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◆ Inter-Club Pairs required



Won the Metro North Inter-club Pairs event in 2021 on our RealBridge venue. So, we are again hosting this event, but at **East Lindfield** on the 27th of November. We will be entering two sets of teams representing both NSBC & East Lindfield clubs

We need Pairs to play in all 4 grades to represent our 2 clubs. These grades are based on Masterpoint rankings, and you will play against Pairs of the same ranking.

- **Open, <750 MP, <300 MP, <100 MP**

Contact Sue Crompton too book your team into the Sunday event at EL.

Note: **Matchpoint scoring**

[Club's Honour Board Link for Interclub Pairs](#)
[Link to Inter-Club Pairs Flyer](#)

FOR THE EXPERIENCED PLAYER

Practice Hands, Tips and Tricks

CHALLENGE

[CLICK HERE](#)

Open Challenge Hand 1

North		Dealer N, Non-Vul			
♠ Q75		Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
♥ A65		West	North (D)	East	South
♦ KQ5			1♣	Pass	1♠
♣ QT93		2♥	X	3♥	4♠
		All Pass			
South		West Leads the ♥K against your spade game.			
♠ AKJ64		How do you play the hand?			
♥ 7					
♦ AJT					
♣ J742					

Open Challenge Hand 2

North		Dealer S Non-Vul			
♠ AT		Standard Bidding			
♥ 9432		West	North	East	South (D)
♦ KQ64		Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
♣ J73		Pass	4♦	Pass	2♠
		Pass	4♠	Pass	4♥
		Pass	5♠	Pass	4NT
		Pass		Pass	7♦
South (D)		7♦ is your contract and the opening lead by West is the ♠K. Plan your Grand Slam play.			
♠ KQ64					
♥ AKJ					
♦ AJT987					
♣ -					

2022 Metro North Interclub Pairs

B5i Event!



Sunday 27th November 2022
 9.30am for 10am start
 Played at East Lindfield 2b Carlyle Road East Lindfield
 Hosted by North Shore Bridge Club

Join the fun and the challenge!

- One day friendly pairs event for rookies up
- Played Face to Face
- \$50 per pair, includes lunch, nibbles, at the end
- Director - Ronnie Ng
- Four fields: Open, U300, U100 & U15 (pair average)
- Pairs in top half of all categories earn club points whether rookie or open
- Bonus point for best photo
- Smaller club entries combined into "All Stars"
- Red points - and perpetual Trophy records winning club
- Instructions emailed to 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 of - reserves may play depending on entries
- We recommend clubs reimburse entry fees
- Entry spreadsheet sent to clubs for digital input
- Entry deadline 20 November
- Inquiries to Sue 0416 290 867 or suecrompton40@gmail.com

Coordinated by a committee of club representatives

All players are subject to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary Regulations
 Check the latest details, entry forms and supplementary regulations for the different Metro North interclub events at <http://bridge-game.info/whats-on/interclub.html>



Bridge-Game.Info
 for bridge players by bridge players

♦ LM – Defence in Detail 6



Liam Milne

Back again in 2022, Defence in Detail looks at real-life hands from the last six months with a focus on practical plays, counting the hand and logical thinking.

Before making the 'automatic' play, look ahead and predict the likely consequences.

Something more unusual might be required from you. In the finals of a national teams event, you have to defend against a solid-looking 3NT contract. You pick up the following hand as East:

♠ 53 ♥ JT64 ♦ 87 ♣ KT93

The opponents have a descriptive auction with South 'reversing' showing 16+ points:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Your partner leads the unbid suit, ♣4, and a strong dummy comes down:

East Deals	♠ AKJ842
None Vul	♥ 85
	♦ 962
	♣ Q8
	♠ 653
	♥ QT64
	♦ 87
	♣ KT93

- T1 Declarer tries the ♣Q from dummy and you are happy to cover with the ♠K, winning as declarer follows with the ♣2.
- T2 Your ♠T holds the next trick too (declarer plays the ♣7 and partner the ♣5).

Before playing a third club, it costs nothing to construct the shape of the hand and consider if any other play appeals. Declarer's most likely shape is 1-4-5-3 and partner is therefore something like 3-3-3-4, and declarer surely has the ♠A on the bidding. Is there any reason not to play a third club?

Solution:

We know two things that declarer doesn't:

- (a) clubs are divided 4-4, so the defence can only set up three tricks in the suit; and
- (b) Assuming that declarer has a spade, the spades are breaking 3-3 and potentially worth six tricks.

