



THE QBA BULLETIN

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www.qldbridge.com Email: manager@qldbridge.com

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From the President



Keith McDonald

THE Festive season is almost here and then New Years resolutions. I thank all of you, on behalf of the QBA, for your support during 2004. May you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I thank all those hard working helpers at

clubs without whom a club would have difficulty. Any task done with a smile will be appreciated. Perhaps we could all add this to our list of resolutions. Kim Ellaway has performed her duties for another year with distinction and my deep thanks. The Management Committee has been outstanding. I have but three resolutions -

1. Try harder to do a better job.
2. Ensure that we market the game we love so that others can share the joy.
3. Prepare a timely report for the next QBA Newsletter. Sorry Phil, I will do better! ■

Qld Open Teams

THE two-day event must put some people off as although many one-day teams have had entries of up to 44 teams, the State title held on 4/5 September attracted only 30 teams, although it did appear as if most of the best performed Queensland players were present. My team (Richard Ward, Lindy Vincent, Richard Wallis and Therese Tully) started scratchily and continued in that vein to finish 10th. This year the director with the good ideas, David Anderson, came up with another one when he asked all teams to fill in result slips, and the top 12 matches were used to calculate Butler averages. Each pair was then cross-checked against the averages, and the inaugural prize as the Butler winners was awarded to Anthony and Nadya Tuxworth.

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M 1	♠ Q54
Bd 6	♥ AJ5
Dlr E	♦ A52
Vul EW	♣ A954
♠ K632	♠ J97
♥ K1063	♥ 42
♦ J963	♦ K1074
♣ 6	♣ KJ87

N	E
W	S

♠ A108
♥ Q987
♦ Q8
♣ Q1032

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

This contract started well when East led the D4, and dummy's queen won the first trick. In case East's entry was in hearts, I next led to the HJ, which won, and then led the CA and another towards dummy, East playing low. If I had played the CT, there would be no story, but when I played the CQ, I set up 2 tricks for EW, which ultimately led to a 1 trick defeat and 10 IMPs away when 3NT was more successful at the other table. The board average was only -220, so I was not alone.

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2005 Gold Coast Congress

February 19-26

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M 1 ♠ 1098743
 Bd 7 ♥ 65
 Dlr S ♦ K86
 Vul Both ♣ 73

♠ AKQ52	♠ J6
♥ KQ987	♥ 43
♦ —	♦ AQ5
♣ A84	♣ Q109652

♠ —
 ♥ AJ102
 ♦ J1097432
 ♣ KJ

M 1 ♠ 73
 Bd 9 ♥ KJ10874
 Dlr N ♦ 7542
 Vul EW ♣ 10

♠ KQJ5	♠ A9
♥ Q6	♥ A932
♦ KJ96	♦ AQ8
♣ AK7	♣ J985

♠ 108642
 ♥ 5
 ♦ 103
 ♣ Q6432

M 2 ♠ K986
 Bd 19 ♥ QJ875
 Dlr S ♦ 104
 Vul EW ♣ Q6

♠ 1075	♠ Q43
♥ 3	♥ 106
♦ K972	♦ J8653
♣ J10987	♣ 543

♠ AJ2
 ♥ AK942
 ♦ AQ
 ♣ AK2

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

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

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

EW were using 2-way 3-level pre-empts, and 3H was either weak in hearts (hence East's response) or a strong 2-suiter with spades when she rebid 3S. 3NT was natural, but why West did not bid her second suit is a mystery, although when dummy went down, 4S looked pretty good.

I, North, led the C7, declarer won with the ace and led a trump to dummy getting the bad news. If declarer now leads a heart, South ducking, and exits with a club, Therese is forced to lead hearts again or lead into dummy's diamond tenace, and 9 tricks would likely be made, but she exited with a club and we came to 2 spades, 2 hearts and a club for +200.

At the other table Richard and Lindy opened at the 1-level, which allowed the clubs to be bid and rebid, but 4C was thought to be forcing by West, but not by East, and thus the cold game was missed. However it was still 8 IMPs to us. The board was too hard for most people as the average was only +40.

I took advantage of the vulnerability to open a multi-2D with the North hand, and after West's takeout double, East appeared to be caught with no good bid, so decided to take whatever was on offer in 2HX.

West led the CA and then the CK, ruffed in dummy. With no entry to her hand, Therese was forced to lead the hearts from dummy and eventually finished with only 4 tricks and -800.

At the other table Richard and Lindy had a free run to 6NT, and made all 13 tricks after a club lead and a pseudo squeeze, so we picked up 12 IMPs. The slam was not made at too many tables, as the average was only -680.

Therese's rebid of 3NT showed 25-27 HCPs, and my 4C was Baron. The 4H bid was such a joy that I simply bid the slam, with no thoughts of a grand slam.

13 tricks were made on the spade finesse for a flat board, also flat against the averages, but there were a couple of pairs who bid the grand and were greatly relieved when the finesse won.

M 2 ♠ 873
 Bd 20 ♥ 943
 Dlr W ♦ QJ1084
 Vul Both ♣ A8

♠ K2	♠ AQJ65
♥ AK10	♥ J65
♦ 73	♦ K95
♣ Q96532	♣ J10

♠ 1094
 ♥ Q872
 ♦ A62
 ♣ K74

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

EW had a routine transfer auction to 3NT, but this time the wrong hand was declarer, and my obvious diamond lead netted us the first 7 tricks for 3 off and +300.

Declarer rued covering the 2nd diamond allowing Therese the luxury of winning and returning a diamond, but it would not have mattered, as if the DJ had won, my next lead of the D4 would have suggested to Therese that my entry was in clubs.

At the other table they played in 4S which was also easily defeated. The board average was only +50, so some EWs must have been getting positive scores.

Continued on page 13 (web version)

DID YOU KNOW?

You must not explain your alerted calls or delayed alerted calls unless an explanation is requested.

THE TOOWONG BRIDGE CLUB

The Toowong Bridge Club would like to thank the Queensland Government's Gambling Fund for providing \$30,000 towards the replacement of our air-conditioner.

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The Last Board

It was the last board on the Tuesday evening \$100 night duplicate session, and though that may have been a contributing factor, it certainly does not excuse me.

Dir E	♠ —		
Vul EW	♥ KQ105		
	♦ AKQ876		
	♣ A106		
♠ KQ102		♠ 876543	
♥ AJ9876		♥ 432	
♦ 10		♦ 953	
♣ J5		♣ 4	
	♠ AJ9		
	♥ —		
	♦ J42		
	♣ KQ98732		

East passed and South bid 1C. I was West so I overcalled 1H and after some thought North bid 6NT!

