

# **NSBC** Newsletter



2021 October Vol 4 Issue 10

**Editor: Kevin Davies** 



# Reminder INVITATION TO THE VIRTUAL HIGH TEA LAUNCH OF HYEGROVE WILLOUGHBY – LUXURY RETIREMENT LIVING

Hyegrove invite you to be one of the first to learn more about this very special place to call home. They are welcoming our members to attend a High Tea on either the 12th or 14th of October. The High Teas on the 5th, 6th and 7th of October are already sold out!

- info@hyegrove.com.au
- OR phoning 8045 8694
- OR registering on www.hyegrove.com.au

#### Open Challenge Hand 1 (Bid and Play)

V	pen Chan	ilige Hallu i	(Did allu Flay)
1	North	EW Vul	, Dealer West
	<b>▲</b> J8732		
	<b>♥</b> J76	West of	oens 3♦ vulnerable in
	♦ A4	first sea	nt
	♣ A74	Can yo	u bid to the best spot?
	South		
	AKT54		ng you get to 4♠/S
	♥ A52		ads the <b>◆K.</b>
	♦ J7	How do	you plan to make
	♣ K32	your 4	contract?

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Open Congress Scene	

**Open Challenge Hand 2 (Bid and Play)** 

North	Nil Vul, Dealer South
<b>♦</b> 9632	West will interpose 3♥ (non
<b>▼ A86</b>	Vul overcall)
♦ AK76	Can you bid to the best spot
<b>♣</b> A6	on this deal?
South (D)	Assuming you reached 6≜/S
▲ AKQJ	Against your aggressive
<b>♥</b> 97	slam, West leads the <b>♣3</b> .
<b>+</b> 4	What is your plan for
♣ QJ9542	success on this deal?

Open Challenge Hand 3 (Bid and Play)

North	Teams NS Vul, Dealer West		
<b>▲ K863</b>	The bidding:		
♥3	W N E You		
♦ AKJ	2 → - P - 2 ♥ (pass/Correct) P		
♣ QJ532	P- <b>X</b> -P <b>??</b>		
South	Do you Pass or bid 3NT?		
♠ Q94	20 year acc or bla erri		
<b>▼ KQ</b> 95	Assuming you choose 3NT,		
♦ QT642	West leads <b>▼7</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> )		
. K	How do you play this hand?		

#### **Links to other Newsletters**

NSWBA's eCongress Newsletter

ABF's ABF Newsletter



## Update from the President

Mobile 0418 427 458 **David Fryda** 

Dear Members,

A sincere thank you to all of you who sent me messages of support in response to my email this month regarding the Chatswood property. Whilst there was no blood shed in the process there certainly was plenty of sweat and tears. To receive recognition from so many of you for our efforts was very comforting.

Some of you would be aware that my wife and I made the lifestyle decision to move to Orange earlier this year. We are both loving the rural lifestyle (it's not our first time) and despite the lack of visitors from Sydney for the past few months it is still a fun community. My absence from the North Shore has not prevented me from fulfilling my duties to you all as the Club's president. In fact, given the lockdown situation, I have been less constrained than most other Committee members.

However, now that attention has to turn to a renewed property search, I have enlisted another committee member to assist with the process. Mark Guthrie has kindly agreed to assist both Liam Milne and Leo Goorevich. Leo had stepped back over the past six months as we focused on the DA for the Chatswood property. Now that we are 'looking' again, Leo's support will again be invaluable.

It is too early to report anything concrete, but we do have another potential option that is looking promising. I'm not letting myself get too excited though!

The only other thing I would like to highlight this month is that clearly our online games have been very popular during lockdown. We recognise that as soon as restrictions ease table numbers will reduce as we will all have other things to do. I would like to reassure you all that this Committee is committed to

continuing to offer online bridge games even after restrictions are fully eased. As our online table numbers reduce, we may drop some sessions, but you can be assured there will be plenty of online options going forward. Thank you again for your support and appreciation.

Stay safe and happy bridging!

David

#### **Our Club Session Results**

These are updated regularly on our website.

**Pianola** 

**RB** results

<u>September Monthly Full Winners List</u> <u>October Monthly Partial Winners List</u>

#### **Editors Comments**

This Newsletter (start of month) will include more on **Open Bridge** player articles, whilst the *Mid-Month Update articles will focus more on our newer bridge players.* 

Open Challenge Hand 4 (Bid and Play)

North	EW Vul, Dealer S
♠ K632	No interference from EM
♥ 842	No interference from EW.
<b>♦ 832</b>	Assuming you reached
♣ K63	4≜/S, West leads ♣Q.
South (D)	(over lead)
♠ AQJT5	
<b>♥</b> A3	How are you going to play
♦ AQJ5	this hand?
75	



Kay Moyes, Teaching Coordinator at the North Shore Bridge Club

#### Our Beginners lessons go online

At North Shore Bridge Club, we have traditionally run our beginners' classes face-to-face, as it was hard to imagine teaching complete beginners without them being able to pick up the cards, shuffle, deal, and play. In addition, in an online class it is harder to build the community spirit and friendships that face-to-face lessons provide, meaning that retaining students into future would be more difficult. However, as the start date of our July 2021 semester 2 course approached, the Delta lockdown struck and we postponed to August, and then to September. Finally, we realised that it needed to be delivered online – or not at all this year.

Much discussion ensued! Anita Curtis volunteered to create online versions of the six "Introduction to Bridge" lessons using Zoom, and BBO to demonstrate the play of hands. The first lesson was the most difficult of all, necessitating a change to the structure and emphasis from what Anita would normally use in the first lesson, and getting over that first hurdle for the brand-new players. The lessons are recorded for those who miss the Zoom or want to rewatch the lesson at their leisure.

But how would we overcome the fact that in a Zoom lesson the participants can't actually play a hand themselves?

So, on to part 2 of the plan. We decided to set up a RealBridge practice room each week, into which we could load the lesson hands and some extras, so that each participant would have the opportunity to play up to 10 hands each week. Realising that complete novices couldn't be expected to jump into an online platform and just play from week 1, we organised a team of helpers – drawn from the ranks of our experienced Rookie players - so that we had a helper at each table for each of

the first two weeks. Having the ability to see each other and chat in the practice sessions not only provides the opportunity to play the cards for themselves, but it also goes some way towards providing the community spirit and friendship that is so important.

The whole exercise has entailed a great deal of effort all round, but the results so far have been all that we could have hoped for and more. We have 150 participants enrolled, from all over Sydney, from country areas, interstate and international. The participants have mastered Zoom (new to some) and playing on an online Bridge platform – as well as learning about the game of Bridge itself. They have all played each week and really enjoyed the experience.

The future for these students? We will be providing them with an ongoing program of teaching and play, and Liz Wilkinson is dusting off the 10-week Bridge Basics course that she delivered online in semester 1 2020. That will follow the 6-week Introduction.

#### **Exciting surprises?**

The demand for this offering is huge. Between our websites and word of mouth, the enrolments just kept coming.

**Students can be anywhere in the world**. You can be sitting in Sydney or Tokyo on Zoom, or playing on RealBridge, it makes no difference.

The combination of lessons on Zoom, and Practice on RealBridge has worked very well.

The future for new students? Stay tuned, it's back to the table for further discussion.

**Excellent**. For 150 keen learners, I have encountered very few technology issues - a sign that people are adapting to lockdown and getting to know their iPads and computers, as well of the maturity of this wonderful RealBridge platform. Well done, Kay, Anita, Liz, Elana and, and, the list goes on and on. We could not have achieved such a successful outcome without such an amazing team and supportive helpers. **Cheers, Gary.** 



## NSBC Online Operations Manager

Mobile 0413 884805 garybarwick@outlook.com **Gary Barwick** 

Record Numbers Again! So many of you are escaping the lockdown and isolation blues by playing on RealBridge and our session sizes are exploding. Weekends and mornings have become immensely popular, (43 Tables in an open September Saturday session!) Please visit our RealBridge Sessions page on the NSBC website to see the new RB session times.

