (Mar/May)			
EL - Tuesday Championship Night @ 7:30			
Date		Event Details	Status
5-Mar	1/3	EL Mixed Pairs Championship (Qual State Mixed) Red Point Tournament	Bookings Required website
12-Mar	2/3		
19-Mar	3/3		
2-Apr	1/3	EL GNOT (Teams) Metro Qualifier Gold point event	Bookings Required website
9-Apr	2/3		
16-Apr	3/3		
7-May	1/3	EL Swiss Pairs Championship Red point Tournament	Bookings Required website
14-May	2/3		
21-May	3/3		

EL - Special Events (Mar/May)			
22/Apr	Easter Monday EL 9:30am Red point Bridge		
22/Apr	Easter Monday EL 1:00pm Red point Bridge		
25/Apr	ANZAC Day Holiday EL 1:00pm Red point Bridge		
6/May	EL 9:30am Bridge for Brains - Red point Bridge		
6/May	EL 1pm Bridge for Brains - Red point Bridge		

Northern Suburbs Interclub Teams Challenge		
10/03/2019 Sunday, 2 sessions from 10am at Trumps Mosman	Represent NSBC at the Interclub Teams challenge?	Most of the 8 Teams have been selected
NSBC Pairs Congress at East Lindfield		
17/03/2019 Sunday, 2 sessions from 10am	NSBC Congress Swiss Pairs	Bookings required via website (34 tables max)
NSWBA State Mixed Pairs Finals		
25/May	State Mixed Qualifying Rounds	
26/May	State Mixed Finals + NSWBA Autumn Pairs	

NSBC Men's and Women's Teams Championship

Running over 4 Thursday nights in March and April is the **33rd Men's teams** and the **41st Women's Teams championships**. This is a qualifying event for CC points towards determination of our club champion.



East Lindfield Swiss Pairs Congress

This is the 4th event counting towards the **2019 Club champion**. It will be held on Sunday March 17th at our East Lindfield venue.



Sunday: 17th March
1 Day, 2 Session Event

Session 1: 10:00am Start
(Lunch orders taken before Session 1)

\$35 Table Fees

It is an ideal opportunity to come and taste Swiss Pairs (IMP/VP Scoring), the format will depend on entries. In 2018 it was played as a single field over 7 matches. The venue has a limit of **34 Tables**, so book in early.

Last year's winners were:

2018 EL SWISS PAIRS Congress	
1st	Gary & Sally Clarke

**Men's and Women's Teams
Club Willoughby**

Club Championship Event

Thursday: 7:30pm

4 Sessions
28th March
4th April
11th April
18th April

Red Points
\$60 Members
\$80 Non Members

Last year's winning teams were:

32nd	2018 Men's Teams Champions
1st	Bob Sebesfi, Richard Douglas, Bijan Assaee, Wayne Zhu, Yixiang Zhang
40th	2018 Women's Teams Champions
1st	Lorna Ichilcik, Lynn Kalmin, Giselle Mundell, Avril Zets, Rena Kaplan

This is an enjoyable event, so why not form a team of 4 and join in!

Will your names be added to the honour board this year?

East Lindfield Mixed Pairs Championship (also State Mixed Pairs Qualifying)

The East Lindfield Mixed Pairs Championship (also a state mixed qualifying event) will be run over 3 sessions on **Tuesday nights** at 7:30pm at East Lindfield, starting on 5th March. It is a **RED Point Event**.



**State Mixed Pairs
Qualifying**

East Lindfield

Tuesday Nights: 7:30pm
3 Sessions

5th March
12th March
19th March

Red Point Event

\$45 Members
\$60 Non Members



The winners will be invited to represent NSBC in the State Mixed Pairs finals at the NSWBA on 25/26th May 2019. This is a mixed gender event, so get your opposite sex partner organized!
Last year's winners were:

2018 - EL Mixed Pairs Champions	
1	Sheena Arora & Bijan Assaee

This year is the **4th Year** that this event has been run at East Lindfield. **Will you get your names added to our honour boards?**

The North Shore Bridge Club Pre-Paid System

Join the NSBC Pre-Paid system (PP) and enjoy the benefits: 5% discount on table money, no need to find cash at the table, a free game in your birthday month. You will receive a monthly statement by email, and reminders when your balance is low. You can top up your balance with the director at the club, or via the NSBC website. **This is a club member only benefit.**

East Lindfield GNOT Championship

The East Lindfield GNOT (Teams) championships is the first of the 3 GNOT (**Gold Points**) qualifying events to be held by the NSBC. It will run over 3 Tuesday Nights at 7:30pm, starting on 2nd April.



**GNOT Metro
Qualifying**

East Lindfield

Tuesday: 7:30pm
3 Sessions
2nd April
9th April
16th April

GOLD POINT EVENT

\$45 Members
\$60 Non Members



Last year's winners were:

2018 - EL GNOT Teams Champions	
1 st	Bijan Assaee, Sheena Arora, Peter Liphay, Mark Moscow

The winners will be invited to represent NSBC in the GNOT Metro finals at the NSWBA on 21/22 September 2019.

5. Our Game of Bridge

5a. Checkback – Useful bidding tool

2/3C Checkback (2C/3C) after a typical bidding sequence of 1 of a minor, a response of 1 of a major, and a 1NT/2NT rebid by the opener, allows you to find a 4-4 or 5-3 major fit. Here 2C/3C would be forcing to at least 2NT or 3NT and asks the opener, who has limited his hand, to further describe the shape of his hand.