The double was on the bidding pad before I realized I would not be on lead. I am sure I would not have doubled had my brain been in gear (although the good book says that if all your doubles are successful then you are not doubling enough) and I was doubling Ralph Parker. Silly me! Partner dutifully led a heart and that was that.

Most of the field was in 6C making 13 tricks. No one bid the grand. Ralph's logic was perfect. Partner's opening bid should hold an ace. And 6NT gave him a top board even without the double. It didn't matter even if I had been on lead. Declarer then would have made 13 tricks when I led the SK.

Oh well, "Life was not meant to be easy," as George Bernard Shaw once said. (Malcolm Fraser borrowed the quote.) No one remembers the rest. (*Life is not meant to be easy, my child; but take courage - it can be delightful.* Ed.)

■ Margaret Drake

Queensland Senior Teams Championship

Sunshine Coast

Now a 2-day event
January 29-30

Enquiries to Ann McLeod
Ph: 07 5492 7539

TABLELAND BRIDGE CLUB'S NEW YEAR CONGRESS

♣♦♥♠
1st - 3rd JANUARY 2005

ATHERTON CLUB ROOMS

Room 14, Old State School, Mabel St, Atherton

Pairs Qualifying	Saturday	1 st January	12.30 pm
Pairs Championship	Saturday	1 st January	7.30 pm
Swiss Teams	Sunday	2 nd January	12.30 pm
			7.30 pm
	Monday	3 rd January	9.00 am
Presentation Luncheon	Monday	3 rd January	1.00 pm (app)

~ FEES (including presentation luncheon) ~

Pairs only \$30 per player Teams only \$30 per player Both \$60 per player

☎ Julie Wyburn (07) 4091 3612 Bernice Morton (07) 4095 4756

ENTRIES CLOSE 24TH DECEMBER 2004

PO Box 617 Atherton Qld 4883

QBA Auction

**All proceeds will go to the World Youth Event
to be held in Sydney 2005**

Do you wish you could play with some of the best? You can. Some of Queensland's past and present champions have put themselves up for auction.

You bid for who you wish to play with - all bids remain anonymous. The first bid must be \$25 and thereafter in lots of \$5.

In December, when a closing date for those putting their names up for sessional play is decided, the successful bidder will be advised and they can organise a session of their choice with the nominee. However, it must be in the nominee's home town.

Other choices are Sydney experts who are putting themselves up for auction for the walk-ins being played at the Gold Coast Congress.

Visit the QBA website at www.qldbridge.com and make your bid. If you do not have access to the Net ring the manager on 3351 8602 and make your bid.



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Cuppaidge's Column



George Cuppaidge

THE first two hands are problems which you should get wrong! Well I got them wrong if that is any guide.

You hold

♠ K76 ♥ 108542 ♦ K753 ♣ 6

and you hear 1C from partner and 1D on your right - the scene is the Double Bay rubber game by the way. Your partner bids 4NT, simple Blackwood and RHO bids 5S!! I don't think Dopi is part of the Double Bay system. Whatever do you do?

It was reasonably clear that partner had a heart fit, but what did you have for him? Virtually nothing. I doubled (for penalties in this arena) and all passed.

This was the hand.

♠ A			
♥ AKQ9			
♦ 8			
♣ KQJ10542			
♠ J1032		♠ Q9854	
♥ J763		♥ —	
♦ 6		♦ AQJ10942	
♣ A873		♣ 9	
♠ K76			
♥ 108542			
♦ K753			
♣ 6			

I confidently led my singleton club, but confidence soon evaporated. The first round of hearts was ruffed and my DK ruffed out. Terry Brown, my international partner, remarked that we had to "save" in 6H and that he too would have doubled, without a useful honour in partnership suits and two in theirs.

Here is the whole of the next hand, my partner, the anaesthetist, was not so magnanimous.

DID YOU KNOW?

Partner's new suit bid after an opponent's take-out double must be alerted if it is non-forcing (unless partner is a passed hand).

		♠ K73	
		♥ AJ64	
		♦ KJ1053	
		♣ 6	
♠ Q			♠ A54
♥ K9752			♥ 83
♦ 76			♦ AQ84
♣ QJ1075			♣ A932
		♠ J109862	
		♥ Q10	
		♦ 92	
		♣ K84	

I overcalled East's strong 1NT with 2S. West bid 3H and my partner bid 4S. (I do not entirely stand by my own 2S bid but in justification I can say that partners rarely get too busy, knowing there is a strong NT lurking.) 4S was duly doubled by West, who led the CQ.

The defence began with the CQ to the CA followed by ace and another trump. I was in something of a dilemma, even if the heart finesse worked, which it does, I cannot come to ten tricks unless the diamond queen finesse works also, and if that works I do not need the heart finesse at all. Accordingly I drew trumps and ran the D9 for down two.

'You could have finessed a heart and ruffed a club,' my partner somewhat sourly remarked. But that is, effectively, a no-play line requiring West to hold both

the HK and the DQ, since East will be able to ruff the third round of hearts, denying you a diamond discard.

In the next hand, also from rubber bridge, the play in one suit is predicated by your play in another.

		♠ 654	
		♥ Q86	
		♦ KJ72	
		♣ 862	
♠ QJ72			♠ K103
♥ 432			♥ J7
♦ A1064			♦ Q9853
♣ J4			♣ A97
		♠ A98	
		♥ AK1095	
		♦ —	
		♣ KQ1053	

The bidding was short and sweet, 1H-2H; 4H. West led the SQ.

Declarer won with the ace and played the HA and had the foresight to lead the H10 to dummy's HQ. What a difference this simple play made! With two sure entries to dummy, declarer was able to lead twice towards his CKQ.

What is the correct play if the HJ does not drop or if declarer carelessly neglects to unblock the H10? It's close, but probably the best percentage play is to finesse the C10 at the only opportunity. ■

Bridge for Brain Research Challenge - May 1-7

THE Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute in partnership with the Australia Bridge Federation and all state bridge associations are organising the first national Bridge for Brain Research Challenge. The idea is in the week of May 1-7 bridge clubs throughout Australia will dedicate at least one session to this charity bridge tournament. Each player will be asked to pay an entry fee of \$5.

The aim of this project is to raise awareness of the game of bridge, the benefits that playing can have on maintaining a healthy mind and the work of the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute.

The Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute does cutting edge neurological-based research into healthy ageing and how the brain works. By comparing "normal" people with people with neuro-

logical disorders we are able to address issues helping us to retain a functioning brain for longer. Bridge players are from a group who function at a high level and can be valuable contributors to this research.

All clubs and their members are invited to participate in the 2005 Bridge for Brains Research Challenge and support the Institute's research. For pairs who perform well the ABF has approved RED masterpoints according to Section 6.3 of the Masterpoint Manual. There will be great prizes for individuals and clubs including holidays, mobile phones and shopping vouchers.