#### RealBridge Weekly Schedule Overview

Covid Daily "NSBC Online"								
Expanded <u>RealBridge</u> Sessions								
Day	Session	Play Start	Session Size	Director				
	Open	10.00 AM	15 Tables	Sue Crompton				
	Restricted	10.00 AM	5 Tables	Sue Crompton				
Mon	Open	1.30 PM	25 Tables	Malcolm Martin				
WIOII	Rookie	2:00 PM	25 Tables	Alan Pike				
	Supervised	7:00 PM	5 Tables	Jenny Barnes				
	Open (Mini Duplicate)	7:30 PM	6 tables	Sue Crompton				
	Open	10.00 AM	17 Tables	Sue Crompton				
	Restricted	10:00 AM	5 Tables	Sue Crompton				
Tue	Supervised	10:30 AM	6 Tables	Kay Moyes				
lue	Open	1.30 PM	25 Tables	Sue Crompton				
	Rookie	2:00 PM	20 Tables	Kim Neale				
	Rookie	7:00 PM	10 Tables	Kim Neale				
	Open	10.00 AM	18 Tables	Ronnie Ng				
	Restricted	10:00 AM	5 Tables	Ronnie Ng				
Wed	Open	1.30 PM	25 Tables	Ronnie Ng				
	Rookie	2:00 PM	28 Tables	Ronnie Ng				
	Open	7:00 PM	15 Tables	Craig Mietzke				
	Open	10.00 AM	15 Tables	Brian Soutter				
1	Rookie	10:30 AM	7 Tables	Brian Soutter				
<b>T</b>	Open	1.30 PM	20 Tables	Angie Boulton				
Thur	Restricted	1:30 PM	15 Tables	Angie Boulton				
	Supervised	2:00 PM	6 Tables	Allan Pike				
	Open Competition Night	7:00 PM	30 Tables	Ronnie Ng				
	Open	10.00 AM	15 Tables	Brian Soutter				
	Rookie	10:30 AM	7 Tables					
Fri	Open	1.30 PM	22 Tables	Sue Crompton				
	Restricted	1:30 PM	12 Tables	Sue Crompton				
	Restricted	10:00 AM	New Trial					
	Supervised	10:30 AM	6 Tables	Jenny Barnes				
Sat	Open	1:30 PM	40 Tables	Brian Soutter				
	Restricted	1:30 PM	16 Tables	Brian Soutter				
Sun	Open	1:30 PM	16 Tables	Brian Soutter				
Juli	Rookie	2:00 PM	8 Tables	Brian Soutter				

#### Major Competitions on Thursday Nights

<u>Club Swiss Match Pointed Pairs</u> is underway, and no new entries are allowed.



There is a pause in major competitions during the Sydney Spring Nationals. But your Thursday nights will continue with the <a href="Spring Nats Pairs">Spring Nats Pairs</a>, two independent Thursday night events with good cash pools on offer.



The next major club tournament event is the <a href="True Mixed Teams">True Mixed Teams</a>, which start at the end of October



Information about all Thursday night events can be found on our new <u>Thursday Night Events</u> web page on the website.

#### Major Daytime Competitions

The scheduled NR Open Pairs championship is underway.

3 new Matchpoint Challenges will be run with major prizes as paid entries in Spring National Events.

## Rookie Wednesday - MP Challenge

Prize Pools: \$50/session & Paid Entry to Spring Nationals Novice

Pairs for the outright Rookie winners RB Rookie Sessions on Wednesdays @

10:30am, 2:00pm, 6<sup>th</sup> October

This Rookie <u>match pointed pairs</u> event will be run over the 2 x sessions on RealBridge on the same day, Wednesday 6th Oct. You can play in 1 or both sessions. All sessions are 22 Boards. You must play in both, for your percentage scores to count towards the outright Rookie prize.

- 2x \$50 independent prize pools for each session
- Overall Represent NSBC as a sponsored entry to the Online Spring Nationals Novice Pairs (Worth \$120) played 16/17 October.

Both Partnership players must be "Rookie status" (i.e. <100 MP or less than Bronze Regional Master Point Ranking.) This event is open to all Rookie players (Members or Visitors). No formal entry, just turn up & enjoy a good competitive game

Directors: Wed: Ronnie Ng

Convenor: Gary Barwick

We welcome all players who are financial member of the ABF subject to MP status, to play in this event, Yellow complex Systems are not permitted

## Red Points

## **Restricted Mondays - MP Challenge**

Prize Pools: \$50/session & Paid Entry to Spring Nationals "Ted **Chadwick Restricted Pairs** for the outright Rookie winners RB Restricted Sessions on Mondays @

## 10am & 1:30pm, 11th October

This Restricted match pointed pairs event will be run over the 2 x sessions on RealBridge on the same day, Monday 11th October. You can play in 1 or both sessions. All sessions are 24 Boards. You must play in both, for your percentage scores to count towards the outright Restricted prize.

- 2x \$50 independent prize pools for each session
- Overall Represent NSBC as a sponsored entry to the Online Spring Nationals "Ted Chadwick" Restricted Pairs (Worth \$120) played on RB - 16/17 October. Both Partnership players must be "Restricted status" (i.e. <300 MP) This event is

open to all Restricted players (Members or Visitors). No formal entry, just turn up & enjoy a good competitive game

Directors: Mon: Sue Crompton

Convenor: Gary Barwick

We welcome all players who are financial members of the ABF subject to MP status, to play in this event. Yellow complex Systems are not permitted

## Red Points

## **oden Wednesday - Mp Challenge**

Prize Pools: \$50/session & Paid Entry to Spring Nationals Penline Open Pairs for the 2 best outright winners

#### 3xRB Open Sessions on Wednesdays @ 10:00am, 1:30pm, 7:00pm 6<sup>th</sup> October

This open match pointed pairs event will be run over the 3 x open sessions on RealBridge on the same day, Wednesday 6th Oct. You can play in 1 or 2 or 3 sessions. All sessions are 26 Boards. You must play in 2 sessions, for your percentage scores to count towards the outright Open prize.

- 3x \$50 independent prize pools for each session
- 2 Best Out rights (best 2/3 scores) wins sponsored entry to the Online Spring Nationals Penline Open Pairs (Worth 2x\$60) played on 23rd October.

No formal entry, just turn up & enjoy a good competitive game

Directors: Wed: Ronnie Ng

Red Points

Convenor: Gary Barwick
We welcome all players who are financial members of the ABF subject to MP status, to play in this event. Yellow complex Systems are not permitted

Information about all daytime competition events can be found on our new Daytime and **Congress Events** page on the website.

#### Require an Online Partner?

If you are looking for someone to play with on normal RealBridge sessions, please login to the session about **30 minutes** before start and type into the chat window "Director I would like a partner today, please" and wait in the lobby. The director will do their best to find you a partner. There is rarely a time we cannot accommodate those looking for a game.

#### Visitors and Guests are Welcome

Visitors and guests are very welcome, members can pay for a quest via their PP system just let the director know at the start of the session, that you will accept charge on your PP account for your guest. Guests and visitors can also pay directly online see Visitor Payments below.

General and Technical Help Please contact Gary Barwick on 0413 884 805 if you have technical issues or would like to know more about RealBridge and how it works. If it is your first time playing on RealBridge or you are trying to fix an existing issue, please call Gary earlier in the day and not 5 minutes before the session starts as I have more time to help you then 😀.

## Technical Help – Browsers iPad/Wi-Fi

iPad users please use the **Safari browser** for the time being.

PC/Mac users please use Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge as these are still the best performing of the browsers.

**WIFI signal strength** is the biggest issue I deal with. Please make sure you are not too far away from your WIFI modem when playing on RealBridge. While you might have a great Internet connection, however it can be compromised by weak WIFI signal within your home. If you do suffer from freezes or dropouts move closer to the modem first.



## **NSBC Face-to-Face** Club Manager

Mobile 0478 626 393 manager@bridgeclub.com.au Liam Milne

#### Face-to-face bridge is almost here!

Since my last newsletter column, the return to F2F bridge (and the reopening of Sydney and the rest of NSW) has been picking up pace at an encouraging rate. The 'fully vaccinated' rate in NSW seems to be going up 1% per day which is hugely encouraging with so many future liberties hinging on this number.

I can provide another update on what F2F bridge will look like in October:

- **Venue:** As North Ryde has closed; we will be operating out of East Lindfield (EL) alone to begin with when we reopen.
- First session: still under advisement but looking like either 11th or 18th October.
- Table numbers: under the 4sqm rule, EL has a maximum capacity of 78 people this includes staff. This means our max number of tables will be 18 to begin with.
- Advance booking: because some of our sessions pre-lockdown were getting up to 29 tables, we will require online bookings to begin with.
- Masks: still not 100% clear, but I believe we will have to wear masks until Dec 1 (X) I am seeking further advice on this as I know many of you prefer not to!
- **Vaccinations:** as previously announced, and as required by the NSW government, all players must be fully vaccinated. We will require proof of this which can be done in various ways with technology.

Sue Crompton and I (and many others) are working closely together to ensure a smooth reopening. I will be in touch very shortly with some firmer information and instructions. We are very much looking forward to seeing you all once again!!

Best wishes - Liam NSBC Face-to-Face Club Manager



1st \$200 2nd \$100 3rd \$70

Best Restricted Pair <300MP

Best Rookie Pair <100MP

## Monday 4th October 2 Session Event: 10am Start

Director: Ronnie Ng Convenor: Liam Milne

Complex Yellow Systems are not permitted

2019 Winners: N/S: Janet Rowlatt & Frances Garrick E/W: Patrick Starck & Vivien Eldridge

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. NSBC@Lindfield reserves the right to deem pairs ineligible for Restricted or Rookie category prizes.