A club return will have a predictable outcome. Declarer will establish their diamonds, and if they need to lose a trick to partner, your third club only sets up one more defensive trick. You will take three clubs and one diamond and that is likely to be that.

If we don't return a club, it is clear that playing a spade or a diamond will only help declarer set up their own tricks. What about hearts? Partner has three hearts and if they hold a couple of useful cards, a heart switch might be annoying for declarer. And hearts are unlikely to be a suit that declarer will be relying on to make their contract.

We don't need to set up the whole heart suit – partner can count too, so they will always have the option of going back to clubs after winning a trick. It is worthwhile trying a heart and seeing if this generates some interest.

A nice card to lead for your partner is the ♥6 – a highish one suggesting that you prefer not to have a heart returned back to you.

Here is the full hand:

East Deals	♠ AKJ842
None Vul	♥ 85
	♦ 962
	♣ Q8
♠ T97	♠ 653
♥ K92	♥ QT64
♦ A43	♦ 87
♣ J654	♣ KT93
	♠ Q
	♥ AJ73
	♦ KQJ5
	♣ A72

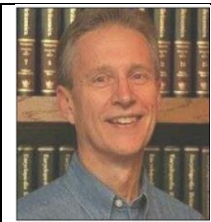
A boring third club will give declarer no choice but to make their contract. The ninth trick can only come from diamonds and partner has only one trick to cash when they get in.

A dynamic heart shift, however, gives declarer no chance. If they rise with the ace, there are five losers, while if they duck, partner can win and switch back to clubs. Eric Rodwell named this tactic the 'bait-and-switch' for good reason!

Point to remember: if the obvious play is going to lead to an obvious defeat, consider the effects of all possible alternatives.

♦ BM – Stay Focused

Open Challenge Hand 1 Solution



Brent Manley

This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website

North	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
♠ Q75	West	North (D)	East	South
♥ A65		1♣	Pass	1♠
♦ KQ5	2♥	X	3♥	4♠
♣ QT93	All Pass			
Bidding Notes				
South	1♣	Opening prepared club 2+♠		
♠ AKJ64	1♠	Nat 4+♠, 6+hcp		
♥ 7	2♥	Overcall non vul		
♦ AJT	X	Support X, 3♠		
♣ J742	3♥	Non vul Raise		
	4♠	To Play		

The Bidding

North opened a normal prepared club 1♣, and you (South) bid 1♠. West intervened with a 2♥ overcall, North used a support double (Three-card spade support), East pre-empted to 3♥, but you settle for a 4♠ game contract.

T1 West leads the ♥K against your spade game.

Analysis

Winners: 5♠+1♥+3♦=9 tricks

Losers: 2♣ & maybe ♠

Strategies:

- Draw trumps & force out a club winner

The contract looks solid if the opponents' trumps are split 3-2. What is your plan if trumps are 4-1?

Solution

T1 After viewing the opening lead ♥K, declarer paused to take stock. He could count nine top tricks and 11 would be easy if trumps were 3-2. So, declarer took the first trick with the ♥A

T2 Then cashed the ♠Q (all followed)

T3 Declarer played a spade ♠5 to his ♠J, discovering the likely 4-1 trump split when West discarded.

The bad trump break might have been a mild setback to some declarers, but not to this one.

T4 Declarer started on clubs, with played a low club ♣2 to the ♣6, ♣T and East's ♣K.

T5 East switched to a heart continuation (♥2) which south ruffed (♠6) to force the long trump hand.

T6 Declarer played a second club and West rose with the ♣A (all following)

T7 West continued to play a third heart ♥Q. Declarer had to ruff this – otherwise West would have set the contract by giving East an extra club ruff.

T8 Declarer played a club to the CQ, trying to get East to ruff, but East did not ruff this, instead discarding a diamond loser.

T9 Declarer now cashed a diamond (♦5) to the ♦A in hand.

T10 Declarer followed by a fourth round of clubs, again East did not ruff, extracting a second diamond discard from East.

T11 Next came a diamond to dummy's ♦K. East could do no better than ruff this with his ♠8

T12 East then exited with another heart; but declarer discarded the ♦J from hand and ruffed in dummy with the carefully preserved ♠7. (a spade exit leaves south with a winning diamond)

T13 Declarer took the last trick with the ♠A.

