



THE QBA BULLETIN

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3

Queensland Open Team Trials



Kamal Sanmugarasa

AFTER three hard days of competition, and going into the final match of the trials, the top five partnerships were all in with a chance to qualify. The atmosphere was tense, as even the leaders at that stage could be eliminated. Our progress throughout the trials was made tough by slams bid on our tables (some of them grand slams). While giving credit to our opponents for bidding those slams, we suffered in silence as the rest of the field failed to reach slam on those boards.

(West) the bidding went 2H (hearts+a minor) - 6C (pass or correct) - 6D - 7D, making me wonder, 'Why do we have to go around in circles to bid a grand slam, when such easy routes are available.'

The spade lead was won in dummy with the ace, and the DA pulled the lonely king. On trick 3, declarer got back to hand with a diamond and ruffed a heart in dummy. The process was repeated once more. The crucial cards in hearts (K, J) did not appear, so declarer now had 2 lines of play to discard the spade loser: (1) hope for the club finesse to work or (2) play for hearts to break 4-4. I do not know which one is the better percentage play. Jimmy picked the second line of play choosing to ruff another heart, and was relieved to find the hearts break.

Mike and Betty (NS) also bid a grand slam on our table on the following board.

Playing Precision, they used up all the squares on the bidding slip en route to their grand slam which was lay down. Hmm! Another 14 IMPs down, so I decided to push my luck against them on the following board.

Dir W	♠ KJ742
Vul NS	♥ KJ42
	♦ K
	♣ 654
♠ 85	♠ A109
♥ AQ1073	♥ —
♦ Q10876	♦ AJ95432
♣ J	♣ AQ3
	♠ Q63
	♥ 9865
	♦ —
	♣ K109872

Jim Wallis and Ziggy Konig bid one of those grand slams. Starting with Jim

Dir E	♠ QJ7
Vul NS	♥ KJ7
	♦ KJ764
	♣ Q2
♠ A8642	♠ K10953
♥ 96	♥ 10854
♦ 532	♦ —
♣ 1087	♣ J654
	♠ —
	♥ AQ32
	♦ AQ1098
	♣ AK93

Dir W	♠ AQ6
Vul NS	♥ 10865
	♦ K9832
	♣ 3
♠ K10753	♠ J
♥ AJ97	♥ 2
♦ AQ7	♦ 104
♣ 4	♣ AKQJ108762
	♠ 9842
	♥ KQ43
	♦ J65
	♣ 95

W	N	E	S
1S	P	2C	P
2H	P	3D ¹	P
3NT	P	4C	P
4S ²	P	6C	All pass

¹ 4th suit forcing
² 2 aces

I made up my mind to bid slam, as soon as my partner opened 1S. However I went through the formalities of checking controls and finished on 6C.

The HK was led and the prospects looked bright. My hopes rested on (1) locating the spade honor, (2) the diamond finesse or (3) a squeeze on South.

I ran all my clubs, except one, and then tried the SJ. Mike showed up with the A & Q. I ruffed the spade return and tried the diamond finesse as my last resort. But my luck was such that the DK was offside as well.

You would have noticed that had I played my last club, then North would have had to discard his SQ. I could then throw him in with the SA, and force a diamond into dummy's AQ. All I needed was a crystal ball!

Talking of slams, Magnus and Neville also made 13 tricks on our table.

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Dlr E	♠ AKJ984		
Vul NS	♥ 9		
	♦ QJ73		
	♣ 92		
♠ Q53		♠ 62	
♥ AQ843		♥ J10652	
♦ A109		♦ K862	
♣ J8		♣ 73	
	♠ 107		
	♥ K7		
	♦ 54		
	♣ AKQ10654		

W	N	E	S
2H	2S	3NT	All pass

On this board my partner bid 2H (intermediate overcall) over the 1C bid by South. When North bid 2S, I bid 3NT! I noticed a few eyebrows being lifted on my left and right, but 3NT was passed out.

Our opponents quickly claimed their 13 tricks in the black suits, and all of us enjoyed this light moment. Reg Busch (Director) was also in hand to witness one of those rare occasions in bridge when you enter "3NT" in the "Contract" column and "0" in the "Tricks made" column.

Opponents can make 4S, a vulnerable game, so I was happy with - 450 on that board. However news about this spread to the Gold Coast and a bunch of sweethearts have branded me a "Loony" for being in 3NT and not being able to win even a single trick. Well all I can say is: Don't try this yourself - Leave the stunts to the stuntmen.

■ Kamal Sanmugarasa

Going to the Gold Coast next year?

The Gold Coast Booking Centre manages 15 properties. The properties in Surfers are

Moroccan Crown Towers
Chevron Renaissance
Imperial Surf
St Tropez
Aloha
Enderley Gardens
Equinox

Website www.gcbc.com.au
 Phone 1300 553 800 and this is a local call cost.

25 Years Ago

Mackay Congress 1980

THE difference between success and disaster in short team's matches is the ability to recognise the evil hands which are ideally set up for gruesome penalty doubles. Such hands have a kind of inevitable beauty about them, particularly when the defence is quite merciless.

Dlr S	♠ KQJ982		
Vul None	♥ J43		
	♦ 10982		
	♣ —		
♠ 4		♠ A1053	
♥ A1052		♥ K86	
♦ AKQ6		♦ J753	
♣ Q532		♣ 76	
	♠ 76		
	♥ Q97		
	♦ 4		
	♣ AKJ10984		

Joyce Moffat of Mackay, probably failed to appreciate the elegant defence when she and Rene Hobbs met this macabre little deal in the teams final at Mackay.

At the other table Margaret Ward had found an offbeat pass as South, thus postponing the decision on how high to pre-empt until the next round. East-West then bought the contract at 3D making 9 tricks.

Joyce made the more normal opening of 3C (a bit timid - many would open 4C) doubled for penalties by West, removed to 3S by North (a better contract) doubled by East, then back to 4C by South ('whoops' from South, 'whoopie' from West) and doubled again.

Barry Kempthorne began with top diamonds, came in later with the CQ to lead the singleton spade for a ruff (thus killing dummy's spades) and continued diamonds. Declarer finally had to open up the hearts from her hand and West had no difficulty establishing partner's 8 by simply covering the queen and 9 when they were led in that order and returning diamonds - down 4.

■ Richard Ward

Arana CBC

Swiss Pairs & Teams

June 4 & 5

Phone 3851 0299

or 3263 9024

email entries to:

rmclauch@bigpond.net.au

Sunshine Coast June Congress

Swiss Pairs & Teams

18-19 June

Contact Robyn Feuerherdt

Ph: 5452 6972

NSBC

4 FREE BRIDGE LESSONS

for students aged 10 to 16

Thu 23 & 30 June

Fri 24 & 1 July

(during School holidays)

All sessions 1.30 - 3.30 pm
 at 116 Gerler Road, Hendra

Contact: Diana 3378 4999

Gary 3353 4817

DID YOU KNOW?

