



Season's Greetings!

From all the staff at the North Shore Bridge Club and from our committee, we look forward to a successful 2020 at the NSBC.
All the best, Mike Prescott, Club Manager.

From Club Willoughby, best wishes to all members for an enjoyable, peaceful and safe festive season and a happy New Year.
From Phil Roberts, President

And from the Lindfield Rollers, best wishes and good health to all at NSBC for this new year. We look forward to a continuation of our great relationship throughout 2020.
From Garth Aston, Relationship Manager

Bidding and Play Challenges

Challenge 1

North	Matchpoints: Dealer West All Non Vulnerable West Passes. North opens 1♥. East overcalls 1NT (strong). Suggest your actions to your best NS spot?
♠ Q3 ♥ KQJ765 ♦ K63 ♣ K3	
South	
♠ J976542 ♥ T4 ♦ AQ ♣ 76	

Challenge 2

North	Matchpoints: Dealer South All Vulnerable South opens 1♣. West overcalls 2NT (showing 5/5 in the red suits). Suggest your actions to the best NS spot?
♠ AK ♥ 65 ♦ K876 ♣ QJT75	
South	
♠ Q832 ♥ KJT ♦ 94 ♣ AK82	

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Monthly Winners' tournament

Held at Club Willoughby, the inaugural event was well attended and enjoyed by all. John Mottram, our President, presented the winners' certificates.



Open Winner: Russell & Giles Drake



Restricted Winner: David Goodliffe & Brett Slater



Rookie Winner: Jamileh Mirzadeh & Russell Summerhayes



Supervised Winner: Peter & Kim Auld

Johnno Newman directs at our Open and Restricted sessions, and he also runs the Thursday afternoon Rookie game, sharing tips and insights with the players before the game. If you are a Rookie player and you haven't yet tried Thursday afternoons, do come along and join his enjoyable sessions! The talk is at 1:40pm and the game is at 2pm.



**Profile:
Johnno Newman**

**Teacher
And
Director**

In 2009 I stopped in at my parents' house after driving around Australia for eight months. One night I saw my dad staring at four rows of playing cards, arranged face up on the table. He would move one card, then another and another, and his eyebrows would shoot up and he would say "Ahhh!". I didn't think too much of it at first, but as a few nights passed, I realised he was spending hours at this every night. I wondered if he was going crazy. I asked him what he was doing.

"This is a finesse," he said and showed me.

Dad and his friends had played 500 since Sydney Uni days in the 70s and had always talked about upgrading to bridge. As the decades passed, my father realised that he'd have to make it happen and began teaching himself bridge from a book. He showed me a seven-page set of bidding notes which he had been given by two local experts, and then said, "You wouldn't be able to understand it". Perhaps he was baiting me. I secretly printed a copy of the notes and committed them to memory. I was reminded of *The Road To Endor* by E.H. Jones, a true story of two POWs concocting elaborate means of coded communication, one of the most intriguing books I've ever read.

I played a night of social bridge with Dad and his 500-playing mates, us all referring to our notes, blundering through. Dad and I bid up to a slam using and probably abusing the system notes, and when the dummy came down, my heart began pounding. I could not count twelve tricks. I didn't say a word for possibly ten minutes as I tried to work out a plan. I remember one of Dad's friends stifled a yawn and another rolled his eyes, and they began chatting - but eventually I saw a chance to succeed and made the slam. It was probably an incredibly easy hand, but I was hooked!

I love that bridge teaches humility. Re-frame the idea of "mistakes" into "questions for friendly experts". Do away with blame and defensiveness, and instead ask yourself "What would those friendly gurus say about this?" Bridge takes care of itself if you pursue it from a position of genuine curiosity.

My favourite bridge moment came in 2016, when I got a chance to captain the NSW Youth Team and test these psychological approaches as a coach. They were underdogs at the time, so focusing on psychology was a sensible way to use the preceding few months because the team was too green to learn much technique in that time. John Eales (Wallabies captain) was kind enough to sit down with me and walk me through his ideas of how he would bond the team and get them to perform above their abilities. Incredible advice. The team was a joy to work with - they were kind and encouraging to each other throughout. They have not been beaten since.

Take note, it's about how you treat your partner and yourself, not some elusive talent nonsense!

* *The Road To Endor* is my favourite book on this topic. It's a firsthand account of two prisoners held in a Turkish POW camp during the First World War, who developed a secret, complex system of prearranged signaling, which spiraled into one of the most absurd and elaborate escape plans of all time. I'll say no more. Anyone who has seen Michael Palin's Ripping Yarns episode "Escape From Stalag Luft 112b" will recognize the story immediately.

Legions Club (Club Willoughby) 2020 Membership Changes

Our club's membership year runs from 1st January to end December, while Club Willoughby's runs from 1st July to end June. The extra admin involved with having two different membership years has become unworkable and so, while your membership of Club Willoughby has been paid by NSBC up to 30th June 2020, your membership of the Legions Club from then on will be up to you.

In summary, as of **1st July 2020**, all NSBC members will have to join or renew their Club Willoughby membership themselves or **sign in at the front desk**. This is the only practical solution going forward, and it is in line with how other licensed clubs' memberships work. Club Willoughby will manage and advise all members about legion club renewals.

Congratulations:

NSBC Xmas Teams		VPs	W-D-L
1	Warren <u>Dobes</u> & Yumin Li, Axel Johannsson & Peter Jeffery, Wayne Zhu (Sub)	144	8-1-0
2	Judy <u>Osie</u> & Witold Chylewski (Jun), Giselle Mundell & Steven Bock, Martin Bloom	108	6-0-3
3	Gary <u>Lane</u> & Julian Abel, David Smee & Alexis Ngan, Edward Truscott (Sub)	104	6-0-3



Winners: Yumin, Axel, Warren & Peter
Links to full [Results](#), [News Article](#) & [Honour Board](#)

Well done **David Beauchamp**, a member of the winning 2019 GNOT team at Tweed Heads.

Team	GNOT National Finals at Tweed Heads	Result
SYDNEY 2	S Ashton, D Wiltshire, S Hans, D Beauchamp	2019 Winner

See p4 for full details. Full Results [ABF Website](#)

2019 Club Championship

The final [CC point tallies](#) are available on our website:



Club Champion trophy



2019 Champion: Peter Jeffery

Link CC [Honour Board](#) Link CC [News Article](#)

2020 Club Champion Events

The 2020 process for determining our club champion has been expanded. The new events being included are:

- Blue Ribbon Pairs Championship at EL
- Club Matchpoint Championship at CW
- Monthly Winners Tournament

The first three Club championship events all start near the end of January, after Canberra: [Enter Link](#)

1. Club Men's Pairs Championship
2. Club Women's Pairs Championship
3. Blue Ribbon Pairs Championship

There is a full list of [2020 CC events](#) on our website.

Central Coast – Congress Teams		VP
1	Kevin <u>Davies</u> & George Finikiotis, Steven Bock & Dennis Zines	97
3	Mark <u>Guthrie</u> & Julie Guthrie, Sunny Pang & Margaret Owen	82



Winners CC Teams: Dennis, Kevin, Steven & George.
Full results: [CC Teams](#)

Wollstonecraft – Swiss Pairs		VP
1	David Fryda & Michael Cartmell	81
2	Kim Morrison & David Weston	78
3	Les Varadi & Eva Shand	76



Winners: Michael & David [Full Results](#)

Manly Leagues - Swiss Teams		VPs
1	Liz Sylvester & Peter Gill , Nick Hughes & Nicoleta Giura	94
2	Catherine Zhang & Titus Ling, Steven Bock & Linda Aubusson	89
3	Kim Morrison & David Weston, Hugh Grosvenor & Tania Lloyd	87



Winners: Nick, Nicoleta, Liz & Peter [Full Results](#)

Well done to **Jessica Brake**, who will be joining our teaching team in 2020, on becoming a member of the 2020 Australian Women's team.