## Table Fees: \$25 per player



🛡 Enter via NSWBA website 🔷



Payments in advance (NSBC website) or via NSBC PP account

#### Online Teams Congress

A new NSBC Online Teams Congress has been created following an opportunity with the cancellation of the Dubbo congress on Sunday 9th October. Entry is via **NSWBA website.** This will be held on RealBridge.



# 2021 Metro North Soi red points! Interclub Online Pairs



Sunday 31 October 2021
9.45am for 10am start
Played on RealBridge
Hosted by North Shore Bridge Club

#### Join the fun and the challenge!

- One day friendly online pairs event for rookies upwards!
- Play on RealBridge, see and chet with the other players
- chat with the other players.
  \$15 per player for two sessions of matchpoint bridge.
- Director: Matthew McManus.
   Four fields: Open, U750, U300 &
- U100 (avg. pair masterpoints).

  Pairs in top half of all
  categories earn points for
- their club equally.
   Smaller club entries combined into "All Stars" teams.
- Red points and perpetual Trophy records winning club.
- Instructions emailed to all entered players.

These interclub events bring clubs and players across our region together!

#### How to Enter:

- Metro North ABF affiliated clubs can enter in each field up to 4 pairs plus two reserve pairs - reserves may play depending on number of entries.
- Clubs may reimburse player entry fees.
- Entry spreadsheet sent to clubs for digital input.
- Entry deadline 24 Oct.
- Inquiries to Liam Milne
  0478 626 393 (NSBC)
  manager@bridgeclub.com.au

Coordinated by a committee of club representatives.
All players are subject to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary

At the end of October is **the Metro North Inter- club Pairs**, hosted by NSBC on Realbridge:

#### ♥ Sun 31 Oct: Metro North Online Interclub Pairs

Limited NSBC/Lindfield entries. Compete against other Metro North clubs such as Peninsula and Trumps, earn points for your club. Four different masterpoint categories. Register your interest with Sue Crompton 0416 290 867

#### **Club Administration Club Sponsors:**







## New NSBC Memberships

Please contact Margaret Owen on 0410 657 048 for membership enquiries. NSBC is currently offering a promotional membership rate:

 You can join NSBC as a full member for a discounted rate of \$15 which will give you membership from now until 31 December 2021.

Do you have friends who are playing as non-members? Encourage them to sign up - this is a great-value offer. NSBC membership allows you to create and manage your own PP credit account, thus enabling easy "play & pay" in all our sessions. Membership also entitles you to lower table fees in each session you play.

Online PP credit Top-ups You can pay for topping up your credit PP Account via our Online Payments page. (Please make sure you are always in credit; this saves Margaret a lot of work).

✓ Visitor Payments They can pay for one off events on our Online Payments page (the \$ sign on our homepage). Or over the phone with Margaret.

#### **★** Snapshot Sep Memberships Statistics

NSBC Membership Numbers	Home Club	Assoc	Total
RealBridge online Totals	0	55	55
East Lindfield F2F Totals	377	27	404
North Ryde RSL F2F Totals	1123	274	1397
Grand Total Sep	1500	356	1856

## ★ Snapshot Sep Table Statistics

September was another super month with NSBC hosting  $\boxed{\textbf{1977 Tables}}$ , solely on the RealBridge platform.

2021	Tables / Session	Comment		EL Tables	NR Tables
Oct		2 Oct Congresses, +3 changes, F2F to resume at EL, Sydney Spring Nationals			
Sep	13.83	100% RB, 59% Open, Covid F2F Lock down again, huge beginner numbers in Lessons	1977	0	0
Aug	15.21 100% RB, 63% Open, Covid F2F Lock down again, 2 big Congresses held by NSBC		2418	0	0
July	14.39	100% RB, 65% Open, Covid F2F Lock down again	1942	0	0
June	10.70	68% RB, 71% Open, RB Festival Events, F2F Lock down	1130	406	122



#### NSBC Tournament Chairman Mobile 0437 274 343 John McIlrath

#### The Club 2021 Tournament Programme

	The Oldb 2021 Todinament Togramme							
СС	Sess	Date	When	Ven	2021 CC Events List			
s	Saturdays @ 1:30 -18, 25 Sep, 2 Oct			RB	NR Club Open Pairs Championship			
19	2x	4-Oct	Mon Daytime Public holiday	RB	Labour Day Matchpoint Congress Pairs			
	1/3	23-Sep	Thursday Night		Club Matchpointed			
20	2/3	30-Sep	Thursday Night	RB	Swiss Pairs			
	3/3	7-Oct	Thursday Night		Championship			
Wed	dnesda	ay 6 Oct (	① 10am, 1:30pm & 7pm	RB	Open Matchpoint Challenge 2/3			
'	Wednesday 6 Oct @ 10am, 1:30pm		RB	Rookie Matchpoint Challenge 2/2				
	2x 9-Oct Saturday		RB	NSBC Spring Teams Congress				
	1x	14-Oct	Thursday Night	RB	2x Spring Nationals			
	1x	21-Oct	Thursday Night	KB	Matchpoint Pairs			
	Mond	ay 11th O	ct @ 10am & 1:30	RB	Restricted Matchpoint Challenge 2/2			
	2x	31-Oct	Sunday	RB	Interclub Pairs Congress			
	1/5	28-Oct	Thursday Night					
	2/5	4-Nov	Thursday Night		Club Real Mixed Teams			
21	3/5 4/5	11-Nov 18-Nov	Thursday Night Thursday Night	RB	(Qual)			
	5/5	25-Nov	Thursday Night		Finals			
	1/3	2-Dec	Thursday Night					
	2/3	9-Dec	Thursday Night	RB	Club XMAS Teams			
	3/3	16-Dec	Thursday Night					

Adjustments added include:

- October 4<sup>th</sup> <u>Labour Day Pairs Congress</u> moved online.
- October 9<sup>th</sup> New <u>Online Spring Teams</u>
   <u>Congress</u> added given the opportunity after
   Dubbo cancelled their congress event.
- The <u>Club Real Mixed Teams</u> has been re-joined as a contiguous event
- October 31<sup>st</sup> The Interclub Pairs Congress
- The Club Xmas teams has been added
- Three new daytime Matchpoint challenge Tournaments with entries paid into Spring Nationals Events for the winners.

#### The Club 2022 Tournament Programme

Very difficult with the current COVID mess, but early planning has started:

- RB retained as major venue platform
- EL East Lindfield F2F venue
- The search for another F2F venue continues!

#### 2022 Congress Dates booked at NSWBA

- Sunday 20 March: NSBC@Lindfield Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs
- Sat/Sun 18/19 June: NSBC@Lindfield Two Men & A Truck Restricted & Novice Festival
- Thur-Sun 23-26 June: North Shore Bridge Club Festival of Bridge
  - Thursday Matchpoint Swiss Pairs
  - Friday Festival Swiss Teams
  - Saturday Festival Swiss IMP Pairs
  - TBIB Open Swiss Teams
- Sunday 21 August: NSBC@Lindfield Swiss Teams
- Monday 3 October: NSBC@Lindfield Labour Day Matchpoint Pairs

#### **Club Sponsors:**







Multi-3s

By Mark Guthrie

I don't know about you, but I am now fully adapted to playing online bridge. The only problem I find is that I get bored very easily. This business of having to be dummy every 15-20 hands along with the opponents spending forever to explain why their bids don't need to be alerted because they already know what they mean, can lead to a lot of quiet time sitting at the computer. To fill in the gaps I have started to use my second monitor to play another game of online bridge. Even then there are occasional pregnant pauses crying out to be filled.

That is how I found myself last Saturday playing in Real Bridge on my main monitor, Step Bridge on my second monitor and BBO on a tablet. Now everyone knows that for face-to-face bridge dealing all of those random hands is a right pain. That is why bridge clubs use dealing machines. But not everyone knows that the problem is actually far worse for online bridge. Handling physical playing cards is relatively easy but having to type all those funny symbols into a computer is very finicky and time consuming. For that reason, all of the major platforms swap their computer dealt hands with each other to save time. Statisticians have calculated that there are only about 1,000 possible bridge hands anyway, it's just that bridge players have shocking memories.

Well Saturday was a perfect storm. After about 20 hands I realised that I was playing exactly the same boards on all three platforms at the same time. Cheating is most probably frowned upon in bridge, but simply remembering hands is some kind of Rain Man skill we can all aspire to.

For board 21 on Real Bridge, sitting South I picked up this hand:

**№** 864 **♥** 8 **♦** A97532 **♣** AJ6

As dealer my partner opened 2♥ showing hearts and a minor, obviously clubs. I was busy trying to follow suit on Step Bridge and BBO so when I returned to the hand, I was on lead to 6♣, the auction having gone:

N	E	S	W
2 <b>♥</b> (weak)	2NT	Р	3♠ (transfer)
Р	4♣		6 <b>♣</b>

I could smell a void, so I knew my diamond wasn't cashing. I thought "Two can play at that game" and optimistically led my singleton heart to partners ace for a rough and two off.

