



NSBC Newsletter



2021 February Vol 4 Issue 02

Editors: Kevin Davies and Ian Maclaren

New Beginners Course at EL

After last year's disrupted program for new players, we are about to run a 6-week Introduction to Bridge course, Face-To-Face, at East Lindfield. Emma Barnes will be the teacher, and there will be two options: Monday evenings at 7pm, or Tuesday mornings at 10:30am. **If you know of anyone who would be interested, could you please put them in touch with Kay Moyes, on moyes_kay@hotmail.com?**

Learn To Play Bridge

With
Emma Barnes

6 weeks beginning
Monday 1st Feb 2021 7pm
Or Tuesday 2nd Feb 2021 10:30am
at Lindfield Rollers Bowling Club

If Covid restrictions don't permit us to meet face to face, we are ready to deliver the course in a group online.

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. Emma has decades of experience with new players and a gentle touch that makes learning the game fun and easy

Bookings
moyes_kay@hotmail.com
www.learnbridgeinsydney.com.au
or Kay Moyes 0416 002 701

New NSBC Online Congress

We are running a new **online congress event** this **Sunday 24th January**. Please register via the [NSWBA website](http://www.nswba.com.au) and join us. Two sessions with a lunch break. You will play 6 matches against other pairs, Swiss movement (Winners play Winners), good prizes on offer.

Inside This Issue:	Pages
Club News	01 - 14
For the Newer Player	15 - 21
Our Game of bridge	22 - 28



Online Swiss Pairs



Australia Day Weekend Congress by NSBC using RealBridge

Sunday 24th January

Cash Prizes to be awarded (dependent on entry)



Tournament 10am Start (login 10 mins before for seating)

Session A – 10:00am 3x8 Board matches

Lunch Break Approximately 40 mins

Session B – 1:30pm 3x 8 Board matches

Red Master Points

Director: **Ronnie Ng**

Yellow Systems are not permitted

All players are subject to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary Regulations.

\$20 Table Fees

Enter via the NSWBA website:

<https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/eventDetails.asp?tid=3408>

Club's **2021 AGM**. It is to be held at 10:30am on Saturday 10th April at East Lindfield (Lindfield Rollers Bowling Club) and through Zoom technology

Club Membership 2021 renewals

Your club membership renewals are due at the discounted fee of \$50 till end February, thence back \$70. Current membership will then lapse.

Please finalise your 2021 membership fees as soon as possible and contact Margaret Owen on 0410 657 048 if you need help to do so.



Update from the President!

Mobile 0418 427 458

David Fryda

Happy New Year to you all! Let me join what is no doubt a large group of people to say I hope your 2021 is significantly better than your 2020.

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a wide range of items. Some are covered in more detail in other parts of the newsletter.

Firstly, at the time of writing I can report that both Mike and John are progressing their recoveries. John had a number of setbacks after his hip replacement surgery and remained in hospital for much longer than expected. He is now in a rehab hospital and working on regaining his strength. Mike has also had a couple of complications, which is not unusual after heart surgery. He is due to visit his specialist in early February and we hope that he will be able to start a gradual return to work soon after that. My thanks to all of you who have sent your good wishes to both of them which they appreciate greatly.

On the playing front, Gary and the team have helped many of you to work through your technical challenges and our full range of online games continue to be available seven days per week.

Sue and her team have also been focused on restarting (again) our face-to-face sessions at East Lindfield. We are currently offering afternoon sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. The Thursday morning session will be our first face-to-face Rookie session. We continue to monitor and will potentially open up more sessions for you to choose from.

Our Vice President David Hudson has re-established our Tournament Committee and as a result we have restarted our Thursday night competition nights and weekend congresses. Also, some of our other events have been scheduled to coincide with our

midweek afternoon sessions. With the running of these events online via RealBridge we have been able to attract some of Australia's best players. In the absence of some of the major face-to-face bridge events our ability to offer the better players quality competitive multi-session events helps to consolidate our position as one of the country's premiere clubs for players ranging in skill from beginner to expert. More details of our upcoming events can be found in the newsletter.

Many of you completed our member survey in December. The survey sub-committee will be providing a full report in February. In the meantime, I would like to thank everyone that responded and share the key messages we received, including:

- Congratulations and thanks to Mike, staff and committee for a job well done since the commencement of COVID-19.
- The RealBridge technology and technical issues were a concern to many of you.
- For camaraderie and friendship there is a need to return to F2F sessions on a more regular basis asap. (Need COVID-19 restrictions implemented but do not go overboard.)
- You want us to continue with online sessions following the return to F2F.
- Several members would like a partnership facility to be implemented.
- The property issue is forefront for many. If we are looking for a CW alternative then you want another option within the Willoughby/Chatswood area with good, available parking before return to F2F.

Finally, an update on property related matters. I visited the Club Willoughby rooms last week to meet with their new management team. They are back to operating four days a week and continue to be focused on their redevelopment plans and hope that building works will start before the end of the year. Unfortunately, the disrepair of the building and the recent heavy rains mean that our main playing room is no longer functional. There is considerable water damage to both the floor

and the ceiling which has led to an infestation of mould. We are currently exploring both interim and long-term alternatives. Neither have progressed sufficiently to allow me to communicate the details at this point. I would like to think that I will be able to write to you all in the next month with the details. However, we have been this close before with other options that have not eventuated. Be assured, Leo and I are working hard to address this important issue as soon as possible.

David

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CW Venue	Club Willoughby	02 9411 3527
EL Venue	East Lindfield	02 9415 8344
NSBC Office Administrator	Margaret Owen	0410 657 048

The first Daytime competition events

Men's Pairs & Women Pairs Championships

These championship events have been moved away from Thursday nights into special afternoon sessions on our RealBridge platform. The Men's event is over **3 afternoon sessions on Mondays** and the Women's Event is over **3 afternoon sessions on Tuesdays**. Both are qualifying events for the 2021 club championship (Brownie Cup)

The 2020 Championships were won by:	
2020 Men's Champions:	David Weston & Lester Kalmin
2020 Women's Champions:	Lorna Ichilcik & Lynn Kalmin





59th Men's Pairs Championship

Now on RealBridge in 2021

3 Monday Daytime Sessions: 1:30pm

1st February
8th February
15th February

Enter for all 3 daytime sessions (substitutes allowed) on Upcoming events. Yellow Systems not permitted.
Prizes Dependent on entries
Director Gary Barwick; Convener Sue Crompton

Red Point Event

\$30 Members: (your PP account will be charged)
\$39 Non-Members

58th 2020 Men's Champions: **David Weston & Lester Kalmin**

You will need to register on our website and commit to play in all the 3 daytime sessions.
<https://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/bridge/lbc/upcoming-events>





59th Women's Pairs Championship

Now on RealBridge in 2021

3 Tuesday Daytime Sessions: 1:30pm

2nd February
9th February
16th February

Enter for all 3 daytime sessions (substitutes allowed) on Upcoming events. Yellow Systems not permitted.
Prizes Dependent on entries
Director Gary Barwick; Convener Sue Crompton

Red Point Event

\$30 Members: (your PP account will be charged)
\$39 Non-Members

58th 2020 Women's Champions: **Lorna Ichilcik & Lynn Kalmin**

Challenge (Play) Hand 1 (Bid & Play)

North	
♠ AQ43	
♥ AKT8	
♦ T76	
♣ A7	
South (D)	
♠ KJT962	
♥ 74	
♦ Q52	
♣ J6	

Matchpoints
EW Vul
Dealer South

EW remains silent.

Bid to your best spot

Challenge Hand 2 (Bid and Play)

North	
♠ AQ75	
♥ K5	
♦ A652	
♣ KQJ	
South (D)	
♠ 4	
♥ AQJ643	
♦ 843	
♣ A75	

Matchpoints
Dealer: South
Vul : EW

West will overcall 1S & then remain silent.

Can you bid to your best spot?

Challenge Hand 3 (Bid and Play)

North (D)	
♠ 87	
♥ A	
♦ KQT98	
♣ KQJT4	
South	
♠ AT2	
♥ K9743	
♦ 7532	
♣ A	

Match Points
Dealer North
Vul All

EW remains silent

Can you bid to the best spot?



NSBC
Online operations manager
 Mobile 0413 884805
Gary Barwick

Real Bridge Etiquette tips for Everyone

With COVID-19, most of us have had to familiarise ourselves with new ways to communicate with one another. Numerous video-conferencing applications have taken off (don't you wish you bought Zoom shares a year ago?)

RealBridge is utilising one of those video-conference applications so we thought we would highlight some important guidelines in videoconferencing. This is to ensure that while we are playing Bridge in the comfort of our own homes, we are also considering the comfort of others playing in their homes. The most crucial tip for all is: "if you wouldn't do it face to face, then don't do it on video".

Some helpful guidelines include:

Light your face and camera angle

Do not forget to position the camera so others can see your face, not just the hair on your chin or the top of your head. Note: Better lighting actually makes you look better!

Turn your microphone off

Please be sure to mute if you are moving around, eating, typing, or answering a call on your phone. No one wants to hear the crunch of your delicious apple or, lo and behold, you going to the bathroom. However, do not forget to then take yourself off mute when you do need to talk!

Note: What a perfect time to ask for a good pair of Bluetooth noise cancelling headphones for a present, so your Bridge Sessions are private and less interesting to your kids and pets (and maybe bored spouses).

Turn your camera off where applicable

If you need to get up and leave for any reason that could be distracting to a group (bio break, snack, whatever), simply turn off your video. However, it is great to keep your videos on

Club Dashboard Statistics	Nov	Dec	Jan
Tables played last 30 days RB or F2F (EL)	1420	1321	922
Sessions played F2F @ EL	7	6	1
Current Club Membership	1901	1893	1877

when possible and if possible. There is now actually a term for watching others on video conferences and not turning your video on.....it is called **lurking**. (yes, am sure it is a term created by the Millennials....). Please try and not be a 'lurker' so manage your on/off video accordingly. (Another time to turn your video off is if you have a burning desire or need to pick your nose or any other distracting behaviour. Yes, we can see it all.....) Please check what your video is capturing in the image you are projecting to others. Do you have last night's pizza box or dirty laundry lying around? It is your house so of course; it is your call what is there however it can be very distracting to other players

Be polite

Speak to others how you would like to be spoken to. Try not to all speak at once especially if director has been called.