Team Cap	2020 AUS Women's Team Selection	Result
HOFFMAN	Sophie Ashton, Lauren Travis, Jessica Brake , Susan Humphries, Marianne Bookallil & Jodi Tutty	Winner

See next Column for list, Full Results [ABF Website](#)

Team Cap	2020 AUS Women's Team Selection	Result
HOFFMAN	Sophie Ashton, Lauren Travis, Jessica Brake, Susan Humphries, Marianne Bookallil & Jodi Tutty	Winner
TRAVIS	Barbara Travis, Candice Ginsberg, Elizabeth Havas, Di Smart, Rena Kaplan & Giselle Mundell	Lost GF
PITT	Helene Pitt, Ruth Tobin , Viv Wood, Sue Lusk, Cynthia Belonogoff & Val Biltoft	Lost Semi
COOPER	Renee Cooper, Deana Wilson, Leone Fuller, Marnie Leybourne, Pele Rankin & Kirstyn Fuller	Lost Semi
SMYTH	Felicity Smyth, Judith Tobin, Greer Tucker, Maha Hoenig, Cathryn Herden & Judy Mott	Lost QF
REYNOLDS	Sheila Bird, Karen Creet, Jane Reynolds & Mimi Packer	Lost QF
COLES	Alison Dawson, Elizabeth Zeller, Jeanette Abrams, Margaret Foster , Erin Tewes & Adrienne Stephens	Lost QF
JENNER-O'SHEA	Vanessa Brown , Ella Jacob, Paula Mcleish & Avril Zets	Lost QF

Full Results [ABF Website](#)

Team Cap	2020 AUS Senior's Team Selection	Result
LORENTZ	Robert Krochmalik, Paul Lavings, Stephen Burgess, Gabi Lorentz, George Kozakos & George Smolanko	Winner
BRAITHWAITE	Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Andrew Braithwaite, Arjuna De Livera, Avinash Kanetkar & Nigel Rosendorff	Lost GF
REYNOLDS	Jonathan Free, Michael Smart, Margaret Bourke, Peter Reynolds, David Hoffman & Richard Brightling	Lost Semi
THOMSON	Ian Thomson, Ron Klinger, Peter Buchen, Terry Brown, David Beauchamp & Mike Hughes	Lost Semi
WATERS	Bernard Waters, Stephen Mendick, Peter Grant, Tony Marinos, Malcolm Carter & Tony Hutton	Lost QF
ROBINSON	Neil Ewart, Ian Robinso, Simon Hinge & Stephen Lester	Lost QF

Full Results [ABF Website](#)

Team	GNOT National Finals at Tweed Heads	Result
SYDNEY 2	S Ashton, D Wiltshire, S Hans, D Beauchamp	2019 Winner
SYDNEY 7	L Grewcock , M Kolodziejczyk, W Chylewski, W Dobes	Lost Semi Final
SYDNEY 4	L Adams, A Peake, M Green, R Speiser	Lost Round 4
SYDNEY 1	A Kanetkar, B Neill, P Buchen, T Brown	Lost Round 3
SYDNEY 6	W Zhang, W Zhu, Y Zhang, Y Li	Lost Round 3
SYDNEY 3	P Dalley, J Foster, D Weston , F Rew	Lost Round 2
SYDNEY 5	L King, K Neale, R Tobin , T Ong, N Fahrer, D Wurth	Lost Round 2
CENTRAL COAST	S Clarke, G Clarke , J Clarke, D Coats	Lost Round 1

Full Results [ABF Website](#)

Mike's lessons for Improvers

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE!
FREE SERIES OF LESSONS
WITH MIKE PRESCOTT

East Lindfield Friday morning's 9:30am
 Club Willoughby Sunday 12.30pm and Monday 7.00pm

Different topic each week

- Suitable for *all* levels of players
- Each lesson covers a *new* topic
- Receive *notes* at each lesson

Stay and play: Duplicate session that follows.

Australia Day Holiday: Red Points at East Lindfield

There will be two separate **red point** sessions on the Australia Day public holiday. If you haven't yet played at our excellent East Lindfield venue, this is a perfect opportunity to come to either session and see for yourself!

Australia Day Pairs

East Lindfield

27th January
 9:30am
 and/or
 1:00pm
Red Points

Normal Table Fees

Red Points at Club Willoughby

Only one playing **red point** session (1:00pm) at Club Willoughby on the Australia Day public holiday.

Australia Day Pairs

Club Willoughby

1 Monday Day Session: 1:00pm
 27th January
Red Points

Normal Table Fees

Beginners' lessons are coming around again!

Word of mouth is our best source of new players. Do you know anyone who would like to learn?

Learn To Play Bridge

With
 Liz Wilkinson

Mon 3rd February at 7pm
 or Tue 4th February at 10:30am
 at Club Willoughby 20-26 Crabbes Ave

6 Lessons x 2hrs
 \$99

Whether you're looking for a positive outlet for your competitive spirit, or you're simply looking for a great way to make new friends and keep your mind active, bridge is your game. Liz has the experience and the touch to help you get the best out of your new passion.

Bookings
scrompton67@hotmail.com
www.learnbridgeinsydney.com.au
 or Sue Crompton 0416 290 867

Learn To Play Bridge

With
 Ed Barnes
 in 2020

Tuesday March 3rd at 2pm or 7pm
 at East Lindfield 2B Carlyle Road

6 Lessons x 2 hrs
 \$99

Whether you're looking for a positive outlet for your competitive spirit, or you're simply looking for a great way to make new friends and keep your mind active, bridge is your game. Ed has decades of experience with new players and a gentle touch that makes learning the game fun and easy

Bookings
scrompton67@hotmail.com
www.learnbridgeinsydney.com.au
 or Sue Crompton 0416 290 867

Club Championship nights

For the strongest competition of the week, come and play on our Championship nights, when we run a series of events throughout the year that all award red points and that bring together our most competitive players. For many years these Championship nights have been run at Club Willoughby, but now there is an additional Championship night at East Lindfield.

Club Willoughby, Championship night Thursdays at 7:30pm

On January 23rd we restart the Club Champion events with the Men's and Women's Matchpoint Pairs championships.

Club Champion Qualifying Event



Men's & Women's Pairs
 Club Willoughby
 3 Thursday Night Sessions: 7:30pm
 23rd January
 30th January
 6th February

Red Point Event
 \$60 Members
 \$80 Non Members

Honour Boards: [Mens Pairs](#) & [Women Pairs](#)

Following the Men's & Women's Pairs, there is a two-week event on Thursday nights, just prior to the ABF Gold Coast week.



Gold Coast Swiss Pairs
 Club Willoughby
 2 Thursday Night Sessions: 7:30pm
 13th February
 20th February

Red Points
 \$30 Members
 \$40 Non Members

There will be no bridge the night of Thursday 27th February, Gold Coast Week.

East Lindfield, Championship night Tuesdays at 7:30pm

We are starting a **championship night** at East Lindfield with the "Blue Ribbon Matchpoint Pairs championship". This event starts on January 28th and runs for three Tuesday nights at 7:30pm. It is a 2020 Club Champion event.