Dummy appeared:

<b>★</b> A52	♥ AJ	<b>♦ 6</b>	♣ K987432

My only hope of beating this was for declarer to get the clubs wrong, playing the King from dummy and then up to the Queen in their hand, allowing me to make the Ace and Jack.

Declarer won the lead in Dummy with the Ace of hearts and played the Ace of spades and then two more spades (KQ) from hand. The spades split 3-3 (spades always do) and declarer led the last spade from hand.

Assuming from the bidding that my partner had a void in clubs, if I roughed this, then it would be over ruffed and now declarer could easily pick up my Jack of trumps however they played the hand. I pitched a diamond and declarer with no imagination whatsoever did the same.

A few moments later I conceded all the tricks, but declarer seemed sure I was getting the Ace of clubs so -920.

Over on Step Bridge I was starting board 21 sitting South again, with a by now familiar hand. This time they bid to a far more conservative 3NT to which I led a low diamond. Partner played the ten and declarer after a few moments thought, then won with the King.

"What are your signals?" Declarer asked.

"Low encourage." I replied optimistically, hoping partner would agree with me.

"So, what does the 10 of diamonds show?" Declarer prodded.

"He doesn't like them."

Next declarer played a club which I hurriedly won with my Ace. Although it hadn't happened at this table, I remembered that partner (a different one) had opened 2♥ on Real Bridge. Heeding declarer's advice not to continue diamonds, I switched to the heart and declarer collected 12 tricks for -490. A much better score for us and proof that my bridge was improving.

Over on BBO, although it said Board 21, I didn't recognise the hand.



However, when my RHO opened 2♥, I knew what was happening. I must be in the East seat this time. There were 12 tricks in NT or clubs, and I took no time to bid 6NT. I had believed that this hand was void in diamonds, but in fact it was better than I thought. Maybe the King of diamonds would be an overtrick for me.

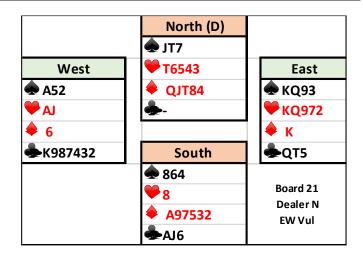
Would the opponents not think that 6NT was a strange bid holding only a 15 count with a singleton king? Not in online bridge they wouldn't.

My LHO promptly doubled, she had obviously not seen this board played twice previously. I redoubled of course and she led the Ace of diamonds.

"Pick that up!" I demanded. "That is an insane lead, surely from the bidding you know I have a void."

"You are in no trump." She replied, stating the obvious and she didn't seem inclined to change her lead either. But of course, the poor woman had only seen my bidding and not the bidding on the other platforms.

Here was the whole hand:



If the diamonds broke favourable (6-5) then in order to limit the damage I would need the person with the Ace of clubs to forget to play it and their partner to have the long diamond. Now I could take 5 hearts and 4 spades making 9 tricks. I would then call the director and show her my hand. Obviously, I had intended to bid 3NT and 6NT was a mis-click.

3NTXX making 9 tricks is 1,000 so still a top board. There was only one real problem with this hand, with North having 5 hearts off the bidding I couldn't pick up the 10 of hearts. No problem, as long as South had been dealt the singleton 10. Having played the South hand twice I should know this, but little singletons all look alike to me, and the ten's claim to be an honour card seems to have gone out of the window in recent years.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> diamond I realised that despite pitching a ton of losing clubs my counting might be off by a little bit. I now had only my 9 winning cards left in my hand, but they still had 3 diamonds to go and quite possibly the Ace of clubs.

I couldn't be certain, but it looked like not only was I not going to get a top board here, but I might also even end up with a small negative score.

By now I had totally lost interest, so I ignored all of the uppercase words from the director telling me to play a card and I logged out of BBO and turned my attention back to Real Bridge where Board 22 was starting, and I held a monster...

## For Our Newer Players

## Our Newer Player Team



#### **Link to Monthly Full Winners List**

#### Supervised Sessions (on RealBridge):

- Mondays at 7pm
- Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Thursdays at 2pm
- Saturdays at 10:30am

#### Rookie Sessions (on RealBridge):

- Mondays at 2pm
- Tuesdays at 10:00am, 2pm and 7pm
- Wednesdays at 10:00am and 2pm
- Thursdays at 10:30am
- Fridays at 10:30am
- Saturdays at 10:30am
- Sundays at 10:30am and 2pm

New playing sessions are being added all the time, so for the latest, check the website or follow the <u>link to the weekly RB schedule</u> <u>page:</u>

#### **Restricted Congress Scene**

- NSBC Pairs congress (Mon Oct 4 RB) has Restricted & Novice prizes
- CCBC Swiss Pairs (Wed Oct 6) has a Restricted section being played on Stepbridge.
- NSBC Spring Teams (Sat Oct 9 RB) has a Restricted prize
- Pennant Hills Swiss Pairs (Sun Oct 10) has a restricted section playing on BBO
- Sydney Online Spring Nationals has 4 major events for restricted, rookie and novice players in October on RB. Entries via the MyABF website

#### **Members Restricted Congress results**

	CCBC/NSWBA State Restricted Teams (RB)					
1	Patrick <u>Jiang</u> - Hui Li - Sherlock Shao - Shijun Tian	88	4-2-0			
2	2 Steve <u>Colling</u> & Mary Colling - Nick Edginton & Rhonda Graham					
3	Michael <u>Brassil</u> - Louise Brassil - Gary Kembrey - Andrew Grace	66	4-0-2			
	Ccbc/Nswba State Novice Teams (RB)					
1	Ammy <u>Hubbard</u> - Lou Russell - Adam Sevil - Edette Sevil	65	4-0-2			
2	Jim Mckenzie - John Reid - Anthony Smuts & Barry Feyder - Sarah Kelsey - Wendy Hawker	64	3-0-3			



	SBC Restricted Swiss Pairs (BBO)	lmp
1	Lorenzo Orsini - Mitch Dowling	68.98
2	Jacky Gruszka - Joanne Morgan	43.8
3	Delores Graves - Suzanne Cole	41.57
4	Margaret Hagar - Audrey Belt	29.73
5	Rhonda Graham - Nick Edginton	27.2
6	Mary Colling - Steve Colling	19.5
	SBC Novice Swiss Pairs (BBO)	
1	Juliet Mcguire - Jane Lee	52.9
2	John Waudby - June Waudby	50.5
3	Robert Berg - Diane Graham	44.2
4	Sharon Thompson - Lorna Davies	24.8

## **Spring Nats**

#### **Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October Session times: 10:30am and 1:30pm

A **Matchpoint Swiss Pairs** event comprising 10 rounds of 10 boards; 5 rounds to be played each day. Matchpoints are converted to VPs.

Entry Fee: \$120 per pair Play will finish around 5:15pm.

## **For Our Newer Players**

## **Rookie Tuesday Pairs Championships**

This championship was run over 3 Tuesday afternoon sessions, with the best 2/3 counting. A clear winner averaging 64% / session were **Nick Armitage & Richard Samuels.** 

Rookie Tuesday Pairs Championship		
1 \$100+CPE	Nick Armitage & Richard Samuels	
2 \$50	Jo Ampherlaw & Ian Newton	119
3	Lorna Davies & Sharon Thompson	118
4	Sue Rutkowski & David Cahill	117
5	Nick Hullah & Ravi Marwaha	116
6	Deborah Burt & Meera Kudva	116

Tuesday Table Numbers were mostly unaffected by the competition

	Rooki	Rookie Championship		
20	20	23	19	20

Link to full Rookie Pairs Results
Link to Rookie Honour Board



Nick Armitage



**Richard Samuels** 



Ian Newton



Jo Ampherlaw



**Lorna Davies** 



September Monthly Rookie Winners:

**September Monthly Full Winners List** 

Rookie (<100 MPs):

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

Pos	Winner September Rookie (<100 MP < Bronze Regional)	No Sess	Master Pts
1	Sharon Thompson	12	3.03
2=	Richard Cross	9	2.68
2=	Tony Reardon	9	2.68
4	Sandra Belcher	11	2.60
5	David Boyle	8	2.58
6	Sue Rutkowski	16	2.33
7	Verity Furness	11	2.28
8	Michelle Bloxham	11	2.25
9	Karen Doecke	9	2.19
10	Robyn Walker	12	2.09



**Shaz Thompson** 



Richard Cross



Tony Reardon



Sandra Belcher



David Boyle



Sue Rutkowski

## Spring Nats

#### **Spring Nationals Novice Pairs**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October Session times: 10:30am and 1:30pm

A **Matchpoint Swiss Pairs** event comprising 10 rounds of 10 boards; 5 rounds to be played each day. Matchpoints are converted to VPs.

