



THE QBA BULLETIN

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2

Gold Coast Congress

The Pairs

FOR 2002, my partner in the pairs was Toni Bardon, and while we were about average the whole way, there were some great hands and we thoroughly enjoyed the 5 sessions. After a slow start in the first session, where I went to sleep a few times and bid too enthusiastically a few other times, we improved in the second session of the qualifying to make the second consolation (section D).

The event was won by English visitors, Mike Pomphrey and Howard Melbourne.

Q1	♠ A3
Bd 20	♥ Q6
Dlr W	♦ 976
Vul Both	♣ QJ10875
♠ KJ6	♠ 10754
♥ AJ98	♥ K542
♦ Q102	♦ AK54
♣ K42	♣ 3
	♠ Q982
	♥ 1073
	♦ J83
	♣ A96

This board illustrates there are many leading systems in use and declarer should not make rash assumptions. Toni, West, opened 1C, rebid 2H to my 1H response, and I was happy to go to game. South led the S9 and I assumed that this was 9x or 9xx, and played the SJ from dummy to try and disguise my holding and avoid the possible ruff. Their leading style was such that the lead of the 9 showed a higher honour, so I had blown my best chance for the contract, and when I did not divine yet another Qx offside, I was 1 down.

Q2	♠ 654
Bd 2	♥ 9765
Dlr E	♦ Q
Vul NS	♣ KQ984
♠ KJ109	♠ A8
♥ Q32	♥ A10
♦ 52	♦ J87643
♣ A763	♣ J102
	♠ Q732
	♥ KJ84
	♦ AK109
	♣ 5

This hand was a classic example of everyone overbidding. Sitting East, I liked my 2 aces enough to open with 1D, and South was one of those that doubled to show the majors (I am not one). Toni redoubled to show 10+, and North showed they understood the takeout double by bidding 1H, rather than 2C. I bid 2D to show my minimum opening bid, and South bid 2H. When Toni did not double this, I thought there were diamonds opposite (never dreaming they were with South), and bid 3D. When North bid his motley suit again, I was happy to double this myself, and we took it 2 off for +500.

Board 11 clearly demonstrated what has been described in the texts as 'the power

F1	♠ K63
Bd 11	♥ 9
Dlr S	♦ AJ632
Vul None	♣ J963
♠ J94	♠ Q102
♥ A4	♥ KQJ85
♦ Q95	♦ K108
♣ AKQ105	♣ 82
	♠ A875
	♥ 107632
	♦ 74
	♣ 74

of the closed hand', as well as the need to choose your card carefully when opening up a new suit, if you are playing with a watchful partner.

I opened 1NT (15-17) as West, Toni transferred to hearts and bid 3NT, which I passed. When North led the D3, 9 tricks looked easy, so I won the lead in hand with the D9, and led a spade to dummy, expecting South to return a diamond to set up my 11th trick and give me squeeze chances for 12 tricks. However, South returned the C4, which persuaded her partner that she had a club honour, so North discarded a club on the run of the hearts and I made 11 tricks after all.

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Gympie Congress
April 20-21



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F1	♠ Q862
Bd 16	♥ KQ94
Dlr W	♦ J106
Vul EW	♣ J3
♠ AK53	♠ J10
♥ 62	♥ J5
♦ AKQ8	♦ 732
♣ 652	♣ KQ10974
	♠ 974
	♥ A10873
	♦ 954
	♣ A8

Board 16 illustrates one of the basic differences between pairs and teams. When West opens 1NT partner would probably automatically transfer to the safer 3C at teams, but at pairs, the scoring bonus for notrumps would tempt many people. On this hand the heart weakness allows NS to take at least 6 tricks in notrumps, holding the contract to +90. Toni's intuition was working fine, as she transferred my opening 1NT to clubs and we had 10 easy tricks for +130.

F2	♠ AQ9
Bd 2	♥ A2
Dlr E	♦ 1064
Vul NS	♣ AJ1087
♠ K53	♠ 1087642
♥ 9854	♥ 7
♦ Q72	♦ A983
♣ 542	♣ 96
	♠ J
	♥ KQJ1063
	♦ KJ5
	♣ KQ3

This board was against Magnus Moren and Terry Strong, who were playing a strong club system with relays. Terry opened 1H as South, and Magnus found out his strength and shape before jumping to 6NT. Toni, East, made the devastating lead of the D3; Magnus got it wrong and went 1 off. 12 tricks are easy on any lead, and the spade finesse can be taken for 13 tricks.

DID YOU KNOW?

Mobile Phones may be carried at the bridge table but it is requested that they be turned off. Should a player receive a call whilst at the table, it is highly discourteous to conduct a phone conversation at the table. Players receiving calls should excuse themselves and vacate the table for their phone discussion, which should be as brief as possible.

F2	♠ AKQ763
Bd 18	♥ A4
Dlr E	♦ 53
Vul NS	♣ K83
♠ —	♠ J109842
♥ KJ2	♥ 93
♦ QJ1098642	♦ K
♣ J6	♣ A1092
	♠ 5
	♥ Q108765
	♦ A7
	♣ Q754

On board 18 we had a most unusual auction. East passed, I opened 2H, West bid 3D, and Toni bid a forcing 3S. East now supported his partner at the 4-level with a singleton king! I suspected he was hoping to lure us in to 4S where we would receive a nasty shock. However, his 4D relieved me of the need to bid again, and Toni was able to rebid 4H, which is an easy make after the overcall. West was beguiled by her partner's raise to sacrifice in 5D, which we doubled for +300, which was a good score anyway.

F3	♠ 85
Bd 4	♥ 97643
Dlr W	♦ 9542
Vul Both	♣ J7
♠ AQJ104	♠ 762
♥ K82	♥ J
♦ A	♦ J1063
♣ AQ86	♣ 109532
	♠ K93
	♥ AQ105
	♦ KQ87
	♣ K4

This was a case of getting 2 bites at the cherry. When I opened 1S as West, North passed as did Toni, and South allowed me another chance to bid by doubling (and I venture to say that there are very few who would not balance). I redoubled to show my good hand, North bid 2H, and Toni bid 2S on the strength of her singleton. I raised to game, doubled by South (he had a lot of points, but points do not take tricks). North led a heart and after winning the HA, South tried to cut down on heart ruffs by leading a trump, enabling me to take the trump finesse twice for 11 tricks.

