



THE QBA BULLETIN

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4

Qld Mixed Pairs Championship

THE 2002 Qld Mixed Pairs was one of the lowest attended I can remember, although a quality field was included in the 23 tables, with any of a dozen or more pairs fancied to win. The rigours of the qualifying rounds saw a few of these fancied pairs fail to make the final, but the Sunday final 16 was still anybody's guess when we sat down to play.

Therese and I came out of the blocks like a pair of greyhounds and established what turned out to be a winning lead by lunch, and despite a few hiccups after lunch, we held on for our first win in the event together, although Therese has won it twice before with different partners (Mike Robson and Kevin Hume).

As usual Toowong put on a very good congress, and it is a mystery why more pairs do not play. I know that one-day teams appear to be more popular, but this is one of our State events, and deserves support. David Anderson handled his first State Championship with his usual competence, although the unusual qualifying conditions, likely brought on by the difficult number of tables and David's inexperience in what we like up here, did bring some murmurs of discontent.

R 1	♠ 74
Bd 7	♥ A95
Dlr S	♦ AQJ3
Vul Both	♣ AJ86
♠ Q932	♠ AKJ106
♥ KQ103	♥ J42
♦ K942	♦ 876
♣ 2	♣ 43
	♠ 85
	♥ 876
	♦ 105
	♣ KQ10975

On board 7 of round 1 we got a little of the luck that is so necessary to win. I opened 1C as North after 2 passes, East bid 1S, Therese bid a pre-emptive 3C, West bid 3S, and I bid a hopeful 5C, when 4C would have been enough on the hand. However, East cashed 2 spades and switched to a heart. I won, and as I drew

trumps West pitched a diamond on the second trump, which enabled me to take 4 diamond tricks via the finesse and throw the hearts off in dummy for 11 tricks.

R 2	♠ AK98742
Bd 6	♥ Q106
Dlr E	♦ A10
Vul EW	♣ K
♠ Q1065	♠ —
♥ J542	♥ A7
♦ Q64	♦ 8753
♣ 92	♣ AQ108643
	♠ J3
	♥ K983
	♦ KJ92
	♣ J75

This was a fine example of not wasting your assets. I opened 1S as North after 3 passes, East bid 2C, Therese made a negative double and West passed. I invited with 3S, raised to game by Therese. East made a negative lead of the D7, and this is where West wasted his assets by playing the DQ when I called for the low card from the dummy. Since it is generally unsound tactics to lead away from an ace in a suit contract, especially up to the opening bidder, West should know that the DQ is not going to win, and therefore play low also. When he played the DQ, I was able to win, cash the SA and find the bad break. I entered dummy to throw my CK on the

3rd diamond, and then lead the SJ restricting my trump losers to just one, making 11 tricks. If the DQ is withheld, I have to pick everything just right to make 10 tricks.

On this board we bid the first of a couple of grand slams over the weekend.

R 2	♠ 5
Bd 12	♥ AKJ976543
Dlr W	♦ 94
Vul EW	♣ 2
♠ 963	♠ QJ2
♥ 10	♥ 8
♦ J1072	♦ KQ85
♣ K10543	♣ QJ876
	♠ AK10874
	♥ Q2
	♦ A63
	♣ A9

I opened 4H with my good 9-card suit and when Therese asked for Key-Cards with 4NT I mistakenly jumped to 6H because of my extra length (whereas 5S would show the HQ or extra length). Therese bid 7H since my bid showed 2 Key-Cards and a higher-ranking void. It is certain that we would have got to 7H anyway if I had bid 5S, as it is likely from Therese's point of view that I can set up the spades. 7NT is only a good contract because I had a 9-card suit, and I could not convert, as too late, I realized that my 6H jump showed a spade void.

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Our opponents bid to the cold grand slam against us and made it via the double squeeze.

R 2	♠ J10964		
Bd 19	♥ 95		
Dlr S	♦ J954		
Vul EW	♣ 52		
♠ 853		♠ AKQ2	
♥ AJ43		♥ KQ2	
♦ K632		♦ A10	
♣ AK		♣ Q1074	
	♠ 7		
	♥ 10876		
	♦ Q87		
	♣ J9863		

West opened 1NT, and East found out that all the aces and kings were present before bidding 7NT, to which I led the SJ. West won in dummy and cashed her top clubs before winning the remaining spades, which forced Therese to discard a club and a heart, but then the 4th heart squeezes her in clubs and diamonds, and me in spades and diamonds.

When you have a long suit and minimal values, it often pays to make a preemptive bid to disrupt the opponents bidding communication. However, it is not without risk.

R 3	♠ 93		
Bd 12	♥ A1097652		
Dlr W	♦ 73		
Vul NS	♣ A6		
♠ AQJ8		♠ K75	
♥ KJ		♥ Q83	
♦ AKQ		♦ 9862	
♣ K743		♣ J82	
	♠ 10642		
	♥ 4		
	♦ J1054		
	♣ Q1095		

Sitting West, Therese opened with a Multi-2D, and North ventured 3H, over which I passed to await clarification of Therese's hand, and she doubled to show a balanced 23-24 HCP. There did not look to be much on for us, so I opted to pass for penalties. South knew that a bad score was looming in 3HX, so tried for a better spot with a re-double (a bottom cannot be any worse), but North had nowhere to go, and we did get a top for +1600.

On board 24 we were jolted back to earth with a near-bottom when John Mills as

Mind Games

A History of Old Bridge

North wisely refrained from bidding with the 8-card suit and weak hand.

R 3	♠ J2		
Bd 24	♥ 105		
Dlr W	♦ 8		
Vul None	♣ J10976543		
♠ Q7653		♠ K84	
♥ Q3		♥ A8642	
♦ AJ972		♦ 43	
♣ K		♣ AQ8	
	♠ A109		
	♥ KJ97		
	♦ KQ1065		
	♣ 2		

Therese opened 1S as West, and I bid 2H, but raised her 2S non-forcing bid to game. When 4S came around to John, he gave more thought to bidding, but correctly judged that it would be too expensive, so passed and led the CJ. Therese won the CK and led a heart to dummy to discard the HQ on the CA, and was astounded when South ruffed. Not many people have the strength to not mention an 8-card suit. If she had been warned about the club length during the bidding, she would have led a trump to dummy at trick 2 and now had a chance of making.