1C-1H-1NT-2C: Checkback (forcing to 2NT)	
2D	4 diamonds, likely 4-4 in the minors
2H	3 hearts, denies 4 diamonds
2S	4 spades, denies 4 diamonds or 3 hearts
2NT	Must have 3-2-3-5 shape
1D-1S-1NT-2C Checkback (forcing to 2NT)	
2D	5 diamonds
2H	4 hearts
2S	3 spades, denies 5 diamonds or 4 hearts
2NT	Must have 2-3-4-4 shape

1C-1H-2NT-3C Checkback (forcing to 3NT)	
3D	4 diamonds, likely 4-4 in the minors
3H	3 hearts, denies 4 diamonds
3S	4 spades, denies 4 diamonds or 3 hearts
3NT	Must have 3-2-3-5 shape
1D-1S-2NT-3C Checkback (forcing to 3NT)	
3D	5 diamonds
3H	4 hearts
3S	3 spades, denies 5 diamonds or 4 hearts
3NT	Must have 2-3-4-4 shape

A couple of examples using checkback:

West		East	
NV		NV	
♠ A 10 9 8		♠ K 6 4 3	
♥ J 7		♥ K 8 4 3 2	
♦ A K Q 9		♦ 10 7	
♣ A J 2		♣ 7 4	
Suggested Standard Bidding			
West	N	East	S
1♦ (3+ diamonds)	P	1♥ (4+ hearts, 6+ HCPs)	P
2NT (18-19 balanced)	P	3♣ Checkback	P
3♠ (4 spades, not 3 hearts)	P	4♠	

East finds double fit: 4-4 spades, 5-2 hearts.

West		East	
NV		NV	
♠ 6 3		♠ A K Q 7 4	
♥ K 9 5		♥ Q J 8	
♦ A K 6		♦ J 3	
♣ Q J 10 5 3		♣ K 7 2	
Suggested Standard Bidding			
West	N	East	S
1♣ (3+ clubs, 12+ HCPs)	P	1♠ (4+ spades, 6+ HCPs)	P
1NT (12-14 balanced)	P	2♣ Checkback	P
2NT (2-3-3-5 shape)	P	3NT	

East bids 3NT knowing West has only 2 Spades.

5b. More “Bridge Rules to live by”, from Karen McCallum, our US visitor:

NEVER LIE ABOUT TRUMP LENGTH. If you do, partner cannot make winning Law of Total Trick decisions. Or he will choose the wrong trump suit. Or he will mis-defend because he has the wrong count.

YOU HAVE A CHOICE OF BIDS AND ONE OF THEM IS 3NT – BID 3NT!

CHOICE OF GAMES COMES BEFORE SLAM BIDDING. Without a trump suit, all ambiguous bids below game should be interpreted as an attempt to get to the right game, not as cue-bids showing slam interest.

NO CUE-BIDS BELOW 3NT – 3-LEVEL BIDS SHOW VALUES, NOT ACES. As above, choice of games comes before slam bidding.

YOUR PARTNER IS YOUR BEST FRIEND. You can't win without them. Treat them well – they won't play well if you don't.

THINK FOR YOURSELF – DON'T BE A PARROT OR A PUPPET.

You can't win by following rules. But this does not mean that you are free to step outside your partnership. It's a balancing act. Make your partnership rules and follow them, but remember to use your own brain

5c. Unauthorised Information



by MATTHEW MCMANUS

While playing bridge, there is only one legal way of communicating with your partner: during the auction, by the calls you make; and during the play, by the cards you play. Any other information which passes between you and partner is called **unauthorised information** (often abbreviated to **UI**).

The laws explicitly state that you may not use such information when deciding what action to take. **UI** can take many forms. It ranges from the highly undesirable – the shake of the head, the look of disgust, the unmistakable groan – to the absolutely innocent which is part of the game (e.g. partner alerting your bid).

Two of the most common types of **UI** are also a perfectly normal aspect of the game. One is the length of time partner takes when deciding what to do; when they take a long time, they clearly have a problem. The other is the explanation of the meaning of your bid which partner gives to the opponents; if he gets it wrong, you know that partner has misunderstood you and there is the temptation to “have another go” at getting it right. In this article, I am going to talk about what your responsibilities are when you have **UI** from partner. It is a question which I am regularly asked. Many players think they should just ignore it and do what they would have done anyway, however this is not correct. The Laws of Bridge place a greater ethical obligation on you when you find yourself in this position. Hopefully, the following examples may demonstrate it.

With both sides vulnerable, you are sitting East, holding the following uninspiring hand. You hear the opponents, playing Standard, bid uninterrupted to 3NT.

You, sitting East, hold:

♠ J7653

♥ T

♦ 8652

♣ 754

The auction goes:

West	North	You	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT

They haven't shown any inclination to bid towards slam, even though you only have one point, so partner must have a reasonable hand – maybe even an opening hand. What do you lead? Look at the options:

- a ♠? It is usually pointless leading from a long suit with a weak hand, as it will take a lot for it to be right. For example, partner might hold KQx and declarer may only be able to duck once. However, you might get lucky, and this is what many players would choose.
- a ♥? South has not made any move to search for a heart fit, so the chances are that he has only four and NS have at most seven hearts between them. If they have seven and you have one, partner has five hearts and a good hand, but couldn't bid. The opposition bid his suit. Just think about all the times when partner is on lead to 3NT and you hold a singleton – it's always the suit partner leads! So why not return the favour when you are on lead? There is an excellent chance that it is the best one for your side.
- a ♦? Could be right and it would probably be fairly safe. Even if you are picking up the suit for declarer, it is something which he probably could have done himself. It probably won't be a devastating lead (partner may have bid diamonds if that was the case), but it is one that is least likely to give anything away, and maybe that's how you need to defend this hand.
- a ♣? To lead declarer's suit would be a real shot in the dark. I suspect it has the least expectation of being successful. So, having heard the evidence, what do you choose?