Club Champion Qualifying Event



BLUE RIBBON Pairs Championship
 East Lindfield
 3 Tuesday Night Sessions: 7:30pm
 28th January
 4th February
 11th February

Red Points
 \$45 Members
 \$60 Non Members

Honour Boards: [Blue Ribbon](#)

Daytime events: State Mixed Pairs Qualifying

The first daytime competition for 2020 at Club Willoughby is the 3-session "State Mixed Qualifying", starting 28th Jan at 1:00pm.



State Mixed Pairs Qualifying
 Club Willoughby
 3 Tuesday afternoons at 1.00pm
 28th January
 4th February
 11th February

Red Point Event
 \$45 Members
 \$60 Non Members

Honour Boards: [Mixed](#)

Masterpoint Promotions

From East Lindfield:

NAME	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK in Nov
Van Poppel, Joe	EL	Silver Life
Gordon, Joyce	EL	*Regional
Clifford, Marie	EL	Graduate

And from Club Willoughby:

NAME	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK in NOV
Perkins, Yvonne	CW	Silver Life
McMahon, Charles	CW	Silver Life
Campbell, Fran	CW	Bronze Life
Graham, Sally	CW	Bronze Life
Rawack, Yvonne	CW	*Regional
Vilensky, Ilia	CW	Regional
Mahoney, Shane	CW	Regional
Freemantle, Jan	CW	Regional
Gordon, Sue	CW	Regional
Slater, Brett	CW	**Local
Hallett, Judie	CW	**Local
Irwin, Debbie	CW	*Local
Turnbull, Kay	CW	Local
Braude, Rose	CW	Local
Hamilton, Sue	CW	Local
Rowlands, Heather	CW	Local
Sutton, Jennie	CW	Local
Temby, Jane	CW	Local
Thomson, Beverley	CW	Local
Loth, Paula	CW	Club
Arnheim, Julie	CW	Club
Warnes, Margaret	CW	Club
Stringer, Margaret	CW	Club
Berg, Judy	CW	Club
Taylor, Jackie	CW	Club
Zsadyani, Ildiko	CW	Graduate
McHutchison, Harley	CW	Graduate

December 2019 Mthly Winners

[Link to Monthly results](#)

East Lindfield:

2019 Club Monthly Comp		2019 December Winners at East Lindfield
Mon	Open 9:30am	Mary Harrington & Don Mullineux
	Open 1pm	John Bartrop & Owen Aubrey
Tue	Open 10am	Graham McMahon & Yu-Shiun Chen
	S'vised 2pm	N/Q
	Rookie 2pm	Beverley Thomson & Neville Thomson
	Begin 7pm	N/Q
	S'vised 7pm	N/Q
Wed	Open 10am	Elfy Suchet & Selwyn Suchet
Thu	Open 1pm	Deirdre James & June Straw
Fri	Open 10am	Tien Chey & Helen Crawley
Sat	Open 1pm	David Hagley & Janet Crocker

Club Willoughby:

2019 Club Monthly Comp		2019 December Winners at Club Willoughby
Mon	Open 10am	Maurice Loomes & Rachael Loomes
	Restr 10am	Michael Morris & Tien Chey
	S'vised 2pm	N/Q
	Rookie 2pm	Jane Loveday & Pauline Beckton
	Open 7:30pm	Mike Murphy & Warren King
	S'vised 7:30pm	Marillyn Stewart & Sue Ferguson
Tue	S'vised 10am	Kim Auld & Peter Auld
	New Sup 10am	Malcolm Cooper & Patrick Coventry
	Rookie 10am	Louise Reid & Jan Miley
	Open 1pm	Malcolm Cliff & Kathy Cliff
	Open 7:30pm	Lindsay Kirschberg & Ross Yates
	Rookie 7:30pm	Russell Summerhayes & Jamileh Mirzadeh
Wed	Open 10am	Hymie Osie & Liz Wilkinson
	Restr 10am	Brett Slater & David Goodliffe
	S'vised 2pm	N/Q
	Rookie 2pm	Joe Camilleri & Sandra Belcher
	Open 7:30pm	Steve Dynan & Karen Irvine
Thu	Open 10am	Neil Perry & John Mottram
	Rookie 2pm	Lesley Collins & Chris Willoughby
Fri	Open 10am	Joyce Edwards & Bruce Edwards
	Restr 10am	Robyn Rogers & Judy Bihari
Sat	Open 1pm	Liz Wilkinson & Hymie Osie
Sun	Open 1pm	N/Q

Monthly results (Masterpoints) are tallied and contribute to the Club Championship.



Planning at Trick one!

By Pat O'Connor

North	
♠	Q7
♥	AK532
♦	T87
♣	743
South	
♠	A3
♥	6
♦	AKQ65
♣	AT965

Matchpoints
Dealer East
All are Non Vul

You are sitting South.

You have a strong hand with both minors, so you open 1♦, the higher of two five-card suits.

Partner responds with 1♥ and you jump to 3♣ to show your strength and shape. Partner gives diamond preference by bidding 3♦. You have a spade stopper, so you try for the nine trick 3NT game, instead of 5♦ where you need 11 tricks.

Standard Bidding			
West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♦	Good 5/5 shape, open higher suit with 1♦		
1♥	Normal 4+ hearts, 6+ HCPs		
3♣	Show a good 2-suiter with a jump to 3♣		
3♦	Weak, shows a preference for diamonds		
3NT	Spades stopped, only 9 tricks for 3NT		

West leads the ♥Q.

How do you plan to play the hand?

Analysis

You count your winners: one spade, two hearts, three diamonds and one club. If the diamonds split 3-2 your small diamonds will become winners, making a total of nine.

Are there any problems?

The Full Deal

	North	
	♠ Q7	
	♥ AK532	
	♦ T87	
	♣ 743	
West		East (D)
♠ J654		♠ KT982
♥ QJT7		♥ 984
♦ J32		♦ 94
♣ Q2		♣ KJ8
	South	
	♠ A3	
	♥ 6	
	♦ AKQ65	
	♣ AT965	

You take the opening lead in dummy with the ♥A. The friendly split of the diamonds is your only real hope of making nine tricks. But if you play diamonds immediately you are doomed, you will no longer have access to the ♥K!

Once you realise the lack of entries to dummy, you will see that you have to cash the ♥K immediately and then start on the diamonds. They turn out to be friendly and you make your contract.

The chance of the 3-2 split when you hold eight cards in a suit is about **68%**, which is a pretty good bet.

Key Point

Planning before you play to the first trick is vital.

**Build on the Basics:
Lessons for Improvers**

From February 2020, Jessica Brake will be joining our teaching team. Anita Curtis will teach the day session and Jessica will teach in the evening **at the revised start time of 7pm.**



Jessica learned bridge from her Dad when she was 14. Since then she has won a silver medal in the World Under 26 Girls Teams, and several national titles in Australia.

With a degree in Education she now teaches, directs and coaches across many bridge clubs in Sydney. In 2020 Jessica will be representing Australia in the **Australian Women's Team**. In her spare time, she enjoys looking after her 60+ indoor plants!

Build on the Basics continues to introduce new ideas, together with play analysis and techniques. The lessons are targeted at players who have completed the 6-week **“Introduction to Bridge”** and the **“Bridge Basics”** courses with Liz Wilkinson. Anita will be completing Semester 2 of 2019 at the usual times: Wednesday at 7:30pm & Thursdays at 10:30am.

Semester 1 of 2020 starts February 5th in the evening with Jessica **at 7pm**, with a repeat by Anita on Thursday February 6th at 10:30am.