On board 2 in the last round of the final we had a nice auction to slam and it proved such a friendly contract that I was able to make a safety play to guarantee 12 tricks, which is a rare manoeuvre in a pairs contest.

R 4	♠ KQ8643		
Bd 2	♥ 764		
Dlr E	♦ 9764		
Vul NS	♣ —		
♠ 97		♠ 52	
♥ 8		♥ KJ5	
♦ AKQ5		♦ J10832	
♣ J109754		♣ 832	
	♠ AJ10		
	♥ AQ10932		
	♦ —		
	♣ AKQ8		

East passed and Therese, South, opened with a game-forcing 2C, over which West bid 2NT (for the minors). Since I was not strong enough for a positive response, I passed to await clarification, East bid 3D, and Therese bid 3H. I was now able to introduce my good spade suit, and Therese bid 4D, a cue-bid agreeing spades. I cue-bid 5C, which promised at least second-round control, known by Therese to be shortage since she had the CK and she bid 6S.

I ruffed the opening diamond lead, discarded my remaining diamonds on the

top clubs and drew trumps. I was then able to cash the HA before ruffing a club back to hand to lead up to the HQ in dummy for 12 tricks.

This board was another slam our way, this time a grand slam.

R 4	♠ 54		
Bd 11	♥ 106		
Dlr S	♦ AJ108		
Vul None	♣ 108762		
♠ K6		♠ AQJ98	
♥ AJ9732		♥ KQ5	
♦ —		♦ Q942	
♣ AQ943		♣ K	
	♠ 10732		
	♥ 84		
	♦ K7653		
	♣ J5		

Therese opened 1H and I responded 2S, natural and forcing. Over Therese's 3C rebid I bid 3H, which agreed hearts, and denied a singleton, since I could have bid 3D, to show heart support and a singleton club. Therese cue-bid with 4C, and I showed the SA, and at the same time denied the DA, by cue-bidding 4S. 5D from Therese was a further cue-bid, so I showed my second-round club control with 6C, and Therese signed off in 7H. Since I had earlier showed good heart support (normally 4-card) and denied a shortage, my club control had to be the king, so Therese was virtually certain of 13 tricks.

East led a hopeful DA, but the 5D bid was certain to be a void because of my earlier denial of the DA.

On this board I listened to my 'vibes' and stayed low enough to get a good score.

R 4	♠ A983		
Bd 23	♥ 9		
Dlr S	♦ K1085		
Vul Both	♣ Q976		
♠ Q10		♠ J754	
♥ AK106		♥ 8743	
♦ 763		♦ AQJ4	
♣ AK53		♣ 2	
	♠ K62		
	♥ QJ52		
	♦ 92		
	♣ J1084		

South passed and Therese, West, opened 1C and I responded 1H, to which Therese invited game with 3H. The singleton in partner's suit and poor major suits persuaded me to pass, and although I could have made 10 tricks by playing South for both heart honours, I was pleased to get 9 tricks.

■ Richard Wallis

Cuppaidge's Column



George
Cuppaidge

THE Asia Pacific Bridge Championships were held in Thailand this year from June 14.

Australian Teams acquitted themselves well in all sections.

Being an hour away from the venue, the Ambassador Hotel, I have not watched a lot, but managed to see the Thai Youth team play Japan, and have a side game with Nick Farrer. These activities led to some interesting problem situations; try them.

♠42 ♥K64 ♦K10965 ♣K32

You hear 4S (nil vul) on your right, a thoughtful 7S on your left!! What do you lead?

You may have guessed that this is not the time for a trump lead. Anything but a trump is fine. I alone had the problem as no one else in the 20-table side game bid the grand slam. Against 6S I would have happily led something else, but not without some reservation I led a trump. This was the hand.

♠ —	♠ J986
♥ AQ75	♥ 10983
♦ AQ74	♦ J
♣ AQ654	♣ J1097
♠ 42	♠ AKQ10732
♥ K64	♥ J2
♦ K10965	♦ 832
♣ K32	♣ 8

These things are sent to test us!

You open 1H holding

♠6 ♥K108732 ♦7 ♣AQJ94

Partner bids 2D, 2/1 game force, and over 2S on your right you bid 3C. Partner bids 3NT. What do you do now?

2002 Congress Directors' Exam

Saturday October 26

Dlr W	♠ Q10
Vul EW	♥ Q954
	♦ J982
	♣ 652
♠ 6	♠ KJ53
♥ K108732	♥ J6
♦ 7	♦ AKQ64
♣ AQJ94	♣ 108
	♠ A98742
	♥ A
	♦ 1053
	♣ K73

Over 3NT, the Thai youth player in the match against Japan bid 4C. East converted to 4H.

North led the SQ and continued with the S10 when it was ducked. West ruffed and led a trump to the six. In with the HA South continued with a third spade and declarer's goose was cooked. He actually discarded, giving himself no chance.

His most effective play is to insert the H10. This seems a cost free play since North is marked with HQ9. While it may be an insult to a good defender to make this play, surely it is the correct one if you don't know your opponent (and even if you do, who knows?) The defence will only succeed in this case if they decline to overruff.

The dummy was just about as good as West could have hoped for on the bidding, yet the final contract was a poor one and destined to fail against any sort of defenders. What do you think of West's 4C bid?

One hand proves nothing, but it seems wrong to me. East certainly does not hold primary heart support and probably doesn't hold great clubs either. Tricks in spades, diamonds and clubs in the No-trump contract seem more likely to emerge than heart honours in dummy. West was lucky that there was even a play for 4H. 3NT happens to make courtesy of the club finesse and break, but little or nothing else is needed. No heart tricks even come into the equation.

DID YOU KNOW?

When both defenders have a major penalty card and one is on lead, the obligation to comply with a lead penalty takes precedence over the obligation to play his major penalty card.