To register your clubs interest please contact Stephanie Barker at the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute on 1300 888 019 or email s.barker@unsw.edu.au.

Queensland Teams Selection Trials

Open and Womens - March 12 & 13, April 2, April 9 & 10
Seniors - April 16 & 17, April 23 & 24
Entry forms from the QBA manager

25 Years Ago

THE Duplicate Club was once again the host for one of Australia's richest prize money congresses. Doomben Racecourse was a delightful venue for such a congress and players were invited to enjoy a few drinks prior to the start of play on Saturday amidst the beautiful trees and gardens.

Play commenced (in a most cheerful fashion) with three sections of 14 tables each and there were few surprises in the field which qualified for the final which included a strong Sydney-Canberra contingent.

In an exciting barometer finish, last year's winners, Paul Lavings and Luc Turshwell came from behind to beat Don Evans and Tony Hutton with Frank Jarvis and Gary Malinas third.

The following hand did nothing to help the Judy Valentine-Jessica Mortess score when they confronted Evans-Hutton early in the final.

♠ 8			
♥ AQ93			
♦ J853			
♣ 9876			
♠ 53	♠ K762		
♥ J10875	♥ 642	N	
♦ 964	♦ AQ72	W	E
♣ K103	♣ QJ	S	
	♠ AQJ1094		
	♥ K		
	♦ K10		
	♣ A542		

W	N	E	S
Mortess	Evans	Valentine	Hutton
P	1NT	P	1S
P	4S	All pass	3S

Jessica leads a small trump and you have to plan your defence. Naturally you duck and the 8 wins on the table. A club from dummy and your jack holds the trick. Now you try the ace and another diamond with declarer playing the 10 and king while partner discourages. Next comes ace and queen of trumps (partner shows out on the third round, dummy throws a club and a heart and you're again on lead with three tricks in the bag. What now?

Did you find the heart lead into dummy's AQ9? if not, you have just given Tony Hutton the pleasure of squeezing Jessica mercilessly in hearts and clubs.

■ Richard Ward

ARANA BRIDGE CLUB

Tramway St, Ferny Grove. Ph: 3851 0299

Play Sessions:

Monday	9.30 am	7.30 pm
Tuesday	9.30 am	
Wednesday	7.30 pm	
Friday	10.00 am	
Saturday	1.00 pm	

Beginners' Classes:

Starting Thursday 3rd Feb

Session Times:

9.30 am 7.30 pm

Enquiries for beginners' classes:

3851 3687 or 3851 1362

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)
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\$88 PER TEAM

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Monday 13 Dec - Thur 16 Dec

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Enquiries to Toni on 3391 3241, qcbc@powerup.com.au

Qld Open Pairs

THE largest field for many years contested the Qld Open Pairs on the weekend of 16 & 17 October, and the largest ever field contested the Qld Novice Pairs held at the same time. Once again the Treasury Casino was the main sponsor, Wolf Blass donated their fine wines, and the event was held at the Doomben Racecourse.

There were no major surprises in the qualifying, and most seeded pairs made the final, which was won by the youngest players in the field, Nathan Van Jole and Paul Gosney.

It appeared to be a jinxed event from the start, as 3 pairs had to change line-ups due to illness, 1 pair got lost looking for a Doomben Bridge club and did not arrive until 12 noon, a scoring error prevented 1 pair from just scraping into the final, and the weather was cold instead of hot. At least we did not get the usual complaints about the coldness of the Doomben air-conditioning.

Nonetheless it was a good event, enjoyed by all players. I (Richard Wallis) played with Wynne Webber, after both our partners had to pull out through illness, and while we easily made the final, did not shine on Sunday and finished below average.

Q 1	♠ AKQ6
Bd 14	♥ K6
Dlr E	♦ K65
Vul None	♣ J763
♠ 953	♠ 8742
♥ AJ2	♥ 975
♦ Q43	♦ J972
♣ A952	♣ Q4
	♠ J10
	♥ Q10843
	♦ A108
	♣ K108

W	N	E	S
1C	1NT	P	3H
P	3NT		

West opened with 1C in 3rd seat; my 1NT and Wynne's 3H were natural, and 3NT closed the auction. East had a terrible hand, but rather than lead her partner's suit, chose a negative S7, won on the table to lead a heart to my king, and then a low club to dummy's ten and West's ace. Next was a club to the ten, and when this forced the CA and the CQ dropped on the next round, I was able to run the C9 for 10 tricks.

Q 1	♠ Q954
Bd 20	♥ KQ
Dlr W	♦ 732
Vul Both	♣ AQ96
♠ 2	♠ 10863
♥ J87643	♥ A52
♦ KQ4	♦ 1098
♣ K43	♣ 852
	♠ AKJ7
	♥ 109
	♦ AJ65
	♣ J107

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

We both lay doggo on the first round of bidding to see what West had, but when it turned out to be a weak two in hearts, I came back in with a double and we reached our cold game.

The 4-1 break in trumps may have been a problem on a heart lead and continuation, but West led the DK, and 10 tricks rolled home when the club finesse worked.

Q 1	♠ Q95
Bd 21	♥ AK4
Dlr N	♦ Q965
Vul NS	♣ Q64
♠ 10	♠ AKJ6
♥ J10853	♥ 9
♦ A10843	♦ K
♣ K3	♣ AJ98752
	♠ 87432
	♥ Q762
	♦ J72
	♣ 10

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

EW were using 2C over 1NT to show a single-suiter, but when 2S came around to West she thought that she could deal adequately with this contract, so she passed. Since EW are cold for 3NT or 5C, their +200 in 2S off 2 was inadequate compensation, and we got above average.

My view is that with such a good hand, East is better to bid a natural 3C on the first round and show her suit and strong hand rather than the artificial 2C. This is likely to have led to EW getting to game.

On the next board my 2C showed a single-suiter, and all of the other bids were natural. My 4D was ill-advised, as if

Q 1	♠ A8
Bd 22	♥ 10
Dlr E	♦ QJ10532
Vul EW	♣ K986
♠ 75	♠ KJ10964
♥ AK654	♥ J972
♦ A986	♦ 7
♣ A4	♣ 107
	♠ Q32
	♥ Q83
	♦ K4
	♣ QJ532

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

pushed there, both 4H and 4S can be made by EW, but it turned out to be a great spot as any slip-up in the defence will allow it to make.

I know from the bidding that Wynne has some values, and what she had turned out to be very useful. East avoided the first hurdle when he did not lead a spade, and West avoided the second hurdle when she led back a spade after winning the first club and cashing the HA. If I get the lead before West switches to a spade, my spade loser can be discarded on the 5th club and 4DX will make. -100 was only about average, so some NS pairs must have stolen the contract in 3D, or NS went too high and did not find the making line of running the HJ.