No lessons from Dec 18 to Jan 7 2020:	
Completion of Semester 2, 2019:	
Wed, Jan 8 & Thu, Jan 9	I want to bid but I can't overcall! Takeout Xs part 2
Wed, Jan 15 & Thur, Jan 16	Hand Analysis 3 (with Liz)
Wed, Jan 22 & Thur, Jan 23	Hello – is anyone there? Stayman
Wed, Jan 29 & Thur, Jan 30	I'm not playing this contract Transfers
Start of Semester 1, 2020:	
Wed, Feb 5 & Thur, Feb 6	NT Delight: NT bidding and play

Develop Your Skills is for players who have completed the “Build on the Basics” course or who have been playing for approximately one year. These lessons extend knowledge in bidding and play and prepare players to move to the Rookie level. They are held at Club Willoughby on Thursday afternoons at 2pm.

Thur, 30 Jan	Cross ruffing: Declarer play
Thur, 6 Feb	Life after Transfers: Extend your knowledge of transfers

Broaden Your Game/Intermediate is a set of lessons for intermediate players with typically 3 years of Bridge experience. It follows on from Develop Your Skills.

The lessons are held at Club Willoughby on Friday afternoons at 2pm.

Fri, 31 Jan	Gentle Hand Analysis: Suitable for improvers to Intermediate players who have completed DYS
Fri, 7 Feb	Hand Analysis: Eddie Kantar Thinking Bridge - all skills

Want to keep learning?
 Call Anita Curtis on 0405 449 767
 or email ac210927@bigpond.net.au



The Bridge Shop has partnered with the North Shore Bridge Club and we are delighted to offer all club members a 15% discount. ¶
 ¶ We welcome you to drop into our store at 182 Penshurst St, Willoughby or redeem your discount by using the code **NS15** at checkout on our web-site. ¶



Ready for more challenges?

Are you ready to take your first steps into competitive bridge at the Restricted (<300 Masterpoints) or Novice (<100 Masterpoints) levels? Here are a few ideas:

ABF Summer Festival in Canberra -

- One Day Warm Up Novice Teams, 8th January.
- Two Day National Novice Matchpoint Swiss Pairs Championship, 9th and 10th January.
- Novice Swiss Pairs Championship, 11th and 12th January
- National Pianola Plus Non-Life Masters Teams Championship, 8th to 10th January.
- Canberra Rex Under 750/300 MP Teams Championship, on 13th to 15th January.

Rookie/Supervised games:

There is a 15-minute talk before most of these sessions, come and join us!

Venue	Supervised Sessions (2 hours)
CW	Monday at 2pm with Sue and Allan
CW	Monday at 7pm with Jenny
CW	Tuesday at 10am with Kim and Kay
EL	Tuesday at 2pm with Sue
EL	Tuesday at 7pm with Sue
CW	Wednesday at 2pm with Liz and Kay
Venue	Rookie Sessions (2 hours)
CW	Monday at 2pm with Sue and Allan
CW	Tuesday at 10am with Kim and Kay
CW	Tuesday at 7:30pm with John S
EL	Tuesday at 2pm with Sue and Janet
CW	Wednesday at 2pm with Liz and Kay
CW	Thursday at 2pm with Johnno

Restricted games:

Venue	Supervised Sessions (2 hours)
CW	Monday at 10am with Johnno
CW	Wednesday at 10am with Tony
CW	Friday at 10am with Brian

Our re-introduction to Bridge

By Don Chisolm & Chris Lewis

Both of us have returned to bridge after a long interval – in Don’s case about 65 years (not counting a few minor intervening skirmishes) and dating back to Culbertson who nobody has heard of these days!

We had been playing Sunday morning golf together for about 6 or more years but neither knew the other was interested in bridge until Chris asked Don what he was doing with his time in progressive retirement and Don responded that he was trying to get back into bridge but needed to find a partner. Chris said he had a similar desire, but a prior attempt had been thwarted by a parental illness – so a partnership was formed, with Chris’ actuarial background being of more perceived value to the team than Don’s medicine and research! A longtime friend of Don’s, Ros Hunyor, strongly advocated NSBC so there we went – to our great joy - what a friendly and well-run club!

Chris had played bridge socially many years ago, using Goren. Before we got underway, he had participated in a few lessons with John Roberts at North Turramurra to update his bidding system. Don updated his at the club, after which we spent a brief time in “Supervised” and then moved to “Rookie”. After a few early surprising successes, we had a “reality check” and came down to earth! Since then we have our good and bad days, recently moving to “Restricted”. Although we love the game, we have decided against becoming too “serious” and, partly due to family commitments, have decided once a week is enough. On that basis we feel that trying to move into more sophisticated bidding techniques is more likely to confuse ourselves than rout the opposition – so we are content to “keep it simple”.

We really love the great organization and friendliness of NSBC, and Don has enjoyed excellent games with a number of members when Chris abandons him for overseas jaunts, particularly with Shane Mahoney and the wonderful ex-President, John Brownie. Chris’s wife Lois is also a bridge player, but Chris says it is one of the few things they argue over, so don’t partner each other in the interest of marital harmony!

We think we’ll be around at NSBC for quite a while as long as we remain on the “right side of the grass”.

From the Editors: Thanks Ros for the introduction!



Bidding Tips:

Supporting on 3 cards

By Rakesh Kumar

The auction has gone:

You		Partner	
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
?			

What do you rebid with the following two hands after your partner's 1♠?

Hand A	Hand B
♠ KT7	♠ KT7
♥ Q954	♥ Q954
♦ AQJ8	♦ AQJ84
♣ T4	♣ T

Hand A is a fairly uninspiring balanced minimum, so even though you have 3-card support for spades there is no reason to bid anything but 1NT. If partner has a 5-card spade suit with game interest, he can use your 1NT rebid “**checkback tools**”, and then you can show your 3-card spade support.

Hand B is quite different. Although it has the same HCPs, it has a **singleton**. Your rebid choices are 1NT, 2♦ or 2♠.

- 1NT is a very, very, poor choice, With a singleton in an unbid suit!
- If you choose 2♦ you may never get to a spade contract if partner has five spades.
- If you choose 2♠, you may end up playing in a 4/3 fit.

Note A 4/3 fit is called a **Moysian fit**. But this is OK and generally plays well, if you have a shortage in the hand with the 3 trumps and you need to ruff or ruff control the short suit.

The problem is solved by agreeing that after the bidding (1 of a Minor – 1 of a Major), opener is allowed to raise to 2 of the Major with only **3-card support** and an **outside shortage**.

With a game interest hand, partner can now bid 2NT which is an inquiry about opener's support. Opener rebids are:

Bid	Meaning
3♣ (other Minor)	4♣ but only 3♣
3♦ (Minor repeated)	5♦ but only 3♣
3♥ (other Major)	4♥ but only 3♣
3♠ (partner's Major)	Minimum with 4♠
4♠ (partner's Major)	Maximum with 4♠

By way of an example hand, if responder held a minimum game try:

You	Partner
♠ KT7	♠ AJ652
♥ Q954	♥ K83
♦ AQJ84	♦ 76
♣ T	♣ A63

You		Partner	
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2NT	pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

Partner asked with 2NT and opener rebid 3♥, showing 4 hearts but only 3 spades. This enables responder to infer opener's **exact shape** (here it must be 3 spades, 4 hearts, 5 diamonds and 1 club), and to be confident that even if he has a minimum hand, because of the fitting shape the 4♠ contract is very likely to succeed.

Rakesh Kumar has been busy writing two booklets about **Better Partnership Bridge**, for improving and intermediate club players. If you would like to support a good cause, you can acquire these booklets in return for a donation of \$15 each (+ postage) to the Southern Highlands Bridge Club. They are in the process of building their own clubhouse. For more information, click [here](#).