Limit Distractions

We understand we all have lives outside of Bridge. However, please limit distractions (such as mobile phones, email notifications flashing on screens, other applications running etc) as much as possible.

Wear Pant and shirts

In fact, please go ahead and adopt a "**never nude**" policy before logging in to RealBridge. This sounds like an obvious one however people often forget that they can be seen. So please wear a shirt and wear pants! Why do we say wear pants if you can only see from the waist up? Well, just in case you must get up for any reason, we do not need to see the Boxer Shorts you got for Christmas or anything else for that matter. Note: you might want to let your significant other, roommate, and kids know that you are on a Video Conference call in case they are not complying with the suggested Never Nude Policy.



NSBC F2F Operations Manager

Mobile 0416 290 867

Sue Crompton

We are again taking a cautious approach and restarting F2F one session at a time. We are now restarting a third day session with Tuesday afternoon and a Rookie on Thursday morning:

- **Monday afternoon Open sessions at 1.15pm**
- **Tuesday afternoon Open sessions at 1.15pm (new).**
- **Thursday Morning Rookie sessions at 10am (21 boards new)**
- **Thursday afternoon Open sessions at 1:15pm**

The F2F program is quite fluid and will respond to demand. If your keen to get back to F2F at East Lindfield, Contact Sue.

The restricted have been eased and now back to **15 tables**. Please do not turn up on the day if you have not pre-registered.

For our activity masks are **not** mandatory. However, they are highly recommended.

To register please go to this [page](#) and find the relevant session in the list then click on Details or Enter.

Alternatively copy and paste the following into your browser:

<https://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/bridge/lbc/upcoming-events>

If you are having any trouble registering please feel free to call me on 0416 290 867 and I will gladly assist you. If you are looking for a partner I will try and help you.



NSBC Tournament Chairman

Mobile 0466 554 969
David Hudson

The Tournament Committee at NSBC has been re-formed following Mike's illness. As David Fryda mentioned, I am Chairing the committee and we are very pleased that Kevin Davies, Dave Beauchamp and Mike Hughes have agreed to join. They bring a wealth of experience in programming and running tournaments. In addition, Sue Crompton and Gary Barwick have been co-opted onto the committee to ensure the operational side runs smoothly.

It has been an extremely busy month as the introduction of Real Bridge late last year has transformed online bridge for the club. We are no longer reliant on donations and we can now run multi-session tournaments and congresses. Many of you will have experienced Real Bridge. It is a platform with lots of great features including:

- The closest thing we have to F2F bridge with a much better social experience than BBO.
- The functionality is fantastic. No more debates about what happened in the auction or the play. Moreover, you can compare how you bid and played the hands versus the best players in the field.
- Commuting time to the game is non-existent!
- We can attract players from all over Australia.

As a result, Real Bridge gives us the chance to re-vitalise Thursday night bridge at NSBC. As a Committee, we have decided to offer extremely attractive prize money to help attract the best players.

The first event was the Blue-Ribbon Swiss Pairs over three weeks on Thursday nights

with the last night being Thursday 21 January. We attracted a field of 52 pairs, including many topflight players.

The next event will be the NSBC Summer Pairs over three weeks from January 28. Once again, big prize money is on offer and if you are looking to test your game against the best you can check it out on our website.

This will be followed by the GNOT direct qualifier which has historically attracted a high-quality field.

As a result of this initiative, we have re-scheduled some tournaments such as the NSBC (same sex) Pairs Championships to the afternoons in early February (Monday for the Men and Tuesday for the Women). These tournaments have a rich history -- this year will be the 59th Men's and Women's Pairs Championship. They will continue to be qualifying events for the 2021 Club Champion – the Brownie Cup. And this year they will be held on Real Bridge.

We also have two congresses coming up – the Australia Day Weekend Online Swiss pairs on Sunday 24 January being run on Real Bridge and the Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs Congress on 14 March which, at this stage, we are planning to hold F2F at East Lindfield.

In coming weeks, we will be considering the tournaments we should run for restricted and rookie players so keep an eye out for announcements. And if you have any suggestions please get in touch with me or one of the members of the Tournament Committee.

NSBC Competitive Results



Club Champion Qualifying Event

This the first big Thursday night event held over 3 weeks in January. The Club offered substantial cash prizes to attract strong bridge players from all around Australia. Entry saw 52 Pairs contesting the event.

Some distances separate pairs that are playing in our RealBridge Blue Ribbon event.

- Tony Hutton (Brisbane) playing with Malcolm Carter (Queenbeyan),
- Prue Siemsglue (Sydney) playing with Tom Siemsglue (Hamburg)

Sess 1	Blue Ribbon Swiss Pairs	Thursday 7th January	W-D-L	Imps
1	James Wallis & Bill Nash		3-0-0	56
2	Anita Curtis & David Hudson		2-0-1	31
3	Colin Clifford & Jeanette Abrams		3-0-0	30
Sess 2	Blue Ribbon Swiss Pairs	Thursday 14th January	W-D-L	Imps
1	Wayne Zhu & Yixiang Zhang		3-0-0	57
2	Craig Meitzke & Terry Dunne		3-0-0	34
3	Garry Clarke & Sally Clarke		2-0-1	28
Sess 3	Blue Ribbon Swiss Pairs	Thursday 21st January	W-D-L	Imps
1	David Fryda & Michael Cartmell		3-0-0	45
2	Martin Bloom & Les Grewcock		3-0-0	43
3	Liz Adams & Tony Nunn		3-0-0	37
Final	Blue Ribbon Swiss Pairs	(Overall)	W-D-L	IMPS
1-\$600	David Fryda & Michael Cartmell		7-1-1	76
2-\$400	Wayne Zhu & Yixiang Simon Zhang		7-1-1	67
3-\$200	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey		6-1-2	60
4-\$150	Malcolm Carter & Tony Hutton		7-0-2	52
5-\$100	Liz Adams & Tony Nunn		5-1-3	49



David



Michael



wayne



Yixiang



Tim



Patricia

Next on our Thursday Competition Nights

The next NSBC Thursday night competition event is the **NSBC Summer Pairs**. This match point event follows the successful Blue ribbon Swiss Pairs (imps). Big cash prizes on offer, to attract good players from around Australia, and thus improve the field quality in our Thursday night events.

NSBC Summer Pairs on Real Bridge

Match point pairs 2 sessions
followed by 1 final and consolation

Thursday Evening 7.00pm
Prize Money \$600, \$400, \$200, \$150 and \$100

28th January, 4th February
& 11th February

Please book via our website
Substitutes allowed




\$30 for Members (your PP account will be charged)
\$39 for Non Members who should pay by either
Bank transfer to NSBC at
BSB 633 000 Acc No 1616 6318 OR
Credit Card (office hours only) 0410 657 048

Red point event
No yellow systems permitted

Director: Ronnie Ng
Convener: Sue Crompton

Let's Play Bridge!

All competition night Event Bookings Via:

<https://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/bridge/lbc/upcoming-events>

You must commit to play in all the sessions of the competition. Substitutes are allowed.

Club Champion Qualifying Event

The following Thursday Night Competition event will be the club's **GNOT Direct** teams' event. This qualifies the winning team directly to the National Final as an NSW Representative team. A four Night Open Competition.

GNOT Direct Qualifying

NSBC using RealBridge

Thursdays: 7:00pm

4 Sessions - Teams Event

18th, 25th Feb, 4th 11th Mar

Prizes – Seat at National Final (Tweed Heads).
 Other Prizes dependent on entry
 NSWBA Metro Zone Event
 NSBC qualifying event for 2021 Club Champion (Brownie Cup)
 Director: **Ronnie Ng**

Online (Gold Point Event)

Yellow Systems are not permitted
 All players are subject to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary Regulations.

\$60 (4x15) Members (pp)
\$80 (4x20) Non Members

Bank transfer: NSBC 633000 161666318 please note your ABF Number in reference
 Credit Card via Phone (Office Hours only) 0410 657 048

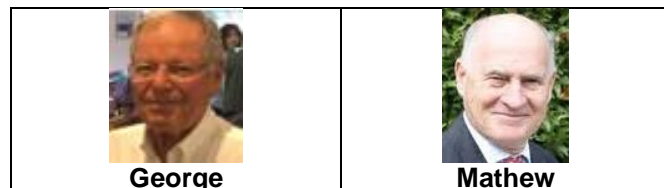
Club Champion Qualifying Event

NSBC Congress Winners: Well done

NSWBA Schaufelburger Online (RB) Teams		Imps
1	Mathew VADAS - Michael COURTNEY - George FLEISCHER - Peter GILL	206
2	Wayne ZHU - Bob SEBESFI - Pauline GUMBY - Warren LAZER	206
3	Julian FOSTER - David WESTON - Jenna GIBBONS - Michael CURRY	186



NSWBA Summer Online Swiss Pairs (RB) (Sun Jan 10)		VP
1	George FLEISCHER - Mathew VADAS	94
2	Jan CLARKE - Chris WILLIAMS	79
3	Jane BEEBY - Michael WILKINSON	76



NSWBA New Year Online Teams (RB) 3xMondays		VP
1	David FRYDA - Michael CARTMELL & Nick FAHRER - David WURTH	84
2	Wayne ZHU - Yixiang ZHANG & Eileen LI - Yumin LI	82
3	Giselle MUNDELL - Rena KAPLAN & Tony ONG - Donald CARTWRIGHT	80



Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs Congress

The Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs, normally a F2F congress, is still planned to be held in March at our East Lindfield venue.

Pauline Evans

Swiss Pairs Congress

East Lindfield

Sunday: 14th March

1 Day, 2 Session Event

Guaranteed prizes \$300, \$150 and \$50 more dependent on entries

Session 1: 10:00am Start

(Lunch orders taken before Session 1)

\$35 Table Fees

Director: Ian Lisle
 Yellow Systems are not permitted
 Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA.
 The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4
 All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

Club Champion Qualifying Event

The Club has a backup strategy of an Online Congress if Covid restrictions force a rethink.