For me, the argument for a heart lead is strongest, although I can understand if you want to choose a spade or a diamond. Now let me give you some more information. After South bid 3NT, partner paused for about **15 seconds** before passing. What were they thinking about? There are two possibilities: **bidding or doubling**. What was partner thinking of bidding? I don't think there is an answer to that question, there is no way that partner would have considered stepping in over 3NT. So, it was **double**.

If partner had doubled, what would you have led? The correct answer is a ♥. When partner, having passed throughout, doubles a freely bid 3NT, it asks you to lead dummy's first bid suit. Partner has very good hearts; they couldn't bid them since the opponents bid them first, and they couldn't double 1♥ as that would be for takeout showing the other suits.

Now on the actual hand, partner did not double, but they were clearly thinking about it. Do you still lead a heart? This is where knowledge of your ethical responsibilities comes into play.

Law 73C Where a player has available to him unauthorised information from his partner, such as from a remark, an explanation or a hesitation, he must carefully avoid taking any advantage from that unauthorised information.

So, it is not good enough to merely pretend that you didn't notice that partner had passed you some **UI** (as they did here through the hesitation before passing over 3NT) and lead what you were going to do anyway.

The Laws require that you **actively steer clear** of the action which partner has, in this instance, unconsciously suggested will be the winning one. The only time that a heart lead would be allowed is if it was absolutely clear cut on your hand. (♥AKQJ10 would be the most extreme example of when it would be standout, but it has to be very, very obvious.)

My second example relates to the bidding: Partner opens 1H and you hold:

♠ AK4
♥ J862
♦ 984
♣ K98

The auction goes:

West	North	East	You
	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♦ !
Pass	-?		

You have close to an opening hand (albeit a very weak one), four card support for partner, but poor shape. You decide to show this as a limit raise. You and your partner have agreed to play **Bergen raises** and the bid to show this hand is 3♦.

Partner alerts 3♦ as required and then starts thinking. After what seems like an eternity, partner eventually bids 3♥, signing off. Are you tempted to try 4♥? Look at all your points! You would open the bidding with most 11 counts, so you can use the excuse that you have an opening hand. What **UI** do you have from partner's hesitation? What were his alternatives? 3♥ or 4♥. If you are going to "carefully avoid taking any advantage", **you must pass**.

Same situation. Partner alerts 3♦. This time the opponents ask and he says, "6 to 9 points with four hearts" and bids 3♥ immediately. This time you have heard the **wrong explanation**. Partner may have an automatic 4♥ bid opposite a limit raise. But again, in avoiding taking advantage of the **UI**, **you must pass**.

Are there any times when you could bid again when you show a limit raise and partner bids 3♥? Yes, if you have no **UI**, you are free to do what you like, no matter how silly it might be. So, if partner explained 3♦ correctly and bid 3♥ straight away, do whatever you want.

Similarly, if there were no questions asked and partner bid 3♥ without hesitation, again you are at liberty to make any call at all. The only other time you may get a chance is if your hand "changes" and you haven't got your bid. So, say you suddenly discover that

the ♣9 is actually the ♣A. Now you could justify a 4♥ bid.

When players bid 4♥ in the face of **UI**, their excuse is often, “but I was going to bid it anyway”. Apart from being a self-serving statement, it misses the point. When they have **UI**, they need to bend over backwards not to take an action which takes advantage of it. Unless you have a miscount of a similar magnitude to the one, I described in the previous paragraph, if you choose to show a limit raise for example, that’s it. Once partner conveys **UI**, you have absolutely no option but to pass their sign off. Is there a way around it?

1. Get your partner not to pass **UI**! That’s hard. In one instance, they must get the system right. On the other hand, if they do hesitate, encourage them to err on the side of bidding on, rather than signing off. Get them to understand that you will be bound by their decision.
2. If you have a hand on which you want to be in game, make a bid which is not invitational. So, for example, if you decide that the above hand is worth bidding game, then do not make a limit raise – find another bid.
3. Change your system so that you have a bid which forces you to game without overstating your strength. For example, the auction 1♥ - 3NT is one which doesn’t come up very often. My suggestion is to use 3NT in this sequence to show a hand which is about the strength of a limit raise but is just too good to stop out of game. That way you don’t have to include such hands in your normal game force raise sequence and can avoid the risk of partner shooting off to slam when you just don’t have enough ammunition.

One thing you should **definitely avoid** is having a bid which shows “limit raise or better”. That is asking for trouble. If you get **UI** from partner before a sign off and you then bid on, you will get little sympathy from the director if your hand is at all borderline.

6. Bidding and Play Challenge Solutions

6a. Bidding Challenge solution: Hand 1

Hand 1: North, West, East, South hands and HCPs.

North: ♠ 9, ♥ QJ432, ♦ J4, ♣ A10952

West: ♠ A Q 6, ♥ 9 8, ♦ A Q 9 8 3, ♣ J 7 6

East: ♠ K J 8 7 3 2, ♥ A K, ♦ K 5 2, ♣ K 8

South: ♠ 10 5 4, ♥ 10 7 6 5, ♦ 10 7 6, ♣ Q 4 3

HCPs: 8 (North), 13 (West), 17 (East), 2 (South)

East	1	6	-	6	6
West	1	6	-	6	6

Suggested Standard bidding:

Standard American or 2/1 bidding, NS silent	
West	East
1♦ : Opening, 3+ diamonds	1♠ : 6+ HCPs, 4+ spades
1NT: 12-14 balanced	2♣ Checkback
2♦ : I have 5 diamonds	2♠ : I have 5+ spades (forcing)
3♠ : 3-card spade support	4NT: Keycard in spades
5♠ : 2 keycards + ♠ Q	6♠
P	

Bidding Notes:

- Checkback is forcing to 2NT.
- The double fit in diamonds and spades encourages slam.