Entry Fee: \$120 per pair

Trophy sponsored by Central Coast Bridge Club

Play will finish around 5:15pm each day.

## **For Our Newer Players**

## Thursday Restricted Pairs Championships

This championship was run over 3 Thursday afternoon sessions, with the best 2/3 counting. A close battle with Felix Shteyman & Janice Olevson winning.

Restricted Thursday Pairs Championship		
1 \$100+CPE	Felix Shteyman & Janice Olevson 12	
2 \$50	Owen Aubrey & John Bartrop	126%
3	Sue Morgan & Fiona Russell	123%
4	Mary Colling & Steve Colling	123%
5	Jan Osborn & Hazel Walshaw	119%
6	Heath Henn & Anthony Smuts	118%

Thursday Restricted Table Numbers increased over the championship

	Restricted Championship			
14	21	19	23	19

**Link to full Restricted Pairs Results Link to Restricted Honour Board** 



#### **September Monthly Restricted Winners:**

**September Monthly Full Winners List** 

#### Restricted (<300 MPs)

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

Pos	September Winners Restricted <300 MP <**National	No. Sess	Master Pts
1	Felix Shteyman	24	6.07
2	Owen Aubrey	15	3.39
3	Fiona Russell	12	3.35
4=	John Bartrop	9	3.00
4=	Sharon Thompson	17	3.00
6	Sue Morgan	9	2.93
7	Janice Olevson	4	2.18
8	Brian Osborne	16	2.13
9=	Mary Colling	6	1.79
9=	Steve Colling	6	1.79

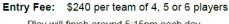


#### Spring Nats



#### **Bridgegear Intermediate Teams**

Thursday 14th - Friday 15th October 8 round, 12 board Swiss Teams event Session times: 10:30am (2 round) and 2:15pm (2 rounds)



Play will finish around 5:15pm each day.

## For Our Newer Players



This article was based on a Bridge feed article "Use you opponents Bid to help you" by

#### Pat Harrington.

The guidelines for bidding allow opener's partner, the responder, to bid any new four-card suit on the one level with 6 or more high-card points. When the auction requires responder to show a new suit on the two level, responder must have at least 10 high-card points. When responder bids a major, five cards are required. In a competitive auction, it is sometimes difficult to find a good bid. **Negative doubles** allow responder to show a four-card major without raising the level.

Responder's double in the following auction shows four hearts:

West North East South
1♣ 1♠ Dbl

East's double shows at least four cards in the unbid major, hearts. Hearts is the suit most likely to get lost by players who do not use negative doubles, but this convention can also be useful when spades is the unbid major.

Suppose you hold:

## AJ64 ♥ A62 ♦ 953 ♣ KQ3.

#### What is your bid if?

Partner opens 1 and your right-hand opponent passes?	You bid 1♠. You promise only four spades. You will bid game at your next turn.  By showing four spades now, you can reach 4♠ when partner has a fit, and 3NT when partner does not have a fit. Your 1♠ bid is forcing, so you are sure to have another
Partner opens 1  and RHO overcalls  1 ▼?	bid.  You could still respond 1♠, a forcing bid. Players who use negative doubles to show four cards in the unbid major would double. We will soon see how this can give you an advantage.

Partner opens 1  and RHO overcalls 2  ▼?	The bidding is at the two level. 2♣ would show five spades.  Players who use negative doubles must decide how high the convention is in effect.  Two common agreements are through to a 2♠ overcall and through to a 4♥ overcall.  You can use a negative double on the one level with only 6 HCP.  The higher the bidding, the
	The higher the bidding, the more strength you need. If your partnership has agreed to use negative doubles, you
	Can double with this hand.  Otherwise, just bid 3NT or make up some forcing bid that does not lie about your major-
	suit length.

Now suppose you hold:

#### **▲AJ643 ★6 ◆QJ9 ★KQ32**

What is your bid if (You have another gamegoing hand)?

<del></del>	
Partner opens 1 and your right-hand opponent passes?	it is going to be difficult to show your five-card major. Your response of 1♣ promises only four spades. You will not be able to make another forcing bid in spades, so you will have to
	bid the clubs next
Partner opens 1 → and RHO overcalls 1 ♥?	If you use negative doubles, your opponent's overcall in actually helps you. When you respond 1♠, you promise five spades because you would have made a negative double with only four
Partner opens 1 → and RHO overcalls 2 ♥?	In (c) simply bid 2♠, a forcing bid that shows five cards with or without negative doubles

•

## **For Our Newer Players**

These articles on Negative Doubles are designed to give you just a taste of a very useful convention. Before adding a convention, you should thoroughly know how to use it, including what to do after the convention is used. After responder's negative double, opener will rebid based on responder's having four cards in the unbid major. Let us take a look at opener's rebids after this auction:

West North East South
1♣ 1♥ Dbl 2♥

First, West should bid spades with four of them. Opener's spade bids are like raises of responder's suit so opener must show the proper strength. Holding:

#### **♦KQ62 ♥A2 ◆K3 ♣J6532**

West will bid 2♠, showing a minimum opener (13–15 points) and 4 spades.

#### Holding:

#### **♠KQ62 ♥A2 ♦K3 ♣A6532**,

West will bid 3♠, showing a medium opener (16–18) and 4 spades.

Holding:

**♠**KQ62 **♥**72 **♦**A3 **♣**AKQ92,

West can bid 4♠, showing a maximum 19–20-point hand.

Without four spades, opener must find a descriptive rebid, just as he would over a 1♠ response. However, opener is permitted to pass in the above auction because South's 2♥ gave responder another turn to bid.

#### **Spring Nats**



#### Two Men and a Truck Restricted, Novice and Rookie Swiss Pairs



Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Six round 8 board Butler Swiss Pairs event Session times: 10:30am (3 rounds) and 2:00pm (3 rounds)

Entry Fee: \$60 per pair

Separate divisions if entries permit.

Play will finish around 5:00pm each day.

#### **Teachers Corner**







Liz

In 2021, our teachers are Liz Wilkinson, Jessica Brake, and Anita Curtis.



Jessica

#### **Not So Basic**

Want to brush up on your fundamentals? North Shore's **Build on the Basics** lessons might be perfect for you. **Jessica Brake** takes you through a range of essential topics in a way that everyone can understand.

#### Build on the Basics – with Jessica Brake



Join "live" on Zoom – Wed & Thurs 10am OR watch in your own time!

You will be sent:

- 1) Recording of the lesson
- 2) Lesson notes
- 3) Quiz (Most weeks)

DATE	ТОРІС	
October 6-7	Holding Up in No-Trumps	
October 13-14	2C Game Force	
October 20-21	Overcalls I	
October 27-28	Overcalls II	

For information or to sign up email jessicabrakebridge@gmail.com

## Anita - Develop Your Skills

## NSBC ONLINE Develop Your Skills 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2021 Program ONLINE WEDNESDAYS at 2pm with Anita Curtis



Develop Your Skills (DYS) is aimed at players who have completed the Build on the Basics course or who have been playing for at least one year. Bidding, declarer play & defence are all targeted, as well as hand analysis to consolidate skills learnt. These lessons will be held on-line until we are able to return to face to face at our East Lindfield venue or you can watch the video. The course will continue until January.

Date	Lesson Topic
Wed Aug 25	Whose <u>hand</u> is it? One more for the road? (Competitive bidding)
Wed Sep 1	DYS Hand analysis 1 – practise what you have learnt
Wed Sep 8	Signalling is Legal (defence)
Wed Sep 15	Brilliant switches (defence)
Wed Sep 22	Double or nothing (Penalty Doubles – bidding & defence)
Wed Sep 29	You CAN bid slams in NTs (Quantitative or Blackwood?)
Wed Oct 6	Forcing or not forcing? (When is a bid invitational/forcing)?
Wed Oct 13	I don't know how to play this suit (suit combinations – declarer play)
Wed Oct 20	Where is this auction going? (Advancer's options)
Wed Oct 27	Get out of the way! (Unblocking in defence)
Wed Nov 3	DYS Hand analysis 2 – practise what you have learnt

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

For more information or to register, email Anita: ac210927@bigpond.net.au

## Anita - Intermediate Program

NSBC ONLINE Intermediate 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2021 Program
ONLINE FRIDAYS at 10am with Anita Curtis



Hand analysis is the best way to improve ALL your skills at bridge. Bid & play 8 different hands, focusing on bidding, declarer play & defensive techniques. The level of the session can be seen via the number after it (ascending order).

**Broaden Your Game (BYG):** aspiring intermediate players who play in Rookies or Restricted.

Intermediate: aspiring open players or those with considerable experience in Restricted.