When the face of two or more cards from the one hand become visible to partner during the auction, the cards remain on the table for the rest of the auction. Partner must pass at his next turn to call. All such cards become major penalty cards should their owner become a defender.

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OZ Bridge Travel presents a Winter Bridge Getaway

'Hyatt Regency' Coolom from \$972.00 - July 30-Aug 4

Accommodation

One bedroom Studio Suites for singles or couples (king or twin-bedded). The suites have a living and dining area, spacious bathroom and individual balconies. All suites are air-conditioned, with mini-bar, tv & private safe.

Included in your price: Twin share accom in a luxury suite, welcome dinner and departure dinner, coffee/tea daily, clinics, comprehensive bridge program, hand records, breakfast daily, prizes and awards for everyone.

BRIDGE PACKAGE ONLY = \$380.00 (includes 5 days lessons games and coffees, plus two dinners)

Bridge Program

1. Morning Clinics for both experienced and improving players.
2. Afternoon and evening Duplicates or team games.
3. Red Points, championship games.
4. Supervised sessions for improving players.
5. Partnership desk: Partner guaranteed!

Everyone, regardless of level of experience is taken care of. This we promise.

Bridge Queries: Joan 0413 772 650 / 07 3254 4795 Administrative: Judy 03 9699 4683
brownbridge@ozemail.com.au

www.ozbridgetravel.com



Joan Butts

Ph: 0413 772 650/3254 4795

Email: joaneb@uq.net.au

Web: www.uq.net.au/cards

Games: *Palma Rosa, Hamilton & Brisbane Polo Club*

Timetable

Mondays	9.30am	Help With Play	Polo Club
		<i>(Supervised Duplicate)</i>	
Tuesdays	10.00am	Duplicate	Palma Rosa
Wednesdays	9.30am	Lessons & Help With Play	Polo Club
	1.00pm	Help with Play & Duplicate	Palma Rosa
Fridays	10.00am	Duplicate	Palma Rosa
Table fees: \$9.00 for members, \$10.00 for non members.			

Special Events

Lesson, Lunch & Bridge, Belvedere Hotel, Woody Point

Thursday 16th June - 10.30 Lesson,
12.00 Lunch, 12.30 Game

Lesson: Winning Competitive Bidding Strategy. Improve your Results using the Law

\$39.50 per head all inclusive, that's a glass of wine as well (See flyer and entry form on website: www.uq.net.au/cards)



Beginners Lessons Polo Club

6 x 2 hour lessons to commence either

Mondays 6.00pm (6th June)

OR Wednesday 9.30 (8 June)

\$79.00 + book = \$20.00

Bridge Weekends

Happy Valley Stanthorpe

Friday June 3rd - Sunday June 5th

Byron at Byron Resort - October



Monthly Lesson Brisbane Bridge Centre Annerley

Sat 2nd July 11.30 (Partnership Defence)
before the game and then Sat 6th August
\$6.00 per head



Workshop: QCBC Woolloongabba

Sunday 26th June 10.00 - 12.00

Winning Conventions

All About *Lebensohl* and *New Minor Forcing*

Cuppaidge's Column



George Cuppaidge

Count signals, Hi-lo

As a partnership, you will never really defend until you adopt count signals exclusively. By this, I mean that whether you are leading, signaling or discarding you play your lowest card to indicate an odd number and any other card to show even. I call the method simply "hi-lo."

Present count applies; although when parity is known, the opportunity to give suit preference arises. In other words, if you have led or won with, say, an ace, partner does not know your parity (odd or even number); by giving present count at your next opportunity, you clarify. There is a little discretion with an even number to lead a high card, not a low card, with a bad suit. The two, or the deuce if you will, attains a new exalted role. It is the one card that no declarer in the world can confuse with crafty false carding. It shows an odd number no matter what. After you have played this card, let your head go and give suit preference.

Other styles, attitude, low encouraging, odd-even, udca, revolving, lavintal, mckenney etc. all lack one vital ingredient, certainty. And please spare me from reverse count wherein you are obliged to block your doubletons! Someone told me she plays primarily attitude, then count and finally suit preference, all with the same card! Goodluck to her, and I know she is not alone in her optimism. All schemes have their moments but in the really critical situations, cashing out and tempo, it is their ambiguity that brings them undone. It is all very well to say, as their exponents will, that this was an obvious this or an obvious that. If a card played can simultaneously mean more than one thing, misunderstandings or misinterpretations will inevitably arise.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the hi-lo method is the first discard, this is a count card in a suit that the discarder does not want led. Not only is this wonderfully clear, effective and simple but it also means that a potential winner need never be discarded and there is always a meaningful card to play. There is never a need for that accompanying grimace or to take a really long time to play (only

joking) when there is simply no card in your hand that meets the criteria of some of the more "sophisticated" styles. Exponents of these styles live in constant fear of throwing a high card or a low card or an odd card or an even card because it will carry some unwanted encoded message. Even playing "standard" signalling, you cannot afford to show an even number in a suit that you don't want led, in case it is read as a come on signal. When the message is simply, "I don't want this suit thanks partner," these problems do not arise.

In the first hand, below, I was the lucky recipient of a defensive foul-up. It demonstrates the difficulty players without clear-cut methods can get into.

♠ J1054	♠ AKQ6
♥ A102	♥ Q53
♦ 754	♦ K
♣ 1095	♣ QJ874
♠ 9872	♠ 3
♥ J98764	♥ K
♦ J2	♦ AQ109863
♣ 6	♣ AK32

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

*Not me, I cannot claim the glory (?) for this bid

West led the C6 which ran to my ace. The ace and queen of diamonds drew trumps, the HK was unblocked and dummy entered with the D7 for a spade discard on the HA. I re-entered hand by ruffing a heart (definitely not a spade, clearing up the position in that suit for the defenders) and ran trumps. This was the position as the penultimate trump was played.

J 10 5 4	
—	
—	
10	
9 8 7	A K
J 9	—
—	—
—	Q J 8
—	—
—	—
8 6	
K 3 2	

Clearly East must discard a spade, but with no help whatsoever from the discards, he threw a club. Now the CK and another club established declarer's twelfth trick.

Immediately West becomes aware that his spade holding has no bearing on declarer's outcome he should start discarding from the S9 down. To be very pedantic, in the order 9-2-8-7, each card giving present count. In hi-lo this simply shows an even number. By the time it becomes critical East will know to jettison a high spade.