Holding

♠AK876 ♥— ♦10 ♣AKQ10542

You open 1C, Standard (do you?), you hear 2H (Weak Jump) on your left. Partner bids 2S, what now?

This hand was bid in the same match by the Japanese pair. They made a real welter of it.

Dlr N	♠ AK876
Vul None	♥ —
	♦ 10
	♣ AKQ10542
♠ Q	♠ J3
♥ KQ842	♥ J1097653
♦ K952	♦ J73
♣ 973	♣ J
	♠ 109542
	♥ A
	♦ AQ864
	♣ 86

Over 2S, North chose 5H!!

Bemused, South bid 6S (good trumps? Since 5S would presumably ask for a heart control in this auction*) North bid 7S and all was well.

A far better bid from North is 4H. Over 4S North can continue with 5C and over 5D bid 7S. How those pairs who interchangeably bid first or second round controls cope I do not know. Note that the superscientific pass (!) of 2S by West gets its just deserts. Anything else is better. I like 4NT, before they can do it!

* Partner can pass with no control, bid 6S with a second round control and 6H with a first round control. The joys of "standard" bidding!

■ George Cuppaidge

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Honeysuckle Pairs

There must have been a woman to come up with such a lovely name for a pairs event and I do hope someone from the Buderim Club will enlighten the editor of the history of this two-day congress.

In fact during our drive up, we were just commenting on how nice to have lovely names for the various events. I told my Johnno (John Luck) how myself and more than a few women would drool at the thought of having two macho hunks like Terry Strong and Magnus Moren going up to collect the winners' prize of, for example, the Snugglepot & Cuddlepie Pairs.

During dinner, Jimmy Wallis confided that this was the 14th consecutive year he was taking part in this event with his partner Toni Bardon, without nary a hint of whether they've ever won it or how often. But for Johnno and myself, after breezing into the championships it was a sharp descent into DeeDum Land the next day. Have you not been to DeeDum land? It's when, instead of going into holy crusade against the infidels, you and your partner transform into Tweedledee and Tweedledum out to do battle with each other.

Round one, Board 1 against Helen and Richard MacLauchlan, was fast and furious.

Dir N		♠ 104
Vul None		♥ 6
		♦ KQJ10863
		♣ K92
♠ AKJ8	N W E S	♠ Q752
♥ A1084		♥ KQJ9753
♦ 9		♦ 72
♣ 10874		♣ —
		♠ 963
		♥ 2
		♦ A54
		♣ AQJ653

W	N	E	S
5H	3D	4H	5D
All pass			

When 6H made easily, the sniggle went out of Richard, as we all pondered silently how many in the field would be bidding the slam, and whether this would be a good, a bad or a par result. Richard Toutin and Arnold Remedios were allowed to play in 5D doubled for a good result and a few pairs were probably goaded into bidding the slam.

It was the usual Board 4 that got us.

Dir W		♠ 642
Vul Both		♥ AKJ97
		♦ 86
		♣ A64
♠ AQ105	N W E S	♠ KJ98
♥ 4		♥ 863
♦ Q932		♦ K
♣ K973		♣ J10852
		♠ 73
		♥ Q1052
		♦ AJ10754
		♣ Q

W	N	E	S
1D	1H	1S	3H*
3S All pass			

* systemically showing 4-card heart support and up to 6 HCP

3S was made by Helen for -140 to us. After the round I picked up the cudgel and told Johnno, he should have bid 2S, an unassuming cue-bid showing heart support with values for a 3H raise, and I would have gone to game and made.

During dinner on Monday night when the first ever grandchild came for a visit, and I'm enjoying my second glass of perfectly chilled chardonnay after slaving over an exquisite dinner of garlic butter prawns served on a bed of al dente penne in a creamy tricolour peppercorn mustard sauce, my Johnno comes up fighting.

He says, "Board four; four hearts doesn't make: spade, spade, spade ruff, two rounds of trumps. You can't set up the diamond suit without going one down so my 3H bid was instinctively right." Now he's gotten me on the growl; who wants to talk bad bridge hands when having a lovely meal, but my Johnno, he's a dog in a manger, so I told him without looking at the hand, reaching out for my third glass, after giving the baby a kiss and cuddle, "I'll make it in my sleep, leave me alone".

"No it doesn't!" Now he's gotten my goat. "Want to bet on it?" "How much," he asks. Still trying to get rid of him, I reply, "One grand!" He gulps. "But you haven't got one grand to bet," says he. Says me, "What of it, you've got one grand, haven't you?"

He gulps again, now remembering the aphorism for all husbands, "What's his is hers, what's hers is hers!" So now I'm forced to look at the hand. After a quick take, I tell him, "Spade, spade, spade ruff, club ace, club ruff, heart ace, club ruff, claim. Go get your cheque book, it's David Jones and Myers sale time anyway". He disappears downstairs.

Ten minutes later, he's up again, "You can't make it on a trump lead, and trump continuation, ha ha ha, you lose". "That's not fair," I reply, "We said normal defence." Oh, that man of mine, he plays real dirty. Anyway, a blank cheque is better than a cheque for one lousy grand!

But back to the Buderim battlefield. It should have ended on Saturday, because on Sunday we started into the sludge and remained mired in mud when the congress ended. Not that we didn't have fun. My favourite board 4, session 4, against Neville Francis and Andrew Pryde.

Dir W		♠ 103
Vul Both		♥ K32
		♦ AJ5
		♣ AJ1032
♠ KQ8652	N W E S	♠ J4
♥ J65		♥ 109874
♦ KQ9		♦ 1072
♣ 6		♣ Q85
		♠ A97
		♥ AQ
		♦ 8643
		♣ K974

After West passed, North opened 1D (Precision). Me sitting East, and bored to tears decided to put in a small 1S bid followed fast and furious with a 3NT bid from Neville Francis sitting South. My poor sweet innocent possum bid 4S, after which the 3NT bid was alerted; tank, tank, tank, by Andrew Pryde before passing, pass by me, double, pass, tank, tank, tank, pass, pass.

"Why was the 3NT alerted?" We were informed that it showed a flat hand with opening values.