QCBC BEGINNERS' LESSONS

Monday 7.30 pm Feb 7
Friday 10.00 am Feb 4
Enquiries to Claire Hyne
3366 4015

Barrier Reef Gold Point Congress 2005

June 10 - 13

Swiss Teams and Walk-In Pairs
to be held at Townsville Entertainment
Centre - Accommodation available at
Townsville Casino

Brisbane Festival of Bridge

Unable to show the picture due to technical problems

An approved QBA Red Masterpoint event
at The Toowong Bridge Club
Wed 29 Dec 2004 - Sun 2 Jan 2005

Convenor: Denise Dodd (07) 3359 1285
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Red Masterpoints, Prizes, Workshops
Special Sunday teams event for novice players
Entry forms with more information at your club

Guest Lecturer:
Paul Lavings

Ipswich Centenary Graded Pairs December 12

Book Reviews

Bridge Play Unravalled Freddie North

MANY books have been written about declarer play, so it is good to see one with a different angle. Play problems can be put into various categories, and the student is guided in problem solving to recognise the relevant category. These include coups, holdups, blocking, hopeful assumption, elimination, etc. and all are dealt with in the first 44 pages with helpful examples. Then follow 58 problems where the student is asked to identify the category, and solve the play problem.

The answers on the reverse give the category, what you should have looked for, the plan, and what not to do. The problems are mostly not too hard, increasing in difficulty towards the end. Try this one.

Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ 54
♥ AKQ4
♦ Q952
♣ J84

♠ J6
♥ 632
♦ AK864
♣ AKQ

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

West starts with the SA and SK, then switches to the HJ.

Category: **Precaution Play**

Answer: You must play the diamond suit for no losers. If West has all four diamonds you must lose a trick, but if East has all four, you can pick up his suit by starting with the DQ, low diamond, covering East's card, then returning to North to play another low diamond. Do *not* start by playing the DA as then East's suit cannot be picked up.

Bridge Play Unravalled is available from John Hardy for \$26.95 ph: **0409 786 050**



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 & Beginners' Classes

Monday	10.00 am
Tuesday	7.30 pm

Enquiries for coaching & beginners' classes: **3371 2383**

F 1	♠ Q873
Bd 1	♥ 9
Dlr N	♦ 97
Vul None	♣ QJ9854
♠ —	♠ AJ965
♥ J432	♥ AK1075
♦ AKJ1054	♦ Q
♣ 762	♣ K3
	♠ K1042
	♥ Q86
	♦ 8632
	♣ A10

F 1	♠ Q742
Bd 6	♥ K72
Dlr E	♦ 10965
Vul EW	♣ 64
♠ A983	♠ J105
♥ Q85	♥ AJ93
♦ A43	♦ K
♣ 1073	♣ AKQ95
	♠ K6
	♥ 1064
	♦ QJ872
	♣ J82

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

W	N	E	S
		1C	P
1S	P	4S	All pass

On this board East took a big view in jumping to 4S with only 3 trumps, but luckily West had the right pips to land the Moysen.

Sitting South I led the DT, won on the table and the SJ was led from dummy and allowed to win. Wynne covered the next spade lead (perforce) I won the third round and locked declarer on the table with a club. This meant I had to either get a club ruff or a heart trick, so declarer only made 11 tricks for a good score to us. To make 12 tricks, declarer has to cash 2 rounds of clubs before leading the 3rd spade.

Continued on page 14 (web version)

Sitting West I made a poor decision to show a weak suit rather than rebid my good 6-card suit which wrong-sided the hand and led to defeat and a poor score. My 2D showed at least 5 diamonds and 8 or more HCPs, and 2S by Wynne was natural and forcing. When I bid 3H instead of 3D, Wynne was interested in slam, and we reached the uncomfortable 5-level, scuppered by the lead of the CQ and the HQ protected offside.

If I had let Wynne bid hearts first, South has to lead the CA or else it disappears.

The Language of Bidding

Paul Marston

WHEN Paul Marston hit the Sydney bridge scene in the early eighties, people took notice. Tall, dark, handsome, intelligent, a fierce competitor - he had visionary ideas about bridge and its future. Born in New Zealand, he arrived with a formidable reputation as a player, system innovator and teacher. A world authority on Strong Pass and Relay methods, he formed the "Grand Slam" group of bridge clubs, took over "Australian Bridge" as editor and publisher and continues as a first class National and International bridge player.

The 4th Edition of "The Language of Bidding" has arrived. (The first having been released in 1987.) Not much has changed in bridge over the years - except the bidding. And it has changed fairly dramatically. It's a bidder's game. For the club player - the majority - if you can get into the right contract, it will mostly play itself. What happens though, is players get into bad habits, find they have "misunderstandings" and become increasingly frustrated, with scores to match.

If you haven't read a bridge book on bidding for a while, perhaps it's time. Chapter 1, entitled "**Opening One of a Suit**", I thought I might skip. However, the first hand took my eye as it had a total of 10 high card points which Paul considered a mandatory opening. You have probably heard about "The Rule of 20". Add your high card points, plus the length of your two longest suits - if it comes to 20 then open it.

♠4 ♥AK6543 ♦K765 ♣76

This is a guide only and as always one should use one's judgement. Shape is everything.

Bidding is all about hand evaluation. Modern bidding suggests we open the hand above but pass the following:

♠Q74 ♥KJ6 ♦Q765 ♣A76

If you are in doubt about opening/passing either of the above, consider reading the book.

Chap. 2 - "First Response", Chap. 3 - "Opener's Rebids", Chap. 4 - "Responders' Rebid".

When called during supervised play, as I teacher I tend to ask, "from the bidding so far, what do you know about your partner's hand", which sometimes draws a blank response. If you cannot tell whether your partner (opener or responder) has a minimum, medium or maximum hand, how can you possibly know what to do?

Chapter 8 on "Strong Two Clubs" is excellent. By the way if you have a

balanced 20-21 HCP, are you opening the hand 2NT? If you are, you're on the road to modern bidding. If you're using 2C to show any 19-21, ring your partner now and agree to discard it before your next club visit. It's a serious liability.

Chapter 12 - "The Opponents Intervene". It's so easy when you have a free run, but when they interfere

Sitting East holding

♠92 ♥AQ7 ♦K853 ♣J1074

West opens 1H and North overcalls 3S - your bid.

Paul recommends 4H. You'd like a few more points but you can't do much about that. You're worth about 3H, so take the push. Remember, it's a bidder's game.

On the other hand:

♠AJ98 ♥32 ♦K873 ♣J74

Again your partner, West, opens 1H and North overcalls 3C - your bid.