The Play in 6♠ by East:

Best South Lead: The best choice is a small trump.

Declarer’s Plan:

Count losers: Must lose ♣A.

Count winners: 6♠+2♥+3♦ = 11 tricks, or 13 tricks if the diamond suit breaks.

Play of the cards:

Just unblock the short ♦ honour cards and 13 tricks roll in.

Scoring by Match Points:

EW Contracts				EW Match Points		
Fequ	Con	T	L	Score	MP	%
2x	2/3S E	12	3C	230	1	4%
1x	5D W	13	9S	640	4	15%
2x	4S E	11	Hx	650	7	27%
2x	4S E	12	Cx Hx	680	11	42%
4x	4S E	13	Hx	710	17	65%
1x	6D W	13	9S	1390	22	85%
1x	6S E	12	Dx	1430	24	92%
1x	6S E	13	Hx	1460	26	100%
14 Tables				Max = 13x2 = 26 MP		

Matchpoint Comments:

- Diamonds or spades? A major suit contract scores better than a minor suit contract in MPs.
- Overtricks are “gold”, with the 13th trick scoring very well at all bidding levels (+10%).

Scoring by International Match Points (IMPs)

EW Contracts				EW IMPs		
Fequ	Con	T	L	Score	Diff	IMP
2x	2/3S E	12	3C	230	-550	-11
1x	5D W	13	9S	640	-140	-4
2x	4S E	11	Hx	650	-130	-4
2x	4S E	12	Cx Hx	680	-100	-3
4x	4S E	13	Hx	710	-70	-2
1x	6D W	13	9S	1390	610	12
1x	6S E	12	Dx	1430	650	12
1x	6S E	13	Hx	1460	680	12
14 Tables				Aver Score = 780		

IMP Comments:

- You must bid a slam to score positive **IMPs (+12)**.
- Diamonds or spades? The choice of a major or a minor suit slam does not affect the result (12 IMPs for both contracts).
- Stopping at any game-level bid loses **-2 to -4 IMPs**.

A couple of other bidding systems:

ACOL:

English ACOL Bidding, NS silent	
West	East
1NT: 12-14 balanced	3♠ : Slamish, 6+ spades
4♦ : Cue, good hand	4NT: Keycard in spades
5♠ : 2 keycards + Q♠	6♠
P	

Acot Notes:

- 1NT → 3♠ is a 6+ spades, game-force hand, interested in slam. After that:
 - 4♦ is a cue bid showing a good spade raise and propelling East towards the slam.
 - 3NT would show 2 spades only.
 - 4♠ would be a poor spade raise within the context of a 12-14 limited hand.

Precision:

Precision Bidding (NS silent)	
West	East
1NT: 13-15 balanced	2H: Transfer to spades
2♠ : Accept transfer	3♦ : Game try
4♦ : Min but like diamonds	4NT: Keycard in spades
5♠ : 2 keycards + Q♠	6♠
P	

Precision Notes:

- Here, after the spade agreement, a game try bid is used to try and get a feel of the North hand.
- The 4♦ **support** bid propels East towards the spade slam.

6b. Bidding Challenge Solution: Hand 2

North		V			
♠ J 6 3 2					
♥ A 9 5 4					
♦ J 8 3					
♣ 7 6					
West	D	V	East		
♠ K 8		♠ A Q 4			
♥ K 10 8 3		♥ J 2			
♦ Q 7 5 4		♦ A K			
♣ Q J 4		♣ A K 10 9 5 3			
South		V			
♠ 10 9 7 5		HCPs			
♥ Q 7 6		6			
♦ 10 9 6 2		11 21			
♣ 8 2		2			
East	6	5	5	4	6
West	6	5	5	4	6

Suggested Standard Bidding:

Standard American or 2/1 Bidding, NS silent	
West	East
Pass	2NT: 20-21 balanced
3♣: Puppet Stayman	3NT: No 4 or 5-card major
4NT: Blackwood	5♣: 0-3 Aces
6NT	Pass

Bidding Notes:

Opened as a 2NT balanced hand, even with the long clubs. Shows points (21) and majors are at least 3/2, in case partner is 5/5 in the majors and insists on one of them. If only 2/2 in the majors, **I would not open 2NT**. I use 4NT Blackwood when no suit agreed.

The Play in 6NT by East:

Best South Lead: Blind guess, **probably ♠T**.

If North was on lead? Partner cannot have very much, so maybe just cash ♥A (**don't want it running away as an overtrick in match points**).

Declarer's Plan:

Count losers: Must lose ♥A.

Count winners: 3♠+0♥+3♦+6♣ = 12 tricks

North Shore Bridge Club

Manager: Mike Prescott Phone: 0435 528 872
Editor: Kevin Davies Phone: 040 301 8979

Claim, or quickly run 12 tricks, conceding the last.

Scoring by Match Points (MPs):

EW Contracts				EW Match Points		
Fequ	Con	T	L	Score	MP	%
1x	3CE	11	6H	150	0	0%
5x	5CE	12	9S	620	6	20%
1x	3NTE	11	Hx	660	12	40%
6x	3NTW	12	Sx, Dx	690	19	63%
3x	6NT	12	Hx	1440	28	93%
16 Tables				Max = 15x2 = 30 MP		

Matchpoint comments:

- Clubs or NT? **NT** scores much better.