Lockyer Swiss One-Day Pairs

at the Laidley Cultural Centre
Sunday July 14 at 9.30 am

F3	♠ Q
Bd 26	♥ 109432
Dlr E	♦ 1098
Vul Both	♣ 9853
♠ 842	♠ A1095
♥ KQ76	♥ A5
♦ QJ53	♦ 7642
♣ 107	♣ KQ2
	♠ KJ763
	♥ J8
	♦ AK
	♣ AJ64

NS finished in a peculiar contract due to mistrust about my bidding (serves them right to doubt me). Toni, East, opened 1D, South doubled and I bid 1H, (which silenced North). Toni bid 1S, and I bid 2D, passed around to South who bid a forcing 2H! However, this only confirmed to North that I had psyched 1H, so he passed. We could not read the position, so it finished only 1 off.

The Teams

AS USUAL, I played in a team with Tony Jackman, Meta Goodman, Wynne Webber and Therese Tully, but on Thursday we added Ian Halford when a family illness called Meta back to Brisbane. We were on the 2nd floor, and finished a creditable 5th after 10 matches, missing out on the semi finals by 14 Imps, but dropped to 7th on Friday after 2 small losses.

M2	♠ Q107
Bd 15	♥ J532
Dlr S	♦ AQJ10
Vul NS	♣ 64
♠ 865	♠ A92
♥ K10876	♥ AQ9
♦ 6542	♦ K
♣ 7	♣ AKQ953
	♠ KJ43
	♥ 4
	♦ 9873
	♣ J1082

Match 2 was against the Noble team, and Therese and I played against Phil Gue and Michael Prescott. On board 15, I opened 1D as North, Gue doubled, Therese bid 1S, and Prescott bid 2H, after which Gue got carried away and bid 6H after first checking they were not missing 2 Key Cards. After the spade lead and HA, HQ and 3 clubs, I was able to ruff the 3rd club, cash the DA and exit with the HJ to claim 4 off. Unfortunately, this was only a 2 IMP pick-up, as 4H at the other table has very little chance, and was off 2.

M 2	♠ J1042		
Bd 26	♥ K108		
Dlr E	♦ A98653		
Vul Both	♣ —		
♠ KQ6		♠ A953	
♥ AQ543		♥ 762	
♦ KJ		♦ —	
♣ 876		♣ QJ9542	
	♠ 87		
	♥ J9		
	♦ Q10742		
	♣ AK103		

When you play a system where some bids have double meanings, it is wise to clarify how to show which type of hand you hold. Prescott/Gue had a difference of opinion on board 26 from match 2 that cost their side 14 IMPs. After 2 passes, Prescott opened 1C, which may have been natural (11-15), or 16+ any shape. I overcalled 1D, Therese bid 2C, to show a good raise in diamonds, and Prescott doubled to show he had the 16+ hand. However, Gue read him for 11-15 with clubs (as I would have done) so EW kept silent until we reached 5D. Gue bid 6C, which Therese was delighted to double. This was +1400 to use against the -100 at the other table for 4H down 1.

M 3	♠ QJ98		
Bd 2	♥ J864		
Dlr E	♦ 105		
Vul NS	♣ KJ4		
♠ 10753		♠ A42	
♥ AK753		♥ 9	
♦ AK		♦ Q9873	
♣ 82		♣ Q1093	
	♠ K6		
	♥ Q102		
	♦ J642		
	♣ A765		

On board 2 of match 3, Tony Jackman analysed the bidding. After 2 passes West opened 1H, and East responded 1NT passed out. He concluded that I had to have at least a 4-card spade suit, so he led the SK! This set up 3 tricks for us in spades, but more importantly, took away declarer's sure entry to his hand, and he could no longer make the contract. At the other table, our teammates made 8 tricks in 1NT.

DID YOU KNOW?

Players who have had an opponent make a Psychic Call against them are encouraged to report the details to the Director.

M 5	♠ AJ872		
Bd 4	♥ K10765		
Dlr W	♦ —		
Vul Both	♣ A72		
♠ Q1096		♠ 4	
♥ 9		♥ 832	
♦ Q7653		♦ KJ10982	
♣ Q94		♣ K103	
	♠ K53		
	♥ AQJ4		
	♦ A5		
	♣ J865		

On this board, with EW silent, I opened 1S as North, Therese bid 2C, I rebid 2H, and Therese jumped to 4H, since 3H was not 100% forcing. I passed without giving the total hand enough thought. I had 2 good suits, my partner showed 4-card support, I had the ace of my partner's first-bid suit, and I had a void in the 4th suit. All of these things should have suggested making a slam try, and since they bid the slam at the other table, we lost 13 IMPs.

■ Richard Wallis

Senior Pairs

A Walk on the Wild Side at the Gold Coast Bridge Extravaganza

THIS year I played in the Senior Pairs with Richard Morey in the beautiful Gold Coast International. Our only claim to fame was second across the field in the qualifying rounds.

I thought we did well to bid this slam.

Dlr E	♠ Q102		
Vul EW	♥ 8652		
	♦ 10		
	♣ AQ1098		
♠ J		♠ A6	
♥ AJ9743		♥ KQ10	
♦ QJ53		♦ A987642	
♣ 73		♣ J	
	♠ K987543		
	♥ —		
	♦ K		
	♣ K6542		

East opened 1D, South bid 2S (a Roman Jump showing the blacks). Looking at my hand I thought, 'Great! If they have blacks we must have the reds,' so I bid 4H. 4S by North, partner 5H, 5S from South and passed round to East who doubled. Of course, I pulled the double to 6H; passed out. North led the CA and switched to a diamond. I rose ace, dropping the K, much to South's chagrin! Contract made.

The Gold Coast Bulletin published a report of the hand which outshone performance. This was the auction.