Pass. Don't step in at the three level with flimsy values and the makings of a misfit. A negative double is also a possibility. (The next chapter is headed "**Negative & Penalty Doubles**")

The final chapter, "**Competitive Bidding Strategy**", has a most informative section on "Balancing".

Sitting East how do you feel about this one?

♠Q763 ♥K6 ♦A872 ♣982

W	N	E	S
P	1H	P	2H
P	P	?	

Double, which is for takeout. (Would you do it?) Don't be concerned about your lack of strength - partner is sure to hold a reasonable hand. Try not to let the opponents play at the 2-level when they have found a fit, because the chances are, you have one too.

This book is very reasonably priced at \$20.95 and is available from Australian Bridge (02) 9327 4599, email: mail@australianbridge.com or The Bridge Shop 1800 252 491. If you intend giving it to your partner as a Christmas gift, I strongly recommend you read it first. The chances are your partner will be keen to adopt quite a few innovative ideas.

■ Denise Dodd

DID YOU KNOW?

A player has no recourse if he has made a call on the basis of his own misunderstanding.

Club News

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

Gympie

Members enjoyed a wonderful Melbourne Cup Day at the club with sweeps, champagne and great food and of course bridge. A panel of male judges thought Jeanette Roghley's Carmen Miranda head confectionery was a worthy winner in the ladies hat section whilst Des Horrox was awarded best overall prize for his authentic jockey outfit.

Arana

Arana helps the The Gap Aged Care Centre, Settlement Road with a fortnightly game of bridge at the centre.

Arana hosted the Brisbane Zone final of the GNOT and what a great supper - roast beef and antipasto all cooked and prepared by Ailsa Smith.

Broadwater

Broadwater is 1 year old and of course had a birthday cake to celebrate the occasion.

QCBC

President Marion Cooke retires and Jan Peach is the new chairman of the Board.

QCBC was a successful applicant for a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund with a \$13,000 grant.

Caboolture

Caboolture hosted the inter-club challenge with Moreton Bribie. Caboolture won by a slim margin - a great day and lunch were had by all.

Surfers Paradise

195 members attended the Special General Meeting to vote on the new club rules and these have now been passed. A 'meet the committee' night was organised and well attended and a big thank you to the masterpoint team of Noeline Rossiter, Pat Glass and Bev Travers who spend many hours each week recording the Masterpoints. A big welcome to Grand Motors as a major club sponsor.

**QBA
Website**

www.qldbridge.com

All the latest information from the bridge world

QCBC

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
 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

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Coming Events

Dec 12 Ipswich Centenary Graded Pairs
Dec 29-Jan 2 Brisbane Festival of Bridge - QBA
Jan 1-3 Tablelands Pairs and Teams
Jan 9 Gold Coast Swiss Teams
Jan 11-24 ABF SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE
Jan 16 Ipswich Swiss Pairs
Jan 21-23 Townsville Australia Day Pairs
Jan 23 Northern Suburbs Teams
Jan 26 Townsville Australia Day Teams
Jan 29-30 QBA Senior Teams C'ship - Sun Coast
Feb 6 Toowong Swiss Pairs

Results

Cairns Pairs Sept 18-19

1 A & P Hooper
 2 A & L Ruderman
 3 E Turner J Hughes

Plate

1 A Brown E Scholz
 2 J Trigg H Rial
 3 P Crema J Campbell

Tamborine Swiss Teams Oct 2

1 E Hurley J Brown
 M Askew W Powell
 2 D Appleton F Brown
 P Gosney N VanJole
 3 R Touton L Moses
 D Hutchinson P Collins

Plate

1 A Williams F Dickson
 N Fletcher C Lohs
 2= D Cowsls D Donaldson
 B Wales W Wales
 2= L Bourke P Kline
 P Hille J Clark

Tamborine Novice Teams Oct 3

1 B Stuthe W Stuthe
 K Pope J Lawrence
 2= J Bates W Natrop
 E Meade J Bligh
 2= N Orford F Orford
 A Pearce J McRobbie

Gold Coast Butler Pairs Oct 9

1=K Sanmugarasa R Morawiecki
 1=J Osmund G Kadem
 3 N Francis M Moren
 4 B Hunt T Strong

Plate

1 M Charrel P Collins
 2 N Van Jole P Gosney
 3 N Gibson E Gibson

Consolation

1 G Dorber R Thorley
 2 Dale Wells Dawn Sanders
 3 D Hatcher R Cunliffe

Gympie Graded Pairs Oct 10

A Section

1 M Jakes G Hart
 2 S Brookes I Halford
 3 A Slater K McDonald

B Section

1 L French D Quigley
 2 J Coop J O'Connell
 3=L George B Theodore
 3=I Brown R Graham

QCBC Swiss Pairs Oct 7

- 1 P Hainsworth P Gosney
- 2 D Janzekovic J Varmo
- 3 C Martin J Broad

B Section

- 1 K Moschner S Sender
- 2 B Blick L Shellshear
- 3 M Stoneman J Williams

Arana Novice Teams Oct 10

- 1 S Solo H Kruse
V Solo J Campbell
- 2 A Norman B Quine
W Holmes B Holmes
- 3=M Owen E Meldrum
S Hall P Mann
- 3=C Lane V Lane
M Munro R Curtin

Mackay 1-day Teams Oct 9

- 1 Brown Brown
Robinson Baldry
- 2 Saunders Goodsall
White Dwarshuis
- 3 Johnson Patroni
McGuire Olive

Gold Coast Swiss Teams Oct 10

- 1 B Hunt R Lachman
K Sanmugarasa R Morawiecki
- 2 N Van Jole F Brown
P Gosney A Hung
- 3 J Malinas Julia Leung
G Malinas D Appleton

Plate

- 1 N Tuxworth J Pritchard
A Tuxworth J Osmund
- 2 H Reid S Vallender
E Taylor C Lewis
- 3 I Afflick P Collins
C Howard K Wood

Consolation

- 1 B Goss J O'Brien
K Steffensen V Roland
- 2 D Hatcher R Cunliffe
T Evensen D McLaughlin
- 3 G Roberts A Smith
J Power B Carroll

Gold Coast Novice Teams Nov 14

- 1 L Tillotson P Stone
N deMestre M deMestre
- 2 J Swanson G Yatea
A Turnbull J Correy

Plate

- 1 R Rooney B Hunt
N Cameron D Piddington
- 2 M Bullivant V Bullivant
G Vinall F Cheilyk

Qld Graded Teams Championship Oct 24

Life and Grand

- 1 R Parker N Van Jole
P Hainsworth P Gosney
- 2 B Barden J Pritchard
N & A Tuxworth
- 3 D Croft N Francis
J Solomon T Strong

Below Life

- 1 R Graham M Graham
N Dellaca J Dellaca
- 2 H England M Hutton
J Morrow S Pearce
- 3 B Carroll J Power
A Smith P Roberts