Scoring by International Match Point (IMPs)

EW Contracts				EW IMPS		
Fequ	Con	T	L	Score	Diff	IMP
1x	3CE	11	6H	150	-620	-12
5x	5CE	12	9S	620	-150	-4
1x	3NTE	11	Hx	660	-110	-3
6x	3NTW	12	Sx, Dx	690	-80	-2
3x	6NT	12	Hx	1440	670	12
16 Tables				Average Score = 770		

IMP Comments:

- Must bid a slam to score **IMPs (+12)**.
- Any game-level bid loses **-2 to -4 IMPs**.
- Clubs or NT? The choice wouldn't affect the result as 6C scoring 1370 scores the same 12 IMPs.

A couple of other bidding systems:

ACOL

English ACOL Bidding, NS silent	
West	East
Pass	2♣: Strong hand
2NT: Positive, no 5-card	4♣: Minorwood in clubs
4♦: 0-3	4♥: Q♣?
4♠: Yes	4NT: Kings?
5♥: 2 Kings	6NT: Protect ♥K from lead
Pass	Pass

Acot Comments:

- 2NT is a positive response, showing 8+HCPs and a balanced hand.
- 4♣ directly is Minorwood in clubs.
- Choose 6NT to protect the ♥K from the opening lead.

Page Number 15

Precision

Precision Bidding, NS silent	
West	East
Pass	1C: 16+ HCPs, any shape
1NT: 8+ Bal, no 5 Major	4C: Minorwood in clubs
4♦ : 0-3	4♥ : Q♣ ?
4♠ : Yes	4NT: Kings?
5♥ : 2 Kings	6NT: Protect ♥ K from lead
Pass	Pass

Precision Comments:

- Strong 1C opening.
- Minorwood in clubs heads towards slam.
- Again, choosing 6NT.

6c. Play the Hand Challenge Solution

Suggested Standard bidding:

West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass

The Full Hand

West (D)	North	East	South
♠ 763	♠ KQT3	♠ 984	♠ AJ5
♥ J9	♥ 864	♥ 10753	♥ AKQ2
♦ J1093	♦ Q754	♦ K83	♦ A6
♣ AQT2	♣ 74	♣ K63	♣ J985

Play:

T	Lead	3NT by South
1	W ♣2	East wins ♣ K
2	E ♣6	West wins ♣ 10 (♣ 6 .. Middle card from 3)
3	W ♣A	West cashes top club tricks, North drops ♥ 4
4	W ♣Q	West cashes club tricks, North drops ♦ 4
5	W ♦ J	West switches to ♦ J (normal). What now?

Declarer's Plan:

Count losers: EW have already cashed 4 tricks. Is the J♦ likely leading from KJT♦...
No! Count winners: 4♠+3♥+1♦= 8, maybe 4th heart? An extra chance is a squeeze, if the ♦K is in the same hand as the 4 hearts.

Check BLUE

Both – East has ♦K and maybe 4 hearts.

Loser – They have cashed 4 club tricks – we have 8 tricks—1 loser, OK.

Upper - ♦K in East hand, ♦ Q is under, OK

Entries – ♥AKQx in the South hand, OK

Play of the cards:

At trick 5, win ♦A, hopefully isolating ♦K with the possible 4♥ hand (East).

Then cash all four outstanding spade winners before trying hearts.

West (D)	North	East
♠	♠ K	♠
♥ J9	♥ 86	♥ 10753
♦ 1093	♦ Q7	♦ K
♣	♣	♣
	South	
	♥ AKQ2	
	♦ 6	
	♣	

On the play of the last spade by north (♠K) above, East must come down to 4 cards. East can't throw the ♦K, else the ♦Q is high in the North hand, thus he lets the ♥3 go.

Tricks 10-12 Cash AKQ.

Trick 13 **The ♥2 is high for 9 tricks!**

You have just executed a **simple squeeze!**

Summary from trick 5, for improvers

5	W	♦ J	W switches to ♦ J, don't cover, win ♦ A in hand
6	S	♠ A	South cashes spade winners
7	S	♠ J	South cashes spade winners
8	S	♠ 5	North wins ♠ Q
9	N	♠ K	North cashes last spade winner
			Note: East must keep ♦ K, so lets ♥ 3 go
10	N	♥ 8	South wins ♥ A
11	S	♥ K	South cashes heart winner
12	S	♥ Q	South cashes heart winner
13	S	♥ 2	The squeeze has worked, the ♥2 is high!

7. Teaching Corner

7a. Pat O'Connor Bridge Problem

North	South (D)
♠ Q 6	♠ A K J 10 3
♥ Q 9 7 5	♥ 4
♦ Q 9 6 5 3	♦ 7 2
♣ 7 6	♣ A K Q 9 5

The bidding was:

West	North	East	South (D)
			1 ♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

You have 17 HCP and two good five-card suits, so you open 1♠, the higher suit. Partner scrapes up a 1NT response with 6 points and with your strong hand you jump the bidding to 3♣. Partner gives preference to your first suit by bidding 3♠ and you push on to game.

West leads the ♥J which you duck in dummy. West wins the trick and continues with the ♥10, which you trump in your hand.

What is your plan?

Analysis

You have one loser in hearts, two in diamonds and also two in clubs. The first three are unavoidable so you need to do something about the club losers.

The club suit is different to many suits with losers in that you have most of the cards, seven, between your hand and dummy. It may be possible to establish a winner in the suit.

How will you handle the clubs?

Want to keep learning?