Playing again on BBO this time with Bill Hunt (alias "blunt") reliance upon hi-lo led to a spectacularly successful defence.

Dir W	♠ AK10
Vul None	♥ 1086
	♦ 432
	♣ A975
♠ J85432	♠ 97
♥ Q73	♥ AK42
♦ QJ	♦ A8
♣ J3	♣ Q10842
	♠ Q6
	♥ J95
	♦ K109765
	♣ K6

In third seat, I opened the East cards with a tactical 1H, planning to pass anything, except possibly 2C, from partner. Bill raised to 2H, North doubled and South's 3D was passed out. Bill led the H3.

Holding the H2 myself, I noted South's HJ with indifference. This was not a singleton, it was a false card from three. No one, especially Bill, would pass out 3D, holding 5-card heart support and the lowest card denied, emphatically, an even number. All a high heart continuation could do was, possibly, set up declarer's queen. Declarer's exact length in a suit is very powerful knowledge. If Bill's H3 could be from a 4-card suit, declarer may hold QJ doubleton. My spade doubleton and trump ace meant that hearts could wait. I switched to the C2.

Declarer, no doubt feeling delighted that her false card had worked, took the trick in hand and played off three top spades. I ruffed the third one low. Declarer over-ruffed and crossed to dummy's CA to play a trump. Winning, perforce, with the DA I played another club, ruffed and over ruffed. Two further heart tricks took the contract one down.

Certainly declarer could have pitched a heart at this stage, had she suspected that I held a five-card club suit but it will do her no good, Bill pitches hearts too. As well, the contract can be defeated, early, if I return a low heart at trick two, win the third round and play a fourth. But there are many layouts where this is wrong; it is important to clear up the position in the club suit first. ■

Senior Team Trials



Richard Wallis

A MODEST total of 11 pairs contested the trials to select the Queensland Seniors team for the ANC in Sydney in July, and after 4 see-sawing days, the 2005 team is Tony Jackman/Richard Wallis, Kerry Wood/Charlie Howard and Jenny Han/Richard Morey with Ian Afflick as our npc.

Each pair have good and bad hands to remember from the event, and there were a few of those so-called 'seniors' moments'.

The first board of our first match was a small pick-up to us, but the second was a systemic disaster.

realized later that he should have covered both bases by cue-bidding one of his kings (also confirming the minor suit aces), and then my 6H would have been self-evident. I passed 6S hoping for better spades, and fearing 6NT could be a bigger disaster. However, 6NT goes down 1 less and I could have saved 1 IMP. Two down led to a 14 IMP loss.

he had Kxx in hearts he would have made a courtesy raise over East's pass, I continued hearts. My 2 entries were now enough for 2 heart ruffs, and with dummy devoid of entries, I also made 2 spade tricks for 2 off.

M 2	♠ AJ10
Bd 4	♥ A9652
Dlr W	♦ K72
Vul Both	♣ 52
♠ KQ7	♠ 984
♥ K84	♥ QJ73
♦ 3	♦ Q1098
♣ AKQ1087	♣ 63
	♠ 6532
	♥ 10
	♦ AJ654
	♣ J94

M 2	♠ K986542
Bd 8	♥ —
Dlr W	♦ AK74
Vul None	♣ J4
♠ 107	♠ A3
♥ K1084	♥ A65
♦ Q1086	♦ J95
♣ A76	♣ Q8532
	♠ QJ
	♥ QJ9732
	♦ 32
	♣ K109

W	N	E	S
P	4S	All pass	

I did not know who could make what, but with my heart void, it was possible that EW could make a heart game, so when West passed as dealer, I bid 4S which was passed out.

There is a good case for East to lead the SA to look at dummy before deciding on the best defence. A spade continuation would have looked very promising and led to defeat, as long as West ducks the first club. However, East did not even try to cash the HA for a look at dummy, and made the risky lead of the C3, and now 4S was cold, as even a spade back still leads to 10 tricks.

On the diamond return I was able to win, take the club finesse to discard one diamond, ruff the other diamond, and exit with a spade, making 11 tricks when the S10 came down.

Eleven tricks were made at 4 of the 5 tables, with the other table making 10 tricks, so no East found the best defence; but 2 Norths only opened 3S and played there, so we gained 4 IMPs.

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

This board was a lucky one for us when EW stopped in 3C and I stumbled on the defence to take it 2 off for +200 and 7 IMPs.

3NT is easy to defeat by a diamond switch, and Deep Finesse suggests that EW can only make 7 tricks in clubs or hearts! 1NT also makes, as declarer has 6 clubs and at least one in a major, or diamonds depending on the opening lead.

The 1C opening was Precision and the 2NT by East (after his pass over 1H denied 6-8) showed some interest in game, but West declined, probably due to his lack of diamond control and the knowledge that East's very limited hand could not cover both hearts and diamonds. However, if I had the DJ, 3NT would have been cold.


I led the HA and the HT by Tony was not encouraging, but since I thought that if

M 2	♠ AKJ
Bd 2	♥ AQJ9
Dlr E	♦ J1086
Vul NS	♣ 83
♠ Q983	♠ 105
♥ 5	♥ 8743
♦ KQ42	♦ 975
♣ J975	♣ Q1064
	♠ 7642
	♥ K1062
	♦ A3
	♣ AK2

W	N	E	S
P	2C	P	1NT
P	3S	P	2H
P	5H	P	4S
All pass			6S

1NT was 13-15 and 2C was Stayman, with the 2H response not denying 4 spades. Here the systemic problem came in, as if the response to 2C was 2D, denying a major, then the 3S rebid shows 5 spades and 4 hearts and is forcing. This is what Tony thought when I jumped to 3S, and my 5H just looked like a cue-bid. Since he had both minor aces, he simply bid the slam in spades.

However, since we had found a major fit, 3S was a cue-bid agreeing hearts, and we should have been able to get to the cold 6H, which makes via the spade finesse and a dummy reversal if West is clever enough not to lead the DK. Tony



Brisbane Bridge Centre

104 Frederick St, Annerley. Ph: 3392 7933

Play Sessions	Tuesday	9.30 am 7.30 pm
	Wednesday	10.00 am
	Thursday	7.30 pm
	Saturday	1.00 pm

Coaching Sessions & Monday 10.00 am
Beginners' Classes Tuesday 7.30 pm

Enquiries for coaching & beginners' classes: 3371 2383

When playing artificial systems, it is imperative that partnerships work out their bidding in contested auctions.