He had taken five trumps, a heart, a heart ruff in dummy, a diamond and two clubs for 10 tricks. The full deal:

North (D)		
♠ Q75	♥ A65	♠ T832
♦ KQ5	♣ QT93	♥ T942
♣ 9		♦ 962
♥ KQJ83		♣ K5
♦ 8743		
♣ A83		
South		
♠ AKJ64	♥ 7	Vul Nil
♥ 7	♦ AJT	Dir: N
♦ AJT	♣ J742	
♣ J742		

4♠/S
Lead ♥K

♦ EK – Take all your chances



Eddie Kantar

This article was based on a Kantar [‘Take all your chances’](#) series article in the ACBL “Bridge Feed” website.

North		Standard Bidding			
♠ AT		West	North	East	South (D)
♥ 9432					1♦
♦ KQ64		Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
♣ J73		Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
		Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
		Pass	5♠	Pass	7♦
South (D)		Bidding Notes			
♠ KQ64		1♦	4+♦, opening		
♥ AKJ		1♥	4+♥, 6+hcp		
♦ AJT987		2♠	4+♠, (5+♦) Reverse		
♣ -		4♦	Jump Preference, Strong ♦ fit		
		4♥	Cue		
		4♠	Cue		
		4NT	Keycard (♦)		
		5♠	2+Q♦		
		7♦	to play		

A jump shift from you followed by a jump preference from partner (1♦-1♥, 2♠-4♦) followed by 4♥ from you and 4♠ from partner lands you in a touchy grand slam. 7♦ is your contract and the opening lead is the ♠K. Plan your Grand Slam play.

Preliminary Analysis

Winners: 7♦+2♥+3♠ = 12 one short

Top Losers: None

Strategies for 13

- You have a possible heart loser, a loser that can be avoided if East has the ♥Q.
- On the other hand, if West has the ♠J, you can lead a spade to the ♠T. If the ♠T holds you can then discard two hearts from dummy on the ♠KQ. No more heart loser.

In other words, you are looking at two finesses and if either works you can make your grand slam—but if you take the wrong one... down you go. If only you knew which one to take?

Tip: When either of two finesses will give you your contract, one suit missing a queen, the

other a jack, play the A-K of the suit missing the queen (hearts). If the queen doesn't appear, take a finesse in the suit missing the jack (spades). Since one finesse is as good as the other, you pick up close to an extra 20% by cashing the ♥AK before taking the spade finesse as the ♥Q might fall under the ♥AK. Testing hearts without giving up the lead has kept you alive to take the spade finesse, not to mention that extra 20%.

Notice that if you had the ♠KQ94 instead of the ♠KQ64, the ♠J would drop under the cashing of ♠AKQ almost 37% of the time allowing you to discard two hearts on winning spades and avoid the heart finesse.

Alternatively, if you play the ♥AK first, you will drop the queen close to 20% of the time and avoid a future finesse that way.

So, if you are lucky enough to have two possible lines that might help you avoid a future finesse, take the one that offers the best % chance. Translation: spades before hearts with the ♠9, hearts before spades with the ♠6. Full Hand

West		North	East
♠ J832		♠ AT	♠ 975
♥ Q87		♥ 9432	♥ T65
♦ 2		♦ KQ64	♦ 43
♣ KQT42		♣ J73	♣ A9865
7♦/S		South (D)	Vul Nil
Lead ♠K		♠ KQ64	Dir: S
		♥ AKJ	
		♦ AJT987	
		♣ -	

Sunday IMP Pairs on RB

Sundays: 1:30pm
Open Imp Pairs

We guarantee a game, just come along and we will find you a partner
A chance to learn to play **IMP scoring methods**.
Swiss Pairs & Swiss Teams are popular congress & tournament type events.

SUNDAYS ARE BACK!


RED Point IMP Pairs

Normal RB table fees (\$11 Members & \$14 Visitors welcome)

RealBridge

♦ BF - Bridge Puzzle 2

Solution

	This article was derived from Bridgefeed, " Puzzle This no 2 "
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2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Bidding Notes			
1♠	5+♠, Opening		
2♦	GF 4+♦		
2NT	Bal hand		
3♠	Sets suit strongly		
4♠	To Play, min, no cue available		

You (East) are defending 4♠ in a Swiss Teams event where overtricks are not as important as trying to set the contract.

North	East (You)
♠ KQT9	♠ 82
♥ 6	♥ A753
♦ AKQ75	♦ T42
♣ T43	♣ AJ95

T1 West (partner) leads the ♥J and you win the ♥A.
What now?