Call Anita Curtis on 0405 449 767
or email ac210927@bigpond.net.au

7b. Keep learning with Anita Curtis

Build on the Basics (BoB): These 2-hour sessions on Wednesdays at 7:30pm and on Thursdays at 10:30am introduce new ideas together with play analysis and techniques.

BUILD ON THE BASICS with Anita Curtis at Club Willoughby		
Restart of Build on Basics Course		
Wed Mar 6 & Thur Mar 7	Supporting partner	Supporting partner
Wed Mar 13 & Thur Mar 14	Now what do I do?	Responder's priorities, opener's rebids; ruffing and trumping in the short hand and dummy
Wed Mar 20 & Thur Mar 21	Oh no – I'm in the wrong hand! (with Liz)	Plan ahead and untangle entries
Wed Mar 27 & Thur Mar 28	Sorry, partner – I can't support you!	Opener's rebids with 2 suited hands
Wed Apr 3 & Thur Apr 4	Responder's NT bids	Responder's NT bids
Wed Apr 10 & Thur Apr 11	Focus on Defence:	Leads against suit contracts
Wed Apr 17 & Thur Apr 18	Let's get in the way!	Weak Twos and responses
Wed Apr 24 & Fri Apr 26	Hand Analysis 1 & consolidation	Hand Analysis 1 and consolidation
Wed May 1 & Thur May 2	They hate it when I interfere!	3 level pre-empts and responses

Develop Your Skills (DYS): This semester is all about Hand Analysis. The sessions target alternately those who have done BoB, and those who have previously done **DYS**. These are 2-hour sessions on Thursdays at 2pm.

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS with Anita Curtis at CW	
Thu, 7 Mar	For students who have done Develop Your Skills
Thu, 14 Mar	For students who have done Build on the Basics
Thu, 4 Apr	For students who have done Develop Your Skills
Thu, 11 Apr	For students who have done Build on the Basics

Broaden Your Skills (BYS): is for intermediate players, typically with 3 years of Bridge experience. These are 2-hour sessions on Fridays at 2pm. The semester recommenced Friday 8th February, 2019.

BROADEN YOUR GAME / INTERMEDIATE with Anita Curtis at Club Willoughby		
Fri, 1 Mar	Hand Analysis	Eddie Kantar Thinking Bridge - all skills
Fri, 8 Mar	Competitive bidding using Power Xs	Enter the bidding with hands too strong to overcall. A bidding only session
Fri, 15 Mar	Eddie's tips on No Trump play	Eddie Kantar - declarer play
Fri, 22 Mar	Eddie's tips on Commonsense Defence	Eddie Kantar - defence
Fri, 29 Mar	Hand Analysis	Eddie Kantar Thinking Bridge - all skills
Fri, 5 Apr	Fourth Suit Forcing - Part 1	Force your partner to game and get more information in the process - bidding
Fri, 12 Apr	Reverses & Jump Shifts with David Beauchamp	Show 2 suited strong hands - bidding only
NO LESSONS ON 19 APRIL (GOOD FRIDAY) OR 26 APRIL		
Fri, 3 May	Hand Analysis	Eddie Kantar Thinking Bridge - all skills

7c. The Solution to Pat's Problem

	North	
	♠ Q 6	
	♥ Q 9 7 5	
	♦ Q 9 6 5 3	
West	♣ 7 6	East
♠ 4 2		♠ 9 8 7 5
♥ J 10 8 6		♥ A K 3 2
♦ A J 10	South (D)	♦ K 8 4
♣ J 10 8 4	♠ A K J 10 3	♣ 3 2
	♥ 4	
	♦ 7 2	
	♣ A K Q 9 5	

If the clubs are divided 3-3 in the opponents' hands, the suit is already established. Life is usually not that easy, so you need a plan to cater for a 4-2 split. The chance of a 3-3 split is 36%, the chance of a 4-2 split is 48%.

The winning play is to cash the ♣A and ♣K and then ruff a small club with the ♠Q which cannot be overruffed because you have all the higher trumps in your own hand. Because both opponents followed to the first two rounds, there is now only one club left, which will fall under the ♠Q, so the club suit is established. You can lead the ♠6 from dummy, draw trumps and claim ten tricks. You used a trump in dummy to trump a loser and at the same time set up the rest of the club suit.

If the clubs were split 5-1 an opponent would have trumped the second round of clubs and you would have gone down. Similarly, if trumps were split worse than 4-2, you would go down. But in these cases, nothing would have helped. You can't win them all!

There are 6 Cards outstanding		
Break	%	Ruffing Success
3-3	36%	
4-2	48%	36%+48% = 84%
5-1	15%	
6-0	1%	

Key Point

A long suit in your hand can sometimes be established by ruffing in dummy.

7d. Your playing opportunities

Sue Crompton 0416 290 867	Kim Neale 02 9411 3527	John Scotford 02 9411 3527	Allan Pike 02 9411 3527
			
Director	Director	Director	Director
Kay Moyes 0416 002 701	Johnno Newman 02 9411 3527	Liz Wilkinson 0433 389 952	
			
Director	Director	Teacher	

Venue		Supervised Sessions (2 hours)
CW	Monday afternoons at 2pm with Sue & Allan	
CW	Tuesday mornings at 10am with Kim & Kay	
CW	Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm with John	
EL	Tuesday afternoons at 2pm with Sue	
EL	Tuesday evenings at 7pm with Sue	
CW	Wednesday afternoons at 2pm with Liz & Kay	
Venue		Rookie Sessions (2 hours)
CW	Monday afternoons at 2pm with Sue & Allan	
CW	Tuesday mornings at 10am with Kim & Kay	
EL	Tuesday afternoons at 2pm with Sue & Allan	
CW	Wednesday afternoons at 2pm with Liz & Kay	
CW	Thursday afternoons at 2pm with Johnno	

Note that there is a 15-minute talk on a bidding or play topic, before all of the Supervised and Rookie sessions.