M 2	♠ 876	♠ AK10432
Bd 20	♥ K	♥ 9
Dlr W	♦ A63	♦ KQ1094
Vul Both	♣ AKQ952	♣ 7
♠ QJ5		
♥ AJ8654		
♦ —		
♣ J1043		
	♠ 9	
	♥ Q10732	
	♦ J8752	
	♣ 86	

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

West opened with a Multi 2D, and if I had passed, East could inquire with 2NT and then bid a natural and forcing 3S or punt on 4S. However, since I had the most HCPs I did interfere, and now West interpreted the 3S bid by East as correctable (as would I), and East assumed a misfit when West bid 4H. Tony may have thought that it was his birthday, but could tell from his spade holding and my club overcall that EW were likely to have a better fit in spades. He therefore did not venture a double, and the misfitting contract went 4 of for +400 and 12 IMPs to us.

At the other tables, one other pair only

made 9 tricks in a major, but which one is not obvious as hearts figure to play badly and spades figure to play too well.

M 3	♠ KJ953	♠ 82
Bd 6	♥ QJ97	♥ 10654
Dlr E	♦ AQ10	♦ 852
Vul EW	♣ J	♣ Q1095
♠ A74		
♥ —		
♦ KJ3		
♣ AK87643		
	♠ Q106	
	♥ AK832	
	♦ 9764	
	♣ 2	

W	N	E	S
		P	P
5C	All pass		

After 2 passes, West put it to me with a bold 5C opening bid, and I was caught napping. While a double had some risk opposite a passed partner, the vulnerability and shape were very much in its favour and action is warranted. Of course Tony had no reason to act when 5C came back to him, and we missed our cold game.

During the play I gladly cashed the setting trick when Tony led a diamond for me after winning the SQ, so we did not even get our full +200, and +100 was 6 IMPs away instead of -4 IMPs for +200. A double, if left in, could have netted +500, for a 4 IMP gain.

M 4	♠ 32	♠ Q6
Bd 16	♥ AK94	♥ 10862
Dlr W	♦ 9	♦ Q7432
Vul EW	♣ 1086542	♣ AQ
♠ A75		
♥ 73		
♦ AKJ85		
♣ J73		
	♠ KJ10984	
	♥ QJ5	
	♦ 106	
	♣ K9	

W	N	E	S
1D	P	1H	1S
2D	P	3D	P
P	3S	4D	All pass

This was a part-score battle that was won by the side with fewest HCPs, but better distribution.

I was North when East bid my best suit and Tony bid my second-worst suit so I was not inclined to enter the bidding on the first round. However, when 3D came around to me in the pass-out seat, I thought that my singleton diamond was worth a 3S bid and East finished the bidding with 4D.

In a pairs event I would have been inclined to double 4D, but not in teams scoring, so we had to be content with only +100 when 4D went the obvious 1 off, and 2 IMPs.

3S was cold, although no NS played there, the top score being 300 to NS, possibly from 3NT failing.

Coming Events

June 4-5	Arana Pairs & Teams
10-13	QBA Barrier Reef Congress - Townsville
12-13	QCBC Pairs & Teams
18-19	Toowong Swiss Pairs (Restricted Section)
	Sunshine Coast Teams & Swiss Pairs
25-26	Gold Coast Swiss Teams
	Bowen Pairs
26	BBC Novice Pairs
July	Colin Stone Teams Final - Dates tba
3	QBA Graded Pairs (QCBC)
9	Mackay Pairs
10	Lockyer Pairs
	Caloundra Novice Pairs
16-17	Bundaberg Pairs
17	Ipswich Novice Pairs
	Broadwater Swiss Teams
22-23	Cairns Pairs & Teams
23-Aug 6	ANC in Sydney
30	Mackay Novice Pairs
30-31	Moreton Bribe Pairs & Teams
31	Toowoomba Swiss Pairs
	Northern Suburbs Novice Teams

Barrier Reef Gold Point Congress 2005

June 10 - 13

Swiss Teams and Walk-In Pairs

to be held at Townsville
Entertainment Centre

Accommodation:

www.divecruisetravel.com

DID YOU KNOW?

If declarer indicates a play without designating either a suit or rank (as by saying "play anything", or words of like import) either defender may designate the play from dummy.

Bidding is at least 75% of the game of bridge.

Edwin Kantar

Misfits are generally a good reason for stopping low, but if there is any close game to be made without a good suit, it is often in notrumps.

M 4	♠ QJ974		
Bd 1	♥ KJ1054		
Dir N	♦ —		
Vul None	♣ J87		
♠ A52		♠ K863	
♥ —		♥ AQ972	
♦ QJ1072		♦ 654	
♣ AKQ64		♣ 5	
	♠ 10		
	♥ 863		
	♦ AK983		
	♣ 10932		

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

¹ Precision

² Majors

Tony (South) led a club, which declarer won on the table to lead the DQ, and Tony was in again. This time he led the ST, which was allowed to hold the trick, and he exited with the D9, but a short time later he was back on lead with the CT. In the end declarer was able to cash 4 clubs and 2 diamonds, which along with the diamond led by Tony, squeezed me in the majors suits for 10 tricks and -430, 5 IMPs away.

Finesses lose half the time. Don't take every one that you see.

Marty Bergen

This board had great potential, but my hand lacked aces.

M 4	♠ Q		
Bd 7	♥ Q		
Dir S	♦ KQ74		
Vul Both	♣ KQ108652		
♠ AJ1097532		♠ K64	
♥ 9		♥ J8642	
♦ J98		♦ A105	
♣ 3		♣ 97	
	♠ 8		
	♥ AK10753		
	♦ 632		
	♣ AJ4		

W	N	E	S
			1H
2S	3C	3S	4H
4S	5C	P	P
5S	P	P	X
All pass			

West did not apply any pressure with the wishy-washy bid of 2S, and I was able to bid a comfortable 3C on the first round. When it was next my turn to bid it was clear to bid 5C, but when West bid again when this bid was passed around to him, I had other expectations. I could envisage a slam if Tony held some club support, and 3 Aces, so I made what I considered to be a forcing pass to get his opinion. He also thought it was close to slam, but was happy to take the money with only 2 Aces, and we did not have to try hard to take it 1 off for +200 and a flat board.

I led the HQ which held, and then the CK, which also held. If Tony overtakes the CK and leads a heart, declarer has to ruff with the SA to avoid 2 off.

One EW played in 3SX for an overtrick, possibly another who keeps the bidding low with an 8-card suit?