Upcoming NSWBA congresses

Dates	Type / Cost	NSW Congress Events
Sunday, 24 January 2021	RealBridge \$20pp	NSBC Online Swiss Pairs
Tuesday, 26 January 2021	F2F \$50 inc lunch	SBC Australia Day Swiss Pairs
Sunday, 31 January 2021	RealBridge \$20pp	NSWBA Summer MP Swiss
Sunday, 7 February 2021	BBO \$12	Master Bridge - Feb Swiss Pairs
Sunday, 14 February 2021	F2F \$50 inc lunch	SBC Valentine's Day Swiss Pairs
Sunday, 21 February 2021	F2F \$40pp inc light lunch	Trumps - Summer teams (25 T Max)
Monday, 25 January 2021	RealBridge \$36	NSWBA - Open ITS Stage 1 (3 Monday Nights)
Monday, 15 February 2021	RealBridge \$30	NSWBA - ITS Swiss Pairs (3 Monday Nights)

Upcoming ABF congresses

Summer Festival of Bridge – Canberra – CANCELLED	January 13-24
2021 Mixed Team Playoff – Sydney – CANCELLED	February 5-8
Gold Coast Congress – Broadbeach – CANCELLED	February 19-27
Tasmanian Festival of Bridge – Hobart – CANCELLED	March 18-21
Tasmanian Gold Swiss Pairs	April 9-11
Autumn Nationals – Adelaide	April 29 – May 3
Barrier Reef Congress – Mackay	April 30 – May 3

Other Online Congress Results

Trumps Online Swiss Pairs (BBO) (Sat Dec 26)			Imp
1	Patrick Stark & Vivien Eldridge		62
2	Judy Marks & Julianne Rocks		54
3	Rena Kaplan & Giselle Mundell		50

MasterBridge Online Swiss Pairs (BBO) (Sun Jan 3)			Imp
1	Rachel Langdon - Nikolas Moore		78
2	Phil Gue - Anthony Burke		46
3	Pam Crichton - Ross Crichton		46

ABF Master Point **RANK TITLES**

From 1 January 2021, the titles of ranks that used stars in the rank name (e.g., ** Local) have their stars replaced by either bronze for one-star ranks or silver for two-star ranks.

This applies to Local, Regional, State and National, and is consistent with terminology used in the upper ranks.

ABF MASTER RANKINGS				
Rank	Minimum Requirements			
	Total	Green	Red & Gold	Gold
Graduate	2	2		
Club	5	5		
Local	15	15		
Bronze Local	25	25		
Silver Local	35	35		
Regional	50	50		
Bronze Regional	100	100		
State	50	25	25	
Bronze State	100	50	50	
National	150	75	75	
Bronze National	200	100	100	
Silver National	300	150	150	
Life	300	120	180	30
Bronze Life	400	160	240	40
Silver Life	500	200	300	50
Gold Life	750	300	450	75
Grand	1000	300	700	200



December Masterpoint Promotions

Due to lock down and limited masterpoint files processed by the ABF Masterpoint Centre by the **end of October**, there have been limited promotions in Masterpoint ranks. This has improved with NSBC issuing masterpoint awards for all BBO sessions.

From East Lindfield:

Member	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK at end of December
Carnachan, Carolyn	EL	Bronze Regional
Reisemann, Veronica	EL	Regional
Temple, Linda	EL	Bronze Local
Egger, Jeannie	EL	Local

And from Club Willoughby

Member	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK at end of December
Dalley, Paul	CW	Grand
Shand, Eva	K&Q	Silver Life
Scully, Jenny	CW	Bronze Regional
Ampherlaw, Jo	CW	Regional
Beckton, Pauline	CW	Silver Local
Emanuel, Brian	CW	Bronze Local
Plummer, Lenore	CW	Local
Cox, Dianne	CW	Local
Norton, Julie	CW	Local
Walsh, Ray	CW	Local
McReady, Catherine	CW	Club
Leigh, Douglas	CW	Club
Haberlin, Harry	CW	Club
Andrews, Valda	CW	Club
Mayoh, Karen	CW	Club
Howes, Philip	CW	Graduate
Lancaster, Anne	CW	Graduate
Worth, Sara	CW	Graduate
Harvey, Cheryl	CW	Graduate
Sesel, Jacqui	CW	Graduate

Most Improved NSBC players, by Masterpoint Centre analysis for 2021 are:

East Lindfield Report:

Member	HOME CLUB	Most Improved	Improv Rank
Shteyman, Felix	EL	Regional	2,632
Halse, Tony	EL	Regional	1,151
Fendel, Michele	EL	Bronze Local	889
Osborne, Brian	EL	State	820
Mullineux, Don	EL	Bronze Regional	811
Harrington, Mary	EL	Bronze Regional	787
Boyle, David	EL	Club	783
Francis, Joan	EL	Silver Local	732

ABF formula for Most Improved Player =
 $(\text{Points This Year} * 10000) / (\text{Total Points} + 100)$

Club Willoughby Report:






Member	HOME CLUB	Most Improved	Improv Rank
Siemsglue, Thomas	2-120	State	2,220
Robinson, Peter	2-120	Bronze National	1,873
Ampherlaw, Jo	2-120	Regional	1,586
Beeby, Jane	2-120	Silver Life	1,459
Van Weeren, Hans	2-120	Silver Life	1,386
Chey, Tien	2-120	Regional	1,384
Gordon, Sue	2-120	Regional	1,343
Shand, Eva	2-113	Silver Life	1,320
Mountjoy, Tim	2-120	Life	1,311
Liu, Wenjie	2-120	State	1,271
Morgan, Sue	2-120	Local	1,256
Carter, Mary	2-120	Bronze State	1,244
Bishop, Michael	2-120	State	1,190
Rogers, Robyn	2-120	Regional	1,153
Doecke, Karen	2-120	Bronze Local	1,139

ENGAGE IN MENTAL GYMNASTICS



PLAY BRIDGE

The final **2020 McCutcheon results** have been published and we have five 2020 state champions in our ranks.

				
Peter	Jane	Eva	Colin	Felix
1 st Outright State Champion	1 st Silver Life	1 st Bronze Life	1 st Bronze State	1 st Silver Local

The McCutcheon is awarded for most master points in each master point grade for the year.

McCutcheon Results for 2020				
State Rank	Club Rank	NAME	MP	Grade
1	1	Gill, Peter	234.21	Silver Grand+
7	2	Brown, Terry	121.41	
10	3	Weston, David	96.42	
13	4	Finikiotis, George	92.78	
14	5	Bloom, Martin	91.19	
15	6	Beauchamp, David	90.36	
16	7	Lowry, Helen	87.34	
17	8	Mundell, Giselle	87.03	
18	9	Mottram, John	86.87	
19	10	Rosendorff, Nigel	85.71	
2	1	Ashton, Sophie	196.9	Grand
4	2	Bodycote, Terry	106.1	
10	3	Fryda, David	85.76	
16	4	Ichilcik, Lorna	71.42	
17	5	Fanos, Liz	66.51	
2	1	Dalley, Paul	57.62	Gold Life
5	2	Johannsson, Axel	54.52	
9	3	Siemsgluess, Prue	48.48	
18	4	Owen, Margaret	40.87	
1	1	Beeby, Jane	108.6	Silver Life
2	2	Van Weeren, Hans	107.3	
7	3	Bailey, Ian	55.47	
9	4	Guthrie, Mark	52.3	
10	5	Guthrie, Julie	52.3	
13	6	McMahon, Charles	47.5	
20	7	Osie, Hymie	40.42	
1	1	Shand, Eva	79.65	Bronze Life
11	2	Loomes, Rachael	37.44	
12	3	Loomes, Maurice	36.1	
18	4	England, Rilla	30.35	
2	1	Mountjoy, Tim	63.77	Life
6	2	Hoschke, Ian	40.35	
13	3	Campbell, Peter	32.07	
17	4	Clift, Malcolm	28.46	

McCutcheon Results for 2020				
State Rank	Club Rank	NAME	MP	Grade
4	1	Stevens, Margaret	35.1	Silver National
6	2	Gibbs, Lydia	31.15	
11	3	Else, Catherine	19.15	
10	1	Meyers, Kit	37.53	Bronze National
	2	Biscoe, Jane	29.47	
2	1	Robinson, Peter	60.81	National
20	2	Cole, Suzanne	26.57	
1	1	Clifford, Colin	63.89	Bronze State
17	2	Fawcett, Fiona	22.43	State
17	1	Osie, David	29.25	
18	2	Carter, Mary	28.82	Bronze Regional
2	1	Mullineux, Don	29.72	
3	2	Harrington, Mary	29.64	
5	3	Olevson, Janice	19.36	
10	4	Wilkinson, Ron	15.42	
11	5	Kneprath, Marg	15.42	
14	6	Bartrop, John	14.94	
16	7	Pearman, Mark	13.12	
4	1	Gordon, Sue	23.34	Regional
8	2	Rogers, Robyn	20.62	
1	1	Shteyman, Felix	48.91	Silver Local
12	1	Chey, Tien	23.25	
14	2	Bishop, Michael	20.21	
16	3	Liu, Wenjie	19.75	
20	4	Cheung, Yeung	18.36	
20	5	Halse, Tony	18.36	Bronze Local
2	1	Ampherlaw, Jo	24.02	
12	2	Narunsky, Jenny	15.85	
15	3	Glew, Noni	14.49	Local
20	1	Hilder, Deborah	11.72	
20	2	Hilder, Graeme	11.72	Club
12	1	Morgan, Sue	15.64	
13	2	Doecke, Karen	14.67	
14	3	Emanuel, Brian	13.15	Graduate
6	1	Barling, Kerry	9.8	
7	2	Reilly, Denise	9.1	
12	3	Boyd, Penny	6.29	
16	4	Needham, Caroline	5.59	
17	5	Gleeson, Anne Maree	5.34	Nil
3	1	Thompson, Sharon	11.44	
4	2	Craig, David	10.8	
5	3	Craig, Anne	10.49	
6	4	Burt, Deborah	9.89	
8	5	Boyle, David	8.49	
10	6	Abrams, Jack	7.61	
11	7	Ferster, Sara	6.52	
15	8	Haberlin, Harry	5.4	