< 100 masterpoints

- 1 T Duffy P Evans
G Macionis A Guminski
- 2 P Schoen Y Carter
B Stuthe J Stacey
- 3 A Hung G Bloomfield
R Touton G Martin

NSBC Butler Pairs Oct 30-31

- 1 D Croft R Morawiecki
- 2 K Dawson A Kelly
- 3 D Anderson T Jackman
- 4 R Clayton C Green

Section B

- 1 A Nichols A Clayton
- 2=G Gemmell J Hoffman
- 2=D Wilkinton M Hoenig

Section C

- 1 J Farquhar M Anderson
- 2 P Thompson M O'Donohue

Hervey Bay Oct 30-31

Pairs

- 1 G Kellerman R Davenport
- 2 P Hawkins C Reed
- 3 R Lorraway J Dooner

Teams

- 1 I Halford S Brookes
V Brookes M Radke
- 2 B O'Rourke S O'Rourke
A Harrison D Harrison
- 3 G Hart M Jakes
P Barnett P Sykes

Central Qld Teams Mackay Oct 30-31

- 1 J Morris S Birrer
J Laws B Gibbs
- 2 R Hadwen J Crowley
N Knapman P Woodward

Redlands Graded Teams Nov 13

A Grade

- 1 A Tuxworth N Tuxworth
J Pritchard B Barden

- 2 R Parker S Parker
P Hainsworth P Gosney
- 3 M Robson B Lee
M Moren N Francis

B Grade

- 1 T O'Dempsey P Hale
J Wang H Zhang
- 2 P Alp J Sherrell
A Green B Morgan
- 3 J Hicks W O'Brien
J Rohde L Ranke

C Grade

- 1 G Smythe R Bloy
S Dawson M Nestor
- 2=S Hall P Mann
E Meldrum M Owen
- 2=A Dowling J Dowling
B Geise E Geise

Gold Coast Butler Pairs Oct 9

- 1=K Sanmugarasa R Morawiecki
- 1=J Osmund G Kadem
- 3 N Francis M Moren
- 4 B Hunt T Strong

Plate

- 1 M Charrel P Collins
- 2 N Van Jole P Gosney
- 3 N Gibson E Gibson

Consolation

- 1 G Dorber R Thorley
- 2 D Wells D Sanders
- 3 D Hatcher R Cunliffe

Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams

A Section

- 1 Rosa Lachman Bill Hunt
Larry Moses Richard Touton
- 2 John Craig Richard Wallis
Ivy Luck John Luck
- 3 Claire Green John Mills
Audrey Stitt Graham Rusher

B Section

- 1 Ken Moschner Sylvia Sender
Joe Manara Ulita Manara
- 2 Margaret Welldon Valerie Cran
Vonnice Wallace Julie Cutmore
- 3 Jan Peach Geoffrey Slack-Smith
Pamela Tink Marjorie Hutton

C Section

- 1 Peter Lang Gary Wardrop
Doug Meyers Graham Holliday
- 2 Robert & Rosemary Matthew
Tony Agar Andrew Guminski
- =3 Dana Holmes Michael Holmes
Tracy Newnham Wolf Stuthe
- =3 Pauline Krueger Marie Baker
Dieter Grant-Frost Dawn Richards

2004 Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams

- 1 Toowong Bridge Club
- 2 Brisbane Bridge Centre
- 3 Queensland Contract Bridge Club
- 4 Arana
- 5 Northern Suburbs
- 6 Eastern Suburbs

QBA Calendar 2005

Novice Events are <100 MPs unless stated

JANUARY

- Dec 29-31 Jan 2 Brisbane Festival of Bridge - QBA
Jan 1-3 Tablelands Pairs and Teams
Jan 9 Gold Coast Swiss Teams
Jan 11-24 ABF SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE
Jan 16 Ipswich Swiss Pairs
Jan 21-23 Townsville Australia Day Pairs
Jan 23 Northern Suburbs Teams
Jan 26 Townsville Australia Day Teams
Jan 29-30 QBA Senior Teams C'ship - Sun Coast

FEBRUARY

- Feb 6 Toowong Swiss Pairs
Feb 13 Warwick Swiss Pairs
QCBC Novice Teams
Cairns Novice Pairs
Feb 19-26 QBA Gold Coast Congress

MARCH

- Mar 6 Toowong Novice Swiss Pairs
Broadwater Swiss Pairs
Mar 12-13 QBA Selection Trials - Open and Women
Rockhampton Butler Pairs
Mar 13 Dalby Swiss Pairs
Surfers Novice Pairs
Arana Swiss Teams
Mar 17-21 ABF Open/Womens Play Off
Mar 19-20 Proserpine/Whitsunday Pairs
Mar 20 Sunshine Coast Graded Pairs
Toowoomba Novice Pairs (< 50 MPs)
Mar 25-28 Cairns Pairs and Teams
Mar 27-28 BBC Graded Pairs and Graded Teams

APRIL

- Apr 2 QBA Selection Trials - Open and Women
Apr 3 Northern Suburbs Pairs
Townsville Pairs
Apr 9-10 QBA Selection Trials - Open and Women
Gympie Graded Pairs and Swiss Teams
Apr 10 Redlands Novice Teams
Apr 14-18 ABF Senior Play-offs
Apr 16-17 QBA Selection Trials - Senior
Apr 17 Cooloolm Butler Pairs
Apr 23-24 QBA Selection Trials - Senior
Apr 23-25 Cleveland Bay Diggers Pairs and Teams
Apr 25 Anzac Teams - QCBC
Apr 29-May 2 Mackay Pairs and Teams
Apr 30-May 2 Toowoomba Swiss Pairs and Teams
ABF Senior Play Offs (April 28-May 2)

MAY

- May 1 Mudgeeraba Novice Pairs
May 4, 11, 18 Colin Stone Teams - Rnd 1, 2, 3 (Toowong)
May 7 Surfers Swiss Teams
May 14-15 QBA Mixed Pairs - Toowong
May 21-22 Caloundra Teams
May 22 BBC Graded Swiss Pairs
Northern Suburbs Novice Pairs (< 50 MPs)
May 28-29 Goondiwindi Butler Pairs
May 28 Redlands Novice Pairs
May 29 QBA Mind Games

JUNE

- June 1, 8, 22, 29 Colin Stone Teams - Toowong
June 4-5 Arana Pairs and Teams
June 10-13 QBA Barrier Reef Congress - Townsville
June 12-13 QCBC Pairs and Teams
June 18-19 Sunshine Coast Teams and Swiss Pairs
June 19 Toowong Swiss Pairs
(Restricted Section <150 MPs)
June 25-26 Gold Coast Swiss Teams
Bowen Pairs
June 26 BBC Novice Pairs (<75 MPs)