Date	Lesson Topic	Description
Sep 17	Gentle Hand Analysis 10	8 hands for aspiring intermediate players
Sep 24	Minor matters	BYG/Intermediate bidding. Tricky decisions in minor suits. Should we try 3NT or 5 of a minor? Or stop at the 3 level?
Oct 1	Untangle the defence	BYG/Intermediate defence
Oct 8	Up the ante: 2 suited overcalls over 1NT	BYG/Intermediate bidding
Oct 15	NO LESSON	
Thurs Oct 21	Get back into the competitive auction with Lebensohl	BYG/Intermediate bidding. The opponents intervene over your partner's 1NT opening OR your partner doubles their weak 2 for takeout. What bids are non-forcing, invitational & forcing?
Oct 29	Gentle Hand Analysis 21	8 hands for <b>intermediate</b> players targeting defence, declarer play & bidding

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

For more information or to register, email Anita: <a href="mailto:ac210927@bigpond.net.au">ac210927@bigpond.net.au</a>

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EL Venue	East Lindfield	02 9415 8344	
NR Venue	North Ryde RSL	0478 626 393	

# Club Session Results: Open – September Monthly Winners

#### **September Monthly Full Winners List**

#### September Open Winners Master September Open Monthly Winners Pos Pts Sess Lorna Ichilcik 1 8.17 13 2 **Kevin Davies** 8.15 24 3 John Mottram 33 7.53 4 Peter Bendelstein 43 7.49 Kathryn Brien 7.24 24 **David Hudson** 7.00 7 **Helene Pitt** 12 6.89

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

**Chris Dibley** 

**Tony Hutton** 

Michael Seldon

8

9



6.70

6.70

6.63

4

4





## **Club Fun Goulash Event**

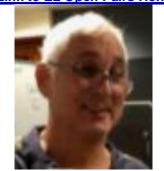
This event was held on Mondays 6, 13, and 20 September, averaging 31 tables per session.

EL Open Pairs Championships						
1 \$100 + SOP	Michael Seldon & Chris Dibley	191%				
2 \$80 + SOP	William Zhang & Wei Zhang	180%				
3 \$60 + SOP	David Hudson & David Fryda	179%				
4	Malcom Carter & Tony Hutton	178%				
5	Peter jeffery & Yumin Li	177%				
6	Henrietta Hohnen & John Mottram	174%				

Monday 1:30pm Weekly Table Numbers

	EL Open Pairs (SOP)			
28	31	31	27	25

Link to full EL Open Pairs Results Link to EL Open Pairs Honour Board



Michael Seldon



**Chris Dibley** 



Wei Zhang



William Zhang



**David Hudson** 



**David Fryda** 

This event attracted 11 tables. The computer generated massively distributional hands to play.

Club Fun Goulash		
1-\$100	Elli Urbach & Kevin Davies	2.96
2 - \$70	Tom Fischer & Trish Lacey	2.51
3 - \$30	Malcolm Carter & Tony Hutton	2.45
4	John Mottram & Helen Christie	1.73
5	Kinga Moses & Tina Zines	1.60
6	David Hudson & Anita Curtis	0.82

**Link to full Goulash Pairs Results** 



Elli



Kevin



Tom



**Trish** 



Malcolm



Tony

## **Our Game of Bridge**



#### **Defence in Detail**

Accurate Defence is the hardest part of our game. A series of articles written for the GC Newsletter by our Manager. Liam Milne

When the opponents have done something good, don't give up: look for a way out.

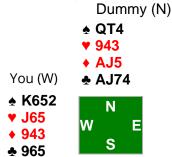
Near the end of a Swiss qualification during an international tournament, you find yourself on lead against slam holding the following hand:

**★ K652 ♥ J65 ♦ 943 ♣ 965** 

The opponents conduct the following auction:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	4 🔻	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 🔻	Pass	6 🔻
Pass	Pass	Pass	

What would you lead against the slam? Heeding Garozzo's advice "games may be quietly defended, but slams must be attacked", you select the two of spades. Dummy appears:



The first trick proceeds: two of spades, four, seven, ace. Declarer takes the king of diamonds, the queen (overtaken with the ace) and the jack, throwing a small club. Next comes a trump from the dummy. Partner plays the king and declarer wins the ace.

Declarer continues with the queen of hearts and a low heart to your jack, partner throwing the ◆ 8 and the ◆ 8. Do you return a spade or a club? The first step is to reconstruct declarer's shape. Six hearts and two diamonds are known, and both the auction and the play to the first trick mark declarer with a singleton spade and four clubs. Declarer is down to three trumps and three clubs.

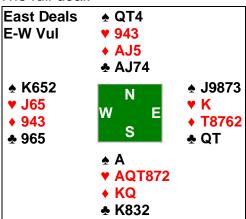
An important skill in defence is to focus on the layout that matters. If declarer has the ♣KQ, they would have claimed, while if declarer is missing the ♣K there is no way for them to avoid a club loser. Partner must have the ♣Q and declarer the ♣K.

It looks like declarer has successfully endplayed you. Do you open up the clubs or concede a spade trick?

The one play we can completely rule out is the king of spades, a 'give up' play. Declarer will ruff and later throw a club. A club is a possibility, but this will immediately concede the contract when partner has  $\Delta Qx$  and declarer has  $\Delta KTxx$ .

The defence that has the most appeal is a low spade. If declarer puts up the queen of spades he will prevail, but is there any reason for him to do this? Most likely, declarer will play a reflexive ten of spades from the dummy and all of the defensive chances will be alive.

The full deal:



When you get off play with a low spade, declarer mis-guesses by playing the ten. After ruffing partner's •J, declarer plays their penultimate trump on which you discard a spade, dummy a club and partner a spade. Declarer ends up taking the club finesse and you write down +100.

All the declarer had to do was play their last trump and you would have been exposed to a "show-up squeeze", forced to come down to two clubs in order to hold the **&K**. After discarding the **&Q** from the dummy, declarer would have a good chance to drop the **&Q**. Luckily, our opponents don't always play perfectly!

**Point to remember:** After something goes wrong in the defence or declarer makes a good play, there is often life still in the hand. If the hand is over, let declarer claim; until then, work out what chance there is to beat the contract.

## **Our Game of Bridge**



This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article "Take Your Best Shot". Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website.

**Brent Manley** 

**Open Challenge Hand 1 - Solution** 

North	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
. J8732	West (D)	North	East	South
<b>♥</b> J76	3♦	Pass	Pass	3♠
♦ A4	Pass	4•	Pass	4♠
♣ A74	<b>All Pass</b>			
	Bidding Notes			
South	3♦ Pre-emptive 3D opening			
♠ AKT54	3♠ Overcall 3S 5+S			3
♥ A52	4♦ Cue Good raise in S			in S
+ J7	4♠ To play			
♣ K32			·	·

#### **Bidding**

West opens 3♦ vulnerable in first seat. This is passed around to you & you try 3♠ with your 15 hcp. Partner wakes up and cues 4♦ (sound raise to 4♠) and you settle for a 4♠ contract.

Against your 4♠ contract, West starts with the ♦K. Can you see a way to 10 tricks?

#### **Analysis**

T1 After West led the **♦K**, declarer won with dummy's **♦A**.

Winners: 4-5♠+1♥+1♦+2♣= 8-9 tricks

Losers: No Top losers, but deep 2♥+1♦+1♣ and

maybe a 🛧

It seemed that it would not be a simple matter to make 10 tricks. It looked as though declarer was slated to lose two hearts, a club and a diamond, even if the opponents' trumps split favourably.

#### Solution

T2 The situation grew more dire when declarer played a low trump (♠2) from dummy to the ♠A, East discarding an encouraging heart.

Declarer saw that his only hope for 10 tricks was an endplay against West. If that were possible,

West would have to have started with exactly 3=1=7=2 distribution. He could be stripped of all exit cards and then thrown in for west to give ruff discard.

- T3 So after taking the SK in trumps in hand,
- T4 Declarer cashed the ♠K (all following)
- T5 Then Crossed to the **♣K**, again all following.
- T6 Declarer now cashed the ♥A. all following. It looks like the 3=1=7=2 shape that we were hoping for!
- T7 Next came the ◆J endplay card. West took the trick with the ◆Q (east playing small) as it would serve no purpose to play low: He would just be thrown on lead with a trump.
- T8 West then cashed the ♠Q, as he did not want to be thrown in again with the spade.
- T9 West had to exit with the lead of a high diamond (+T). But Declarer did not ruff, however, Instead, he discarded a club loser from the dummy and a heart loser from hand.
- T10 West lead another high diamond (•9) but now Declarer ruffed the next diamond in dummy and discarded his remaining heart loser from hand.

Declarer then crossruffed the last three tricks to make his contract, losing only a trump and two diamonds. The full deal:

	North	
	. J8732	
West (D)	<b>♥</b> J76	East
♠ Q96	♦ A4	<b>∳</b>
<b>♥</b> 3	♣ A74	▼ KQT984
♦ KQT9532		<b>♦ 86</b>
<b>♣</b> 96	South	♣ QJT85
	♠ AKT54	
4 <u>.</u> /S	♥ A52	Vul EW
Lead <b>◆K</b>	♦ J7	Dir: S
	♣ K32	

feed website.