Open Late December Results

Date	NSBC Event Name	T		Late December Open Winners	Score
21-Dec	RealBridge Open 10am	11	NS	Leo Goorevich & Kevin Davies	63%
			EW	Ed truscott & David Smee	67%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	14	NS	Gwen Cordingley & Anne-Marie Hazell	60%
			EW	Robin Devries & Peter Bendelstein	66%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL			Cancelled COVID	
22-Dec	RealBridge Open 10am	9	NS	Melinda Itzkowicz & Louse Leibowitz	62%
			EW	Helen Lowry & Mischa Solar	60%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	13	NS	Giza Fletcher & Joe Barda	62%
			EW	Neil Perry & John Mottram	57%
23-Dec	RealBridge Open 10am	11	NS	David Hudson & Fiona Fawcett	68%
			EW	Tom Kiss & Alasdair Beck	63%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	15	NS	David Osie & Hymie Osie	59%
			EW	Jenny Narunsky & Sharlene Gnesin	66%
	RealBridge Open 7pm	8	NS	Karen Irvine & Steve Dynan	58%
			EW	Giselle Mundell & Rena Kaplan	67%
Date	NSBC Event Name	T		Post Christmas Open Winners	Score
24-Dec	T			Closed XMAS Break	
25-Dec	F				
26-Dec	S				
27-Dec	RealBridge Open 1pm	8	1	Bernard Edelstein & Andrew Gal	66%
			2	Anne Bates & John Mottram	58%
28-Dec	RealBridge 10	21	NS	Morning RB sessions closed	
			EW	Gwen Cordingley & Anne-Marie Hazell	60%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm			Marlaire Gahan & Colin Thomas	59%
				Afternoon F2F sessions closed	
29-Dec	RealBridge 10	24	NS	Morning RB sessions closed	
			EW	Robyn Noach & Tessa Rohald	59%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm			Barry Shine & Donald Cartwright	64%
				Morning RB sessions closed	
30-Dec	RealBridge 10	22	NS	Morning RB sessions closed	
			EW	Sharlene Gnesin & Jenny Narunski	60%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm			Alexis Ngan & David Smee	61%
				Evening session closed	
31-Dec	RealBridge 10	16	NS	Morning F2F sessions closed	
			EW	Julianne Rocks & Kevin Davies	62%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm			Giselle Mundell & Rena Kaplan	64%
				Afternoon F2F sessions closed	
	7pm Comp			Evening session closed	

Open – to mid-January Results

Date	NSBC Event Name	T		Early January Open Winners	Score
1-Jan	RealBridge 10			Morning RB sessions closed	
	RealBridge 1			Afternoon F2F sessions closed	
2-Jan	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	26	NS	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	64%
			EW	Ron Speiser & Donald Cartwright	68%
3-Jan	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	8	NS	David Hudson & Fiona Fawcett	59%
			EW	Esther Lee & Fran Campbell	65%
4-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	8	NS	Fiona Fawcett & Kit Meyers	60%
			EW	Ed Truscott & David Smee	61%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	20	NS	Brenda Kaplan & Helene Jacobson	64%
			EW	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	65%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL				
5-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	9	NS	Bijan Assaee & Dominic Kwok	62%
			EW	Fran Campbell & Sallie Quarles	68%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	18	NS	Philip Jaffe & Keith Walker	64%
			EW	Barry Shine & Donald Cartwright	63%
6-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	14	1	Tom Kiss & Alasdair Beck	64%
			2	Lee Santow & Sally Zylberberg	59%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	16	NS	Robyn Noach & Sandra Milner	67%
			EW	Maurice & Rachael Loomes	63%
	RealBridge Open 7pm	8	1	Kevin Davies & Steven Bock	60%
			2	John Mottram & Anne Bates	56%
7-Jan	Open 10 am F2F EL	8	NS		
			EW		
	RealBridge Open 10am	8	1	Linda Aubusson & Jeanette Abrams	66%
			2	Sunny Pang & Malcolm Clift	65%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL				
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	10	NS	Neil Perry & John Mottram	64%
			EW	Tim Mountjoy & Richard Phillips	66%
Date	NSBC Event Name	T		Mid January Open Winners	Score
8-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	11	1=	Malcolm Martin & Joe Barda	54%
			1=	Mary Carter & Chris Gaskell	54%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	10	EW	Tom Kiss & Alasdair Beck	65%
			NS	Heather Lane & Robyn Ogbourne	57%
9-Jan	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	27	NS	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	67%
			EW	Robyn Noach & Sandra Milner	65%
10-Jan	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	8	NS	Tony & Louise Leibowitz	63%
			EW	Brian Soutter & Adam Rutkowski	57%
11-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	8	1	Tony & Louise Leibowitz	59%
			2	Colin Clifford & Jeanette Abrams	69%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	15	NS	Fran Campbell & Yolande Schneider	60%
			EW	Sandra Milner & Jeanette Reitzer	64%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL			David Hagley & Sallie Quarles	59%
12-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	10	NS		
			EW	Lori Shine & Harlene Rubin	59%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	16	NS	Fran Campbell & Sallie Quarles	64%
			EW	Margaret Foster & Jeanette Abrams	62%
13-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	10	1	Bernard Edelstein & Ron Speiser	62%
			2	Bill Westwood & Tom Goodyer	61%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	15	NS	Tom Kiss & Alasdair Beck	66%
			EW	Mannie Ichilcik & Joe Barda	57%
	RealBridge Open 7pm	11	NS	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	66%
			E=	Robbie Feyder & Colin Clifford	60%
			E=	Ram Purushothaman & Raja Rajappal	58%
			E=	Kevin Davies & Steven Bock	58%
14-Jan	Open 10 am F2F EL	8	NS		
			EW		
	RealBridge Open 10am	10	1	Adam Rutkowski & Derek Maltz	64%
			2	Barbara Abraham & Keith Walker	64%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL			Maruerita McDonald & Sue Labordus	63%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	9	NS	June Nicholls & Christine Vinson	60%
			EW	Janet Clarke & Chris Williams	65%
			EW	Giselle Mundell & Rena Kaplan	59%

December Open Monthly winners

Pos	December Open Monthly Winners	MP Rank	Sess	Master Pts
1	John Mottram	Gold Grand	26	4.69
2	Kevin Davies	Silver Grand	18	4.50
3	Felix Shteyman	Regional	30	3.17
4	Ron Speiser	Grand	13	2.98
5	Mischa Solar	Silver Grand	13	2.79
6	Leo Goorevich	Grand	9	2.75
7	Jenny Narunsky	**Local	18	2.74

Note): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards in Open sessions during the month




Date	NSBC Event Name	T		Mid January Open Winners	Score
15-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	12	NS	David Smea & Derek Maltz	62%
			EW	Alexis Ngan & Bijan Assaee	63%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	7	1	Julie Norton & Ian Plummer	64%
			2	John Mottram & De Mitty	59%
16-Jan	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	28	NS	Lester & Lynn Kalmin	69%
			EW	Alicia Mercer & Mischa Solar	65%
17-Jan	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	7	1	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	63%
			2	Brian Soutter & Adam Rutkowski	57%
18-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	9	NS	Tessa Rohald & Louise Leibowitz	59%
			EW	Ed Truscott & David Smea	69%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	16	NS	Mischa Solar & George Bilski	62%
			EW	Alexis Ngan & Bijan Assaee	59%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL	7	1	Shirley Smith & Judy de Flamingh	63%
			2	Neil Williams & Peter Fitzmaurice	62%
19-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	10	NS	Thelma Sher & Louise Chain	56%
			EW	Lorna Davies & Felix Shteyman	68%
	Open 1:15 am F2F EL	7	NS	Lidia Punturiero & Ian Plummer	68%
			EW	Joyce & Bruce Edwards	70%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	13	NS	Mischa Solar & Helen Lowry	58%
			EW	Brett Slater & Tony Halse	57%
20-Jan	RealBridge Open 10am	9	NS	Judy Marks & Adam Rutkowski	61%
			EW	Tom Kiss & Alasdair Beck	67%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	15	NS	Linda Aubusson & Helen Lowry	61%
			EW	Chris Williams & Janet Clarke	60%
21-Jan	RealBridge Open 7pm	12	NS	Ross Stuart & Mike Hughes	71%
			EW	Hymie Osie & David Osie	60%
	Open 10 am F2F EL	7	1	Kevin Davies & Julianne Rocks	67%
			2	Tony & Louise Leibowitz	58%
21-Jan	Open 1:15 am F2F EL	12	NS	Marlaine Gahan & Colin Thomas	64%
			EW	Lois Chambers & Rushi Sheth	66%
	RealBridge Open 1:30 pm	13	NS	Marika & Peter Lorsch	58%
			EW	Lee Santow & Sally Zylberberg	64%

December Restricted (<300MP) Results


Date	NSBC Event	T		Rookie & Restricted Combined late December Winners	Score
24-Dec	T	RealBridge 2		Afternoon F2F sessions closed	
25-Dec	F	RealBridge 2		Afternoon F2F sessions closed	
26-Dec	S	RealBridge 2		Afternoon F2F sessions closed	
31-Dec	T	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	12	NS Jenny Godfrey & Ruth Harrison EW Pam Ranney & Lesley Collins	62% 60%

December Restricted Monthly winners


Pos	December Winners Combined Rookie & Restricted <300 MP <National	MP Rank	Ses	Master Pts
1	Felix Shteyman	Regional	8	1.62
2	Brian Osborne	State	5	1.16
3	Caroline Needham	Club	6	0.93
4=	Don Mullineux	*Regional	6	0.86
4=	Mary Harrington	*Regional	6	0.86
6	Fiona Russell	State	5	0.62
7	Denise Reilly	Club	5	0.57



Winner
Felix Shteyman



Brian
Osborne



Caroline
Needham



Don
Mullineux



Mary
Harrington



Fiona
Russell




Denise
Reilly


January Current Open Monthly leaders

Pos	January (DD) Open Leaders	MP Rank	Ses	Master Pts
1	Tim Mountjoy	Life	17	3.28
2	Patricia Lacey	Grand	14	2.9
3	Sandra Milner	Silver Life	11	2.73
4	John Mottram	Gold Grand	19	2.65
5	Louise Leibowitz	Grand	13	2.49
6	Mischa Solar	Silver Grand	13	2.46
7	Alicia Mercer	Grand	15	2.31

Note): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards in Open sessions during the month.