	W	N	E	S
	Simons	Bach	Rosmarin	Del'monte
			1D	1S
2H		X	P	2S
3D		3S	4H	4S
5H		P	6H	6S
P		P	7D!	X
All pass				

'Hard not to double on this auction but when Del'Monte chose to lead a spade, Rosmarin calmly ruffed a spade, played the DQ to the ace and claimed for the usual +2330.'

Points Schmoits again. EW can make 6H on 23 HCPs and NS 5S on 17, with 6S a good save.

Richard, East, played this 6H well.

Dlr NS	♠ KJ973		
Vul S	♥ 32		
	♦ 42		
	♣ J874		
♠ Q8		♠ A106	
♥ KJ106		♥ A954	
♦ 97		♦ AKJ5	
♣ AK632		♣ 109	
	♠ 542		
	♥ Q87		
	♦ Q10863		
	♣ Q5		

He did receive a favourable diamond lead but eschewed the trump finesse. He played the AK of trumps, pitched his spade loser on a top diamond and ruffed out the clubs. A nice dummy reversal.

■ Margaret Drake

2002 Club Director Accreditation Exam

Saturday June 15

Congress Director Exam

Saturday October 26

Cuppaidge's Column



George
Cuppaidge

Delights as Dummy

PERHAPS it is a slightly peculiar quality, but one of my delights in bridge is collecting atrocities. I wonder how many other bridge people share this fetish.

Certainly masochism must be a characteristic common to us all as there tend to be far more horrors to savour at the end of a game than brilliancies.

The internet is a wonderful place to indulge this fantasy because you see all 4 hands when dummy and have the advantage over partner of always knowing that, "there was a better play, partner."

Some hands, such as this one, really don't warrant such a comment but it is a worthy inclusion in anyone's chamber of horrors.

Dir N	♠ AKQ5		
Vul None	♥ 10942		
	♦ 6		
	♣ Q762		
♠ 9876		♠ 42	
♥ AJ65		♥ 73	
♦ 82		♦ QJ10953	
♣ AK3		♣ 1094	
	♠ J103		
	♥ KQ8		
	♦ AK74		
	♣ J85		

As North I opened 1C, and heard the alarm bells ring when South bid 3NT. Anyone who can wantonly waste 3 rounds of bidding on a good hand is immediately suspect. A barren 3-3-3-4 12/13 count may justify it, but like any natural no-trump bid, it should always be a bid of last resort, an announcement that no other bid is available. South had an

entirely reasonable 1D bid. (The diamond suit, just like all the other suits, should not be mistreated; they all reward those who treat them properly.) Those high cards are not going to run away. Obviously my man fancied his card playing skills!

The opening lead was a spade. I could see that due to the extremely fortunate lie of the cards, no half reasonable play of the cards could fail. The diamond suit is isolated and the best the defence can hope to make is the CA & K and the HA & J.

I would win the spade on the board and lead a heart towards my KQ. This play will conceal the possession of SJ and is constructive at the same time. Whatever happens, I will broach the club suit at the very next opportunity, leading towards dummy's Q. Even the weakest of opponents cannot be expected to open up the suit for me.

My man ran the spade suit, exposing the diamond weakness by discarding one on the fourth round. Now a heart was led to the K and A which was followed by the inevitable diamond switch. This was won and the CJ played (ugh).

This was the position after West had taken his CK and returned a diamond, won by declarer.

	—	
	109	
	—	
	Q76	
J65	—	
—	7	
A3	—	
	QJ5	
	10	
	—	
	Q8	
	7	
	85	

A club now and West has to be alert to avoid the overtrick; best defence is to win and exit with a club. My man found the masterstroke, he threw East in with a diamond!

The next hand is more in "the operation was successful but the patient died" category.

This time my partner was a human being, John Whyte, a 15-year-old New Zealander who lives in Tonga. He was introduced to the game by Khokan Bagchi and was my partner in several rounds of the NOT.

Dir E	♠ 54		
Vul Both	♥ Q98		
	♦ KQJ8		
	♣ AKQ8		
♠ K8732		♠ Q109	
♥ 103		♥ J765	
♦ A103		♦ 742	
♣ 543		♣ J106	
	♠ AJ6		
	♥ AK42		
	♦ 965		
	♣ 972		

	W	N	E	S
	P	1D	P	1C
	P	1S ²	P	1H ¹
	P	2C	P	2D
	P	2NT	P	3NT
	All pass			

¹ Personally I think this bid is maltreatment of the club suit, if it doesn't promise clubs how do you show them? But I blame Khokan and I know a lot of people bid this way (ugh). Obviously I think the best rebid is 1NT. It is also clear that if I had responded 3NT and not 1D East would not have led a spade and 3NT would have been easy even for me.

² Fourth-suit game force

West duly led a spade and East played SQ. John considered for all of 20 milliseconds and ducked 2 rounds. I later remarked that playing a vulnerable game unless you are Tim Seres, who does everything in strict tempo, a little consideration before making a critical decision is warranted. Clearly John's analysis, albeit in lightning fast time, was that if the spades are 5-3 or 6-2, the DA is more likely to be in the hand with the shorter holding, in the ratio of approximately 10-8 or 11-7; the empty spaces principle. In due course West got in with his DA and cashed 2 spades. He could not safely have continued spades had declarer taken his SA at trick 1.

I produced the hand for discussion in the bar. The discussion continued for some time and there was no consensus. Mike Prescott's analysis was that you should win, as he did, test the club and heart suits, if they both break you have 9 tricks, if not play on diamonds. The flaw with this line is that you may now fail when the spades are 4-4. Perhaps some mathematically inclined reader can do an analysis for me.

QCBC ANZAC TEAMS

Thursday April 25

\$80 per team - 9.30 am start - Ph: 3391 3241

Big Numbers I Have (Recently) Gone For

READERS expecting an out of character *mea culpa* from me will be disappointed. No this is just another "partner's fault" article.

Hand 1 began innocently when I tried 1D on

♠Q9 ♥10 ♦AJ543 ♣A7543

Over double on my left, 1NT from partner and 4H from RHO, what now?

The opponent's appear to be in a 9 or 10-card fit, we appear to have at worst a 9-card and an 8-card fit maybe even a 9-card and a 10-card fit. 5C can't be wrong. Can it? The opponents are surely making 4H.