	North	
West	♠ KQT9	East
♠ 54	♥ 6	♠ 82
♥ JT942	♦ AKQ75	♥ A753
♦ 986	♣ T43	♦ T42
♣ K82	South (D)	♣ AJ95
4♠/S	♠ AJ763	Vul NS Dir: S
Lead ♥J	♥ KQ8	
	♦ J3	
	♣ Q76	

Declarer has the diamond suit in dummy for club discards. He also likely has the ♥KQ to discard clubs from the dummy. You can see, therefore, that you must shift to a club to have any chance to set the contract.

If you lead the ♠5, declarer can play low. Partner wins the ♠K and returns one to your ace. That's only three defensive tricks — not good enough.

The winning play is to lead the ♣J.

If South plays low, you will win three clubs.


If declarer covers the jack with the ♣Q, partner wins the ♠K and returns the suit. You have the ♣A9 surrounding dummy's ♣T4.

Either way, you can take three club tricks to defeat the 4♠ contract.

♦ JF – Michaels Cue Bid - Counting

Club Sponsors:



	Julian Foster (many times NSW representative) analysing (bidding & play) on an interesting hand from a club session. Sourced SBC Wisdom articles.
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Michaels again and an example of counting shape.

		North		Dealer: East Vul: EW																															
		♠ 7																																	
West		♥ KQT983		East (D)																															
♠ AJ942		♦ T		♠ KQ83																															
♥ A2		♣ 98654		♥ J765																															
♦ AK84				♦ J932																															
♣ Q7				♣ K																															
		South																																	
5		♠ T65		<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3	-	-	-	-	S	3	-	-	-	-	E	-	5	-	5	5	W	-	5	-	5	5
	♣	♦	♥			♠	NT																												
N	3	-	-			-	-																												
S	3	-	-			-	-																												
E	-	5	-	5	5																														
W	-	5	-	5	5																														
18 10		♥ 4																																	
7		♦ Q765																																	
		♣ AJT32																																	

This board allowed NS (using a Michaels cue bid). to good effect to enable them to find a good sacrifice. Let's have a look.

The normal auction starts

West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♠		

Some Norths overcalled a number of hearts and there are arguments for doing that instead of using Michaels (see advanced section). But others started with 2♠ the Michaels cue bid showing at least 55 in hearts and a minor.

East will now raise spades. As after regular overcalls it is sensible to play a method to distinguish a good raise from a semi pre-emptive one. This can be done with a cue raise of 3♥ (the suit we know the opponents have). East West will then bid to 4♠.

West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♠	3♥	?

The spotlight is then on South. The value of Michaels now shows up. Knowing their partner is at least 55 in hearts and a minor means South knows there's a good fit in one of the minors even though they don't yet know which North has. It is also attractive to bid to 5 minor over 4♠ because all the conditions for a sacrifice look like they are met:

1. Their 4♠ contract is highly likely to make as we have very little defence (the only slight worry in this regard is our singleton heart - see advanced section for more on this).
2. It looks likely that all the other pairs will be bidding game.

3. The favourable vulnerability means we can afford to go 3 off (make 8 tricks) and still show a profit. This looks very likely. Given we have 3 spades partner's most likely shape is 1525 or 1552. Our worst case then looks like we will lose 1 spade, 1 heart, 1 trump and 2 of partner's other minor. This is a valuable exercise to do - try and visualise the shape of partner's hand (much easier after they have made a bid like Michaels Cue) and project what tricks we might lose.

West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♠	3♥	5♣
Pass	Pass		

How does South find out which minor North has? He should simply bid 5♣. This is a "pass or correct" bid - meaning he wants partner to pass with clubs or correct to 5♦. It's important to understand that ALL club bids (at any level) on this sort of bidding sequence are like this - they are not showing your own club suit. Yes once in a blue moon you could get dealt 8 solid clubs and want to bid 5♣ yourself even when partner has diamonds. There's no good answer to that - you can perhaps bid pass or correct first (4♣) but then pull partner's 4♦ bid back to clubs. In the real world it just doesn't happen!

Once North South have bid to 5♣ East West then have a problem. They have to decide whether to **double** or bid onto 5♠ - always a hard decision. Even though it's right to bid 5♠ on this hand I doubt I would. East has defensive values in the ♣K and West is relatively balanced. I'm pretty sure I would double 5♣.