Well to say the least, 4 spades went off for -1100, not that 3NT would necessarily make. But that was a bit of a flutter, and if you think a big boost like that would

Gold Coast
Congress
2003

February 15-22



shoot them to winning the event, that's another story.

Next we encounter Adrian Myers and Rosemary Crowley. Adrian was most unhappy and he had gotten the word on my unsuccessful psyche. He wanted a top board from us too.

"Well, we're giving one away each round, so why not you too to level the playing field," said me. But we got him first, before I gave it to him, his top board.

Dlr W	♠ Q987643		
Vul NS	♥ 43		
	♦ 7		
	♣ J54		
♠ J52		♠ A	
♥ KQ1072		♥ A965	
♦ 932		♦ Q106	
♣ 86		♣ AKQ73	
		♠ K10	
		♥ J8	
		♦ AKJ854	
		♣ 1092	

W	N	E	S
John	Adrian	Ivy	Rosemary
P	P	1C	1D
1H	1S	4H	P
P	4S	X	All pass

Plus 800 for us, not that we needed it. One thing I say about Adrian, he apologised immediately to his partner after the smoked cleared.

Dlr E	♠ AQ873		
Vul Both	♥ 5		
	♦ Q1093		
	♣ K62		
♠ J52		♠ 1096	
♥ Q762		♥ J108	
♦ K		♦ AJ74	
♣ AQ943		♣ 1075	
		♠ K4	
		♥ AK943	
		♦ 8652	
		♣ J8	

W	N	E	S
John	Adrian	Ivy	Rosemary
		P	1H
2C	X	2D*	P
P	X	3C	P
P	X	All pass	

* Ivy Luck on suicide bombing mission. Well he got his top board from us. That did level the playing field as I understand they ended up winning the championships. Congratulations and well done.

■ Ivy Luck

PLAY BRIDGE ON HOLIDAYS

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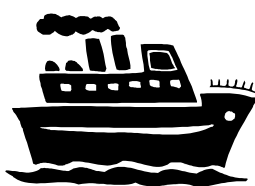
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Gold Coast

ONE-DAY teams tongsresses seem to have gained in popularity. Perhaps the players' spouses like mine, do not object to losing their partners for just one day at the weekend but grump when its two. However the Gold Coast Teams Congress held on the last weekend in June, was a 2-day, contest. 33 teams participated, and were competently directed with much bonhomie by Alan Gibson who divided the field into 4 sections - Championship, Plate and Consolations 1 & 2 after the first day's play.

Congress convenor, a very talented and charming Janet Wallis, organised prize money to 6 places in each section. I think this was an excellent move, encouraging all players to come and participate and enjoy teams play with good chance of taking home the money.

Three top teams came from Brisbane.- Parker, Kempthorne and Busch, but when the music stopped after fighting it out for two days, the Han team, Jenny Han and Margaret Drake with John Pritchard and Roman Morawiecki seeded No.3, topped the list ahead of the Powell team, with the Parker team in third spot.

Here are a couple of hands in the last match against Powell where a certain amount of luck came our way.

Bd 24	♠ 64		
Dlr W	♥ AK974		
Vul None	♦ 10		
	♣ KQ1085		
♠ Q7		♠ AK985	
♥ 53		♥ J	
♦ K986532		♦ AJ74	
♣ J4		♣ 973	
	♠ J1032		
	♥ Q10862		
	♦ Q		
	♣ A62		

W	N	E	S
	Jenny		Margaret
3D	3H	3S	4H
4S	5H	5S	6H
P	P	6S	X
All pass			

This was a situation where no one knew who was sacrificing against whom. And I'm not exactly proud of my bidding, but my excuse is that 3D could well be AKQxxx and a heart void because of our big heart fit. My partner could well have had a spade void looking at my spade holding. (When hands have voids the bidding gets reckless.) When the smoke cleared, Powell had won the bidding contest but not the battle.

Plus 500 to us; our team-mates came back with -50.

Bd 28	♠ Q		
Dlr W	♥ 42		
Vul NS	♦ AQ1065		
	♣ KQ765		
♠ A1063		♠ K87542	
♥ A1095		♥ —	
♦ 2		♦ KJ983	
♣ J432		♣ A8	
	♠ J9		
	♥ KQJ8763		
	♦ 74		
	♣ 109		

W	N	E	S
P	2NT*	3S	4H
4S All pass			

*Minors

At the other table, our team-mates pushed on to 6S by Roman sitting East. South led the HK to dummy's ace allowing the discard of a losing club. (At our table, because Jenny had bid 2NT for minors, 1 decided that I would lead the C10 holding East to 11 tricks.)

Roman played the D2 from dummy and North rose with his ace and returned the CK won in hand. Roman then ruffed a diamond, ruffed a club, another diamond and a heart. The DJ, the final losing diamond is ruffed with the S10 and the SA cashed felling North's queen. Now another heart is ruffed in hand and the last trump drawn.

Nicely done, but North can scuttle the contract by leading the SQ at trick 3.

Thank you Janet and the Gold Coast Bridge Club for a most enjoyable weekend.

■ Margaret Drake

SUNNYBANK INAUGURAL CONGRESS

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Saturday August 3

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Outright Results for Multi-session Events

LET me comment on the article by Robin Palmer on this subject in the recent issue of QBA Bulletin. It seems to be an exercise in stating the obvious, and one wonders whether its aim was to enlighten readers or to get yet another free plug for his scoring program, at the same time denigrating 'another widely used program'. In my recent memory, he has received blatant free plugs for his program from the editors of both the QBA Bulletin and the ABF Newsletter under the guise of a letter to the editor. In the case of the QBA Bulletin, he even received editorial endorsement when it is most unlikely that the editor had even seen the program, let alone evaluated it.

I'm the first to agree that aggregating percentages for say a 3-session event is not the best method of scoring. I would certainly not use it in a congress or higher level event. But, when you are trying to cater for scorers who are often not directors, and for directors of widely varying levels of expertise to some of whom factoring is a mystery, it is a simple method, and one which in actual practice will mirror the results of more sophisticated methods. Just as you often have to play a less than perfect, but acceptable, movement because of time or other constraints.