Tim



Patricia

January Restricted Results

Date	NSBC Event	T	January Rookie & Restricted Combined Early January Winners	Score
1-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS		
		EW		
2-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS	Mary Harrington & Don Mullineux	61%
		EW	Eric Campbell & David Boyle	64%
7-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS	John Bartrop & Owen Aubrey	71%
		EW	Simon Vinson & David Craig	66%
8-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS	Fiona Russell & Sue Morgan	71%
		EW	Sandra Belcher & Joe Camilleri	58%
9-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS	Brian Osbourne & Felix Shteyman	62%
		EW	Tien Chey & Vera Cranston	60%
11-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 10am	1	Robyn Wilmot & Gary Barwick	64%
		2	Peter Napier & Russell Spear	51%
14-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS	Christina Pender & David Goodliffe	65%
		EW	Liz Sharratt & Barbara Richards	55%
15-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	1	Fiona Russell & Sue Morgan	64%
		2	Simon Vinson & David Craig	63%
16-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	1	Brian Osbourne & Felix Shteyman	59%
		2	Janet Rigby & Lynne Kerry	57%
18-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 10am	NS	Sharon Thompson & Caroline Forbes	53%
		EW	Lorna Davies & Felix Shteyman	63%
21-Jan	Realbridge Rookie & Restricted 2pm	NS	Sara Bos & Karen Isman	63%
		EW	Margaret Facer & Carolyn Carnachan	60%

January Current Restricted Monthly Leaders

Pos	January Leaders Combined Rookie & Restricted <300 MP < **National	MP Rank	Ses	Master Pts
1=	Fiona Russell	State	6	1.00
1=	Sue Morgan	Local	5	1.00
3	Felix Shteyman	Regional	6	0.81
4	Brian Osbourne	State	5	0.74
5=	David Craig	Club	3	0.54
5=	Simon Vinson	Local	2	0.54
7=	Peter Napier	Local	5	0.51
7=	Russell Spear	Local	6	0.51

Note a): Combined Monthly award is for players with less than <300 MP i.e., Less than **National Rank
 Note b): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards in combined sessions during the month



Fiona Russell



Sue Morgan



Bidding Tools: Splinter raises

The splinter bid is a useful addition to any pairs' bidding arsenal. It is a specialized type of raise that sometimes allows a partnership to bid a game or slam that might otherwise be missed. A splinter raise is an unusual jump that shows:

- four-card or longer support for the last bid suit, game-going values (mild slam try), and shortness (a singleton or void) in the suit in which the jump occurred.

For example: *Opener Responder*

1♥ 4♣

Responder shows at least four hearts, opening values (approximately) and club shortness. A mild slam try!

How can you tell which jumps are splinters?

They are usually defined as any new-suit response higher than a jump raise. That means that after a 1♥ opening, 3♠, 4♣ and 4♦ are all splinter raises, each showing a different singleton or void. After a 1♠ opening, 4♣, 4♦ and 4♥ are all splinter bids.

Why are these bids useful?

Let us look at a basic hand example:

Opener Responder

♠AK654	♠QT987
♥KQ6	♥A542
♦862	♦5
♣A6	♣KQJ

After opener begins with ♠, responder bids a splinter 4♦. From opener's point of view, this is really good news. She knows that her partner has at most one diamond, making it safe to explore for slam. **Why?** Opener does not have to worry about the three little diamonds in her hand and knows all points will have maximum value. Whether opener uses Blackwood, Key Card or Cue Bids, 6♠ is easy to reach and almost certain to succeed. Notice that the partnership has a combined total of only 28 points, far less than the textbook 33 points suggested for bidding a small slam. But if responder had splintered in a different suit (say 4♥), opener should take a more pessimistic view of things ♥KQ6 may not be useful opposite a singleton and should settle quickly for game and signoff off in 4♠.



May the Force be With You

By Pat O'Connor

We are East. ♠7 ♥JT95 ♦JT83 ♣K854.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♠	5+♠, Opening hand		
2♠	3+♠, 6-9 hcp		
4♠	To Play		

South opens 1♠, partner passes and North raises to 2♠. We have nothing to say so we pass, and South jumps to 4♠. All pass, partner leads the ♦A and dummy comes down.

North			
♠ K32			
♥ 862			
♦ 9764			
♣ AT2			
♦ A			
		East	
		♠ 7	
		♥ JT95	
		♦ JT83	
		♣ K854	

Dummy plays the ♦4, we play the ♦8 and declarer the ♦5. We might as well encourage, since a diamond continuation cannot possibly hurt, and might help. Besides, there is no other suit that we really want partner to switch to. West continues with the ♦K, which declarer ruffs. Partner obviously has the ♦Q as well.

How many points does South have from the bidding?

South should have 18 or more. Dummy has seven and we have five. That leaves 10 for

partner who has shown up already with the ♦AKQ. This means that declarer has the ♥AK.

Declarer leads a low spade to dummy's ♠K and returns a spade to the ♠A in hand, on which we discard the ♣8. Declarer now thinks for a while and leads the ♣Q from hand, ♣7 from partner, ♣2 from dummy and we win with the ♣K.

How many trumps have been played?

Declarer ruffed the ♦K. There have been two rounds and we showed out on the second one, so that is eight trumps played.

How many trumps did South start with?

We don't know. If partner is out of trumps, declarer started with seven. The smallest possible holding for South is five in which case partner still has two, the same number as declarer. If this is the situation, we can give declarer a problem by leading a diamond to reduce his trump holding to one. This is our only chance. We lead the ♦J and declarer's hand disintegrates.

The Full Deal

		North			
		♠ K32			
		♥ 862			
		♦ 9764			
		♣ AT2			
West				East	
♠ T964				♠ 7	
♥ Q43				♥ JT95	
♦ AKQ2				♦ JT83	
♣ 76				♣ K854	
		South (D)			
		♠ AQJ85			
		♥ AK7			
		♦ 5			
		♣ QJ93			
4♠/S Lead ♦A				Vul Nil Dir: S	

Declarer could not afford to draw all West's trumps because this would leave no trumps in the South hand to stop the run of the diamonds. So, he played for the club finesse which failed. When we continued with diamonds, South was forced to ruff and then had only one trump remaining whereas partner had two. At this stage South had lost control of trumps and was

defeated. If we mistakenly returned the ♥J when in with the ♠K, declarer would have made the contract.

Post Mortem

West, having four trumps, did well to lead his long side suit to force declarer to shorten his trump holding. This deal shows the power of the forcing defence where declarer is made to ruff at every possible opportunity.



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Careful Planning wins the day

Hand from Bridge feed article on the ACBL website

To develop tricks in notrump, we use only high cards and length. You have some good techniques declarer might use (ducking, holding up, promotion and finesses). And we are aware that we must consider how fearful we are of the suit led on the opening lead.

North	Standard Bidding			
♠ KJ2	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ 953				1NT
♦ AQT3	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
♣ 763	Bidding Notes			
South (D)	1NT	15-17 Bal		
♠ AQ64	3NT	To Play .. 10 HCP		
♥ A76				
♦ J96				
♣ A95				

The Bidding

Plan your play on the following deal (you opened 1NT as South and partner raised you directly to 3NT). West leads the ♥2.

Preliminary Analysis

Top Winners — $4♠ + 1♥ + 1♦ + 1♣ = 7 = 2$ Short

Top Losers: $2-3♥ + \text{deep } 2-3♣$

Strategies for 9 tricks?

- You must finesse in diamonds for the extra 2 tricks.

Q1 Can the heart suit hurt you if the diamond finesse loses?

Q2 Should you hold up on winning the ♥A?



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But first, a defensive problem.

You are East. South is in 3NT.

Partner leads the ♥2 and dummy comes down

North		East	
♠ KJ2		♠ T75	
♥ 953		♥ QT4	
♦ AQT3		♦ K84	
♣ 763		♣ KQJT	

Q1 What heart will you play on the first trick?

Q2 If the card you play holds the trick, what will you return at trick two?

A1 When partner leads a low card, your job is to play third hand high. So, you should play the ♥Q. It wins!

A2 Did you return partner's lead at trick two? If so, you failed to make your **defensive plan**.

It is easier for you since your objective is not as lofty. All you need is **five tricks** to defeat 3NT. Can you see them?

- Your ♥Q is one.
- It looks like you will get the ♦K because of the long diamond power in dummy, that is two.
- A good analysis of partner's ♥2 opening lead will tell you that the best you can do is take three more tricks in hearts. When partner leads a fourth best ♥2, he cannot have more than four cards in his suit. Returning a heart could beat only if declarer has no heart tricks. Unlikely

You should not hold out for this hope, because you see a sure way to get three additional tricks in clubs? Switch to the ♣K at trick two. When you get in with the ♦K, you will cash three high clubs and set the contract.

The complete deal:

North		East	
♠ KJ2		♠ T75	
♥ 953		♥ QT4	
♦ AQT3		♦ K84	
♣ 763		♣ KQJT	

West		South (D)	
♠ 983		♠ AQ64	
♥ KJ82		♥ A76	
♦ 752		♦ J96	
♣ 842		♣ A95	

3NT/S		Vul Nil	
Lead ♥2		Dir: S	

If you continue hearts, declarer will end up losing two or three hearts and the ♦K.

Now let us go back to **declarer's plan**. Have you realised that I asked you to plan the same deal as both declarer and defender?

A2 As declarer, did you hold up on the ♥A at trick one?

How do you know not to hold up? Analyse the opening lead. The ♥2 lead tells you that West probably started with only four hearts and the suit is splitting 4–3. Hearts cannot hurt you! You as declarer usually use the “hold up play” to sever communications between the defender's hands. And declarer must sever communications only when there is a real scary suit.

We have already determined that hearts cannot hurt you badly when West holds only four of them.

The next step is to see that if a switch to another suit could hurt. And the answer here is definitely yes. Your club suit is every bit as weak as your hearts. So,

T1	Win ♥A
T2	Run and Finesse ♦J (loses to ♦K)
T3-5	EW cash their 3 heart winners
T6	You can then claim with 9 top tricks
4♠+1♥+3♦+1♣=9	

Moral — do not hold up in one suit when a switch to another suit could hurt you worse.

In 2021, the NSBC Beginner Bridge teachers: **Liz Wilkinson** and **Emma Barnes**.