M 4	♠ AKJ8		
Bd 10	♥ AK986		
Dir E	♦ K942		
Vul Both	♣ —		
♠ 1073		♠ 654	
♥ J5		♥ 743	
♦ QJ1086		♦ 3	
♣ AJ2		♣ 1098643	
	♠ Q92		
	♥ Q102		
	♦ A75		
	♣ KQ75		

W	N	E	S
		P	1NT
P	2C	P	2D
X	3H	P	4H
P	6H	All pass	

This board was a companion to board 2 of match 2, in that since Tony had denied a major with his 2D response to Stayman, my jump to 3H was game forcing and showed 4 spades and 5 hearts.

Since Blackwood was no good to me with the club void, I simply took a shot at what was likely to be a reasonable contract after Tony showed some support. The double of the 2D response was a little disconcerting, as it could have heralded an adverse ruff, but Tony had 13-15 with most of it in the minors, so slam seemed to have some play.

I won the diamond lead in hand with the DK, cashed the HA (unblocking the HT in case West had Jxxx) and drew trumps. It was then a simple matter to enter dummy with the SQ to lead the CK for a loser-on-loser play and score up the slam. Instead I ruffed the CA and lost a diamond at the end.

Only one other pair bid slam, so we gained 10 IMPs.

Continued on page 13 of the web version

QCBC

67 Ipswich Rd Woolloongabba

Ph: 3391 3241 Email: qcbc@powerup.com.au

Sessions: Mon 10.30 am 7.30 pm
 Tue 10.00 am 7.30 pm
 Wed 10.30 am 7.30 pm
 Thur 10.30 am *For evening times see below
 Fri 10.00 am 7.30 pm
 Sat 1.00 pm
 Sun 1.00 pm

Supervised: Mon 7.30 pm
 Wed 10.00 am
 Fri 9.30 am
 *2nd & 4th Thursday 6.00 pm - Coaching
 *3rd Thursday 7.30 pm - Teams

Please note that Friday nights have resumed
 Enquiries to Toni Bardon - 3391 3241

December 18

Keep this date
 free for the
 QBA Individual

Entry forms out later in
 the year

Venue: QCBC

Enquiries to the manager

Club News

If you want items about your club in this section, please send your newsletter or items to Kim Ellaway.

Gold Coast

Graham Boyden Fill lawyers are the new sponsors of the club

QCBC

The Metropolitan Teams winners were Marion Cooke, Margaret Millar, Greer Tucker, Kaoru Anderson with some assistance from the manager, Kim Ellaway.

48 tables attended the Anzac Teams where a memorabilia of Anzacs could be found. Anzac biscuits, Vegemite sandwiches and lamingtons were on the menu.

Cairns

Congratulations on receiving a grant from the Reef Casino Community Trust for \$4478 to pay for new bridge tables and plastic card holders.

BAWA (West Australia)

Bidding boxes to be used in all state red and gold point events.

News from the Manager's Desk

22 affiliated and several non-affiliated clubs participated in the Prince of Charles Alzheimers Charity day.

\$650 was raised for the Youth World Bridge Event.

Larry Moses retired from the Management Committee - all other positions remain the same. Charles Page is to take over Marketing and Teaching portfolio.

Cheryl Simpson retired from Marketing Officer - position not filled as yet.

**QBA Club Director
Accreditation Exam
Saturday 25th June**

**QBA
Website**

www.qldbridge.com

**All the latest information from
the bridge world**



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February 18-25

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Teacher's Corner



Joan Butts

BY this stage of the year, club teachers have mainly finished with their first groups of "newies". You should have an enthusiastic, relatively unscathed bunch of players ready to take on the world, not yet wearied by failing in doubled contracts, watching good slams go down on bad breaks, or having opponents regularly appear to "get lucky". Ah..... what a great game bridge is.

One of the things I tell new players is that they will never ever get bored with bridge; frustrated maybe, furious definitely, triumphant occasionally, but bored? Never.

The period after beginners' lessons is crucial for cementing a player's love of, or fear for, the game. This is the hill that some won't climb, but whether they make it or not is dependent on the quality of support and care they receive, and how their supervisor relates to them.

Good 'Help with Play' sessions mean more members and happier bridge players. If the supervisor is really trying to make pupils enjoy bridge, and focuses on giving them a pleasant day rather than

teaching new things, then they've succeeded. It is wrong to add new bidding theory, and telling them via Stayman and Blackwood and Game Forces, that 2C really doesn't mean they've got clubs, is ridiculous. There's time for that later.

Beginners classes cover so much theory that reinforcing those concepts alone via practice is the way to go at first. If students want more (rare), then cover basic play techniques. You might be surprised at how slowly these need to be explained to them. I have material for these sessions, so please contact me if you'd like it.

In visiting various clubs this year to give beginner and intermediate lessons, I've noticed a real enthusiasm among supervisors to look after new players. At places like Redcliffe, Redlands and the Brisbane Bridge Centre, there are strong 'Help with Play' programmes in place. Member numbers are growing. Think about having a Teams of Three day or evening to introduce new players to regular members. The way it works is as follows: one of your club's regular players becomes the "captain/expert", and three novices make up the rest of the team. Play 3 x 8 board matches with the "expert" playing with a different novice each round. There should be friendly discussion (mainly encouragement) at the end of each round, but the real reason for the event is social. ■

DID YOU KNOW?

Dummy may try to prevent any irregularity by declarer.

QBA BEGINNERS TEACHING KIT

- **Student text** "PLAY BRIDGE: a Workbook for the Absolute Beginner" by Joan Butts – modern approach – starts with Mini bridge – 15-17 1NT, 5 card majors, emphasis on play. (\$19.95)
- **Teachers' Manual** chapter -by-chapter guide to effective teaching methods, student-centred approach, plus hand records, and disc for dealing machines. (\$14.95)
- **Summary of the Basics** for students at the table. "A Guide by Your Side" by Joan Butts & Kathy Johnson, covers basic bidding and card play tips. (\$9.95)
- **"Help with Play"** – 32 hands with analysis prepared for supervised sessions after the beginners' course (\$14.95)

Up to 50% discount teachers and bridge clubs. Free copies of "Play Bridge" for school students. Buy all four items in the kit (valued at \$59.80) for SPECIAL price of \$45.00

Order through Joan Butts. Tel: **07 3357 4824**. Mobile: **0413 772 650**

Email: joaneb@uq.net.au Website: www.uq.net.au/cards

Results

Sunshine Coast Graded Pairs March 20

A Grade

- 1 S Mabin J Malinas
- 2 D Croft R Morawiecki
- 3 P Gosney A Pryde

B Grade

- 1 A Finney E Sisson
- 2 M O'Donohue P Thompson
- 3 I Dawes S Regan

BBC Easter Congress March 27-28

Pairs

Open

- 1 P Gosney A Hung
- 2 B Carroll G McCarthy
- 3 J & M Millar

Plate

- 1 M Hobbs B Ryan
- 2 E Meldrum J Williams
- 3 K Moschner S Sender

Novice

- 1 T Newnham D Rogers
- 2 J & M Smith
- 3 B Holmes Joan Mills

Teams

- 1 B Hunt N Francis
R Lachman P Rankin
- 2 A Pryde K McDonald
C Green J Mills
- 3 D Appleton J Leung
M Pemberton J Solomon