Bridge is a strange game

An Insight into the Laws of Duplicate Bridge

By Tony Howes

Bridge is a strange game in that the players generally do not know the laws of the game that they play BUT are not even required to know them! In most other games the players have a pretty good understanding of the laws of the game they are playing but Bridge is such a complex game, that just understanding how to play the game is a difficult task in its own right without burdening the players with the knowledge of its complex laws.

The job of understanding and administering the Laws falls on the shoulders of that god-like person running the session – **The Tournament Director**. The North Shore Bridge Club is very lucky in having a team of very good, experienced professional directors, so look upon the director as a vital part of your enjoyment of our game.

The first problem the director may face on a board, comes when one or more player(s) are not holding the correct number of cards. Normally this comes to light when the players count their cards BUT sometime this only gets discovered after the players have looked at their cards or even later, sometimes not until the end of the board.

If three players have 13 cards and one player has 12 – the director searches for the missing card and restores that card to the correct hand and that card is deemed to have always been in that hand. If this is discovered during the auction then any call made by the player holding the deficient hand stands. If it is discovered during the play of the hand, failure to have played that card may constitute a revoke. I have found missing cards on the floor, in peoples laps, even in a lady's handbag. Once, 3 tables back which

meant that the two tables in between had played the hand with only 12 cards and not realised!

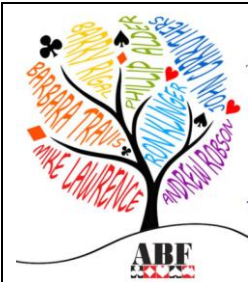
The most common situation is one player having 12 cards and another 14. The director restores the card to the correct hand and if the players have looked at the cards the director will allow the hand to be played but **MAY award an adjusted score** at the end of the hand if they judge that the knowledge that the other player held that card could have changed the result of the board. Just because a player has seen a card from another player's hand does not automatically cancel the board. If the discrepancy is not discovered until the end of the hand then the director cancels the board and awards an adjusted score.

Let's look at a couple of examples:

East has 14 cards and West only 12 – the card in question is the ♠A. This card gets restored back to West. Now the ♠A is a significant card and East knows that their partner holds that card so can the director allow the hand to be played? West, the dealer, held a flat 16 count and was about to open 1NT. They now hold a flat 20 count and open 2NT Strong. East originally held a flat 10 count and if West had opened 1NT, they would have bid 3NT. Now East holds a flat 6 count and when their partner opens 2NT they simply bid 3NT – so the contract is exactly the same and East's knowledge that their partner holds the ♠A has made no difference to the outcome of the board.

Let's make the missing card the ♣2, with East holding 6 clubs to the Ace and North, the declarer, playing in a 4♥ contract. East leads the ♣A which holds the trick with West playing the ♣4 and dummy showing KQ6 in clubs. East now has to decide if they can give their partner a club ruff at trick 2. If the ♣4 is a singleton then yes. **BUT** East knows that West also holds the ♣2 and will not ruff a second trick, so switches to another suit. Now the information of the missing card has had an influence on the play of the board and the director may well award an adjusted score.

The issue here is that the value of the transferred card is not necessarily relevant, but the knowledge that another player holds that card may be.



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An example follows:



Stopping Declarer enjoying the Clubs

By Barry Rigal

	North	
	♠ 5	
West (D)	♥ QT3	East
♠ AKJ874	♦ 832	♠ QT9
♥ K76	♣ AKQJ87	♥ T982
♦ -		♦ 9754
♣ T964	South	♣ 63
	♠ 632	
	♥ A54	
	♦ AKQJT6	
	♣ 2	

West (D)	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	6 ♦
All Pass			
1 ♠	Normal 5+ spades opening		
2 ♣	Sound overcall		
3 ♦	Jump, natural, 6+ diamonds, game force		
4 ♠	Splinter, diamonds are trumps, short spades		
6 ♦	Everything seems to fit		

Opening lead: ♠K

Opinions vary on the best use of a jump by advancer in response to an overcall. Some play

that a call of 2♦ would be forcing for one round, so that a jump to 3♦ would be a fit-jump, showing a good suit but also guaranteeing club support. Some play the 3♦ call simply as forcing with a good suit, as here. Either treatment is better than treating the 2♦ call as non-forcing.

In the auction above, the jump in spades is a **splinter**, agreeing diamonds, and that lets South drive to the small slam. As West you see your partner play the nine on your lead of the spade King against six diamonds, and declarer follows with the two. You can assume declarer has pretty close to solid trumps and the heart Ace; moreover, dummy has such a huge source of tricks it is hard to see that there is any hope of scoring slow winners in hearts.

But declarer can only utilise those potential tricks in clubs if he can gain access to them after drawing trumps. Because you can see all the small diamonds in dummy, declarer may well not be able to reach dummy in the trump suit after drawing trumps (unless he has a seven-card suit and can reach dummy with a spade ruff, but then you could not hope to set the contract anyway).

If South's only entry to dummy is with a club, your best chance is to switch to a club at trick two to try to sever declarer's communications. If South started with only one club, he will be doomed.

If he draws trumps, he will be cut off from the clubs; if he does not draw trumps, your partner will be able to ruff the third round of clubs, and any subsequent club winner led from dummy, to prevent declarer getting both heart losers away.

System Tools:

Dealing with 2-suiter overcalls

A typical problem is 1♥ – 2NT (minors) -?

What do your bids over the 2NT mean? Here is a workable structure: Use CUE BIDS to show your 2 suits with a **X** promising a **penalty X** of one of their promised suits.

1♥ – 2NT (**minors**) -?

- Pass Nothing to bid
- X** Values, penalty **X** in one of the minor suits
- 3♣ Cue - Heart Support + 4 spades
- 3♦ Cue - Heart Support + better (5 spades)
- 3♥ Natural limited support
- 3♠ Strong 5+ spades, no more than 2 hearts
- 3NT To play, stoppers in both the minors
- 4♣/♦ Splinter, GF and singleton in suit bid
- 4♥ Game bid, may be pre-emptive
- 4NT Keycard in hearts

1♠ – 2NT (**minors**) -?

- Pass Nothing to bid
- X** Values, penalty **X** in one of the minor suits
- 3♣ Cue, spade support + 4 hearts
- 3♦ Cue, spade support + better (5+spades)
- 3♥ **Strong**, 5+ hearts, no more than 2 spades
- 3♠ Natural limited support
- 3NT To play, stoppers in both the minors
- 4♣/♦ Splinter, GF and singleton in suit bid
- 4♠ Game bid, may be pre-emptive
- 4NT Keycard in spades

1♣ 2NT (**red suits**) - ?

- Pass Nothing to bid
- X** Values, penalty **X** in one of the red suits
- 3♣ Natural, limited support
- 3♦ Cue, club support, + 4 spades
- 3♥ Cue, club support, + 5 spades
- 3♠ 5+ spades, but no more than 2 clubs
- 3NT To play, stoppers in both the red suits
- 4♦/♥ Splinter, GF in clubs and singleton in suit bid
- 4♣ Minorwood (control ask)
- 5♣ Game Bid, may be pre-emptive

Again, it's complicated and involves memory work, but it's effective at the table.

See how it makes life easier in Challenge Hand 2.