Want to play in these sessions?
Just come along, with or without a partner.

Venue		Restricted Sessions (3 hours)
CW	Monday morning at 10am	
CW	Wednesday mornings at 10am	
CW	Friday mornings at 10am	

On Friday mornings at East Lindfield at 9:30am, our manager Mike Prescott gives a free half-hour lesson aimed at Rookie, Restricted and Open players. Do then stay on to enjoy the facilities and play in the **10am Open game.**

7e. About the “movement”

A couple of common questions from Rookies: “it’s round 1 and we are the first to play this board, so how come there are already 2 scores in the Bridgemate for this board”, and “why do I have to wait to be told that my Bridgemate is ready, before I can use it?”.

It’s all to do with the “movement” that the director sets up. A movement is designed so that each pair plays as many as possible of the boards in play. For example, in Rookie we use sets of 21 boards and each pair plays 18 of them. One set of 21 boards is only enough for 7 tables (3 boards per table), so there are usually several sets of 21 in use. Hence the multiple results, even at round 1.

You may have heard the names “Howell”, “Straight Mitchell” and “Web Mitchell”; these are ways of putting out the sets of boards designed by some very clever people and we choose from them, depending on the number of tables that we have on the day. So, once everyone is seated, we count the tables and decide which movement will work best, then set up the details in the central computer. It then tells the Bridgemates what is happening, and only then can you use your Bridgemate.

7f. Ready for more challenges?

Here are the upcoming **restricted game opportunities** for those of you who are looking for more of a challenge!

Novice Pairs Championship

Venue: [Kiama Bridge Club](#),
Sunday 17th March.

NSW State Novice and Restricted Pairs Championship

Venue: [The Orange Bridge Club](#)

The weekend of 23/24th March.

Restricted Category <300 Masterpoints.

Novice Category <100 Masterpoints.

Director: **John McIlrath** (an NSBC Director)

The Restricted winners will receive free entry to the Restricted Butler Pairs at the Australian National Championships in Melbourne (July 20-21) and an associated travel/accommodation subsidy courtesy of the ABF.

8. Congress News

8a. NSW Congress Events

Pos	Kings and Queens SWISS PAIRS	VP	W-D-L
1	Jane Dawson & Murray Green	81.94	4-1-1
Pos	Great Lakes Bridge Club Teams	VP	W-D-L
1	Greg & Sharon Mayo, David Weston & Kim Morrison	119.00	7-0-1

8b. ABF Gold Coast Results



Winners: Stephen & Therese

Bobby Richman Pairs Championship			MPs
Open A 123 Pairs	1	Therese DEMARCO - Stephen FISCHER	1127
	2	Michael WHIBLEY - Matthew BROWN	1101
Open B	1	Michael YUEN - Robert TODD	
Open C	1	Nicky STRASSER - George BILSKI	
Open D	1	Marlene WATTS - Michael PRESCOTT	
Open E	1	George SUN - Alice YOUNG	
Open F	1	Julian FOSTER - David WESTON	
Open G	1	Craig FRANCIS - Richard WALLIS	
Open H	1	Anne BELL - Christophe LEACH	
Seniors 35 Pairs	1	Dee HARLEY - Elizabeth HAVAS	527
	2	Tony MARINOS - Peter GRANT	524
Seniors B	1	Peter CHAN - Bob SEBESFI	
Inter <750 123 Pairs	1	Kinga HAJMASI - Andrew MICHL	1119
	2	Keith BLINCO - Eric BAKER	1083
Inter B	1	Jenny WILLIAMS - Ian BARFOOT	
Inter C	1	Max GILBERT - Kathy GILBERT	
Inter D	1	Freddie ZULFIQAR - John AQUINO	
Inter E	1=	Carole COOKE - John PELLEN	
	1=	Barbara O'SHEA - Glenda PARMENTER	
Rest <300 163 Pairs	1	Neil WILLIAMS - Peter FITZMAURICE	125
	2	Maciej SZCZESNY - Mariusz TUMILOWICZ	113
Rest B	1	Brad TATTERSFIELD - Jan BORREN	
Rest C	1	Alex PENKLIS - Phillip HALLORAN	
Rest D	1	Jane O'BRIEN - Chris HAGEN	
Rest E	1	Margaret ROBERTSON - Don ROBERTSON	
Rest F	1	Di GARSIDE - Donna FITCH	
Nov <100 92 Pairs	1	Martin BROWN - Gail MCKENZIE	1082
	2	James PARKER - Warwick WILKINS	1079
Novice B	1	Sue SMITH - Penny VAN DER RIET	
Novice C	1	Michael MUMFORD - Alison BANKS	
Novice D	1	Andrea PARKINS - Catherine FLOWERS	
NSBC Pairs with mentionable results			
Open B	6	Giselle MUNDELL - Matt SMITH	
Open F	3	Paul WEAVER - Terry BODYCOTE	
Senior B	2	Marilyn CHADWICK - Toni SHARP	