West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♠	3♥	5♣
Pass	Pass	X	

Only two tables bid to 5♣ (and neither did it by using Michaels!). But they were successful as it only went for -300 against the -620 or -650 being made at other tables.

How will the play go?

In 5♣, south the declarer will just lose a trick in each suit. He will lead up towards the hearts in North dummy hand and ultimately set them up.

What about if East West are playing in spades?

Some Norths led the ♦T which, unluckily, picked the whole diamond suit up for declarer so they made 11 tricks easily. Others led the ♥K. There's a clear loser in hearts and clubs so whether declarer makes 10 or 11 tricks depends on how the diamonds are played. If declarer starts with the ♦A the ♦T drops with North. Declarer then has to decide whether to use the ♦J93 in dummy to finesse through South or try to drop ♦QT doubleton with North. In fact, the answer (to finesse against South) can be worked out with certainty - see advanced section for how.

Key points to note

1. The Michaels cue bid can be effective at finding a fit, in order to then sacrifice profitably.
2. After the opponents bid Michaels you should use a cue raise to show a good raise of partner's suit - this helps judge later whether to double or bid on, and it may also help your side reach slam.
3. Try to visualise your losers opposite partner's hand – easier after a distribution showing bid like Michaels (or a pre-empt).
4. After such bids it also becomes much easier to count the shape of the hand - see advanced section.

More advanced

Some Norths chose to overcall hearts and not bid Michaels. Although it doesn't work so well on this hand there's certainly a case for it for two reasons:

- a. we have 6 hearts so we could well want to play there when partner has 2 - but if we only show 5 hearts by bidding Michaels then partner will be very reluctant to bid hearts with only two.
- b. if partner ends up on lead we definitely want him to lead hearts and not a minor.

After a Michaels sequence like 1♠ (2♠) there are different bidding methods in use.

One option is to play double as showing a raise to 2♠

A more common treatment is to use

- double as expressing interest in **penalty** against at least one of the opponents' suits (subsequent doubles by either hand are normally then penalty).
- Doing that you tend to bid 3♠ with what would otherwise have been a raise to 2♠.
- And you cue the opponent's known suit (3♥) to show a good values raise to at least 3♠ or better.
- Bids of 3 minor are natural and forcing (yes we know our RHO has one of the minors but that shouldn't stop us bidding our own suits naturally!)

Why might South be concerned about their singleton heart when considering a sacrifice? Because if partner has the ♥A the defence could score some ruffs and perhaps be beating 4♠. The defence could perhaps be about to go ♥A, ♥ ruff, cross back to North (with ♦A or ♦K) for a **2nd ruff**.

"Sacrificing" for **-300** doesn't look so clever if we were about to score **+100**! But there's no guarantee that's the case.

Firstly, even if North does have the ♥A he may not have a 2nd entry in time to get a 2nd ruff or declarer might also be short in hearts in one hand. Secondly there's a practical consideration. If we were on lead we'd surely lead our heart singleton. But against spade contract partner is on lead. It is much less likely that partner will lead the ♥A unless they happen to have ♥AK (leading aces into thin air is usually a bad thing to do). So even if, in theory, 4♠ might be beatable it may well in practice make. Hence it's still then attractive to sacrifice.

What about the play in spades after ♥K lead? Declarer can still make 11 tricks if he gets diamonds right. There are two reasonable lines:

1. Run the ♦J from dummy intending to finesse twice against South (playing them for ♦QTxx).

2. Cash one top diamond hoping North has ♦QT or ♦Q or ♦T and then either drop the ♦Q with North or finesse against South on the 2nd round.

The first line requires us to be careful with entries because after drawing 3 rounds of trumps there's only one more entry to dummy and we need that to finesse against the ♦T on the 2nd round (we assume the 1st round will go ♦J, ♦Q, ♦A). Therefore, we must finish drawing trumps in dummy to lead diamonds the first time. As it turns out doesn't matter because the ♦J pins the singleton ♦T in the North hand. This line loses to singleton ♦Q and ♦QT with North though.

The second line also works and, after North's ♦T falls we can count the hand to be sure of where the ♦Q is.

T1 Win the ♥A,
T2-4 draw trumps in 3 rounds
T5 Cash one top diamond ♦A.
T6 Next lead a heart towards the ♥Jxx. On this trick North will win the ♥Q and South will discard.
T7 North will probably now lead a club to South's ♣A
T8 South will continue a club or diamond. At this point declarer should count the shape of the hand.