Challenge Hand 1

North	Matchpoints: Dealer West All Non Vul West Passes. North opens 1♥. East overcalls 1NT (strong). Suggest your actions to your best NS spot?
♠ Q3 ♥ KQJ765 ♦ K63 ♣ K3	
South	
♠ J976542 ♥ T4 ♦ AQ ♣ 76	

Challenge hand 1 Solutions

October 21 CW Mon 10.00 AM

North NV		
♠ Q 3 ♥ K Q J 7 6 5 ♦ K 6 3 ♣ K 3		
West D NV	East NV	
♠ 10 8 ♥ 3 2 ♦ J 10 7 4 2 ♣ Q J 5 4	♠ A K ♥ A 9 8 ♦ 9 8 5 ♣ A 10 9 8 2	
South NV	HCPs	
♠ J 9 7 6 5 4 2 ♥ 10 4 ♦ A Q ♣ 7 6	14 4 15 7	

This part score hand has many possible solutions, depending on your bidding system tools. I will suggest three likely part-score sequences.

- South initially Passes and North rebids 2♥.
- Penalty **X** of 1NT.
- Non-forcing, weak long suit bid.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass or 3♥
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal opening		
1NT	Strong NT, heart stopper		
Pass	7HCPs, not quite enough to double, 2S is forcing ... so Pass		
2♥	6+ hearts		
Pass	Poor, a very conservative bid!		
3♥	Limited raise to 3H, 7 HCPs		

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	1NT	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass or 3♠
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal opening		
1NT	Strong NT, heart stopper		
2♠	Non-forcing, long suit, to play		
Pass N	Shows spade tolerance		
3♣	Tries 3♣, rather than leave 2♠		
3♥	Shows 6 hearts		
Pass	Have 2 hearts		
3♠	Likely 7+2 fit, partner passed 2♠		

Here South does not consider 7HCPs enough for a penalty X, & chooses not to bid, so NS usually gets to a 2♥ or 3♥ contract. NS=+110 (2♥) or -50 (3♥).

Next, South tries a penalty X (risky with only 7hcp) & EW do not have the bidding tools to get themselves out of 1NTX. Likely result is 8 losers on a normal ♥T lead (5♥ + 2♦ + 1♠), for a very good score for NS of +300 on a part-score hand. Because declarer cannot get into the West hand!

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	1NT	X
All Pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal opening		
1NT	Strong NT, heart stopper		
X	Aggressive, penalty		

Next, NS have agreements that strong responding hands start with a double of the 1NT overcall, and a new suit is just long and quite weak. This is normal.

If East overbids to 3♣ (as there is little defence to a 2♠ contract), then NS will stop in 3♥ or 3♠. Both are 1 off (2♠ by South can make if played carefully, but 3♥ by North is also one off).

Matchpoint scoring values positive scores and EW have done their best to push NS into the three-level.

The computer predictions for the full hand:

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	-	-	2	3	-
South	-	-	2	2	-
East	3	3	-	-	-
West	3	3	-	-	-

Results on board 8 at Club Willoughby on 21st October in the Open room showed a range of scores, with many trying game unsuccessfully.

B8 CW Mon 31/10 Open			Frequ	NS Matchpoints		%
Contract / Tricks / Lead		Score		MP		
5♣ X E	9 T♥	1x	300	24	100%	
2♠ S	10 9♥	1x	170	22	92%	
2♥ N	9 A♠	1x	140	19	79%	
2♠ S	9 4♦	1x	140	19	79%	
2♠ S	8 J♦	2x	110	15	63%	
3NT E	7 T♥	1x	100	12	50%	
4♠ S	9 T♠	1x	-50	10	42%	
4♠ S	8 Q♣	2x	-100	7	29%	
4♥ N	7 A♠	1x	-150	4	17%	
4♠ X S	8 Q♣	2x	-300	1	4%	
Played 13 Tables			Max MP = 12x2 = 24 = 100%			

In the Restricted room, one East found 4♣, but five NS's went down in major games.

B8 CW Mon 31/10 Restr			Frequ	NS Matchpoints		%
Contract / Tricks / Lead		Score		MP		
3♥ N	9 A♠	5x	140	19	79%	
2♠ S	9 T♦	1x	140	19	79%	
2♠ S	8 Q♣	1x	110	12	50%	
4♣ E	9 4♥	1x	50	10	42%	
4♥ N	9 A♠	4x	-50	4	17%	
4♠ S	9 4♦	1x	-50	4	17%	
Played 13 Tables			Max MP = 12x2 = 24 = 100%			

Play of the hand in 3♥ by North

Best Lead by East?

I would probably cash the ♠K, planning to cash ♠A, and hopefully giving partner a spade ruff, although it's unlikely when I see dummy's 7 spades! West has at best 2-3 HCPs, maybe the ♦K? Change to the ♦9 (high = don't return this).

Planning in 3♥ by North (♠A lead and ♦9 switch)

Top Winners: 5♥ + 3♦ = 8 one short
 Top Losers 2♠ + 1♥ + 1♣ = 4 maybe 2♣?
 East likely has almost all of the HCPs and ♥A control. The long spades are a surprise, but West will take out my diamond entry if I lead a spade back.

Card by Card		3♥ by North				
T1 E	♠K	♠2	♠8	♠3	Cash ♠K (count), West ♠T (1 or 2)	
T2 E	♦9	♦Q	♦2	♦3	West has 2-3 HCPs. Maybe the ♦K?	
T3 S	♥4	♥2	♥K	♥9	♥4, hoping East will create a 2nd entry	
T4 N	♠Q	♠A	♠4	♠8	Exit ♠Q, set dummy's spades up	
T6 E	♥A	♥T	♥3	♥5	Removes heart entry	
T7 E	♦8	♦A	♦4	♦6	Removes diamond entry, still have trump!	
South must try to cash ♠J (club pitch) or lead towards ♠K. Neither work and East makes 2 more tricks; 3♥ is one off.						

There was little hope that the ♠A was in West's hand and the contract fails by one trick

Play of the hand in 1NTX by East

Best Lead by South?

I have 7 spades and entries, but partner has bid hearts and I have Tx support (although East has overcalled NT). I tend to lead my partner's suit, unless I have a good reason not to, so lead ♥T.

Planning by East in 1NTX (♥T lead)

Top Winners: 2♠+1♥+1♣ = 4 + club potentials
 Top Losers: 3♦, but they have led hearts.
 Wish we had got to a club contract!

Plan:

- Will duck 2 heart tricks,
- take the third,
- then setup my club tricks.
- Hope for a mis-defence lead of a spade.

Card by Card		1NTX by West				
T1 S	♥T	♥2	♥6	♥8	E ducks, N encourages	
T2 S	♥4	♥3	♥J	♥9	E ducks again, hopes S has 3 hearts	
T3 N	♥7	♥A	♠2	♠8	Forces ♥A, mid card, diamond entry	
T4 W	♠A	♠6	♠4	♠3	Must set the clubs up for 2 tricks	
T5 S	♣2	♣7	♣Q	♣K	Gives N his King	
T6 N	♥K	♦5	♠5	Cj	Cashing heart	
T7 N	♥Q	♦8	♠6	c5	Cashing heart	
T8 N	♥6	♦9	♠7	♠8	Cashing heart	
T9 N	♦3	♣8	♦Q	♦2	Try to cash our diamond winners	
T10 S	♦A	♦4	♦6	♣9	Cash ♦A	
T11 W	♠J	♠T	♠3	♠K	In for the last 3 tricks, 5 in all	
West Claims 5 tricks = -300 Likely bottom board!						

Note: if the defence started with a spade lead, then INTX would make $2\spadesuit+1\heartsuit+4\clubsuit = 7$ tricks, before the hearts or spades are established.

Play of the hand in 4♣X by West

Best Lead by North?

I would start with ♥K asking for count. East wins his ♥A and partner shows 1 or 2 hearts with the ♥T.