The article says this: *If you have ever lost a club championship by a short nose calculated by the averaging method then there is a possibility that you have been gipped!* This is simply untrue. The laws clearly authorise the Sponsoring

Organisation (here your club) to specify its own method of scoring, so that results using this method are quite legitimate. You may think the method inferior and urge a change, but meantime there is no question of the legitimacy of the results.

To illustrate how wrong this method can be, the article uses (of course) an extreme example: a 3-session event with 11 tables playing 33 boards for the first two sessions and 9 tables playing 27 boards for the third session. In real life, this rarely happens. A club which plays 33 boards for the first two sessions will play either 36 or 32 boards (curtailed) for the third session (otherwise the third session players will complain that they have not got value for their table fees). Calculate the results on this basis, and you will find that the rankings are the same whatever method you use. It is because clubs tend

to play similar numbers of boards each session that this method is acceptable. It is only rarely and in a very tight finish that it may produce a different result.

Your correspondent goes on to explain how it *should* be done. He aggregates each pair's total matchpoints over three sessions and expresses this as a percentage of the total available matchpoints. Seems reasonable. But others may take a different view. They may prefer to factor the results of session 3 to make them equivalent to the other two sessions (the factor being a top of 20 divided by a top of 16), and then aggregate the matchpoints. A widely used and time-honoured method. But, if you now convert this to a percentage, you get a different result! Palmer's method slightly favours the pair who performed worst in the short session.



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Which method is right and which wrong? They are both right. It depends on what one 'feels' is the fairer method. But a player who favours the second method may well feel he has been 'gipped' if he has lost the club championship by a nose with his club using the Palmer method!

In many areas of bridge movements and scoring we are not dealing with an exact science, and there is room for different views. The Laws recognise this by leaving it to Sponsoring Organisations to make these decisions to suit local needs. There is not always a 'correct' method with all others incorrect. So a little humility would not go astray when pontificating on these areas.

■ Reg Busch

Teacher's Corner

ON the last Saturday of June, teachers from Redlands (Bev Tucker, Joy Slade, Val Smythe and Florence Napier), Sunnybank (Gwen Green), Redcliffe (Gaylene Dyer), Hervey Bay (Des Davidson), and Pomona (Peter Saundry), along with Cheryl Simpson, (QBA Marketing expert), attended a workshop given by me, covering teaching methods in general, and in particular my beginners book, "Play Bridge: a Workbook for the Absolute Beginner".

The feedback indicated that teachers welcome an opportunity to get together to discuss methods and to share the highs and lows of teaching bridge. They would also like a longer accreditation programme to make them feel that what they are doing is validated.

We talked about what makes a "good" teacher, in bridge or otherwise, and they recounted memories from their own school days. "Good" bridge teachers always

1. Go the extra mile to help class members
2. Encourage student-centred activity at the bridge table
3. Help students learn by having them play hands from the very beginning, and playing hands frequently during the lessons
4. Make students feel secure and safe in their new environment
5. Constantly encourage them and praise their efforts, understanding when praise is appropriate and when it is not
6. Follow the "less is more" theory when dealing with bidding and play
7. Maintain an egalitarian class room

8. Help the students set realistic bridge goals

9. Adhere to a policy of starting and finishing classes on time

Teachers are often looking for new material for workshops and lessons, and the road after beginners lessons is often fraught with difficulty from both the teacher's and the students' perspectives. With this in mind, I'm writing a set of 32 **Supervised Play hands**, based on bidding theory and play techniques in "Play Bridge: A Workbook for the Absolute Beginner". It will be available in a few months.

And then for the **next step**: there are endless topics for lessons after beginners courses and here's one that I'm finding works well. It's appropriate for beginner graduates who've done a few months of supervised play, I call them "**Improvers Lessons: Openings Other than One-Bids**", and they consist of four lessons, each two hours long, with notes quizzes and 4 play hands.

1) **Opening Strong Hands – 2C & 2NT**

2) **Checking for Controls and Slam Bidding**

3) **Weak Two's and Responses**

4) **Higher Level Preempts**

I'm available to come to clubs to see your teachers or to give workshops on topics you want. I also sell a selection of bridge books and computer products. See my home page for Workshop topics and products. It's www.uq.net.au/cards

■ Joan Butts

New Qld Championship Event

August 17-18 will see the inauguration of a new Qld Championship event, which will be of interest to players at all levels. The QBA, with the host club QCBC, have decided to conduct a Qld Butler Pairs Championship (open to all), but with a special side event for players of less than National Master status.

Butler events are run as pairs events, but with teams type play and scoring. Matches may vary from 7-14 boards depending on the size of entry. Each pair is impeded against the average score. The draw is similar to a Swiss Teams draw. An extra attraction is that masterpoints are allotted on the basis of every match won or drawn, just as in teams events, so you need to be very unlucky not to win some masterpoints. There will be awards also for outright places. The Championship carries a higher masterpoint rating than congress events.

This event replaces the Qld Women's Pairs Championship and the Qld Men's Pairs Championship, but these titles will not disappear. Entry is open to all pairs, but the women's title will go to the best women's pair in the final ranking and the men's to the best men's pair in that ranking. The event will run over four sessions.

The upside of this format is that you can get lots of the more relaxing teams style bridge, with extra masterpoints available, but without having to find, or account to, teammates. The only downside is that you don't have team-mates to blame for a poor performance!

Watch out for the entry forms at your club.

Marketing



Cheryl Simpson

"Entertainment Book"

You can order your new 2001/2002 edition of the "Entertainment Book" through your club secretary, or Kim Ellaway (QBA) on **3855 3331** or fax **3855 3683**.

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- ✓ **Cinemas,**
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 - **Fiasco's,**
 - **Pizza Hut**
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Cheryl

Cheryl Simpson,
QBA Marketing Officer

Two Hands

Fashions Change

THESE days it seems to be the fashion to intervene lightly to try to disrupt the opponents' bidding, but sometimes this backfires and helps declarer to a successful outcome.

During the Senior Team Trials I partnered Jenny Han, playing Acol.