Emma



Liz

New Beginners' Course at East Lindfield

After last year's disrupted program for new players, we are holding a 6-week "Introduction to Bridge" course, early February 2021, **Face-To-Face**, at East Lindfield. Emma Barnes will be the teacher, and there will be two options: Monday evenings at 7pm, or Tuesday mornings at 10:30am. If you know of anyone who would be interested, could you please put them in touch with Kay Moyes, on moyes_kay@hotmail.com?

Learn To Play Bridge

With
Emma Barnes

6 weeks beginning
Monday 1st Feb 2021 7pm
Or Tuesday 2nd Feb 2021 10:30am
at Lindfield Rollers Bowling Club

If Covid restrictions don't permit us to meet face to face, we are ready to deliver the course in a group online.

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. Emma has decades of experience with new players and a gentle touch that makes learning the game fun and easy.

Bookings
moyes_kay@hotmail.com
www.learnbridgeinsydney.com.au
or Kay Moyes 0416 002 701

This will be followed by the 10-week "Bridge Basics" course - all Covid willing of course.

Boards played per session, and MasterPoint limits:

- 21 boards per **Restricted** (<300 MP) session.
- 18 boards per **Rookie** (<100 MP) session.
- 15 boards per **Supervised** session.

Our Newer Player Team



For our supervised players

The Christmas break saw supervised sessions stop between Christmas and the New Year, and numbers are slowly building up again. Missing the semester 2 Beginners' Course in 2020 has meant that usual flow of new players into the supervised game hasn't eventuated this year. Nevertheless, we have enjoyable games on Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings for players who still like some help at the table.

BBO Supervised Session Results

Date	NSBC Event	T	December Supervised Winners	Score
21-Dec	M RealBridge Supervised 7pm	2	Bev Caruana & Di Lipman	67%
22-Dec	T RealBridge Supervised 10:30am	2	David Cahill & June Straw	67%
28-Dec	M Supervised 7pm	Morning RB sessions closed		
29-Dec	T Supervised 10:30am	Evening RB session closed		
Date	NSBC Event	T	January Supervised Winners	Score
4-Jan	M RealBridge Supervised 7pm	2	Helen Freeman & Beth Morton	80%
5-Jan	T RealBridge Supervised 10:30am	2	David Rands & Jill Johnston	57%
11-Jan	M RealBridge Supervised 7pm	3	Diana Moore & Lydia Merrill	73%
12-Jan	T RealBridge Supervised 10:30am	2	Tors Graham & Lesley Weatherden	63%
18-Jan	M RealBridge Supervised 7pm	4	Helen Freeman & Beth Morton	55%
19-Jan	T RealBridge Supervised 10:30am	3	Diana Moore & Jacqui Lowe	65%

For Rookie players: a Face-To-Face game!

For a while now, we have had Rookie sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday afternoons, as well as Tuesday evenings. There is also a **brand-new Face-To-Face session** starting soon at East Lindfield on a Thursday morning. To all those of you who didn't warm to the online environment, do come back and play, we have been missing you!

For Rookie / Restricted players




As well as the current Thursday, Friday and Saturday Rookie / Restricted games at 1:30, we have a new session on a Monday morning.




Late Dec Rookie Only Results

Date	NSBC Event	T	Rookie Only Late December Winners	Score
21-Dec	M RealBridge Rookie 2pm	15	NS Sara Worth & Monica Cheng	69%
		EW	Margaret Easton & Pam Bender	66%
22-Dec	T RealBridge Rookie 2pm	11	NS Pam Rawson & Valda Andrews	64%
		EW	Bob & Ashleigh Gallagher	60%
	T RealBridge Rookie 7pm	5	1 Robyn Wilmot & John Scotford	59%
		2	Jack & Leesa Abrams	58%
23-Dec	W RealBridge Rookie 2pm	11	NS Douglas & Mary Ann Irvin	61%
		EW	Tien Chey & Felix Shteyman	64%
28-Dec	M RealBridge Rookie 2pm	15	NS Jo Ampherlaw & Harry Haberin	72%
		EW	Doug Leigh & Catherine McReady	61%
29-Dec	T RealBridge Rookie 2pm	13	NS Jack Abrams & Sue Rutkowski	64%
		EW	Judy Chapple & Noni Glew	59%
			Holiday Break	
30-Dec	W RealBridge Rookie 2pm	15	NS Joan Francis & Bill McSwiggan	63%
		EW	Philip Howes & Deborah Burt	71%
31-Dec	T RealBridge Rookie 2pm	12	NS Jenny Godfrey & Ruth Harrison	62%
		EW	Pam Ranney & Lesley Collins	60%

December Rookie Monthly Winners

Pos	Winner Dec Rookie only (<100 MP <*Regional)	MP Rank	Sess	Master Pts
1	Felix Shteyman	Regional	12	2.02
2	Caroline Needham	Club	17	1.62
3	Sandra Belcher	**Local	13	1.62
4	Joe Camilleri	Regional	11	1.59
5	Deborah Burt	Club	14	1.41
6	David Craig	Club	12	1.27
7	Noni Glew	**Local	10	1.13

		
Winner Felix Shteyman	Caroline Needham	Sandra Belcher

		
Deborah Burt	David Craig	Noni Grew

Jan Rookie Only Session Results

Date	NSBC Event	T	Rookie Only January Winners	Score
4-Jan	M RealBridge Rookie 2pm	16	NS Pauline Beckton & Jane Loveday	62%
		EW	Sue Rutkowski & Jack Abrams	67%
5-Jan	T RealBridge Rookie 2pm	13	NS Marg & Dean Daridis	64%
		EW	Susan Macken & Sara Worth	60%
	T RealBridge Rookie 7pm	4	1 Stephanie Gay & Carol Wakelin	64%
		2	Robyn Wilmot & Keith Fryirs	56%
6-Jan	W RealBridge Rookie 2pm	16	NS John Brodie & Russell Summerhaves	64%
		EW	Tien Chey & Vera Cranston	62%
11-Jan	M RealBridge Rookie 2pm	15	NS Joe Camilleri & Sandra Belcher	66%
		EW	Anne & David Craig	66%
12-Jan	T RealBridge Rookie 2pm	9	NS Kerry Wilson & Sharon Sher	65%
		EW	Christine Robersts & Charlie Algert	72%
	T RealBridge Rookie 7pm	5	1 Stuart Schon & Maeve Doyle	72%
		2	Robyn Wilmot & Keith Fryirs	51%
13-Jan	W RealBridge Rookie 2pm	16	NS Verity Furness & Joan Francis	66%
		EW	Anne & David Craig	69%
18-Jan	M RealBridge Rookie 2pm	15	NS Noni Grew & Judy Chapple	62%
		EW	Jane Loveday & Pauline Beckton	68%
19-Jan	T RealBridge Rookie 2pm	9	NS Karen Isman & Jacqui Sesel	66%
		EW	Pat Nosworthy & Ann Lockley	62%
	T RealBridge Rookie 7pm	5	1 Stuart Schon & Maeve Doyle	73%
		2	Sasha Bennett & Liz Morell	59%
20-Jan	W RealBridge Rookie 2pm	20	NS Verity Furness & Joan Francis	62%
		EW	Sharon Davis & Rhonda Small	64%


January Current Rookie Monthly leaders

Pos	Leader Jan Rookie only (<100 MP <*Regional)	MP Rank	Sess	Master Pts
1	David Craig	Local	9	1.61
2	Tien Chey	Regional	8	1.36
3	Vera Cranston	Regional	6	1.16
4	Felix Shteyman	Regional	10	1.13
5=	Joan Francis	Silver Local	7	1.08
5=	Verity Furness	Regional	6	1.08
7=	Joe Camilleri	Regional	9	1.01
7=	Sandra Belcher	Silver Local	9	1.01

Note a): Rookie Monthly award is for players <100 MP i.e., <*Regional Rank
 Note b): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards during the month.

	
David Craig	Tien Chey


In 2021, the NSBC development teachers are **Anita Curtis** and **Jessica Brake**.



Jessica

Build on the Basics with **Jessica Brake** is for people who are returning to bridge after a long break or who have completed Beginners and have played for 3-6 months. The normal Build on the Basics lessons are now split into 2: Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10am for approximately 1 hour each session on Zoom/BBO.

Dates	Jessica Brake "Build on Basics" - Lesson Topics	
	Wed 10am AND Thurs 10am	
Wed Jan 27	Hand Analysis (End of Course)	
Thur Jan 28		
Wed Feb 03	1NT & 2NT openings (Restart of Course)	
Thur Feb 04		
Wed Feb 10	I prefer a suit Respond to 1NT with a suit	
Thur Feb 11		
Wed Feb 17	I can't open 1NT! NT rebids	
Thur Feb 18		
Wed Feb 24	Focus on Defence in NTs Tips on defence	
Thur Feb 25		




Anita

Develop Your Skills (DYS) with **Anita Curtis** 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 via Zoom/BBO sessions on Thursday afternoons at 2pm.

Date	Anita Curtis Thursday afternoon @ 2:00pm
	Develop your skills - Lesson Topic
Thur Jan 28	How Do you play NT Contracts?
Thur Feb 04	How do you play suit contracts?
Thur Feb 11	No Lesson
Thur Feb 18	No Lesson
Thur Feb 25	DYS End of course Hand Analysis 1





Anita

Broaden Your Game/Intermediate with **Anita Curtis** is a set of lessons for intermediate players with at least 3 years of bridge experience. It follows on from Develop Your Skills. The lessons are held over Zoom video on Friday mornings at 10am.

Date	Anita Curtis Friday morning @ 10am
	Broaden your game/Intermediate - Lesson Topic
Fri Jan 29	Cue Raises - how to differentiate between an invitational hand & a pre-emptive hand in competition
Fri Feb 5	Gentle Hand Analysis 15 for players moving towards intermediate level to consolidate skills and learn new techniques
Fri Feb 12	No Lesson
Fri Feb 19	No Lesson
Fri Feb 26	Bidding the opponents' suit can mean so many different things: a cue raise, asking for a stopper, Michaels cue bid and more. Clarify your understanding - for advanced players.