Planning in 4♣X by West, on ♥K lead by North

Winners: $4\clubsuit + 2\spadesuit + 1\heartsuit = 7$

Losers: $3\diamonds + 1\heartsuit = 4$

Plan:

Ruffing a heart in the West hand and then finessing the ♣K should improve our tally, with $6\clubsuit + 2\spadesuit + 1\heartsuit = 9$ tricks.

Card by Card		4♣X by West				
T1 N	♥K	♥A	♥7	♥T	East wins ♥A, need to ruff one!	
T2 E	♥9	♥4	♥3	♥J	Duck ♥9 to North	
T3 N	♦3	♦5	♦Q	♦2	Switch to diamond, looking for tricks	
T4 S	♦A	♦4	♦6	♦9	South unblocks ♦A	
T5 S	♠6	♠8	♠Q	♠K	Exits 4th highest spade	
T6 E	♥8	♠2	♣4	♥5	Ruffs a heart in the West hand	
T7 W	♣Q	♣3	♣2	♣7	Takes the club finesse	
T8 W	♣J	♣K	♣A	♣6	Repeats and picks up ♣K	
T9 E	♦8	♠4	♦4	♦K	Gives away his last diamond loser	
West claims 9 tricks = -100						

Challenge 2 solution

North	♠ AK ♥ 65 ♦ K876 ♣ QJT75	Matchpoints: Dealer South All Vulnerable South opens 1♣. West overcalls 2NT (showing 5/5 in the red suits). Suggest your actions to the best NS spot?
South		
♠ Q832 ♥ KJT ♦ 94 ♣ AK82		

The full hand:

Solution

This hand comes from the Stratified Pairs, played at both EL and CW venues.

August 24 TBIB Stratified Pairs Session 4

Suggested Bidding

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♣
2NT *	X	3♥	3NT, X, 3♠, Pass
All Pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♣	Normal opening		
2NT *	Alerted, 5/5 diamonds and hearts		
X	Penalty X in one of their suits		
3♥	Preference bid		
3NT	Game, partner has diamond cover		
X	Penalty		
3S	I have 4 spades		
Pass	Don't know what to do!		

The 2NT bid by West shows 5/5 in the lower ranking (♦/♥ red) suits, but should be reasonably strong, **as vulnerable**.

The double (x) suggests good values and promises a penalty double in one of the suits shown by the 2NT bidder.

East shows weak preference with 3♥.

Note: East choosing to Pass the penalty X would imply equal length, you choose partner.

South has a choice of bids:

- 3NT (partner has diamonds covered)
- Penalty X of the 3♥ bid.
- 3♠, I have 4 spades.
- Pass, I don't know what to do!

I have listed these in my preference order. I would find the **3NT bid**. The penalty X is a viable option.

3♠ gives partner a problem and will support with 4/5♣, missing the best 3NT spot. Pass is very poor. Again, partner will likely bid 4/5♣, again missing 3NT.

The results on the **Board 23**, 24th August in the Stratified Pairs, played across 35 tables at EL and CW were:

B23 Strata 24/Aug				Frequ	NS Matchpoints		
Contract / Tricks / Lead			Score		MP	%	
3NT	S	11	?	1x	660	68	100%
3NT	S	10	9♥	3x	630	64	94%
5♣	S	11	?	4x	600	52	76%
3NT	S	9	9♥	5x	600	52	76%
3♥	W	7	?	1x	200	41	60%
3♥X	W	8	A♠	1x	200	41	60%
3 or 4♣	S	11	4♠	4x	150	35	51%
3 or 4♣	S	10	4♠	5x	130	26	38%
3♣	S	9	4♠	2x	110	19	28%
3♥	W	8	A♠	3x	100	14	21%
3NT	S	8	6♦	3x	-100	7	10%
5♣	S	10	4♠	1x	-100	7	10%
4♠	S	7	2♠	1x	-300	2	3%
2♥X	W	8	A♠	1x	-670	0	0%
Played 35 Tables				Max MP = 34x2 = 68 = 100%			

At Matchpoints, 3NT is the place to play. You have 26 HCPs and stoppers in both red suits. Computer predictions:

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	4	-	-	1	3
South	4	1	-	1	3
East	-	-	2	-	-
West	-	-	2	-	-

Note: The computer who can see all the cards, says you can always defend for 9 tricks by leading a small diamond. North must play small to keep control of the diamond suit, and East wins ♦Q. East will switch to ♥7 and West wins the ♥Q. Now a cash of both Aces holds 3NT to 9 tricks.

Play of the Hand in 3NT by South

Best Lead by West?

Partner has supported hearts, so I would choose the ♥8 (in case East has rags), then if we get in again, we should be able to run 4♥+1♦.

Planning 3NT/ South on ♥8 lead

Top Winners: 5♣+3♠+1♥ = 9, good!

Top Losers: ♥A + ♦A

Looks a good spot to play.

If we cash our 9 winners, may be able to throw West in for a 10th trick! If I count West's hand carefully:

- Win ♥T
- Unblock the ♠AK
- Back to the ♣A
- Cash ♠Q
- Cash ♣K and run the 3 club tricks
- Watch and count West's last 4 cards, they are likely to be ♥AQ+♦AJ. I can exit in one of the red suits and win an extra King in the other, for an overtrick!
- If he holds on to 3/1 shape, endplay him into the bared singleton A.

Card by Card				3NT by South	
T1 W	♥ 8	♥ 5	♥ 3	♥ T	Looks like East has 3 hearts
T2 S	♠ 2	♠ 4	♠ A	♠ 6	Unblock ♠ A
T3 N	♣ K	♣ 5	♣ 3	♣ 6	Unblock ♣ K, East has 6 spades!
T4 N	♣ 5	♣ 3	♣ A	♣ 9	Return to hand
T5 S	♠ Q	♦ 2	♦ 6	♠ J	Cash spade winner (end up in dummy)
T6 S	♣ K	♥ 2	♣ 7	♣ 4	Cash a club
T7 S	♣ 8	♦ 5	♣ Q	♠ 7	Run clubs, count West's diamonds (3 left)
T8 N	♠ J	♠ 9	♣ 2	♥ 5	Run clubs, count West's diamonds (3 left)
T9 N	♠ T	♠ T	♦ 4	♦ T	Run clubs, count West's diamonds (2 left)
West has pitched 3 hearts and 3 diamonds and followed with a spade + 2 clubs					
West must have ♥ AQ and ♦ AJ left, so throw him in with a heart					
T10 N	♥ 6	♥ 4	♥ J	♥ Q	North exits a heart, West wins
T11 W	♥ A	♦ 7	♥ 7	♥ K	West cashes ♥ A
T12 W	♦ A	♦ 8	♦ 3	♠ 8	West cashes ♦ A
T13 W	♦ J	♦ K	♦ Q	♦ 9	West lets North's ♦ K win the 10th Trick
3NT/S made 10 Tricks 630 (94% NS 6% EW)					

Play of the Hand in 5♣ by South

Best Lead by West?

If East has given preference for hearts, I would choose to cash my ♦ A and look for a ruff with the ♦ 2.

If East hasn't bid, I would just lead a trump.

Planning 5♣/ South on ♦A/♦2 leads

Top Winners: 5♣+3♠+♦K = 9, 2 short!

Top Losers: ♥A + ♦A(cashed) + maybe a diamond ruff.

Maybe I can force 2 heart tricks, but probably will lose ♥AQ for one down. Not looking good, unless ♥Q is with East.