It was, and they mightn't. Here is the full hand.

Dir S	♠ 10864		
Vul Both	♥ Q975		
	♦ K92		
	♣ J9		
♠ AK53		♠ J72	
♥ J43		♥ AK862	
♦ 7		♦ Q1086	
♣ KQ1086		♣ 2	
	♠ Q9		
	♥ 10		
	♦ AJ543		
	♣ A7543		

What a looney, my partner no doubt thought as he quickly left the table. But who is really the culprit?

There are two bidding principles at issue here. The first, try to keep your bidding methods the same whatever the opponent's do. To alter your bidding methods according to what action the opponents take only makes an already difficult task more difficult. The second, to bypass any bid denies the ability to make that bid. In this case 1NT denies the ability to bid 1H or 1S. Like every bridge "rule" there are exceptions but bypassing any 4-card major is never one of them. Sometimes this will even keep the opponents out of their best contract, in that suit! Both principles are directed the same way, to try to make partner's job as easy as possible.

The main point about the hand however is that 1NT over 1C or 1D, whether or not the opponents double, is a total description. It describes a hand with a lot of minor suit cards.

The result was an extreme demonstration of the consequences of departure from those principles, -1700. Perhaps I didn't get the best out of the play.

The next one.

Dir W	♠ K109754		
Vul EW	♥ Q1096		
	♦ —		
	♣ KQJ		
♠ A6		♠ 83	
♥ AJ85		♥ 7	
♦ AQJ976		♦ K10843	
♣ A		♣ 109852	
	♠ QJ2		
	♥ K432		
	♦ 52		
	♣ 7643		

W	N	E	S
1D	X	3D	3H
5D	5H	P	P
X	All pass		

Your writer sat South and soon saw -1100 recorded on the scorecard for 5 down.

What a rash bid you might say, observing my 3H bid on just 6 points!

The point count is at its least effective in a competitive auction. From an offensive, playing the hand, point of view, queens, jacks and to a lesser extent kings and aces in the opponents' suits should be hugely devalued. A queen or king in a partnership suit is as useful as an ace! A queen or jack in an opponent's suit is worthless. Would you bid with 2 aces in my seat, over 3D?

The 4-4 heart fit, as against the 6-3 spade fit, combined with the 4-1 heart break and the fact that ruffs in the hand with the long side suit ensured that the spade side suit could never be enjoyed.

The real value of my SQJ and HK is demonstrated when you see that a spade contract instead of a heart contract by NS will make 10 tricks unless the defensive heart ruff is quickly diagnosed. Just a 4 trick difference! The fact that EW can make 7D is of academic interest only.

Yes, sadly it is again poor partner who must take the rap. His choice of double rather than 1S to enter the auction was ill judged. When you are bidding primarily on distribution, a long suit is a fine insurance policy. He would undoubtedly have heard a 3S bid from me, over East's 3D, and a very different result would have followed.

The whole hand is however yet another illustration of the other fine principle, "the 5 level belongs to the opponents." Who knows over 5S, EW might wake up and bid at least their small slam! Let them play 5D unless you confidently expect to make 5S and defeat 6D.

Another principle was in play here. Look at it from my partner's perspective as East.

Sitting East, holding

♠K10943 ♥102 ♦98 ♣AQ42

You open 1S, a sound minimum in our methods, hear 1NT on your left, a pre-emptive 3S from partner and 4H on your right.

They appear to have landed in the best spot; hearts are breaking and we have plenty of spades. Who knows, 4S may even push them to an indiscreet 5H. Or so thought my partner at the recent Gold Coast Congress as he bid 4S.

There is a principle, one more fundamental than any of those, "don't tell the same story twice."

The final contract was not 5H, rather 4SX. This was the hand

Dir E	♠ 6		
Vul NS	♥ A653		
	♦ A6543		
	♣ 876		
♠ 8752		♠ K10943	
♥ KQ974		♥ 102	
♦ J107		♦ 98	
♣ 9		♣ AQ42	
	♠ AQJ		
	♥ J8		
	♦ KQ2		
	♣ KJ1053		

The number was not that big, only 500, because we had a source of tricks...heart tricks.

North has a "technically" better bid than her imaginative 4H, a positive, game force double. South has an easy 3NT bid. Who can quibble with success!

My apologies to Phil Gue, my partner, who has represented Australia several times (in bridge). Surely even he could not expect me to suffer this pain in solitude. ■

Daydream Island Bridge Holiday

May 3 to 10 (7 nights).

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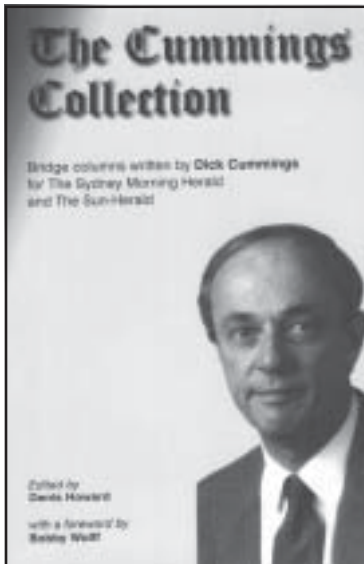
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The Cummings Collection Edited by Denis Howard

THE 'Cummings Collection' is a compilation of Dick Cummings' columns written for 'The Sydney Morning Herald' and 'The Sun-Herald'.

Dick Cummings was not only one of Australia's top players, he wrote instructive and witty articles.

Denis Howard was a close friend from university days and a team-mate for many years. He has put together a collection of Dick's articles with an introduction to each one.

Net proceeds of the book will be donated to the ABF's Youth Fund, in Dick's memory.

Here is an example.

'Pause at trick one: keep it moving later.'

This was the title of a column written for *The Sydney Morning Herald*. The need to think about the future of the contract at trick one is emphasised by many writers, and correctly so. Cummings gave this desirable activity a new twist, hoping that it would also enable the rest of the deal to be played at a reasonable pace.