♠ J10432	♠ Q	♠ K98
♥ QJ653	♥ AK10872	♥ 4
♦ J	♦ 987	♦ KQ1053
♣ J2	♣ K64	♣ Q983
		♠ A765
		♥ 9
		♦ A642
		♣ A1075

Sitting South, I opened 1C and West bid 2C, a Michael's Cue-bid promising 5/5 in the majors. Jenny, North, doubled which

brought 2S from East. I passed with my minimum hand and Jenny bid 3H. I bid 3S with 3NT in mind but Jenny bought the contract in 4H.

Taking advantage of West's informative Michael's Cue helped Jenny to a well played game.

East led the S9 which Jenny ran to her singleton queen. She then crossed to the CA and played the H9 which West ducked. Now she cashed the SA and pitched a club and ruffed a spade. Back to the DA and ruffed another spade, cashed her CK and put East in for his diamond winners which West had to helplessly ruff. 4H making +450 which was a good score for us as most NSs were minus, except the Weathereds who cleverly made 3NT for +400.

This next hand is from the Colin Stone Teams. After a lot of bidding, urged on by the opposition, my partner, Kaoru Anderson, and I, ended up in 6S.

DID YOU KNOW?

A double line (//) to signify the end of the bidding is illegal. Would you say "Pass Pass"?

Dir E	♠ AKQ109742
Vul None	♥ AQJ4
	♦ 3
	♣ —
♠ 965	♠ —
♥ K	♥ 98765
♦ KJ1064	♦ AQ
♣ A762	♣ QJ10985
	♠ J3
	♥ 1032
	♦ 98752
	♣ K43

W	N	E	S
		P	P
1D	X	1H	P
2C	4S	5C	P
P	5S	6C	P
P	6S	All pass	

I bid 6S after some thought; when in doubt bid one more! I didn't really expect to make it with 5 hearts on my left, but here's hoping. They may be able to make 6C.

To my surprise I wasn't doubled. When dummy went down I smiled hopefully at partner; after all the opener may hold the singleton HK.

Luck's a fortune and partner's H10 made my day. My opposition was gallant in defeat and John Mills predicted a double slam swing; he was right.

■ Margaret Drake

Coming Events

- July 27-28 Bundaberg Congress**
Moreton-Bribie Congress
- Aug 3 Sunnybank Inaugural Congress**
4 Northern Suburbs Novice Teams
Mackay Novice Pairs
Toowoomba Swiss Pairs
- 10-11 Surfers Teams Congress**
Maryborough Pairs & Teams
Reliable Carriers Pairs (Cleveland Bay)
- 11 Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs**
- 17-18 Rockhampton Congress inc Central Qld Teams**
Qld Open Butler Swiss Pairs (QCBC)
- 17 Townsville Novice Pairs**
18 Toowong Novice Teams
25 BBC Swiss Teams
- 31-Sep 1 Tully Congress**
Warwick Swiss Pairs
- Sep 1 Sunshine Coast Teams**
7-8 Toowong Teams inc Qld Teams
14-15 Brisbane Festival Congress (QCBC)
15 Townsville Teams
21-22 Caloundra Pairs & Teams
Mackay Barometer Pairs
22 Surfers Paradise Birthday Teams
28-29 Gold Coast Butler Pairs
29 Noosa Teams
- Oct 4-6 Cairns Congress**
6 Redlands Swiss Pairs

ABF Email List

The Australian Bridge Federation has decided that in order to gain a more immediate means of contact with the bridge playing community, an email address list of players will be established. Individual members must request to be included on this list and will be immediately removed on request.

Those who provide the ABF with their address will be copied with Press Releases from the ABF provided with notification of meaningful updates on the ABF web site and occasionally consulted for their opinions on matters under discussion by the Player Liaison Committee.

The ABF undertakes not to utilise the list for commercial purposes and will not make these addresses available to others.

Directions to advise us of your wish to be on this list can be found from the front page of the ABF web site at <http://www.abf.com.au/>.

Reviews

Marty Sez
Marty Bergen

THE author continues the style of his popular "Points Schmoins" books, but now in a smaller format (still hard cover) and with just one tip per page. That's 137 tips on hand evaluation, various aspects of bidding, declarer play and defence. Also continued is the larger than usual type face which is so easy to read. Marty always offers a mixture of bridge advice, from the technical to the human aspects which can be just as important. For example, Know Thy Partner. Are they aggressive or conservative in bidding? You need to know so as to avoid nasty surprises, and to work in with them harmoniously. There's also some very good advice on bidding by passed hands, and on slam bidding. This book will help the lower to middle ranked player to improve their judgement in situations which crop up fairly frequently in everyday bridge.

Marty Sez is available from John Hardy for \$31.90 – phone **0409 786 050**

Secrets of Expert Defence

David Bird & Tony Forrester

THIS book is designed for the intermediate player who already has some idea of defensive methods. Each defensive idea is illustrated by hands taken from high level tournament play. Some relatively basic ideas are covered, such as attitude and count signals, suit preference signals, hold – up plays, and the like, but with some twists you may not know. For example, the lead of an Ace can ask for attitude, while the King asks for count. Other topics are more advanced, such as defence against squeezes and deceptive plays. The authors emphasise that cold calculation is more important than "flair" in being a good defender. Approach each defensive situation as something like a mathematical problem and you will often find the way to succeed, or at least be able to eliminate some losing choices. Counting declarer's tricks is particularly important.

The type face is smallish although easy enough to read, and the play analysis is on the same page as the diagram (I personally detest books where you are constantly having to turn back a page to see the diagram, unless they are problem books). The analysis seems about right for the intermediate player, as it is clear without being excessively detailed.

Secrets of Expert Defence is available from John Hardy for \$29.70.



Denise
Dodd

The Key to Better Bridge

Audrey Grant's Bridge Master 2000

THIS educational software product on declarer play technique should be mandatory for all new and developing players.

After viewing many of the 117 Audrey Grant hands, the interested student should be able to eliminate a year or two from their current learning curve on how to play the cards as declarer.

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Audrey Grant, North America's foremost bridge teacher has designed these hands specifically for the developing player – plus there are 30 more advanced deals. Additional sets are also available.