Plate

- 1 W Webber B Thornley
F McLennan S Johnson
- 2 L Moses S Moses
T O'Dempsey B MacLeod

Novice

- 1 G Roberts K Dean
J Swanson G Yates
- 2 M Munro H Giesen
J Wilson R Curtin

Redlands Novice Teams April 10

- 1 T Duffy P Evans
G Macionis A Guminski
- 2 W Stuthe M Graham
G Taylor R Lynch
- 3 L Kwok A Chan
D Manwaring R Maple

State Women's Team

- 1 R Lachman P Rankin
 - 2 T Bardon S Johnson
 - 3 M Millar G Tucker
- Reserve - J Broad C Martin
Npc - Jill Broad

State Open Team

1 M Moren N Francis
2 D Appleton P Hainsworth
3 D Janzekovic K Sanmugarasa
Reserve - J Pritchard B Barden
Npc - Tom Strong

State Senior Team

1 T Jackman R Wallis
2 C Howard K Wood
3 R Morey J Han
Reserve - R Morawiecki D Croft
Npc - Ian Afflick

State Youth Team

P Gosney A Hung
G Martin R Touton
Npc - Richard Touton

Northern Suburbs Pairs April 3

1 N Francis A Pryde
2 D Janzekovic J Varmo
3 D Croft R Morawiecki
4 L Vincent R Ward

Plate

1 H Kruse S Solo
2 V Croft P Wells
3 E & N Gibson
4 B & S Stening

Gympie Butler Pairs April 9

1 P Tall L Smith
2 P Buch M Lamont
3 P Barnett D Harris

Plate

1 C Woolley D Cullen
2 G Hart M Jakes
3 N & E Gibson

Consolation

1 N & A Harington
2 P Maddigan S O'Brien
3 D Borchardt N Holloway

Gympie Swiss Teams April 10

1= A Mayers R Crowley
A Kelly D Anderson
1= G Hart M Jakes
P Barnett D Harris
3= P Buch M Lamont
B Gibson J Czekanski
3= I Halford S Brookes
M Radke V Brookes

Plate

1 B Ilsley A Dennis
H Baker B Horan
2 M Walters A Young
J Drake C Fludder
3 E Nimmo H Mott
G Power A Bray

Consolation

1 S May R Feuerherdt
S Adcock E Sisson

2 C Reed D Stagg
P Hawkins H French
3 K & M Schmidt
M & P Carpenter

Coolum Bulter Pairs April 17

1 R Crowley A Mayers
2 M Millar G Tucker
3 C & K Rogers

Plate

1 B Slaughter N Strutton
2 C Cooke A Morrison
3 J Bell A Smith

Consolation

1 M Vickers P Woods

QCBC Anzac Teams April 25

1 P Gosney N Francis
R Parker P Hainsworth
2 L Vincent R Ward
A & B Kempthorne
3 I Luck R Clayton
P Collins D Hutchinson

B Section

1 J Leung M Pemberton
G Lee S Dean
2 B Carroll G McCarthy
E & N Gibson
3 D & A Harrison
J Peach G Slack-Smith

C Section

1 M Stoneman K Hewings
C Bloomfield C Adamson
2 S Solo H Kruse
V Solo J Campbell
3 C Shafferman T Duffy
A Alexander D Humphrey

2005 James O'Sullivan Award at 30-4-05

ALL GRADES

Gosney Paul YOUTH PLAYERS

SILVER GRAND

Hainsworth Peter QCBC

GRAND

Pritchard John GOLD COAST

GOLD LIFE

Janzekovic Darko SURFERS

SILVER LIFE

Van Jole Nathan YOUTH PLAYERS

BRONZE LIFE

Nichols Ann NTH. SUBURBS

LIFE

Gosney Paul YOUTH PLAYERS

**NATIONAL

Trenerry Penny DALBY

*NATIONAL

Moschner Ken TOOWONG

NATIONAL

Wells Peter TOOWONG

*STATE

Varmo Jan SURFERS

*REGIONAL

Douglas Jenny CARDS

STATE

McCarthy Gayle NTH. SUBURBS

REGIONAL

Thompson Philip REDLANDS

**LOCAL

Hung Andy YOUTH PLAYERS

*LOCAL

Thom Mary CAIRNS

LOCAL

Hollands Jeff BBC

CLUB

Hoare Rob WESTERN SUB.

GRADUATE

Miller Errol REDCLIFFE

NIL MASTER

Hoff Don CAPRICORNIA

Toowoomba Swiss Pairs April 30

1 R Parker A Pryde
2 N Francis M Pemberton
3 I Dahler A Mayers

Plate

1 R Constantine H Eastment
2 J O'Connor N Rowland
(also winners of the
Nancy Penfold trophy)

Consolation

1 M McConachy J Todd
2 J Erlandson W Higgins

Toowoomba Swiss Teams May 1-2

1 I Dahler A Mayers
N Francis P Gosney
=2 B Hunt R Lachman
D Janzekovic S Kamalarasa
=2 J Luck I Luck
M Robson B Lee

Plate

1 M Sargent J Baker
R Fraser D McAdam
2 M Millar J Millar
C Woolley C Woolley

Consolation

1 G Thomas J Harris
C Bloomfield P Woods

Mackay Congress April 30-May 1

Pairs

A Section

1 M Saunders M Allan
2 J Morris S Birrer
3 B Baldry J Barry

B Section

1 B Gibbs B Parsons
2 V Otto D Scott
3 E Maxwell S Dwarshuis

Teams

1 Baldry Barry Brown Brown
2 Morris Birrer Taylor Ray
3 Ramsbotham Hunt
Hobdell Macdonald

Directors' Corner

MORE humour? You've got to be joking. Directing is not a laughing matter. I do have a supervised play story for you though.

A player has left early so Sue is sitting behind Maggie to help with the last board. An opponent has bid hearts during the auction and Maggie doesn't know what to do.

Sue urges, "Bid 3NT. Bid 3NT."

"No. No," says Maggie, quite horrified.

"Now, Maggie," I say. "Do you have a heart stopper?"

"I certainly do," she replies. "She's sitting right behind me."