West dealer: neither vulnerable; pairs

♠ AQ7
♥ Q83
♦ A832
♣ KQ10

♠ J86542
♥ 64
♦ KJ95
♣ J

W	N	E	S
1NT ¹	X ²	2C	2S
P	2NT	P	4S
All pass			

¹Weak no-trump, 12-14

²Penalty double

Opening lead: D10

As declarer in four spades, think at trick one about how you would plan the play, with the focus on the trump suit.

Dick writes:

'Taking the right view of the enemy distribution is often the key to success. It's not as hard as it may seem, provided the straightforward step has been taken to train yourself to weigh the evidence before committing to a plan.

Trick one is as good a time as any to do so, enabling declarer to develop some sort of reasonable tempo later in the play and not be reviled as an unbearable slowcoach by opponents, partners and directors.

That way, everyone has a chance to enjoy the game.

The lead is good news about the diamond position. Unless EW go to sleep, though, two hearts and a club will have to be lost, which means we can't afford a spade loser.

Any dumb cluck knows that the normal management of J-8-6-5-4-2 opposite A-Q-7 in isolation is to lead small from the South side and insert the queen if West plays small. Home James if West has the singleton or doubleton king.

The question to be asked is whether that can work in this particular case

(a) West has a balanced hand therefore no singleton to open 1NT (b) As 2C was not alerted, East should have a minimum of five cards in clubs, which leaves West with no more than four. (c) Neither opponent has five cards in hearts so the suit must be 4:4. East would have run to two hearts with five and West would have opened one heart with five. (d) West, having led the 10 without the nine, has a doubleton diamond.

Those are compelling clues to West holding three trumps. We can virtually read him for no more than ten cards in the other three suits. Normal management must be abandoned. We need a singleton 9 or 10 of trumps with East to survive.

After winning the diamond, South should lead the jack of trumps, covered by the king and ace. Later South regains the lead to pull a small trump and finesse the seven.'

		♠ AQ7	
		♥ Q83	
		♦ A832	
		♣ KQ10	
♠ K103			♠ 9
♥ AJ92			♥ K1075
♦ 107			♦ Q64
♣ A432			♣ 98765
			♠ J86542
			♥ 64
			♦ KJ95
			♣ J

'The Cummings Collection' is available from Denis Howard at 18 Shirley Rd, Roseville NSW 2069 for \$20 inc postage. Ph: 02 9416 3455

Email: dwhrh@bigpond.com

Other bridge book suppliers are expected to carry it. ■



Brisbane Bridge Centre

104 Frederick St, Annerley. Ph: 3392 7933

Play Sessions	Monday	10.00 am
	Tuesday	7.30 pm
	Wednesday	10.00 am
	Thursday	7.30 pm
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Intermediate Lessons Tuesday (alternate) 7.30 pm
Wednesday 7.30 pm

Beginners' Classes - Phone Barbara Holford on 3701 5011

**Gold Coast
Congress
2003**

February 15-22



Dalby

ON Sunday March 3, Dalby held its annual 1-day Swiss pairs directed by Alan Gibson. As always, a great day was had by nearly everybody and again, as always, there was more good food than could be eaten. I rate this competition as the best around. For only \$20 you get fed all day including lunch and you play bridge all day with friendly people. The highlight of the day was finally getting the better (just) of Ivy Dahler and her partner after having been trounced 4 or 5 times previously. This did not prevent Ivy and Enid Busch winning followed by Jim Evans with Terry O'Dempsey.

Dir E	♠ KQ9542		
Vul NS	♥ 873		
	♦ —		
	♣ A764		
♠ A106		♠ J73	
♥ AJ542		♥ Q106	
♦ AQ106		♦ K8542	
♣ 8		♣ 109	
	♠ 8		
	♥ K9		
	♦ J973		
	♣ KQJ532		

W	N	E	S
2H	3C	3H	2C*
4H	4S	P	P
5H	All pass		5C

* Weak

Ivy had trouble with this hand. The CA was led and Terry correctly read my CK as asking for a spade switch. The SK was won by Ivy who tried to get to dummy for the heart finesse with a diamond, gleefully ruffed by Terry, and the spade continuation ending Ivy's chances of making.

■ Jim Evans

DID YOU KNOW?

In cases where a Director considers persistent or lengthy use of a mobile phone is disruptive to other players or the event, he may require a phone be turned off. Directors are specifically empowered to apply procedural or disciplinary penalties for failure to observe such instruction.

Townsville Bridge Club Inc

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Tamborine Teams

WE were pleasantly surprised to find our team (John Luck-Alan Smith, Ivy Luck-Rosa Lachman) seeded second behind the Robson team (Mike Robson-Betty Lee, Tony Jackman-Joan Butts) at this Sunday swiss event.

After the first match with a 24 VIP win we landed on third placing. This was followed by 2 maximum wins which shot us to first and won us a bottle of Mount Tamborine wines each for leading in the morning session. A lovely fresh fruit and sandwich lunch was personally brought to each of the 34 tables taking part, by the gracious lady members of the mountain club. This fortified us nicely for our next crucial match against the Robson team which was playing catch up after losing their starting match.

Dir N	♠ AQ9		
Vul None	♥ K9843		
	♦ K1072		
	♣ Q		
♠ J63		♠ K75	
♥ AQ1075		♥ J6	
♦ AJ94		♦ 53	
♣ 9		♣ AJ10853	
	♠ 10842		
	♥ 2		
	♦ Q86		
	♣ K7642		

Board 1 saw a small double swing of 4IMPs to our team after Tony Jackman as North went down 2 in a 2D contract and Betty Lee as West going down 1 in 3NT.

This auspicious start was soon erased by Bd 5.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each pair must have two systemically identical system cards on the table throughout a QBA event or red masterpoint congress. Only current ABF System Cards are approved for use and they must be legible and clearly show the colour category of the system.

DID YOU KNOW?

Incorrectly downloaded or altered ABF System Cards are a breach of copyright.