This CD is quite frankly, the best learning/teaching tool I have ever encountered. It is simple to install, fun to use, has terrific graphics, succinct explanations and is highly addictive. \$89.95 includes postage.

Denise Dodd, (07) 3359 1285
ddodd@hotmail.net.au

Letter

Two Bites of the Cherry

I support the views of Jan Peach in a recent article about top players getting two bites of the cherry, demonstrated by the last two competitions I have played in. In the Swiss pairs at the BBC Jim Wallis - Ziggy Konig and Toni Bardon - Sandy Johnson were playing for the consolation, and the QCBC Swiss pairs consolation was won by Fay Landy - Ellie Spiro with Gary and Jan Malinas second.

I believe the concept of splitting the field was initially designed to allow lesser lights their moment of glory. As stated by Jan, the better players can have a poor start to the day and find themselves in the B sec-

tion at halfway. They then play to their standard and be winners of the B section at the close of play, whilst lesser lights who have played well are not rewarded.

I think a fairer system would be to exclude the top 25% or so of any field seeded in an event from eligibility in the consolation or the plate. This would also encourage more lesser lights to enter competition.

I intend to pursue this matter further and anybody who wishes to contact me regarding this can find me at QCBC on Tuesday nights or call me at home.

James G Evans

Results

Qld Mixed Pairs 18-19 May

- 1 T Tully R Wallis
- 2 B & R Weathered
- 3 B Lee M Robson

Plate

- 1 C Shafferman J Summerhayes
- 2 P Crowd P Maddigan
- 3 K Dawson A Kelly

Consolation

- 1 B Fraser E Moens
- 2 P Collins U Ridgway
- 3 R Busch J McPheat

BBC Swiss Pairs 26 May

- 1 T Jackman R Wallis
- 2 A & B Kempthorne
- 3 P Hainsworth R Parker

Plate

- 1 A Pryde T Regan
- 2 R Cunliffe D Janzekovic
- 3 T Bardon S Johnson

Novices

- 1 B Stuthe B Williams
- 2 J Baker D McAdam

Eastern Suburbs Novice Swiss Pairs 1 June

- 1 A Carta P Gosney
- 2 M & N de Mestre
- 3 R Murtagh K Moschner

Arana Congress 1-2 June

Championship

- 1 J Valentine J Mortess
- 2 R Wallis I Halford
- 3 J Solomon C Green

Plate

- 1 P Buch M Lamont
- 2 P Gill B Willson
- 3 C Jeha P Tink

Consolation

- 1 A O'Callaghan J Bolles
- 2 M O'Malley M Maher
- 3 B Slaughter M Anderssen

Mackay Novice Teams 26 April

- 1 V Otto J Ericer
M Weir G Patterson
2 E Wilson N Roberts
S Casey J Lamprecht

QCBC June Congress 9-10 June

Pairs

- 1 E & T Berger
2 R Parker P Hainsworth
3 A Pryde P Gosney

B Section

- 1 F Landy E Spiro
2 G & J Malinas
3 J Wood B Bradley

Teams

- 1 A Pryde P Gosney
R Parker P Hainsworth
2 D Anderson T Jackman
M & L Carter
3 A & N Tuxworth
H Baumanis D Janzekovic

B Section

- 1 P Maddigan R Shelbourn
S O'Brien R Mooney
2 D Cullen L McNeill
R Ashman Y Kilbert
3 M Macrosssan P Hale
J Wood D Hummel

Toowoomba Novice Pairs 24 March

- 1 R Brilliant I Jesser
2 J Mitchell G Mitchell
3 J Kane R Capon

Plate

- NS 1 C Snook M Trada
2 R Stuart B Gill
EW 1 J Sinclair D Lewis
2 S Mason T Mason

BBC Novice Swiss Pairs 26 June

- 1 A Carta P Gosney
2 K Moschner R Murtagh
3 B Carroll D Grant-Frost

Plate

- 1 R Matthew R Matthew
2 D Allom R Webb

Colin Stone Teams

Round Robin

- 1 Jackman
2 Afflick
3 Wallis

Final

- 1 Jackman (T Jackman, D & K
Anderson, G Tucker,
A Kempthorne, M Drake)
2 Afflick (I Afflick, T Strickland,
B Healy, A Slater)

James O'Sullivan Awards at June 30 2002

Overall Positions

WALLIS	JAMES	135.36
KONIG	SIEGFRIED	132.00
FRANCIS	NEVILLE	127.64
STRONG	TERRY	120.82
MOREN	MAGNUS	107.05
STRICKLAND	TREVOR	101.02
PARKER	RALPH	99.98
CROFT	DENIS	98.93
HAUGHIE	BILL	97.36
MILLAR	MARGARET	92.44

Silver Grand

WALLIS	JAMES	135.36
HAUGHIE	BILL	97.36
TULLY	THERESE	88.89
JACKMAN	TONY	84.98
ROBSON	MIKE	71.01

Grand

KONIG	SIEGFRIED	132.00
FRANCIS	NEVILLE	127.64
STRONG	TERRY	120.82
MOREN	MAGNUS	107.05
PARKER	RALPH	99.98

Gold Life

CROFT	DENIS	98.93
LEDEN	PETER	75.98
KELLY	ADRIENNE	70.53
O'CALLAGHAN	ALISON	55.52
PRITCHARD	JOHN	51.85

Silver Life

STRICKLAND	TREVOR	101.02
LUCK	IVY	66.32
DARLEY	MONICA	63.96
AIKIN	MICHAEL	58.27
MCLAUCHLAN	HELEN	57.61

Bronze Life

AFFLICK	IAN	76.24
LUCK	JOHN	65.01
MELCHIOR	LEN	54.10
GREEN	ROSEMARY	53.05
BOLLES	JANE	50.34

Life

GOSS	BEVERLEY	70.52
CARVILL	WENDI	55.50
BARNETT	PHILIPPA	53.07
CHAUDHRY	ASHRAF	48.94
HUGHES	JOHN	42.90

**National

DEAN	SANDY	52.47
SAXBY	ELSPETH	41.91
SHERWOOD	LORNA	32.62
AUER	YVONNE	30.48
ROBINSON	JOY	30.07

*National

O'DEMPSEY	TERENCE	68.73
WALFORD	TONY	54.95
WALSH	GAIL	41.88
WALSH	HARRY	41.31
DAKIN	KEITH	38.82

National

MACLEOD	BRONWYN	75.01
TURNER	DAWN	56.21
JEWELL	GWENDA	44.03

BELL	JILL	40.37
SANDERSON	LYNDON	39.35
*State		
REGAN	SANDRA	66.49
HARRIS	DAVID	62.42
MOENS	EDITH	35.88
ASHMAN	ROBERT	35.65
YEATES	MARY	34.13