After drawing trumps he knows North had 1 and South 3. When he sees South discard on the 2nd round of hearts he knows South started with 1 which means North must have started with 6. The Michaels cue bid says North has at least 5 clubs as well. That means we **KNOW** North has 1 spade and 6 hearts and we infer he also has at least 5 clubs. Given he only has 13 cards that means he can have at most 1 diamond and we've actually already seen it played under the ♦A. Therefore, we know he had to be 1615 shape originally and therefore we must take the diamond finesse against South's ♦Q.

The above is a fairly simple example of counting the shape of the hand (it's always easier when the opponents have made a distribution showing bid like Michaels or a pre-empt) but it shows the value of it. It allows us

to be certain the diamond finesse will win and not have to guess whether North had ♦QT to start with. Counting is just basic arithmetic but it's hard work when there's so much else to think about at the same time.

It's a good habit to try and develop if you want to get better though - it's definitely one of the things that sets the experts apart from the average player. It's also very rewarding when you get a hand right because of it.

There are actually 3 different things you might need to count on any given hand:

1. **Shape** (Find out the layout of 3 suits to work out the 4th and therefore determine which opponent can have a key card in a suit - as here.)
2. **Points** (If point ranges have been shown in the bidding as you see more high cards played you may be able to work out who can or can't have a remaining high card.)
3. **Tricks** (Do the opponents have enough tricks ready to make their contract or beat ours? If they do then we need to get desperate and try to cash our own tricks quickly. If not we can be more passive.)

Julian Foster (many times NSW representative)

♦ JM – Pot Pourri



John Mottram

Our ex-president provides insights on bidding

Pot Pourri

The hands for this week have no common theme, but have degrees of humour as well as instructiveness.

What does this bid mean?

My first hand comes from a duplicate session some years ago. You are playing with a new partner, and have put together a system covering the basics, plus a few of the more common conventions.

So, you take out the cards for the first hand, and partner opens 4NT. UNDISCUSSED!

There seem to be three possibilities:

- 1 Simple Blackwood;
- 2 Strong Minor 2-suiter;
- 3 Specific Ace Ask – with no Ace you respond 5C, with one you bid the suit of that ace (6C if Clubs), with 2 you bid 5NT;

I have one Ace, so if it's the first option I bid 5D.

If it's the second option, Diamonds is my better minor, so I bid 5D

If it's the third option, I have the Diamond Ace, so I bid 5D

(Maybe this hand should have been in my Serendipity article last month.)

With most partners I play SAA. Luckily partner was on the same wave length, but there were a couple of anxious moments before she bid 6C. The final piece of serendipity was when the opponents found the only lead to let the contract make.

Extreme Yarborough

My next hand first occurred at a regular duplicate session at the old Lindfield club in the late 1900's. I was in first seat and picked up a hand with no card higher than a 7. The odds of this happening are just over 1 in 250,000, whereas the odds for all yarboroughs is about 1 in 1800.

I was about to pass when I noticed that at the next table in my seat was a regular psycher, probably the most notorious in the club. I thought "I bet he's going to open this hand". So, I changed my mind and opened 1C. I caught up with him after the session, and yes he had opened the hand as well, but not with a wimp 1C – he chose the he-man 1NT. Interestingly, a 7-high yarborough occurred at the Club on RealBridge some time in September. And I've calculated that I've probably played a quarter of a million hands in the intervening years. Goes with the odds.

Adventures with the Lightner Double

This convention will be familiar to most players, and normally applies to slam hands

where your double will be lead directing. In a competitive auction it should steer partner away from leading your suit. Your double will frequently be based on a void, so you hope partner can find the successful lead accordingly.

I remember 4 hands in particular over a number of years.

On the first hand partner didn't have a clear cut choice and I wrote down -1660.

On the second hand partner did have a clear cut choice but didn't find it: -1660. At least I knew the score.

On the third occasion partner did find the right lead: +200 (Vul).

On the 4th hand LHO bid the slam. I was contemplating doubling when it was my turn to bid, but RHO raised to 7, then redoubled: +600 (non-Vul). Bizarre.

♦ LG – 7 heart Squeeze



Aggressive Bidding & excellent Card Play

You need to look out for these newbies in this Open grades.

RB session 1:30pm Saturday 15/Oct!