Dir N	♠ QJ32		
Vul NS	♥ 742		
	♦ Q542		
	♣ J7		
♠ 10964		♠ 85	
♥ KQJ1086		♥ A9	
♦ K3		♦ 98	
♣ K		♣ A986532	
	♠ AK7		
	♥ 53		
	♦ AJ1076		
	♣ Q104		

At our table, the bidding went:

W	N	E	S
3H	P	3C	3D
	4D	4H	All pass

North led a small diamond to my DA. I then made the fatal mistake of playing the SK instead of a heart which allowed Betty to ruff 1 spade in the dummy and discard the other on the CA. Our teammates were in a modest 2C contract making 3 resulting in a 7 IMPs loss.

Dir E	♠ KJ92		
Vul EW	♥ Q754		
	♦ J8		
	♣ QJ2		
♠ 107		♠ AQ653	
♥ AJ108		♥ K6	
♦ AK52		♦ Q10	
♣ K53		♣ A1096	
	♠ 84		
	♥ 932		
	♦ 97643		
	♣ 874		

Board 6 was Johno's brillo when he made 12 tricks in 3NT by squeezing North dry.

At our table, Betty made 11 tricks in the same contract. Sitting South with my complete Yarborough, I was glad to have the hand over and done with quickly. At both tables, North led a heart to the 10. Johno then played the S10 covered by the K and A. Now he made the key play of unblocking the HK, then the DQ followed by the D10 ducked to North's DJ! North elected to play the CJ which ran to the CK. The DA and DK were played with dummy discarding 2 spades and North discarding a spade and a club! The HA was now played and the third spade discarded from dummy, followed by a small club dropping the CQ taken by the CA and the C10 and 9 emerging as winners.

Then the last match of significance, My partner bought me, South, into the challenging contract of 5NT with the S10

Dir S	♠ KQJ764		
Vul Both	♥ 109		
	♦ A106		
	♣ J8		
♠ A1098		♠ 52	
♥ J852		♥ K63	
♦ Q95		♦ 87432	
♣ 43		♣ K106	
	♠ 3		
	♥ AQ74		
	♦ KJ		
	♣ AQ9752		

led and holding. The CJ was covered by the CK and CA, and followed by small club to the C8 and C10. A small heart was returned held by the HQ to my great relief. I now ran my clubs with the opponents discarding diamonds and spades. Then the DK popping West's now bared queen. I now had my 11 tricks, so what did I do? I played the DJ and overtook it with the DA, then instead of playing the D10 and endplaying West with SQ proceeded to screw up our team by calling for the SQ. This was taken so fast by West and a heart returned for me to go down one for a massive 12 IMPs loss!

Joan Butts sitting South was in a boring 3NT making 10 tricks for the opponents - miaow!!!

Thanks to me, we lost to the Robson team 10/20 but were happy to find ourselves still 2 VIPs ahead of them despite this loss. What a (expletive deleted) game bridge is!

The next two matches saw us still 2VIPs ahead of the Robson team, with substantial winning scores for both our teams. Then the last match and – damn it!!!!!! The Robson team won by 24 VIPs and us by 22 VIPs for them to finally level with us and to share in the much coveted first prize. Well done everyone; what a silly sport bridge is and may we continue to enjoy it for ever.

■ Ivy Luck



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'Cards' for details

Warwick

THE secret is finally out - at Warwick the atmosphere is very friendly, the direction expert and the food alone is worth the entry fee. This combination attracted the record number of 29 tables to the recent 1-day Swiss Pairs. 30 tables is likely to be the limit next year.

Two Toowoomb pairs (Joyce Benson - Marlene Stanley and Ivy Dahler - Enid Busch) tied for first place with Neville Francis - Ralph Parker a fast-finishing third. Board 17 in the penultimate round (where a positive score for NS was good) saw all three scoring well.

Dlr N	♠ Q1042		
Vul None	♥ QJ98		
	♦ KJ8		
	♣ KQ		
♠ K765		♠ J3	
♥ AK43		♥ 10	
♦ AQ1094		♦ 76532	
♣ —		♣ J8754	
	♠ A98		
	♥ 7652		
	♦ —		
	♣ A109632		

Benson-Stanley scored a quiet +100 by doubling 4D; Francis-Parker had a narrow escape when their 4HX was pulled to 5D which they doubled for +300 instead of a possible -300 and Dahler-Busch actually made 4H for +420. Across the field, contracts by NS ranged from 2H making 8 to 6C down 5 for -1400.

The most interesting contract was 4H by NS, which was played in a doubled contract only once. A standard result was either 2 or 3 off, yet 2 declarers made 10 tricks. The contract has no play with East on lead, but West was frequently the one faced with the problem of choosing a lead. As East would have shown support in diamonds, it can be surmised that more than once the DA was proudly led and cruelly cut down. Now if declarer avoids touching clubs until trumps have been drawn, losers can be confined to the 2 top hearts and the SK or did West, having led the DA, later follow this up by underleading the SK? Away goes South's spade loser in the DK.

One can imagine the postmortem at the table where 4HX made 10 tricks. 'But I had 16 points and 4 trumps to the AK and a club ...'

A final word of thanks to Reg Busch and Joan McPheat who have directed their last 1-day at Warwick.

■ Neil Bonnell



Forest Place Bridge Tournament

Forest Place will be holding their sixth annual bridge tournament from 13th to 16th May 2002 at O'Driscoll Hall, Clayfield. Convenor - Tony Jackman. Cost \$12.00 per person which includes morning tea and buffet lunch. Total prize money \$600. Entry forms at clubs.

COLIN STONE TEAMS 2002

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Email: rmclauch@bigpond.net.au

Coming Events

- Mar 29-Apr 1 Cairns Easter Congress**
- 31-Apr 1 BBC Pairs & Teams**
- Apr 6-7 Qld Senior Team Trials**
- 7 Rockhampton Novice Pairs**
- 7 Coolum Pairs**
- 13-14 Qld Senior Team Trials**
- 14 Redlands Novice Teams**
- 20-21 Qld Women's Team Trials**
- 21 Gympie Pairs Congress**
- 21 Cleveland Bay Diggers Pairs**
- 25 Cleveland Bay Anzac Teams**
- 25 QCBC Anzac Teams**
- 27-28 Qld Women's Team Trials (if required)**
- May 3-6 Mackay Congress**
- 4-6 Toowoomba Congress**
- 8 Colin Stone Teams commences**
- 11 Surfers Paradise Swiss Teams**
- 11-12 Qld Women's Teams Trials**
- 18-19 Qld Open Mixed Pairs (Toowong)**
- 25-26 Caloundra Teams**
- 26 BBC Swiss Pairs**
- 26 Mackay Novice Teams**
- June 1 Eastern Suburbs Novice Pairs**

Web Development

THESE days all businesses realise the necessity to keep in communication with their customers and potential customers. This is no less important for bridge clubs.