A discussion raged recently on the Bridge Laws Mailing List (an international discussion group) as to when a card is nominated from the dummy. Various scenarios had declarer saying, "The ..." "The s..." "The six of ..." before, "Oh you have ruffed. Better make it the six of spades".

It was most interesting that leading directors were strenuously opposed in their views. Some believed that a designation had to be finished before it could be ruled as incomplete under Law 46. "The six." "Low." "Hit It *hard*." Others believed that just a syllable before pausing was enough to incur an incomplete designation ruling. I do think the latter is a bit harsh. Interestingly when two or more cards fit the

rank mentioned "declarer must designate which is intended" not "was intended."

Someone else pointed out that a defender may pull any number of cards out of his hand before finally playing one. (A bad habit that gives unauthorised information to partner and authorised information to declarer.) Also, that writing "2" or even "2 1" does not mean that that action must be completed.

It is not difficult to follow correct procedure. Correct procedure is what makes a game flow smoothly and saves such a lot of time and angst by not having to have things sorted out.

Trying to stop partner making an infringement is another area where declarer and the defenders are treated differently. Law 42B2 gives dummy the qualified right to try to prevent any irregularity by declarer yet the laws are silent on whether defenders may do this. Some very experienced directors say that if the laws don't mention it then it's not permitted. Others argue that this is how bridge is played, everyone does it, it's one of the unwritten niceties of the game. Some say yes, it is improper communication, yet there are no logical alternatives other than to stop the action so what's the problem?

One suggestion from the UK is that regulating authorities should allow players to stop others from infracting, unless this action is contrary to some other Law.

■ Jan Peach



ANC 2005

The Australian National Championships will be in Sydney from July 23 – August 5. The first week is restricted to State Representative teams, but the second week is open to everyone.

The main feature of the second week is the Australian Butler Pairs Championship. This is a great chance to play against many of Australia's best players. Stage 1 is open to all comers – stage 1 is on Sat 30 and Sun 31 July in high class premises at the Sydney Masonic Centre in Castlereagh St Sydney.

QCBC JUNE PAIRS Sunday 12 June JUNE TEAMS Monday 13 June

ENTRY FEE: \$22 per player for each event
DIRECTORS: Reg Busch & Joan McPheat
9.30am start each day

QLD GRADED PAIRS

Sunday July 3

ENTRY FEE: \$22 per player
DIRECTORS: Reg Busch & Joan McPheat
ENQUIRIES to Toni 3391 3241
qcbc@powerup.com.au

BEGINNERS' LESSONS

6-Week Course
Wed 10.00 am June 8
Phone: Toni 3391 3241

Editing of Material

Contributors should note that the right to modify submitted material is retained by the QBA.

DEAD

JULY 4 (noon)

Contributions to:
33 Royal Pde
Ashgrove 4060
Ph/Fax: 07 3366 1292
Email:
psquire@acenet.net.au

LINE

Continued from page 6

M 4	♠ AK72
Bd 12	♥ AQ4
Dir W	♦ A
Vul NS	♣ KQ1053
♠ Q853	♠ J4
♥ 963	♥ 1082
♦ Q102	♦ KJ98763
♣ AJ2	♣ 7
	♠ 1096
	♥ KJ75
	♦ 54
	♣ 9864

W	N	E	S
P	1C	3D	P
P	X	P	3H
P	4H	All pass	

East exerted a lot of pressure at favourable vulnerability and we struggled to find our best spot.

The best spot is 5C, but after my (North) 1C (Precision) opening and takeout double, I hoped that Tony had enough for 10 tricks in hearts and raised his forced 3H to game.

West did not lead his partner's suit, preferring a trump lead instead, and Tony won in hand to lead a club towards dummy, which was ducked by West. Tony now drew trumps finishing in hand and led another club, eventually claiming 11 tricks for +650 and 9 IMPs when only one other NS pair made game and 2 NS pairs went off.

M 5	♠ KQ2
Bd 9	♥ A62
Dir N	♦ 65
Vul EW	♣ KQ872
♠ 10643	♠ A875
♥ 1053	♥ KQ874
♦ AJ1087	♦ Q9
♣ 4	♣ 65
	♠ J9
	♥ J9
	♦ K432
	♣ AJ1093

W	N	E	S
P	1NT	2C	2NT
P	3C	P	P
3S	4C	All pass	

This turned out to be a pleasant surprise for North, but he ended one down in 4C when we (EW) competed in our known spade suit.

My 2C was modified Hamilton, showing both majors (2D showed the single suiter) and 2NT by South was asking North to bid 3C, which may have been passed by

South or converted to 3D.

North was expecting the worst when he bid 3C as requested, and was relieved when South passed, but then Tony bid 3S and North bid 4C, which was 1 off on normal play and we gained 2 IMPs.

The gain was only 2 IMPs as 3S was going to make and no EW was allowed to play the hand.

M 5	♠ AQ75
Bd 4	♥ 3
Dir W	♦ Q8742
Vul Both	♣ K104
♠ J1032	♠ 84
♥ KQ4	♥ J10972
♦ AKJ96	♦ 3
♣ Q	♣ 87653
	♠ K96
	♥ A865
	♦ 105
	♣ AJ92

W	N	E	S
1D	P	P	X
2D	All pass		

This board was a potential disaster for us that turned out to be only a small loss.

Sitting East, Tony's 1D opening only promised 2 diamonds, and his 2D bid should have been a 6-card suit, but I had two 5-card suits and toyed with a redouble to ask for another suit, but commonsense prevailed (it is rarely correct to rescue partner) and I passed.

The opening lead was the H3, on which South played the ace and Tony the king! This seemed to indicate that a 2H rescue would not have worked, but when he ruffed the second club I was not so sure.

North ducked the spade towards dummy, and South persisted with clubs, Tony ruffing. North played the SQ on the next spade lead from Tony and led a trump, something he was hoping that South would do.

Thus Tony had made all 5 of his trumps, and when North ducked the lead of the H4 towards dummy, Tony had 6 tricks and only -500, a mere 3 IMPs away.

According to Deep Finesse, NS can make 9 tricks in diamonds, so Tony could have been held to 4 tricks and -1100! The best NS score was +1400 for 4HX, as EW lose control very quickly.

Pre-empts do work because they often cause the opponents to make an instant decision based on only what they see, and this was illustrated when I opened 3D (East) on this board (next column).