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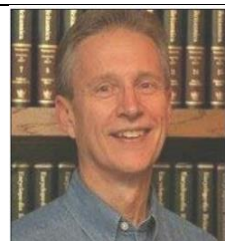


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Brent Manley

Brent was a guest co-editor of the Gold Coast daily bulletin. IPBA executive member and WBF bulletin editor. Challenge hands were adapted from a **Brent Manley** articles "Improving your Prospects", "Overcoming Obstacles" and "Timing is everything" from the ACBL Bridge feed website

Challenge hand 1 Solution

North	Matchpoints
♠ AQ43	EW Vul
♥ AKT8	Dealer South
♦ T76	
♣ A7	
South (D)	
♠ KJT962	EW are silent.
♥ 74	Bid to your best spot!
♦ Q52	
♣ J6	

"Improving Your Prospects".

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
Bidding Notes			
2♠	Weak 2♠ - 6♠ - 6-11 hcp		
4♠	Normal Game bid		

The Bidding

You (South) open 2♠ (Weak 2) and partner raises you to game with his 17hcp and 4 spades.

Partner has a genuinely nice hand, but after West leads the ♠K and dummy hits the table, you can see you have some work to do to get to 10 tricks.

Initial Analysis

Winners = 6x♠+2x♥+1♣ = 9, **one short**
 Losers = ♦AK+1♣ + maybe 3rd ♦

After the opening lead, you (declarer) saw that your prospects were not very bright: you

had nine winners and four likely losers in the minors.

Options for the 10th trick?

- Cash ♥AK and ruff a heart, and maybe the ♥QJ are in one hand with only 3, so will fall in 3 rounds?
- Maybe the ♦AK are sitting ok under the ♦Q so you can lead up. Very unlikely.
- Maybe I can get the opponents to open the diamond suit for me and I can survive? This strategy requires you to fully eliminate the heart suit and trumps from opponents' hands. Then throw East in with the last club using the ♣J.

What are your plans to make 4♠?

Solution

After a little thought, you as declarer decided on the better option. You would try combining options a) ♥QJ falling in 3 rounds and c) if Hearts not falling, eliminate all the hearts and the club throw in, as the best overall chance to make the contract.

- T1 After winning the opening ♠K lead with your ♠A, playing ♣6 from hand. West noted that East signalled (♠8 likely high-low) an even number as they were playing (King leads ask for count)
- T2 You then crossed to the ♠K in hand, both EW following (♠5 and ♠8)
- T3 You then cashed ♠A in dummy (drawing the final outstanding trump ♠7). West discarding a small club ♣2.
- T45 You then started on the heart suit and cashed the top two honours ♥AK, East following ♥96 and West ♥23. But no ♥Q or ♥J has fallen. So, now you must play for the thrown in option!
- T6 You ruffed the ♥8 in hand with the ♠6, East ♥J and West ♥5.
- T7 You returned to dummy via trumps ♠9 to ♠Q with both EW dropping small clubs.

T8 You now eliminated dummy's last heart by ruffing dummy's ♥T with the ♠T, East playing ♥Q and west ♣T.

T9 You now executed the end play, by exiting with the ♣J, taken by West with the ♣Q.

T10 West had seen East's signals and knew he had even number of clubs. He knew South had only two clubs. So, West decided he better shift to a low diamond ♦3 promising an honour. East took this with the ♦A.

T11 East knew that partner would have led ♦K if he had both ♦KQ at this stage. So, East returned the ♦8. You as Declarer went with the odds and played a low diamond finessing against the ♦J (he reasoned that if East had begun both the ♦A and ♦K he might have played differently in the suit? It is a guess). But fortunately, West had to win ♦K, and you made your contract

So, declarer made the 4 Spade contract, 10 tricks: six trumps, two hearts ♥AK, the ♦Q and the ♣A.

The full deal:

West		North	East	
♠ 75	♥ 532	♠ AQ43	♠ 8	♥ QJ96
♦ K43	♣ KQT95	♥ AKT8	♦ AJ98	♣ 8432
		♦ T76		
		♣ A7		
4♠ / South lead ♣K		South (D)	Vul EW Dir: S	
		♠ KJT962		
		♥ 74		
		♦ Q52		
		♣ J6		

Solution Challenge Hand 2

Overcoming Obstacles

Standard or 2/1 Bidding				
	West	North	East	South (D)
North				1♥
♠ AQ75	1♠	X	Pass	2♥
♥ K5	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
♦ A652	Pass	6♥	All Pass	
♣ KQJ				
Bidding Notes				
	1♥	5+♥, (good 11 + singleton)		
South (D)	1♠	Good Overcall 5+♠ <16		
♠ 4	X	Neg (minors) or Strong		
♥ AQJ643	2♥	6+♥ Minimum		
♦ 843	4NT	Keycard (♥)		
♣ A75	5♠	2+♥Q (♠A+♥A+♥Q)		
	6♥	To play (I do have 19 hcp)		

The Bidding

You as South open your good 11hcp hand 1♥, and West overcalls 1♠. Partner applies a negative double (nominally both minors but can be a strong hand) and you respond 2♥ showing your 6+ heart suit and minimum values. Partner suddenly gets extremely interested and bids 4NT Keycards in hearts, you dutifully show your 2 Aces and the ♥Q with your 5♠ bid, and partner puts you in a 6♥-slam contract.

West leads the ♦K against your slam. How do you plan to make your 6♥ contract?

Initial Analysis

Top Winners: 4+♥+1♠+1♦+3♣ = 9+

Top Losers: None, but 2 diamonds

Strategies for making 12

- Spade finesse (Diamond pitch on Ace)
- Long ♥ should be better than 4 tricks as can ruff spades.

Risks: Do you see any dangers ahead?

Declarer saw that if trumps were no worse than 4-1, he should make six trumps, four tricks in the minors and presumably two spades. Nothing would save the contract if West had five trumps, so his risk assessment became, "What could be done if East had five trumps?"

Solution

You as declarer, deduced that the answer was to trump elope with his long trumps by ruffing dummy's low spades in hand. If trumps were 5-0, you saw that any successful play would involve cashing the three clubs early before taking a spade ruff. With that in mind,

T1 On West's **♦K** lead, declarer won the first trick with the dummy's **♦A**, East **♦7** and hand **♦3**.

T2 Declarer made the strange-looking play of a low trump **♥5** from dummy, East **♥2** to his hand **♥J** keeping his **♥K** as a subsequent entry. When West discarded a low spade **♠2**, declarer's precautions regarding a possible foul 5-0 trump division had come to fruition.

T3 So, now Declarer lead **♠4**, **♠3** and now successfully finessed the **♠K**, winning dummy's **♠Q** East **♠6**.

T4 Then cashed the **♠A**, East **♠T** throwing a first losing diamond **♦4** from hand and West **♠8**.

T567 Now came the point of the play in trumps: Instead of leading a spade at this point, declarer cashed all his three club winners, **♣AKQ** ending up in dummy. Everybody followed. He did not want East throwing any clubs on small spade leads from table.

T8 Only then did he call for dummy's small spade **♠5** through East's remaining 4 hearts. If East had ruffed high, declarer would have just thrown away his second diamond loser: He would then have had the rest of the tricks. But when East discarded a diamond, declarer ruffed it low **♥3** West **♠9**

T9 Declarer now returned to dummy with a small trump **♥4** to dummy's **♥K** East following with the **♥7**.

T10 Then declarer played a fourth spade **♠7** from dummy though East's remaining 3 hearts, this time East ruffed in with the **♥T**, but declarer threw his remaining diamond loser **♦8** from hand.

T11 Declarer then claimed his contract having only the remaining 3 high trumps, **♥AQ6** (whilst East had left the **♥98** and a **♦J**)

Declarer made $2♠+6♥+1♦+3♣=12$ tricks

Note that if the **♥K** had been played on the first round of the suit, the contract would have failed because East would have discarded a club on the third round of spades and declarer would then have had no way home, lacking the required entries to dummy. The full deal:

		North		
		♠ AQ75		
		♥ K5		
		♦ A654		
		♣ KQJ		
West		South (D)	East	
♠ KJ9832		♠ 4	♠ T6	
♥ -		♥ AQJ643	♥ T9872	
♦ KQJ		♦ 843	♦ T97	
♣ 9642		♣ A75	♣ T83	
4♠/S Lead ♦K		Vul EW Dir: S		

♠

♥

♦

♣

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Challenge Hand 3 Solution

Timing is everything.

North (D)	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
♠ 87	West	North (D)	East	South
♥ A		1♦	Pass	1♥
♦ KQT98	Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
♣ KQJT4	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
	Bidding Notes			
South	1♦	Bid Higher of 2 5card suits		
♠ AT2	1♥	Normal 4+ H		
♥ K9743	2♣	normal, 4/5 min hand		
♦ 7532	2NT	Invite to game		
♣ A	3NT	Happy		

The Bidding:

Your partner (North) opens the bidding with 1♦ (4+♦ and an opening hand). This is correct to open higher of two touching suits. You respond 1♥, and partner then bids 2♣ (at least 5/4 minors' minimum hand <16 hcp).

You bid 2NT invitational as you have a good spade stopper and 11 hcp, and partner raises to the 3NT game on his max 15 hcp.

West starts the defence with a small spade ♠3 lead

Preliminary Analysis

Likely a common contract on a combined 26 hcp

Top Winners: 1♠+2♥+5♣ = 8 tricks

Top Losers: ♦A and some spades

Strategies for 9 Tricks

- The blockages in clubs and hearts are a problem, as south will be forced to take your spade ace entry to the hand early.
- Spades must be 4-4, to force ♦A out, else the short spade hand (3-5) has it.

Solution

You as declarer decide that you need the spades to break 4-4. You also realised that you could not cash the ♥K before EW made the diamond ace. The only chance was to time the play in a way that would put the defenders on lead when they could cash their three spades and then be forced to give him a second trick in a red suit. As the only sure

way of achieving this was to endplay the defence with a spade, declarer saw that he had to take East's ♠K with the ♠A at trick one.

T1 West lead ♠3, praying for a 44-spade fit ♠8, ♠K, you as declarer win the first trick in hand with the ♠A.

T2 Next, you unblocked the club suit by cashing the ♣A in hand (♣2, ♣4, ♣6).