Card by Card				5♣ by South	
T1 W	♦ A	♦ 6	♦ 3	♦ 4	East cashes a diamond winner NS=0
T2 W	♦ 2	♦ K	♦ Q	♦ 9	East exits a small diamond NS=1 Trick
T3 N	♣ Q	♣ 3	♣ 2	♣ 6	North draws trumps NS=2 Tricks
T4 N	♣ J	♣ 4	♣ 8	♣ 9	North draws trumps NS=3 Tricks
South: Only chance for 5♣ contract is to win a heart ... so take heart finesse					
T5 N	♥ 6	♥ 3	♥ J	♥ Q	North finesses for the ♥ Q, but it loses
T6 E	♥ A	♥ 6	♥ 4	♥ T	Loses to the ♥ A
Claim, NS hands are high, 1 off for -100 (10% NS, 90% EW)					

Play of the Hand in 3♥X by East

Here South chose to double 3♥, instead of bidding 3NT.

Best lead by South?

I would play the ♣K (count), to have a look at dummy. Partner drops the ♣Q suggesting the rest of the clubs. I then switch to ♦9 (partner did promise to double 3♦).

Planning 3♥X by East (♣K and then ♦9)

Top Winners ♦A + ♥A

Top Losers 1♠+2♣

Likely extra losers: ♦K and doubler's heart

But NS looks cold in 3NT, so we should score some match points.

Card by Card				3♥X by East	
1 S	♣ K	♣ 6	♣ Q	♣ 3	Looking for count (partner has ♣ J)
2 N	♦ 9	♦ 2	♦ K	♦ 3	Diamond switch, tricks KQ? EW=0
3 N	♠ K	♠ 5	♠ 3	♠ 4	Cash ♠ K (count? = even EW=0
4 N	♣ J	♣ 4	♣ 2	♣ 9	Try to cash 2nd club EW=0
5 N	♦ 8	♦ Q	♦ 4	♦ 5	Exit a diamond, E Wins ♦ Q EW=1 Trick
6 E	♥ 3	♥ T	♥ Q	♥ 5	Heart finesse EW=2Tricks
7 W	♥ A	♥ 6	♥ 4	♥ J	Cash ♥ A EW=3 Tricks
8 W	♥ 9	♣ 7	♥ 7	♥ K	Give up the ♥ K NS=5 Tricks
Claim, W Hand is high, 1 off for -200 (60% NS, 40% EW)					

Not a lot declarer (East) could do, 1 off for only a 40% score. Usually this would be much better if more NSs actually bid the cold 3NT game!

Repeated hand for convenience

Hand diagram showing North, West, East, and South cards and HCP counts.

- North:** ♠ AK, ♥ 65, ♦ K876, ♣ QJ1075
- West:** ♠ 4, ♥ AQ982, ♦ AJ1052, ♣ 96
- East:** ♠ J109765, ♥ 743, ♦ Q3, ♣ 43
- South:** ♠ Q832, ♥ KJ10, ♦ 94, ♣ AK82

HCPs: North 13, West 11, East 3, South 13.

NSBC Calendar:

CW - Tournament Events (JAN-MAR)			
Thursday Championship nights @ 7:30pm			
Date		Event Details	Status
2/Jan		No night Sessions	
9/Jan			
16/Jan			
23/Jan	1/3		
30/Jan	2/3	Mens & Women's Matchpoint Pairs Championship	2020 CC event bookings Required
6/Feb	3/3		
13/Feb	1/2		
20/Feb	2/2	Gold Coast Swiss Pairs	booking required
27/Feb		Closed ABF Gold Coast Congress	
5/Mar	1/3	Club Mixed Pairs (State Mixed Pairs Qualifications)	2020 CC event bookings Required
12/Mar	2/3		
19/Mar	3/3		
26/Mar		Closed ABF Launceston Congress	

CW - Special Events (JAN-MAR)			
Date		Event Details	Status
1/Jan		Closed New Year Day	
26/Jan		Closed No Sunday bridge	
27/Jan	1/1	Red points 1:00 session	walk in
28/Jan	1/3	CW day time State Mixed Qual	bookings Required
4/Feb	2/3		
11/Feb	3/3		

EL - Special Events (JAN-MAR)			
Date		Event Details	Status
1/Jan	1/1	Red points 1:00 session	walk in
27/Jan	1/1	2x Red points normal session times	walk in
28/Jan	1/3	EL BLUE Ribbon Matchpoint Pairs (7:30pm)	2020 CC event bookings Required
4/Feb	2/3		
11/Feb	3/3		
3/Mar	1/3	EL Evening State Mixed Qual (7:30)	bookings Required
10/Mar	2/3		
17/Mar	3/3		
Sun 15/Mar		EL Congress Swiss Pairs 2 Sessions 10am	2020 CC event bookings Required

ABF News & Coming Events

Link to [ABF calendar](#)

Australian Youth Week – Canberra	January 5-11
Summer Festival of Bridge – Canberra	January 9-20
2019 Mixed Team Playoff – Sydney	January 25-28
Gold Coast Congress – Broadbeach	February 15-23

Upcoming NSW Club events

Link to [NSWBA](#) website

January, 2020	
ABF: Australian Youth Week	Jan 4 (Sat) - 10 (Fri)
NSWBA Summer Teams	Jan 5 (Sun)
ABF: Summer Festival of Bridge	Jan 8 (Wed) - 19 (Sun)
National <u>Women's Teams</u> Championship	Wednesday - Friday 8-10 January
National <u>Seniors' Teams</u> Championship	
National Red Plum <u>Life Masters Teams</u> Championship	
National Pianola Plus <u>Non-Life Masters Teams</u> Championship	
Two Day National <u>Novice Matchpoint Swiss Pairs</u> Championship	Thursday - Friday 9-10 January
Chris Diment <u>Matchpoint Swiss Pairs</u>	
TBIB National <u>Open Swiss Pairs</u> Championship	Saturday - Sunday 11-12 January
Penline <u>500 Swiss Pairs</u> Championship (for players under 500 MPs)	
<u>Novice Swiss Pairs</u> Championship	
National <u>Women's and Seniors' Teams Finals</u>	
South-West Pacific <u>Open Teams</u> Championship	Monday - Thursday 13-16 January
Canberra Rex <u>Under 750/300 MP Teams</u> Championship	Monday - Wednesday 13-15 January
NEURA <u>Swiss Pairs</u>	Thursday-Friday 16-17 January
National Open Teams Championship (8 pre-qualified teams from SWPT only)	Friday - Sunday 17-19 January
ABF: 2020 Mixed Team Playoff	Jan 24 (Fri) - 27 (Mon)
NSWBA Matchpointed Swiss Pairs	Jan 26 (Sun)
February, 2020	
Trumps Bridge Centre Summer Teams	Feb 16 (Sun)
NSWBA Women's ITS	Feb 7 (Fri) - 9 (Sun)
NSWBA WITS Swiss Pairs	Feb 9 (Sun)
Great Lakes Bridge Club Teams	Feb 8 (Sat) - 9 (Sun)
ABF: Gold Coast Congress	Feb 21 (Fri) - 29 (Sat)

NSWBA AGM - 2020 Key Office Holders	
Chairman	John Scudder
Secretary	Agnes Levine
Treasurer	Richard Lock
	Rob Ward
NSW Masterpoint Sec	David Weston
Tournament Committee	Warren Lazer
	Giselle Mundell
Web Master	Pauline Gumby
Appeals	Michael Wilkinson
	Mick McAuliffe
Metro Zone Councillor	Carol Sheldrake (Hunters Hill)
Recorder	Bob Sebesfi
Chief Tournament Director	Matthew McManus
National Director Development	John McIlrath

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