JULY

Colin Stone Teams finals (dates to be advised)

- July 3 QBA Graded Pairs (QCBC)
July 9 Mackay Pairs
July 10 Lockyer Pairs
Caloundra Novice Pairs
Noosa Teams
July 16-17 Bundaberg Pairs
July 17 Ipswich Novice Pairs
Broadwater Swiss Teams
July 22-23 Cairns Pairs and Teams
July 23-Aug 6 ANC - Sydney - Butler in 2nd week
July 30 Mackay Novice Pairs
July 30-31 Moreton Bribie Pairs and Teams
July 31 Northern Suburb Novice Teams
Toowoomba Swiss Pairs

AUGUST

- Aug 6-7 Maryborough Swiss Pairs and Teams
Reliable Carrier Pairs - Cleveland Bay
Aug 7 Sunnybank Swiss Pairs
Aug 7-17 World Youth Championships - Sydney
Aug 13 Townsville Novice Pairs
Aug 13-14 Surfers Teams
Rockhampton Swiss Teams
Aug 14 Toowong Novice Teams
Aug 20-21 QBA Butler Pairs Championship - QCBC
Aug 26 QBA Mixed Teams C'ship - QCBC, Rnd 1
Aug 26-28 Tully Pairs
Aug 28 Sunshine Coast Teams

SEPTEMBER

- Sept 3-4 QBA Qld Teams Championship (Toowong)
Sept 10-11 Brisbane Festival Pairs & Teams (QCBC)
Sept 10 Townsville Teams
Sept 17 Surfers Paradise Butler Pairs
Cleveland Bay Novice Pairs (<50 MPS)
Sept 17-18 Caloundra Pairs and Teams
Sept 18 Surfers Paradise Birthday Teams
Sept 21 QBA Mixed Teams C'ship - QCBC Rnd 2
Sept 24-25 Mackay Barometer Pairs
Sept 25 Noosa Swiss Teams
BBC Graded Swiss Teams

OCTOBER

- Oct 1 Dalby Swiss Pairs
Tamborine Swiss Teams
Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs
Redlands Swiss Pairs
Tamborine Novice Swiss Teams
Oct 2 Mackay Teams
Oct 8 Gold Coast Butler Pairs and Teams
Oct 8-9 Cleveland Bay Teams
Arana Novice Teams
Gympie Swiss Teams
Oct 15-16 QBA Pairs Championship (BBC)
Oct 21 QBA Mixed Teams C'ship - QCBC Rnd 3
Oct 21-23 Townsville Magnetic Teams
Oct 23 QBA Qld Graded Teams (QCBC)
Oct 29 Mackay Novice Teams
Oct 29-30 Northern Suburbs Butler Pairs
Hervey Bay Pairs and Teams
Cairns Pairs
Oct 30 Surfers Paradise Novice Teams

NOVEMBER

- Nov 6 QCBC Swiss Pairs
Cleveland Bay Anniversary Pairs
Nov 12 Townsville Novice Teams
Redlands Graded Teams
Nov 12-13 Coral Coast Teams - Bowen
Nov 13 Warwick Pairs
Nov 18-21 GNOT - Sydney
Nov 19-20 Qld Senior and Youth Pairs Champ (tba)
Nov 19-26 Qld Wide Pairs
Nov 26 Central Qld Teams (Mackay)
Nov 26-27 Noosa Butler Pairs
Nov 27 QCBC Novice Pairs

DECEMBER

- Dec 2 QBA Mixed Teams C'ship - QCBC Rnd 4
Dec 4 Toowong Swiss Pairs (Rest. section < 150 MPs)

Directors' Corner

In most situations, the director's task is to restore equity and there is no question of punishment, even though the laws speak of penalties. A bid at partner's or LHO's turn to call gives so much information to partner that, should LHO not accept the bid, the only way to restore equity is to require partner to pass for the rest of the auction. Lead penalties may also be applied. This situation is most common when the wrong player makes an opening bid.

To bid at LHO's turn later in the auction is treated under Law 25 Changes of Call.

Doubles and redoubles out of rotation also give a great deal of information to partner. Providing they are not inadmissible, LHO may accept them. If not accepted and made at partner's turn to call, or are inadmissible and next hand has not called, partner must pass throughout the auction and lead penalties may apply. Law 32B covers other situations. Section Four is a very complex area of the laws and damage often results from calls out of rotation. Call the director.

Partner must pass throughout when an insufficient bid is not accepted and either it or the cheapest correction in the same denomination may be conventional. Partner must pass throughout when a natural insufficient bid is not corrected to a natural meaning sufficient bid in the same denomination at the cheapest level. An attempt to correct and insufficient bid with a double or redouble will also mean that partner must pass.

If a natural insufficient bid is not accepted and is corrected to the cheapest sufficient bid in the same natural denomination, the auction continues with very little qualification. Partner is entitled to know that the insufficient bidder may not have the hand that their system assigns to the sufficient bid. 16C2 - unauthorised information - does not apply. Partner does not have to push on to a ridiculous contract because the new bid shows a stronger hand. Partner is not entitled to use the information gained by the insufficient bid to get a better result than in a normal auction. An adjusted score may be assigned.

Law 53C gives an exception to Law 53B and is often overlooked. When a lead is made from the wrong hand and next player follows, it is usually deemed that the lead from the wrong hand has been accepted and play continues. The exception is that if an opponent of the player who should lead leads and next hand follows, the correct hand may still lead and

cards already played are picked up without penalty. Unauthorised information applies if the offender is a defender.

The sequence does not have to happen almost simultaneously. Any player may draw attention to an irregularity and then the director must be called. 9B1(c) says that summoning the director does not cause a player to forfeit any rights to which he might otherwise be entitled.

Seen at recent congresses - and not to be recommended:

Dummy moving remaining suits across so that a void is filled.

Player who won't be making the opening lead, and intending to pass regardless of the answer, asking about a conventional call before making the final pass.

Dummy scooping up his remaining cards as declarer or a defender ponders his next lead.

Dummy picking up a card without instruction, even out of rotation, as soon as a lead is made.

Players turning over cards before all four players have played to the trick.

Declarer leading and immediately calling for a card from the dummy before LHO has followed.

Players to make the opening lead keeping everyone waiting while they write in their personal record.

Players required to display the dummy keeping everyone waiting while they write in their personal record.

Players looking at their own convention card during the auction.

Players making remarks to discomfort opponents - sledging.