## **Our Game of Bridge**



This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article **Good Advice**. Sourced from the ACBL Bridge

**Brent Manley** 

Open Challenge Hand 2 - Solution

-				
North	Standard Bidding			
<b>◆</b> 9632	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ A86				1♣
♦ AK76	3♥	X	Pass	4♠
<b>♣</b> A6	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
	Pass	6♠	Α	II Pass
South (D)	Bidding Notes			
♠ AKQJ	1♣	3+C Op	ening h	and
<b>♥</b> 97	3♥ Pre-emptive (Non vul)			on vul)
<b>•</b> 4	X	Takeou	ıt (Implie	es 4 <u>♠</u> )
♣ QJ9542	4♠	4. (bet	ter than	3♠)
	4NT	INT Keycard (♠)		
	5♠	2+*Q		
	6♠	To play	,	

The

#### **Bidding:**

You (South) open your shapely 13 count 1♣ (3+♣) and West leaps to a 3♥ non vulnerable pre-empt. Partner makes a takeout double (suggesting 4 spades), so with your extra shape you jump to 4♠. Partner now continues with 4NT (Keycard in Spades), and you show 2+♠Q. Partner signs off in 6♠.

Against your aggressive slam, West leads the **3**. What is your plan for success on this deal?

#### **Preliminary Analysis**

Winners: 4x♠+1♥+2♦+1♣= 8 more work!

Top Losers: None, but the ♣K looks to be in East hand! And likely singleton lead!

Strategies for making 12 tricks.

- Set-up the long clubs
- Pitch ♥ loser on ◆K
- Ruff red cards in Dummy

#### Solution

Before playing to trick one, declarer considered Andrew Robson's incisive Bols tip: "When a preemptive bidder leads a plain suit against a trump contract, play for the lead to be a singleton, but when he leads from a broken holding in his own suit, play him for a singleton trump." So:

- T1 On West's **♣3** lead, declarer rose with dummy's **♣A** assuming this lead was a singleton!
- T234Declarer then drew three rounds of trumps

  ♠AKQ, noting that West held three of them

   giving further weight to the supposition that the lead was a singleton club.
- Declarer saw that he could not afford to play the ♣Q from hand next. If he did so, East could let the queen hold or win it with the king and exit with the ♥Q. Either way, the effect would be the same: he would no longer have the entries to bring in the club suit and he would finish with only nine tricks. So, instead, he crossed to dummy by playing his diamond ◆4 to dummy's ♠A
- To then lead the ♣6 towards his long clubs in hand. East just followed with the ♣8 and declarer covered this with his ♣9 and West played a small heart.
- T7 Declarer now continued with the ♣Q, throwing a low diamond ♦6 from dummy. And East took his winning ♣K
- T8 East then exited with the VQ. Declarer won this in dummy with the VA.
- T9 Declarer then cashed the **♦K** to shed his heart **♥9** loser in hand.
- T10 Declarer then led the ♥6, ruffing with the high trump ♠J to get back to hand.
- T11 Then you cashed the ♣J, which felled East's ♣T, Declarer then claimed the two remaining high club tricks.

Declarer had made four spade tricks, five club tricks plus two aces and a king in the red suits to make the 6\* contract.

#### The full deal:

	North	
West	<b>▼ A86</b>	East
<b>▲ T84</b>	♦ AK76	<b>♠</b> 75
<b>♥ KJT</b> 5432	<b>♣</b> A6	♥ Q
<b>→ T2</b>		◆ QJ9853
<b>♣</b> 3	South (D)	♣ KT87
	♠ AKQJ	
6 <u></u> 4/S	<b>♥</b> 97	Vul Nil
Lead ♣3	<b>+</b> 4	DIr: S
	♣ QJ9542	



**Mark Horton** 

## Communication Cord

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

#### **Open Challenge Hand 3 Solution**

Playing in a teams' match as South, I pick up this ace less collection.

**♠**Q94, **♥KQ95**, **♦QT642**, **♣**K

North	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
♠ K863	West (D)	North	East	South
<b>♥</b> 3	2•	Pass	2♥	Pass
♦ AKJ	Pass	X	Pass	3NT
♣ QJ532	All Pass	3		
	Bidding Notes			
South	2 Multi 2 (weak 2 in a Major + others)			
♠ Q94	2♥	Pass or correct		
▼ KQ95	Pass/W	s/W 6♥ Weak 2		
♦ QT642	X	Takeout, Opening Hand		
♣ K	3NT	To Play		

#### The Bidding:

West dealt and opened with a 2♦ bid— a convention with which I can claim a modest connection, the once-feared Multi. My partner passes, and East responds with 2♥, (Pass or correct - asking West to clarify his hand). I have nothing to say, but when West passes, showing a weak two-bid in hearts, partner comes to life with a takeout double, and East passes. I am considering the wisdom of converting this into a penalty double (by passing), then I consider the vulnerability. That persuades me to jump to 3NT as I would need a (4 off 800) to beat a 600-game score. That concludes the auction.

West leads (fourth best) ♥7, and partner delivers a reasonable collection:

#### **Preliminary Analysis**

Winners: 5♦, 1♥ on lead = 6 (3 short) Losers: ♠A, ♥A, ♣A + lurking hearts Strategies for 9 tricks

- Can force a ★ for 1 trick
- Can force 2 more in clubs
- The hearts are 6-2, with likely East having long spades and the West holding ♥AT8
- Communications may be a problem if they duck ♠K

#### **My Solution**

- T1 West leads ▼7, ▼3 dummy, then East plays the ▼J, I win with a mildly deceptive ▼K.

  The play to trick one appears to mark West with six hearts to the ▼AT8, so I am inclined to place the black aces with the East hand. Assuming the diamonds will be good for five tricks, I still need three more. Two from clubs and one from spades should suffice, so
- T2 I start on the club blockage, and play the ♣K ♣6, ♣2, ♣7, which EW ducked, and I held the trick.
- T3 Then I play ◆2 across over to the ◆A, everyone follows ◆3, ◆5 (they look like they are running)
- T4 I now play the ♣Q from Dummy and East pounces on that with the ♣A. I drop the ♠4 from hand (keeping the ♥Q95 protected),
   ♠2 (count?) from West
- T5 But instead of the expected heart, he returns another club ♣8, .I drop another spade pip ♠9, as West plays ♣9 That forces out dummy's high ♣J and leaves someone with the master club!
- T6 I try to sneak a spade past East ♠3, but he jumps in with the ♠A, ♠Q, ♠5
- T7-8 East now plays his last heart **▼6**. West takes his two heart tricks **▼AT** finessing my **▼Q9x**
- T9 West then cashed the ♣T to leave me one down. I have the rest.
- So, I scored -100.on this hand.

#### The full deal:

	North	
	♠ K863	
West (D)	<b>♥</b> 3	East
<b>♦</b> 5	♦ AKJ	♠ AJT72
▼ AT8742	♣ QJ532	<b>♥</b> J6
<b>♦ 93</b>		<b>♦ 875</b>
♣ T964	South	♣ A87
	• Q94	
3NT/S	▼ KQ95	Vul NS
Lead ♥7	◆ QT642	DIr: W
	. K	

#### **Postmortem**

Once the Kheld, I should have foreseen the danger and simply played a heart myself, cutting the **communication link** between the defenders' hands (playing the Q catering for East having started with an unlikely YJT). West will win AT, but is then out of the game, if my assumption on East having both black aces is OK.

At the other table, same bidding, East took the **♣K** with the **♣A**, to play a second heart straight way. Now declarer was in no danger, eventually emerging with 10 tricks and plus 630.

This was a net loss for my team of -100 plus -630, a total -730 and depressing -12 imps



This Article was Sourced from the QBA bulletin.