South could double and hope that partner would bid a major (probably not with a 6-card club suit), or bid 3S and that is where the auction rested. 3D only has 4

M 5	♠ 3
Bd 17	♥ Q653
Dir N	♦ A8
Vul None	♣ J76532
♠ AK76	♠ 1098
♥ 87	♥ J104
♦ 95	♦ KQ107432
♣ AQ1084	♣ —
	♠ QJ542
	♥ AK92
	♦ J6
	♣ K9

W	N	E	S
All pass	P	3D	3S

losers, so NS were fixed, but the decision to bid 3S actually gained 1 Imp as one NS pair lost 500 doubled in a higher contract, so -100 was a reasonable score. Tony could have doubled, but he does not know that North is going to pass, and 3S could be cold.

This was another time where we gained IMPs because the opponents were unsure of their systemic agreements.

M 5	♠ A106
Bd 18	♥ Q932
Dir E	♦ AK982
Vul NS	♣ A
♠ 943	♠ K875
♥ J106	♥ K754
♦ Q7654	♦ K3
♣ 95	♣ KQ2
	♠ QJ2
	♥ A8
	♦ 10
	♣ J1087643

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

My 1NT as East was 13-15 and the double by North was intended as penalty, but interpreted by South as showing two suits of the same colour, and 2H was intended to show some interest in one of the black suits. North raised, thinking that the 2H was natural, and South could go no further. 4C makes if North is declarer, but should be one off by South.

3H was not a comfortable contract, in spite of winning the opening heart lead with the H8, and eventually finished 2 off for +200 and 9 IMPs.

One NS pair managed to conjure up game in a minor or 3NT, but the details have been banished to the archives forever.

M 6 ♠ A1073
 Bd 14 ♥ Q63
 Dlr E ♦ 9764
 Vul None ♣ 65

♠ KJ984	♠ 5
♥ J105	♥ K874
♦ KQ53	♦ 108
♣ 7	♣ KQ10984

♠ Q62
 ♥ A92
 ♦ AJ2
 ♣ AJ32

W	N	E	S
		P	1C
1S	1NT	3C	P
3D	P	4C	X
All pass			

We gained from our opponent's uncertainty about the meaning of a jump in a new suit by the overcaller's partner. Many would play this as a 'fit-jump', showing a good suit and a fit for the overcaller, but this was not the case here, where East was bidding his own suit as an intended shut-out bid. Tony's 1C as South showed 16+ and my 1NT was 5-8 with a spade stop, so we were not going too far, and Deep Finesse has 1NT as the limit of the hand for NS. Tony was tempted to double 3C, but was also not sure about the meaning, but was in no doubt about what to do when clubs were rebid by East.

Even after the lead of the HA we did not have to try hard to take 5 tricks for an easy +300 and 5 IMPs.

M 7 ♠ J
 Bd 12 ♥ 842
 Dlr W ♦ J9853
 Vul NS ♣ KJ62

♠ K983	♠ Q654
♥ AJ10	♥ K976
♦ 104	♦ AK2
♣ A983	♣ Q4

♠ A1072
 ♥ Q53
 ♦ Q76
 ♣ 1075

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

East looked carefully at the bidding and reasoned that since Tony had bid 1NT rather than 1S, he was likely to have less than 4 spades. I was likely to have 4 spades at the most, thus West had at least 5 spades!

He thus hit on the clever lead of the SJ instead of his more normal 4th highest

diamond! Lucky for us this 'clever' lead did not test Tony's declarer play and he emerged with 10 tricks for +430 and 8 IMPs. At 3 other tables NS gained +50 (4S off 1 or possibly 3NT off 1).

Tony's bypassing of the spade suit caused us to miss the awkward major suit game (made at 1 table), but 3NT requires careful play if North made the normal opening lead of 4th highest of his longest and strongest.

M 8 ♠ 10
 Bd 2 ♥ AK
 Dlr E ♦ AK1086
 Vul NS ♣ Q1073

♠ KQ9642	♠ 73
♥ 654	♥ Q872
♦ QJ7	♦ 532
♣ J	♣ 9542

♠ AJ85
 ♥ 1093
 ♦ 94
 ♣ AK86

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

South was left in a difficult contract with only 1 real chance, and luckily for us, he failed to take it.

7C is actually cold, and 2 pairs played in 6C for a large IMP gain, but 6NT is cold thanks to the location of the diamond honours, and this is the only real line that should have been taken.

Tony led the SK, and saw that 6NT was likely to be cold, so when declarer ducked the SK, Tony led the D7 to put it to declarer at trick 2. He failed the test when he rose with the DA and led a club to hand to take the heart finesse, eventually finishing 3 down for +300 to us and 13 IMPs.

A most unusual result was achieved at another table when West overcalled South's 1NT with 2C, to show a single-suiter, and everyone passed! This contract went 7 off for 350 to NS, but thanks to 2 NS pairs who went off, they still gained 2 IMPs.

On this board (next column) Tony pulled off a neat defensive false-card that gained a part-score swing.

After a simple auction in which we did not compete, I made an unfortunate lead of the DK, which declarer won on the table. When declarer pulled a small spade off the table, Tony inserted the jack, and when I won the king with the ace, I led the CQ, covered and a club was returned

M 8 ♠ K754
 Bd 19 ♥ K64
 Dlr S ♦ J105
 Vul EW ♣ 1086

♠ J9	♠ A62
♥ Q53	♥ J987
♦ 762	♦ KQ98
♣ A9742	♣ QJ

♠ Q1083
 ♥ A102
 ♦ A43
 ♣ K53

W	N	E	S
		P	1C
P	1S	P	2S
All pass			

to my CJ. I now exited with the H9, won in hand by declarer who now with a clear picture of the layout of the hand, confidently finessed the S8. Of course Tony won with the S9 and gave me a club ruff which took this contract 2 off for +100 and 6 IMPs.

M 10 ♠ A5
 Bd 8 ♥ A93
 Dlr W ♦ KQ643
 Vul None ♣ J54

♠ 9	♠ KQJ8642
♥ KQJ7	♥ 82
♦ J85	♦ A107
♣ AK932	♣ Q

♠ 1073
 ♥ 10654
 ♦ 92
 ♣ 10876

W	N	E	S
2C	2D	3S	P
4C	P	4S	All pass

This was a lucky escape for us as I did not guess to play North for A-5 of trumps. After the 2C opening showing 11-15 HCPs and at least 5 clubs, North overcalled 2D and my 3S was natural and forcing. 3NT is the clear winner, making 10 tricks, but I ended up in 4S and South dutifully led the D9.

After winning the DA I led the CQ to dummy to discard a diamond and pulled a small trump, which North ducked. The winning line is to now exit with a small trump and after North cashes a diamond and leads another one, to ruff the diamond high and draw trumps.

However, when North took my SK he must have a little confused as he exited with a low diamond, and to my surprise I won and drew trumps, finishing with 11 tricks and +11 IMPs. ■