State

JANZEKOVIC	DARKO	69.08
LEUNG	JULIA	38.18
MILLAR	JOHN	37.43
TORELLI	GHADA	32.61
OSMUND	JAMES	30.53

*Regional

FOARD	PATSY	19.23
SMITH	LANNING	16.55
BAARDA	RENK	16.20
BARR	KATHLEEN	12.75
POWER	JUDITH	12.32

Regional

SMITH	STUART	31.08
CHESSER	MARGARET	30.87
EVENSEN	TOVE	24.58
CLOUSTON	PATRICIA	24.24
WISMER	STUART	18.54

**Local

CROFT	VIVIENNE	42.77
HOBDELL	BETTY	29.31
HATCHER	DANIEL	27.31
CHALMERS	KEITH	25.68
CHALMERS	JUNE	25.20

*Local

FOSES	SHARON	54.82
DICKISON	IAN	53.35
SCHMALKUCHE	PENNY	32.80
OTTO	VIVIENNE	20.51
MOSCHNER	KEN	19.21

Local

CARROLL	BRUCE	17.97
HOGAN	ANNETTE	17.66
SCHAFFER	ELSA	15.63
PETERS	BILL	15.60
PAGE	JOHN	15.41

Club

WOTHERSPOON	TERE	23.29
INGLISH	PETER	17.20
CHAPMAN	ROSS	15.02
TAYLOR	RAY	13.60
NEWELL	PATRICIA	12.13

Graduate

HALE	PHIL	13.55
PAWLYSZYN	ROMAN	11.46
MITCHELL	SANDRA	9.53
MAY	SUSIE	8.71
SHELBOURN	RODNEY	8.62

Nil

MCARTHUR	ROBERT	11.91
PERRY	RICHARD	9.86
MCDERMOTT	PETER	9.49
WENCK	JUDITH	9.45
BROCK	JIM	7.32

Directors' Corner

SOME players are still using the system cards Noah had as a Youth Club member. Please throw them out. Opponents are entitled to find information quickly and easily on your card and this can only be achieved if we all use the same cards.

The following points from the Bridge Laws come to mind following recent observations at club and congress level:

A player does not have to count his cards before returning them to the board. His obligation is to return the same thirteen cards he started with.

Speaking in the same breath or not taking your pencil from the paper do not, on their own, make a call inadvertent, nor does instantly changing one's mind.

When it is brought to a player's attention that his bid is insufficient, it is incorrect to fix it up immediately. Next opponent has the right to accept it. If not accepted, restrictions on offender's partner may result depending on how the bid is corrected.

Players must be careful not to indicate that they think an auction is over by reaching for their Personal Record Sheets before there have been three passes.

Loud discussions heard at nearby tables spoil the game for others.

Law 36 is easily found and quite often applied. For some reason Law 35 hides on the previous page and is missed. When one or more calls are made after an inadmissible call (for example, doubling partner's bid) the double and all later calls are cancelled and the auction resumes as though the irregularity had not happened.

The director must be called and addressed in a manner courteous to both the director and the possible offender.

A Queensland Director Mailing List is to be established. The particular aim is to help exam candidates, new directors and those far from the S.E. corner but of course everyone is welcome. If you would like details on how to subscribe please email me at jpgss@uq.net.au

I quote from the QBA Course for Club Tournament Directors: "A common method of finding winners in club events is on the basis of total percentages. Whilst this is reasonably satisfactory and simple, it is not necessarily the same as factoring. To take a rather extreme example: take the event mentioned above (8 tables playing 32 and then 24 boards). Pair A

get 60% on session 1 and 40% on session 2. Pair B get 40% on session 1 and 60% on session 2. Both aggregate 100%, but, if you work out their actual scores, you will find a big difference. The total numerical score should be a correct comparison, as all pairs played the same number of boards with the same tops. Using percentages will advantage the pair who got the best result on the shorter session."

Back in the days when one could look under a car's bonnet and see some empty space, I drove an HR Holden. If it broke down somewhere between Burketown and Cloncurry, almost anyone who stumbled across me could get me on my way again. I look at scoring programmes in the same light. Most clubs need something basic that everyone can use.

Most clubs will hold multi-session or multi-section events using equal, or close to equal numbers of boards and tables. Adding percentages is simply not something to touch with a long stick while holding one's nose. Comparing apples with apples is as accurate as it gets. Comparing apples with almost apples will occasionally change a pair's placing (up or down) from that obtained from, say, factoring match points. Purists need not enter the competition.

One player entering just one wrong score is far more likely to affect a player's chances than the adding of percentages. For the really paranoid, consider the effects of poor seeding and keystroke errors. Surely bridge at club level is about fellowship rather than the nth degree of scoring agility. In more complicated situations the mathematicians can't even agree as to what the nth degree is. What chance have we?

I am well aware that there are learned arguments against factoring but, if playing in an event such as a State Championship, I like to see unequal sections being turned into apples before comparisons are made for qualification purposes.

■ Jan Peach

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Email J.Hardy@uq.net.au

Website www.uq.net.au/~zzjhardy

Q B A

Email:
qldbridge@pop.ozemail.com.au

Phone: 07 3855 3331

Mobile: 0412 064 903

Fax: 07 3855 3693

Web site:
www.qldbridge.com

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SEPT 9 (noon)

Contributions to:
33 Royal Pde
Ashgrove 4060

Ph/Fax: **07 3366 1292**

Email:
psquire@acenet.net.au

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