Sitting south was Fiona Lavery (has only just been promoted out of the Restricted ranks and playing like a champion), testing out her new bridge tool – **Exclusion Keycard**.

North		Standard Bidding			
♠ JT6		West	North	East (D)	South
♥ JT3				Pass	1♥
♦ AK7		Pass	2NT	Pass	5♣
♣ AQ65		Pass	5♥		7♥
		All pass			
South (D)		Bidding Notes			
♠ AKQ		1♥	5+♥, Opening		
♥ AK9542		2NT	GF in ♥, 12-14 4♥ or 15+ 3♥		
♦ J832		5♣	Exclusion Keycard (ignore ♣)		
♣ -		5♥	1-4 Keycards ignoring ♣ holding		
		7♥	Aggressive, To play, could have asked ♥Q		

This asks the strong 2NT bidder to count the number of keycards held, but to ignore any cards held in the exclusion suit (here Clubs). Thence the grand slam 7♥ was bid

If Jann lets the ♣K go, Fiona discards the ♦7 and enjoys two high winners ♣K & ♦K in dummy

- So, Jann let the **♦5** go, hoping partner controls the last Diamond, Fiona discards the **♣Q** as it **is not high!** But when she leads a final low diamond from hand **♦6**, the **♦Q** drops in front of the **♦K**, and you have kept the **♦7** as a re-entry to the now high **♦J** in hand!

Very well played!

The full deal

<div> <div>10</div> <div>D</div> </div>	<div>N Leo Goorevich#2</div> <div> <div>♠ J106</div> <div>♥ J103</div> <div>♦ AK7</div> <div>♣ AQ65</div> </div>	<div>W N E S</div> <div> <div>P 2NT P 1♥</div> <div>P 5♥ P 5♣</div> <div>P P P 7♥</div> </div>
<div>W Jann Cathels#41</div> <div> <div>♠ 987542</div> <div>♥</div> <div>♦ Q54</div> <div>♣ K1092</div> </div>		<div>E Narelle Clark#16</div> <div> <div>♠ 3</div> <div>♥ Q876</div> <div>♦ 1098</div> <div>♣ J8743</div> </div>
	<div>S Fiona Lavery#85</div> <div> <div>♠ AKQ</div> <div>♥ AK9542</div> <div>♦ J632</div> <div>♣</div> </div>	<div>7♥ S NS: 0 EW: 0</div>

You can play out this hand (or any RB hands) by using the Online replay Tools. [Try this link](#) and keep pressing the “Next” button

- T9 Cash spade winner ♠K
T10 Cash spade winner ♠Q
T11 Then you need to cash your last high heart! ♥5

Poor Jann, she did have both $\clubsuit K$ & $\diamond Q$, and was caught in a squeeze. And must unblock one of her winners!. Here is the end position as the high trump $\heartsuit 5$ is played

		AK7
		AQ65
W	Jann Cathels#41	
	987542	
	Q54	
	K1092	
		5
		S Fiona Law
		AKQ
		AK9542
		J632

◆ Upcoming Club Competitions

The current competition night Event running is the “Falls Estate” **Club Mixed Teams Championship.**

Ref	Sess	Max CC	Date	When	Ven	Type	2022 CC Events List
18	1/5	20	3-Nov	Thursday Night	RB	IMP	The Falls Estate Mixed Teams Championship
	2/5		10-Nov	Thursday Night			
	3/5		17-Nov	Thursday Night			
	4/5		24-Nov	Thursday Night			
	5/5		1-Dec	Thursday Night			
	2x		27-Nov	Sunday	EL	MP	Metro North - Inter-Club Pairs
19	1/2	10	8-Dec	Thursday Night	RB	IMP	Club XMAS Teams Championship
	2/2		15-Dec	Thursday Night			
22	2/2	10	17-Dec	Saturday	RB	IMP	Festive Season Swiss Pairs
23	2/2	10	18-Dec	Sunday	RB	IMP	Festive Season Swiss Teams
			25-Dec	Thursday Night			XMAS break
T1	1/2	10	29-Dec	Thursday Night	RB	IMP	2023 Summer Swiss Pairs Championship
	2/2		5-Jan	Thursday Night			
C1	2/2	10	17-Dec	Sunday	RB	IMP	Summer Swiss Teams
			12-Jan	Thursday Night			Canberra Summer Nats Break
			19-Jan	Thursday Night			
C2	2/2	10	31-Jan	Sunday	RB	IMP	Australia Day Weekend Swiss Pairs
T2	1/4	10	26-Jan	Thursday Night	RB	IMP	Summer Teams
	2/4		2-Feb	Thursday Night			
	3/4		9-Feb	Thursday Night			
	4/4		16-Feb	Thursday Night			

Then the final comp XMAS Teams

13th Club XMAS Teams Championship

Again on RealBridge in 2022

2x Thursday Night Sessions: 7:00pm 8th, 15th December
 Must Enter for both sessions (Substitutes are allowed) in the club Website by 10pm
 Wednesday 7th Dec Late entries may be allowed by Convenor at his discretion.