T3 You now followed this by playing a low heart ♥3 ♥5 to dummy's ♥A ♥2. Unblocking the Heart suit. But with no entry to the ♥K in hand

T4-7 You then ran the four top clubs ♣KQJT. Declarer threw three hearts and a diamond from hand. East followed with 2 clubs and discarded a spade and a heart, whilst West followed with 3 clubs and discarded a low heart.

T8 You have 7 tricks in the bank, so you exited with the ♦K from dummy, which held. As East ducked with ♦6, in the hope that West had a second diamond. (hand playing ♦4, and West ♥8)

T9 You still have no access to hand to the ♥K for your 9th trick. You countered this by now exiting from dummy with the preserved ♠8. East rose with the ♠J, ♠T, ♠2.

T10 East exited with his remaining spade ♠5. And West won the ♠Q

T11 West then cashed ♠9

T12 But West was endplayed and then had to play a heart, as he had only that suit remaining in his hand and hence you made the ♥K in hand for contract

So, declarer had nine tricks for his contract – a spade, two hearts, a diamond and five clubs.

Note that the more natural looking play line of trying to cross to dummy with a diamond early fails. East wins the trick, the defenders cash the spade suit, then exit with a heart. Declarer never makes a trick with the ♥K: he would lose three spades and two diamonds. The full deal:

3NT/S	North (D)	
	♠ 87	
West	♥ A	East
♠ Q963	♦ KQT98	♠ KJ54
♥ Q865	♣ KQJT4	♥ JT2
♦ 4		♦ AJ6
♣ 7532	South	♣ 986
	♠ AT2	
Lead ♠3	♥ K9743	
	♦ 7532	
	♣ A	



Mark Horton

Playing 3NT

Adapted from a hand on the ACBL bridge feed website "Misplay these hands with me", by Author Mark Horton

North	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
♠ KJ75	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ A94				1♣
♦ 862	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
♣ A93	Bidding Notes			
South (D)	1♣	3+C Opening Hand		
♠ AQ42	3NT	12-14 Flat		
♥ KJ2				
♦ A63				
♣ 876				

The Bidding

You open 1♣ and partner launches into 3NT showing a flat balanced 12-14 hcp. You are also flat, no slam prospects and decide to pass and play for the 9-trick game.

West starts the defence by leading the ♣Q. You get your first view of dummy:

Preliminary Analysis

We have done well to avoid 4♠, the mirror image of our hands offers no sort of play for 10 tricks. Even so, 3NT is not quite a laydown.

A brief inspection of the opponents' convention card reveals (underleading and Low encouraging signals), so that the opening lead will likely be from a suit headed by the ♣KQ.

Winners: 4♠+2♥+1♦+1♣ = 8 (one short)
Top Losers: None but lots of deep losers
Strategies for 9 Tricks

- Find the ♥Q (If in East Hand, easy)
- Maybe you can we find a way for the opponents to start the heart suit for you?

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My Solution

- T1 West leads the $\clubsuit Q$, you as declarer duck, playing low from dummy, $\clubsuit 3$, East follows with the $\clubsuit 2$, (low encouraging), and you play the $\clubsuit 6$ from hand.
- T2 West now produces the $\clubsuit K$, and when you duck again, $\clubsuit 9$, East $\clubsuit 5$, you $\clubsuit 7$.
- T3 West continues with the $\clubsuit 4$, You win in Dummy $\clubsuit A$, as East following $\clubsuit T$, $\clubsuit 4$. It smells like East has the 13th club.
- T4 You decide you need the heart finesse with East. So, you cash the $\heartsuit A$, $\heartsuit 6$, $\heartsuit 2$, $\heartsuit 3$
- T5 Then play a $\heartsuit 4$, $\heartsuit T$ to the $\heartsuit J$, But West produces the $\heartsuit Q$, winning the trick!
- T5+ West switches to the $\diamond J$, forcing you to concede one down. After you cash your winners, as you have no hope of developing a 9th trick

The full deal:

		North		
		\spadesuit KJ75		
West		\heartsuit A94	East	
\spadesuit 96		\diamond 862	\spadesuit T83	
\heartsuit Q8753		\clubsuit A93	\heartsuit T6	
\diamond JT7			\diamond KQ94	
\clubsuit KQ4		South (D)	\clubsuit JT52	
3NT/S Lead \spadesuit K		\spadesuit AQ42	Vul Nil Dir: S	
		\heartsuit KJ2		
		\diamond A63		
		\clubsuit 876		

Post-mortem

West did very well not to lead a heart, but declarer made a common mistake. In 3NT, it does not matter when declarer scores his tricks, as long as he eventually arrives at nine tricks.

There was no rush to play on hearts,

- T1 Duck the $\clubsuit Q$
- T2 Duck the $\clubsuit K$
- T3 Win $\clubsuit A$ on the club continuation
- T4-7 You as declarer should cash the four rounds of spades $\spadesuit AKQJ$ ending in

dummy. This puts some pressure on the EW opponents. West follows twice and then discards the $\heartsuit 3$ and $\heartsuit 5$. East follows 3 times, then parts with the $\diamond 4$.

- T8 As the opponents have only one high club to cash, declarer can afford to duck then exit with a low diamond $\diamond 2$. East plays $\diamond 9$ winning as you duck $\diamond 6$ and West following with the $\diamond 7$.
- T9 East cashes the high club $\clubsuit J$, on which everyone discards a diamond, $\diamond 6$, $\diamond T$, $\diamond 6$
- T10 East exits with the $\diamond Q$ to your $\diamond A$ as West, discards the $\diamond J$

These cards remain:

		North		
		\spadesuit -		
West		\heartsuit A94	East	
\spadesuit --		\diamond -	\spadesuit -	
\heartsuit Q87		\clubsuit -	\heartsuit T6	
\diamond -			\diamond K	
\clubsuit -		South (D)	\clubsuit -	
3NT/S Lead \spadesuit K		\spadesuit -	Vul Nil Dir: S	
		\heartsuit KJ2		
		\diamond -		
		\clubsuit -		

All the evidence points to West having started with (2 \spadesuit , 3 \diamond , 3 \clubsuit) So his shape is 2533. West is then more likely 5:2 (about 70/30%) to have the critical $\heartsuit Q$. Can you do anything about this?

T11+ So, you decide the $\heartsuit Q$ is in the West hand. If you as declarer now cash the $\heartsuit K$ and follows it up by leading the $\heartsuit J$, you will (hopefully) pin East's doubleton $\heartsuit T$ to land your contract in spectacular style.

If West had $\heartsuit QT$ left, you always lose.

T11+ Or, you decide the $\heartsuit Q$ is doubleton onside, in the East hand. So, you cash $\heartsuit A$ and lead towards $\heartsuit KJ$.



After a great deal of consideration, it has been decided to postpone the **ANC in Orange** from 2021 until 2023. BAWA (The Bridge Association of Western Australia) have agreed to host the 2021 event commencing the same date, 10 July 2021. This transfer to **Perth in 2021** also suits a need to utilise a prior commitment to the **Perth Convention Centre** after the Asia Pacific Congress in April was cancelled.



The Australian Bridge Federation is excited and proud to announce that our new technology platform is now live.

The MyABF platform will support bridge across Australia for the ABF, state and territory organisations, clubs and of course all Australian bridge players.

Events will be added as we get back to face-to-face bridge. Sign up for your new bridge platform at www.abftech.com.au

Congratulations to Mark Guthrie (NSBC Member) who is on the team

My ABF launched



The Australian Bridge Federation has launched its new technology platform. The My ABF platform will support bridge across Australia for the ABF, state and territory organisations, clubs and of course all Australian bridge players.

First congress using the new My ABF entry system

The NSWBA Online Summer Matchpointed Swiss Pairs Congress is the first congress in the country to trial the new My ABF entry and payment system. This system will be increasingly rolled out across the country and allows any club to list a congress and accept online entries and payments. It also gives players a personalised login for your bridge activities from where you can:

- Manage your personal details
- View your masterpoints
- View, enter, and pay for bridge events
- See announcements from the ABF, your State and your Club.
- Participate in bridge discussion forums
- Run a "Bridge Credits" account with the ABF which you can put money into to pay for your bridge entries

» View and sign up to [My ABF](#).

To enter a congress you need to sign up to My ABF which takes about 30 seconds!



A WINNER listens to his partner's point of view;

A LOSER just waits until it's time to express his own.



NSBC – Weekly Bridge Session Schedules

Day	Standard Daily Sessions	Play Start	Typical numbers
Monday	Open	10.00 AM	10-15 Tables
	Restricted+Rookie (<300MP ie <Silver National)	10.00 AM	New
	Open F2F East lindfield	1:15 PM	10 max
	Open	1.30 PM	20 Tables
	Rookie (<100 MP ie <bronze regional)	2:00 PM	15-20 Tables
	Supervised	7:00 PM	N/A
Tuesday	Open	10.00 AM	10-15 Tables
	Supervised	10:30 AM	N/A
	Open F2F East lindfield	1:15 PM	New
	Open	1.30 PM	15-20 Tables
	Rookie (<100 MP ie <bronze regional)	2:00 PM	12-15 Tables
	Rookie (<100 MP ie <bronze regional)	7:00 PM	5-10 Tables
Wednesday	Open	10.00 AM	12-18 Tables
	Open	1.30 PM	15-21 Tables
	Rookie (<100 MP ie <bronze regional)	2:00 PM	14-20 Tables
	Open	7:00 PM	10-15 Tables
Thursday	<u>Rookie F2F East lindfield</u>	10.00 AM	New
	Open	10.00 AM	8-15 Tables
	Open F2F East lindfield	1:15 PM	10 max
	Open	1.30 PM	10-20 Tables
	Restricted+Rookie (<300MP ie <Silver National)	1:30 PM	8-15 Tables
	Competition Nights	7:00 PM	26 Blue
Friday	Open	10.00 AM	10-20 Tables
	Open	1.30 PM	10-15 Tables
	Restricted+Rookie (<300MP ie <Silver National)	1:30 PM	8-12 Tables
Saturday	Open	1:30 PM	20-30 Tables
	Restricted+Rookie (<300MP ie <Silver National)	1:30 PM	6-10 Tables
Sunday	Open	1:30 PM	8-16 Tables

Our latest web site combined club schedule can be viewed on this link:
<https://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/node/1509>