A visit to the ABF web site or your State/Territory organisation will show from their Links page that many bridge clubs and bridge businesses have already established their web site. The list is growing rapidly.

The Surfers Paradise Bridge Club decided to have a web site and, using a professional to help design it, came online mid 2001. There are a number of pages that are designed to give members and visitors relevant information. There is also information for any members of the public interested in learning the game.

One of the web sites that we felt had led the way in bridge club web development was The Lindfield Bridge Club in Sydney. Over the years it has changed to its now very up-market presentation.

Its most impressive facility is the posting of competition results together with traveller information.

The SPBC was interested in following this latter approach and made contact with the Lindfield webmasters, Nevena and Milan Durovich.

Lindfield used a scoring program developed by Martin Wilcox but inquiry with Martin showed this was not for us.

Milan was prepared to work with us provided our scoring program was suitable. The club had moved to using Rapscore, a Windows based system developed by Robin Palmer. Robin was interested in making any necessary changes to facilitate automatic result posting on the web.

The work by both Robin and Milan was extensive over a number of months but we are now up and running. In simple terms every time a result is scored and printed for our notice board the computer saves a copy, known as a spooler file. Once every hour the computer checks to see if there are any spoolers and, if so, dials up the Internet and sends them to Milan's computer in Sydney for sorting and posting to our site.

Visitors to www.surbdge.com will see that there are pages for Single Session, Multi Session and Congress Results. The latter are currently posted manually by us as Congress Directors using their own scoring software.

If a player looks at a result they can see all NS and EW scores and MP's plus all travellers for the section. For multi competitions hand records are also available.

This facility makes scores available in the players home, probably the same day, where they can examine their results versus other players and help them improve while the hands are still fresh in their minds. Having the hand records when it is a competition completes the picture.

Any clubs using Rapscore now have the software capability to follow this approach but would need to contact both Robin and Milan to link the services together. There are costs involved that would need to be negotiated.

The contacts we used are:

Web Development: Mark Lutz,
mail@lutz.com.au

Rapscore: Robin Palmer,
rap@dodo.com.au

Milica Pty Ltd: Milan Durovich,
milan@milica.com.au

Maybe the ABF and/or the QBA can talk to Milan to consider setting up the computer facility for clubs to link their scoring systems to for a similar service for their members. One major problem to overcome for this is the wide variety of scoring programs in use. I made this observation to Milan and his response will be of interest to the technocrats among readers and our administrators:

"The key problem is the lack of standards for information interchange. A lot of information is entered into the scoring programs, but that information remains hidden and locked in them. Only a limited view of that information is available mainly through result printouts or the computer screen. Even when parts of that information are made available in disk files, they are always in a proprietary format that's of little use for anyone who would like to use it for some other purpose. Setting standards for file formats is clearly the responsibility of bridge associations at various levels. Once the standards are set, the competition opens: now you can choose whichever scoring program suits you best, and since all of them produce competition results in the same file format, there is no problem of compatibility. This would open numerous possibilities that can build on availability of information from scoring programs, like publishing results on Internet, creation of national databases with deals (+players, results, card play) from major national events, automatic feeding of these results to various hand analysis programs, etc.

One such standard I'm aware of is called PBN (Portable Bridge Notation), and it allows storing of hand records, player info and card play. GIB uses it, and I've heard of some other programs (eg. the one used

in MSN Gaming Zone) that do as well. There's another standard used in computer industry for information exchange in a wide variety of areas, like medical records, building construction, law records, etc. Its called XML, and I personally prefer it to PBN because of powerful extension possibilities. Unfortunately, I haven't seen any discussion on these topics in ABF's newsletter, or local and State information bulletins. I guess it will take some time for people to realise the benefits of it and *why* these standards would be a good thing to have. Maybe the SPBC's and Lindfield's site will serve as showcases for those benefits and move someone at 'higher' places to start thinking about it, like you have in your article".

Robin's comments on these thoughts of Milans are:

"I see what Milan is saying, but one of the problems with scoring programs is that they are generally written by bridge players who are most likely not professional programmers in the pure sense. They are usually bridge players who can program, not programmers who play bridge.

So when it comes to fancy data transfer protocols I guess most are out on a limb; I am anyway.

This problem will probably be solved by the next generation who are born with computers and will therefore have a greater knowledge of the subject. For the moment, Milan can pick up a straight ASCII file and publish it, and this will suffice.

I see the next big step not being one of transfer protocols alone, but one where players play face to face with electronic media ILO cards, and the actual play will then be recorded for playback from a net site.

I think this will be the ultimate in bridge, it eliminates the cheating (dare I say it) associated with on-line bridge, and picks up all the other associated benefits of recorded play".

■ Michael Kent

Software Review

Play the Vanderbilt Kit Woolsey

RECENTLY there have been many "over the shoulder" computer programmes released, where an expert player conducts a kind of master class, based on an actual bridge event. This was the first of this kind of product, and now in retrospect is worthy of a thorough review. The style is different from more recent offerings, in that the reader

actually clicks through every card played in an important teams match – the 1996 Vanderbilt.

There is no guidance as to what the reader should be thinking about, just as is the case in real life. However, this has both advantages and disadvantages, and definitely qualifies this product as one for the intermediate to advanced player. At key points, the author, Kit Woolsey, has inserted comments which supposedly represent what the actual player would have been thinking about at the table.

Where this programme differs significantly from others is that the reader can select one of the eight players, and see all the hands (and comments) from that viewpoint. Each hand can therefore be played eight times, each with different sets of comments. Yes, this does require patience, but repetition is, and always will be, one of the primary learning techniques.