Club Honour Board **Generous Prize Pool : Dependent on entries**
 Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Gary Barwick M: 0413 884 805
 Director: Ronnie Ng
 Entry Management: Enter via NSBC website
 Pre-Payments: NSBC Members use PP System, & Visitors use website payment app
 We welcome all players who are financial members of the ABF to play in this event. Yellow Complex Systems are not permitted

Red Point Event

Previous 12th 2021 XMAS Team's Champions:
Liz Sylvester & Peter Gill, Yumin Li & Simon Zhang

Members (PP) \$128 per team (2 Nights @ \$16pp)
Non Members \$146 per Team (2 Nights @ \$19pp)

Then New Festive season RB Congress with a Swiss Pairs & Swiss Teams days in late December.

Festive Season Online Open Swiss Pairs

Saturday 17th December on RealBridge
10:00am Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Pairs (IMP) Event
Prize Pool: Generous, but dependent on Entries

Members Results (cc) will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Brownie Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Gary Barwick 0413 884 805
 Director: Ronnie Ng
 Entry Management: Enter by MyABF
 Pre-Payments: Visitors use MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

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

Player Fees (pp) \$30pp

Festive Season Online Open Swiss Teams

Sunday 18th December on RealBridge
10:00am Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event
Prize Pool: Generous, but dependent on Entries

Members Results (cc) will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Brownie Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Gary Barwick 0413 884 805
 Director: Ronnie Ng
 Entry Management: Enter by MyABF
 Pre-Payments: Visitors use MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

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Player Fees (pp) \$30pp

2023 kicks off with the Summer Swiss Pairs

Summer Swiss Pairs

A 2 session Swiss Pairs event
RealBridge in 2023
2 Thursday Night Sessions @ 7:00pm
29th Dec 2022 and 5th Jan 2023

- Swiss Pairs event (Imp scoring)
- First CC event for 2023 Club Championship (Brownie Cup)
- Entry Mgt : NSBC Website

Director: **Ronnie Ng**
 Convenor: **Gary Barwick M: 0413 884 805**

RED Points
 We welcome all players who are financial members of the ABF to play in this event. Yellow Systems are not permitted

2022 winners Elliot Kaplan & Peter Gill

\$32pp - 2x \$16 / Members
\$38pp - 2x \$19 / Non Member

♦ Intermediate Lessons

"Gentle Hand Analysis" with Anita Curtis, ONLINE on WEDNESDAYS at 2pm Oct-Nov 2022

Gentle hand analysis (GHA) consolidates everything learnt in Improvers and introduces new ideas through hand analysis.

Defence, declarer play, and bidding are all targeted by examining 8 new hands each fortnight.

Join "live" on Zoom OR watch the recording at your leisure.

Date	Lesson Topic
Wed Nov 9 th	Gentle Hand Analysis 15
Wed Nov 23 rd	Gentle Hand Analysis 16
	No lessons in December 2022

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

Visitors \$20, Members \$17.

"Broaden Your Game" with Anita Curtis, ONLINE on FRIDAYS at 9:30am Oct-Nov 2022

Broaden Your Game (BYG) is for aspiring Intermediate players who play in Rookie or Restricted

Intermediate for aspiring Open players, or those with considerable experience in Restricted.

Join "live" on Zoom OR watch the recording at your leisure.

Date	Lesson Topic	Description
Nov 11 th	Fourth suit forcing	BYG/Intermediate bidding. 4SF is an essential tool for all intermediate bidding to set up a game forcing sequence. Find out if partner has a stopper in the 4 th suit; if opener has 3 card support for your 1 st suit or just give yourself room to bid out your hand – without the fear that partner will pass!
Nov 25 th	Eddie Kantar's Common sense Defence	World famous U.S teacher Eddie Kantar's defence tips for intermediate players. BYG/Intermediate

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

Visitors \$20, Members \$17.