Teams Championship - Qualifying		
Open 212 Tables	1	John Mcallister, Sartaj Hans, Matthew Brown, Michael Whibley
	2	Stephen Fischer, Marianne Bookallil, Peter Reynolds, David Appleton
	3	Maurits Van Der Vlugt - Marshall Lewis - Kim Morrison - Chris Hughes
	4	David Beauchamp - Jodi Tutty - Nathan Van Jole - Justin Williams
	5	James Coutts - Shane Harrison - Nabil Edgtton - Ellena Moskovsky - Liam Milne - Andy Hung
	6	Michael Ware - Geo Tislevoll - Tony Nunn - Justin Mill - Matthew Thomson - Hugh Mcgann
Seniors 20 T's	1	Stephen Mendick - Bernard Waters - Tony Marinis - Peter Grant
	2	Zolly Nagy - David Middleton - David Smith - Neil Ewart
Inter 102 T's	1	Kinga Hajmasi - Andrew Michl - Tony Jiang - Julia Zhu
	2	Eric Baker - Keith Blinco - Max Holewa - Diane Holewa
Restr 104 T's	1	Ian Bannister - Fran Martin - Jane O'Brien - Chris Hagen
	2	Margaret Stevens - Sue Luby - Neil Williams - Kevin Murray
Novice 28 T's	1	Nola Anderson - Diane Smith - Jenny Reid - Diane Dwyer
	2	Georgina Howitt - Ann Carter - Leslie Decker - Anne Ramsden
	3	Bernard Yates - Nick Hullah - Kerry Barns - Sylvia Bray

Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs		
Open 114 T's	N	Jane Beeby - Michael Wilkinson
	E	Anne Somerville - Geoff Eyles
Interm 38 T's	1	Paul Corry - Chris Fernando
	2	Max Gilbert - Kathy Gilbert
Restr 43 T's	1	Annette Hagan - Janice Willoughby
	2	Jenni Borren - Margaret Robbie

Weekend Matchpoint Swiss Pairs			VPS
Open 140 Pairs	1	Michael Pemberton - Chris Ackerley	135
	2	Greg Buzzard - Harry Shepherd	126
<500MP 66 Pairs	1	Linda Norman - Wendy Gibson	134
	2	Esther Saunders - Colin Saunders	123
Monday Butler Pairs			VPS
Open 130 Pairs	N	Matthew THOMSON - Hugh MCGANN	99
	E	Greg Lee - Alan Currie	84
<500MP 70 Pairs	1	Sonja RAMSUND - Margaret AZAR	93
	2	Rebecca DELANEY - Lesley FRASER	89
Sunday Rookies			%
23 Tables	N	Stephen BENNETT - Louise BENNETT	62%
	E	Caroline NELSON - Felicity MCKENZIE	61%
Tuesday <50 MP Pairs			
43 Tables	N	Upasana Shanti - Lynda Laffan	
	E	Dianne Hiles - Richard Booth	
Wednesday <50 MP Pairs			
37 Tables	1	Jane CLITHEROE - Barbara DILLNER	
	2	Eugene PEREIRA - Rex MEADOWCROFT	
Thursday 0 - 50 MP Butler Swiss Pairs			
28 Tables	1	Robyn LICHTER - Judy LEIBA	
	2	Margaret BROWN - Jan MALCOLM	
Thursday Rookie MP Pairs			
	N	Caroline Nelson - Felicity Mckenzie	
	E	Jenny Sanders - Keith Sanders	
Friday Novice Pairs			
	1	Gary Petterson - Laurie Bell	
	2	Anne Moase - Penny Talley	

Teams Championship Finals					
Open 3-6 Playoff		Semi Finals		Grand Final	
Team	IMP	Team	IMP	Team	IMP
Van Der Vlust	41	McAllister	70	Coutts	130
Coutts	61	Coutts	90		
Beachamp	27	Ware	79	Ware	47
Ware	63	Fischer	50		
		Seniors Final		Mendick	82
				Nagy	117
		Intermediate Final		Hajmasi	90
				Baker	93
		Restricted Final		Bannister	123
				Stevens	115
		Novice Final		Anderson	82
				Yates	162



Teams winners Coutts team

Seres-McMahon Matchpoint Swiss Pairs		
24 T's	1	Robert Krochmalik - Viv Wood
	2	Roger Thomas - Graham Wakefield

NSW Congress Calendar	
March, 2019	
Griffith Ex-Servicemens Bridge Club Wine Country Congress - Swiss Pairs & Teams	Mar 2 (Sat); Mar 3 (Sun)
Forbes Bridge Club - Swiss Pairs	Mar 3 (Sun)
Trumps Bridge Centre - Teams	Mar 3 (Sun)
Batemans Bay Bridge Club - Pairs, Swiss Pairs, Teams	Mar 8 (Fri); Mar 9 (Sat); Mar 10 (Sun)
Armidale Bridge Club - Swiss Pairs	Mar 9 (Sat) - 10 (Sun)
Wellington Bridge Club Annual Congress - Matchpointed Pairs, Teams	Mar 9 (Sat), Mar 10 (Sun)
Trumps Bridge Centre - Northern Suburbs Inter Club Teams Challenge	Mar 10 (Sun)
Ballina Bridge Club - Swiss Pairs & Teams	Mar 16 (Sat); Mar 17 (Sun)
Port Macquarie-Hastings Bridge Assoc - Swiss Pairs & Teams	Mar 16 (Sat); Mar 17 (Sun)
Kiama and District Bridge Club - Novice Matchpoint Pairs	Mar 17 (Sun)
NSBC - East Lindfield - Swiss Pairs	Mar 17 (Sun)
Inverell Delvyn Bridge Club - Matchpointed Pairs	Mar 23 (Sat) - 24 (Sun)
State Championships @ Orange bridge club - Novice and Restricted Matchpointed Pairs	Mar 23 (Sat) - 24 (Sun)
Tasmanian Festival of Bridge - ABF Multi Events	Mar 28 (Thu) - 31 (Sun)
Tamworth Bridge Club - Teams	Mar 30 (Sat) - 31 (Sun)