#### Open Challenge Hand 4 Solution

	North	
	♠ K632	
West	<b>♥</b> 842	East
<b>№</b> 94	<b>♦ 832</b>	<b>♠</b> 87
♥ KJ76	♣ K63	<b>♥ QT95</b>
<b>→</b> 97		♦ KT64
♣ QJT94	South (D)	♣ A82
	▲ AQJT5	
4 <u>.</u> /S	<b>♥</b> A3	Vul EW
Lead <b>♣</b> Q	♦ AQJ5	Dir: South
	<b>♣</b> 75	

Standard Bidding				
West	North	East	South (D)	
			1∳	
PASS	2∳*	PASS	4♠	
All Pass				
* Ed: 3 🛖 Bergan 4 🛖 6-9 is an alternate bid				

**The Bidding**: Normal, alternate is via a Bergan 3♣ bid to the same contract.

West leads the **♣Q**. Plan the play

#### **Preliminary Analysis**

Top Winners: 5 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 7 3 short

Top Losers: 2 Clubs Strategies for 10 tricks

 Extra tricks from Diamond suit. They must break with the \*K onside. Will require two entries to table

#### **Your excellent Solution**

- T1 West leads the <u>♣Q</u>, you (Declarer) ducked in dummy ♣2, ♣8 (Encouraging signal) ♣5
- T2 West continues with the <u>♣J</u>. You duck again <u>♣6</u>, <u>♣2</u>, <u>♣7</u>
- West plays ♣T (Heart Preference signal)
   ♣K, ♣A and you ruffed with the ♠T of trumps.
- T4 You next cashed the **♠A** trumps
- Then led the ♠Q trumps to dummy's ♠K, pleased to see that the outstanding trumps fall 2-2.
- T6 You then led **◆2** led to the **◆Q** which held, EW following.
- T7 You played your carefully preserved **◆5** of trumps to dummy's **◆6**.
- T8 After repeating the diamond finesse with ◆3 to the ◆J, again EW following.
- T9 You cashed your <u>◆A</u>, but the suit breaks 4-2 and the **◆K** does not appear
- T10 So, you then ruffed your ◆5 with the <u>★3</u> to bring your total of tricks to eight.
- You then claimed, as the ♥A would be your ninth trick and the ♠J your tenth.

#### The main lessons are

- 1. Ducking the club ♣K to keep West on lead when you know its fruitless to cover.
- 2. Is to realise the **unblocking** of the trump suit (by ruffing the third club with the higher ♠T) if there is no danger of creating a trump loser. Especially if it may clear up some entry problems in the process. In this case, doing so paved the way to take advantage of the 2-2 Trump break when East began with at least three cards in diamonds headed by the ♠K.

## **Our Game of Bridge**

#### **Open Congress Scene**

#### **Congress Calendars**

ABF – <u>Link to Calendar</u>
NSWBA – <u>Link to Calendar</u>

#### Rakesh Kumar - Lindfield Open Teams Report



#### **Brochure: Sydney Online Spring Nationals**

#### **TBIB Open Teams**

Qualifying: Thursday 14th - Friday 15th October

8 round, 12 board Swiss Teams event

Session times: 10:30am (2 rounds) and 2:15pm (2 rounds)

Semi-Final: The top four teams qualify to play 48 board semi-finals

on Saturday 16th October, 10:30am

Final: A 48 board final on Sunday 17th October, 10:30am

Entry Fee: \$240 per team of 4, 5 or 6 players

Open PQPs awarded at half rate as approved by the ABF.

Play will finish around 5:15pm each day.

#### Dick Cummings Open Pairs

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th October Session times: 10:30am (2 rounds) and 1:30pm (3 rounds)

A **Matchpoint Swiss Pairs** event comprising 10 rounds of 10 boards; 5 rounds to be played each day. Matchpoints are converted to VPs.

Entry Fee: \$120 per pair

Open PQPs awarded at half rate as approved by the ABF.

Play will finish around 5:15pm each day

## Spring Nationals Butler Swiss Pairs

Wednesday 20th October
Six round, 8 board Butler Swiss Pairs event
Session times: 10:30am (3 rounds) and 2:00pm (3 rounds)

Entry Fee: \$60 per pair

Gold masterpoints, cash prizes dependent on entries.

Play will finish around 5:00pm.

#### **Spring Nationals Mixed Teams**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October
Eight round, 12 board Swiss Teams event
Session times: 10:30am (2 rounds) and 2:15pm (2 rounds)

Entry Fee: \$240 per team of 4, 5 or 6 players

All partnerships must consist of one male and one female player in every match.

Gold masterpoints, cash prizes dependent on entries.

Play will finish around 5:15pm each day.



#### **Penline Swiss Pairs**



Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Six round 8 board Butler Swiss Pairs event

Session times: 10:30am (3 rounds) and 2:00pm (3 rounds)

Entry Fee: \$60 per pair

Gold masterpoints, cash prizes dependent on entries.

Play will finish around 5:00pm.

#### **NSWBA Jacaranda Teams Congress**

Sunday 24th October

Six round, 8 board Swiss Teams event

Session times: 10:30am (3 rounds) and 2:15pm (3 rounds)

Entry Fee: \$120 per team of 4, 5 or 6 players

Red masterpoints, cash prizes dependent on entries.

Play will finish around 5:15pm.

#### Open Congress Scene Members Congress Successes

_	_			
	All ready Pre-qual to National GNOT Finals			
NSBC	Kim Morrison, David Weston, Bruce Neill, Michael			
	Hughes			
NSWBA	Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Jamie Thompson,			
NSWBA	Stephen Williams			
NSWBA	Datrick liana Hui Li Vicky Wai Shijun Tian			
NOVVDA	Patrick Jiang, Hui Li, Vicky Wei, Shijun Tian			
	Metro GNOT Finals Results (20T)			
Q1	Peter Buchen - Terry Brown - Ron Klinger - Matt			
Qi	Mullamphy - Fraser Rew - Lakshmi Sunderasan			
	Paul Dalley - Tony Nunn - Maurits Van Der Vlugt -			
Q2	Andre Korenhof - Liam Milne - Nabil Edgtton			
	Sophie Ashton - David Wiltshire - David Beauchamp			
Q3	- Sartai Hans			
	•			
Q4	Peter <u>Jeffery</u> - Yumin Li - Wayne Zhu - Yixiang Zhang			
٠,	- Wei Zhang			

NSWBA - Mixed Teams RB 26 T			W_D_L
1	Liz <u>Sylvester</u> & Peter Gill, Kate McCallum & Axel Johannsson	111	6-0-2
2	Susan <u>Humphries</u> & Liam Milne, Dagmar Neumann & Maurits Van Der Vlugt	109	6-0-2
3	Arjuna <u>De Livera</u> & Liz Havas, Julian Foster <b>&amp; Giselle Mundell</b>	99	5-1-2









Wollstonecraft Pairs (BBO) 16T		%
1	David Weston & Kim Morrison	59%
2	Kerry Boytell & Eric Lippey	58%
3	Sean Mullamphy & Tony Bond	56%



Illawarra Swiss Pairs 40T		VP	W_D_L
1	Margaret Foster & Colin Clifford	88	5-0-1
2	Anita Curtis & Karen Creet	85	6-0-0
3	William Zhang & Wei Zhang	82	4-0-2



SBC Open Swiss Pairs (BBO)		lmp
1	Lynleigh Evans - Rakesh Kumar	69.71
2	Elli Urbach - Kevin Davies	65.71
3	Malcolm Carter - Tony Hutton	63.64
4	Ross Crichton - Peter Grant	51.37
5	Mike Hughes - Bruce Neill	35.84
6	Martin Doran - Liz Sylvester	34.99



# Breaking Bridge News Items ABF Masterpoint Centre & NSWBA Website Issues

The ABF Masterpoint Centre and the NSWBA websites are currently experiencing technical difficulties. We apologise for the inconvenience this is causing especially as it is the end of quarter update time.

Unfortunately, the only way to know when it is back online is to periodically check the site. At this time, we do not know when the services will be restored.

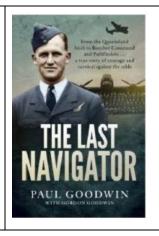
As the My ABF site links to the Masterpoint Centre, there are problems with entering events etc and signing onto My ABF, as it informs players that they are inactive.

Once again, we apologise and hope this situation will be rectified shortly.

Thank you for your patience.29 September 2021



'The Last Navigator' by Paul Goodwin



Paul Goodwin is a long-time member of our club and is a regular player at East Lindfield especially in the Thursday game. He came through the Greg Quittner era at the Gordon Bridge Centre and often plays with his wife Trish.

Paul is also a Director of the Lindfield Rollers Bowling Club - our very popular bridge venue for many years at East Lindfield.

Paul has recently written a book in collaboration with his father Gordon Goodwin, which was published by Allen & Unwin last year called 'The Last Navigator'. It is about his father's service with Bomber Command in the war and later with Qantas. It sold 10,000 copies in the first 12 months!

## THE LAST NAVIGATOR

#### Paul Goodwin with Gordon Goodwin

From the Queensland bush to Bomber Command and Pathfinders ... a true story of courage and survival against the odds.

'A wonderful book that tells a remarkable and heroic story.

- Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC (RET'D)

This is the powerful, first-hand account of Gordon Goodwin's wartime experience, and his bravery in undertaking one of the most dangerous occupations of all: flying with the Pathfinders as they led bombing raids into Germany during WWII.

#### From Gordon Goodwin's son, Paul Goodwin:

'At age eighty Gordon Goodwin completed his memoirs giving the momentous detail of his war exploits, but in a matter of fact form, devoid of much emotion. Even his descriptions of his harsh upbringing (which was in Brisbane during the Depression) were low key, never really explaining why I was never introduced to my grandfather. I read between the lines and in his nineties my father started to open up, somehow wanting to recount the stories contained in his memoirs, bringing them to life. It was a story that needed to be told.