Navigation is simple enough – simply click “close” and you can select another player, session, or hand. For ease of use, the programme always opens up to the point where the reader left off at their previous session.

To assist readers in their thought processes, very brief notes are provided on the bidding systems and carding methods of the four pairs. The inserted comments can be on any topic, from the bidding, to discarding, to declarer play.

I had mixed feelings about the product, but readers who like the maximum opportunity to think for themselves about each card played will appreciate it.

Play the Vanderbilt is available from John Hardy for \$69.30 – phone 0409-786 050

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Results

Tamborine Mt Swiss Teams 20 Jan

- 1=T Jackman J Butts
M Robson B Lee
1=J & I Luck
R Lachman A Smith
3 M Matulis J McDonald
B Schmidt B Coxon

B Section

- 1 L Berger D O'Hara
D Bickerton J Troughton
2=E & G Parsons
P Shepherd P Hille
2=G Schaaf P Barmes
S Horsfield N Page

C Section

- 1 D Dodd B Gamble
C Archer R Hartman
2=S Potheroe K McLean
D Morgan K Trotter
2=R & W Wales
K Edrich D Allom

NSBC Swiss Teams 27 Jan

- 1 I & J Luck
J & G Malinas
2 B Lee M Robson
R Parker P Hainsworth
3 R Clayton A Smith
P Collins U Ridgway

B Section

- 1 J Kavanah G Rose
M Quillinan P Darrouzet
2 S Sender L Eaves
H Hoffmann G Wetzig
3 P Arnfield D Bickerton
K & W Hooper

Toowong Swiss Pairs 3 Feb

- 1 K & D Anderson
2 T Strong G Toon
3 B Stacey T Berger

B Section

- 1 J Evans J Kreczkowski
2 G Olsen A Chaudhry
3 M & J Millar

C Section

- 1 D Watt M Wright
2 H Jackson M Dyer
3 E Barwick E Elliot

Warwick Pairs 10 Feb

- 1=E Busch I Dahler
1=M Stanley J Benson
3 R Parker N Francis

Plate

- 1 Rae Capon, Elizabeth Kane
2 Peter Gill, Betty Willson
3 Sandra McBain, Margaret Wilson

Novice

- Philip Cox, Gerald Dawson

QCBC Novice Teams 10 Feb

- 1 L Faulkner V Croft
J Moore P Schmalkuche
2 P Williams C Page
D Murray B Williams
3 H Holmes C Hutton
G Payne M Payne

Hervey Bay Swiss Teams 10 Feb

- 1 G Kellerman D Gehrke
R Davenport A Bonnick
2 F Melhuish J Sexton
M Wares S Boulter
3 G Flynn B Boyle
J Wallace E Keys

Plate

- 1 K & P Feeney
A O'Callaghan J Bolles
2 A & L Bundesen
E Robson B Hickman
3 C Palmer F Bush
A Kidd W Lawrence

Warwick 1-day Pairs 10 Feb

- 1 J Benson M Stanley
2 I Dahler E Busch
3 N Francis R Parker

Plate

- R Capon E Kane

Novice

- P Cox G Dawson

Maryborough 2-3 March

- 1 R Lorraway J Dooner
2 M & J Millar
3 B Boyle D Gehrke

Plate

- 1 V Stukoff R Webcke
2 K & P Feeney
3 A & L Bundesen

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Directors' Corner

INSTINCT drives newly hatched turtles to scurry across the sand at midnight to reach the comparative safety of the deep sea. They even arrive with thick skins.

This article has been prompted by a paragraph in the January edition concerning behaviour towards new players.

Players need to emerge from supervised play with well developed survival skills. I believe we are failing them by allowing bad habits to be practised once initial lessons are over. Our main business is to cater for players who wish to play the sport of bridge.

I have chosen twelve points which a beginner should understand. These are simplified bridge laws and no attempt has been made to cover all angles.

1. Call the Director when an infringement occurs or if you don't understand what has happened. Feel comfortable about calling the director. Directors do not punish, they restore equity. Don't be hoodwinked into allowing more experienced players to make rulings.
2. Count your cards before looking at them.
3. Circle and say "alert" when partner makes a non self-alerting bid (up to and including 3NT) that doesn't mean what it says.
4. Make the opening lead face down and wait for confirmation that it is your lead.
5. Opening leader's partner and the presumed declarer may ask questions before the opening lead is faced. Questions may also be asked at a player's turn to call or turn to play a card. It is strongly recommended that a player should only ask questions when information is needed for the purpose of deciding what to call or play at that turn.
6. Place the dummy about 10 cm in from

the edge of the table to allow room for quitted tricks and do not move the position of suits when one becomes void.

7. Do not play any card from dummy until told to do so by Declarer. This includes singletons and apparently obvious plays.
8. Declarer says, "Thank you, partner," when dummy is tabled. Pretending to be overjoyed when dummy is not what was expected is unethical. Showing dismay aids the defence.
9. The board stays in the centre of the table until play is finished.
10. Both defenders and declarer may review the auction until each plays to the first trick. With written bidding the closest we can get to observing this law is for Dummy to turn over or hide the bidding slip after third hand plays to the first trick.
11. Dummy isn't called "dummy" for nothing. Dummy does not comment on play, question defenders, make claims or be first to draw attention to infringements before play is over.
12. Leave moaning, groaning, wriggling and squirming to championship wrestlers.

The award for the 2002 Most Frequent Director Ruling at the Gold Coast Congress goes to Faced Opening Lead Out of Turn.

I can understand insufficient bids and revokes increasing with tiredness but, putting the opening lead face down should be automatic. The defence is often harmed by giving Declarer so many extra options that I am surprised at such carelessness. The burden on partner to ignore information on card holdings gained from seeing an unaccepted lead is also damaging.

■ Jan Peach

Queensland Teams Selection Trials

Senior: April 6/7 & 13/14

Women: April 20/21, April 27/28 & May 11/12

Entry forms from the QBA website or
Kim Ellaway on 3855 3331

John Hardy

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D E A D

MAY 13 (noon)

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L I N E