■ Jan Peach

Editing of Material

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

D E A D

JAN 10 (noon)

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L I N E

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Mob: 0409 786 050

Fax: 07 3395 2261

Email: J.Hardy@uq.net.au

Qld Open Teams

Continued from page 2

M 2	♠ Q5
Bd 24	♥ Q962
Dlr W	♦ 1062
Vul None	♣ J973
♠ K10	♠ A976432
♥ AK8753	♥ J4
♦ Q43	♦ 75
♣ 82	♣ KQ
	♠ J8
	♥ 10
	♦ AKJ98
	♣ A10654

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

We had a lucky escape when EW failed to double the final contract of 5C in which we made only 8 tricks for -150 instead of -500. 2NT could be strong or weak, and when Therese bid 4C I assumed (as did EW) that she had the strong variety, so bid a borderline game.

EW are cold for 4S, so it seemed like a potential pick-up, but NS were in the bidding at the other table as well, and the bidding stopped at 4C. The board average was -270, so about half of the pairs must have bid the game.

M 3	♠ AK62
Bd 3	♥ KJ76
Dlr S	♦ AQ
Vul EW	♣ J42
♠ 54	♠ 973
♥ 932	♥ AQ5
♦ J8743	♦ 9652
♣ Q108	♣ 953
	♠ QJ108
	♥ 1084
	♦ K10
	♣ AK87

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

I decided that I would try for slam if I could find a fit, but settle for 3NT if no fit was found. When an ace was found to be missing, I stopped in 5S, as the king of the same suit could have been missing as well. Alas, the heart finesse lost, and the DQ was wasted, so 5S was one level too high and we lost 10 IMPs against the

4S making 10 tricks at the other table.

I was not alone, as the board average was only +240.

M 4	♠ J932
Bd 17	♥ K9
Dlr N	♦ K5432
Vul None	♣ Q7
♠ K10864	♠ A7
♥ A8	♥ Q1043
♦ J6	♦ AQ1098
♣ K1064	♣ J2
	♠ Q5
	♥ J7652
	♦ 7
	♣ A9853

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

On this board we had an unusual auction. 2NT by Therese was for the two lowest suits, and 3S by West was non-forcing. This delicate contract went 1 off for +50, although double-dummy, it can be made, at least by Deep Finesse.

At the other table, Richard and Lindy did extremely well to bid to 3NT and make 10 tricks for +430 and 10 IMPs. The board average was only -200.

M 5	♠ Q10876
Bd 1	♥ 5
Dlr N	♦ 4
Vul None	♣ AKJ972
♠ AK3	♠ 4
♥ Q10876	♥ AKJ943
♦ A63	♦ J102
♣ 54	♣ Q108
	♠ J852
	♥ 2
	♦ KQ9875
	♣ 63

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

Sitting North I opened 2S which showed less than opening strength and spades and a minor (5-5). Therese raised to game and West made a points-showing double. Expecting that East was going to bid a red suit, I bid 5C to show Therese my other suit in case she only had 3-card spade support, and to suggest a lead if East was declarer, and East doubled for penalties.

When this came around to me I passed expecting clubs to be a better contract, but Therese and I were not on the same wavelength, and I went 3 off for -500.

At the other table Richard and Lindy did compete to 5H, but NS sacrificed in 5SX, but that was only +300 and 5 IMPs away.

The board average was only -260, so some NS pairs must have been allowed to play in 4SX.

M 6	♠ QJ876
Bd 23	♥ 5
Dlr S	♦ KJ
Vul Both	♣ AK986
♠ A10932	♠ —
♥ A109	♥ Q876
♦ 54	♦ A9873
♣ Q74	♣ 10532
	♠ K54
	♥ KJ432
	♦ Q1062
	♣ J

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

West doubled my final bid of 4S after being silent throughout. I initially thought that it may have been asking for a heart lead through dummy, but East cashed the DA and led another diamond, all following.

It now looked like a trump stack, so I led the H5 to the HJ in dummy and when West won the HA, the trump position was clear. I won the heart return in dummy discarding a club, and led the DQ, on which both West and I discarded a club. I now ruffed a heart to hand, led the CA and ruffed a club low in dummy and led the last diamond. West ruffed with the S9, and I over-ruffed with the SJ and ruffed my CK in dummy with the SK. West over-ruffed with the SA and I was still 1 off as my spades were higher than any in dummy so I could be endplayed, but West exited with the ST and I was high.

At the other table Richard and Lindy were playing 5-card weak twos, and Lindy opened 2S as West and played there undoubled for -400, but 9 IMPs to us. The board average was only +120, so other tables must have had fun with the board, with at least one other table successful in 3SX by North.

■ Richard Wallis

The safest time to compete is by opening the bidding immediately.

Marshall Miles

Qld Open Pairs

Continued from page 7

F 1 ♠ J1065
 Bd 14 ♥ Q2
 Dlr E ♦ J97
 Vul None ♣ A1054

♠ Q4	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ A2
N		E				
W		S				
♥ AK863		♥ 7				
♦ KQ	♦ A1086542					
♣ J932	♣ Q76					

♠ K9873
 ♥ J10954
 ♦ 3
 ♣ K8

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

On this board I did not know which hand should be declarer in 3NT, or if I should bid 5D. Since if Wynne has Axx in spades, it is better for my hand to be declarer, I elected not to use 4th suit, and bid 3NT myself.

This was not a success when South proved to have the SK, and the diamonds did not behave, and we scored our only absolute bottom. 5D can make by playing South for their precise club holding, but is likely to have gone 1 off.

F 2 ♠ A872
 Bd 1 ♥ J10632
 Dlr N ♦ 93
 Vul None ♣ AJ

♠ Q104	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ K653
N		E				
W		S				
♥ 85		♥ Q7				
♦ K65	♦ QJ742					
♣ K10983	♣ Q2					

♠ J9
 ♥ AK94
 ♦ A108
 ♣ 7654

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

I considered that my 2 aces justified an opening bid in Precision (11-15), but I missed the system bid of 2D, which included Flannery. The 1S overcall showed either at least 4 spades or the other 2 suits, and 3H was not forcing. Since West had both minors and was prepared to compete at the 4-level, he bid 3S, which was pass or correct, and

Wynne revalued her crisp controls and bid game after all.

This is a routine game for 10 tricks, but East led the DQ, which I won to draw trumps in 2 rounds and lead ace and another spade. It does not pay to assume that you know what your opponent is going to do next, for East won the SQ on the second round and led a diamond to West's king who returned a small diamond. I had a sure club loser, so discarded it on the diamond return, but East, assuming that I was going to ruff, had already played low before he noticed my discard. +450 was our only complete top of the weekend.

F 2 ♠ J8632
 Bd 14 ♥ KQJ9
 Dlr E ♦ 10764
 Vul None ♣ —

♠ AK	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ Q97
N		E				
W		S				
♥ 2		♥ A10653				
♦ AQ5	♦ K98					
♣ KQJ7432	♣ 95					

♠ 1054
 ♥ 874
 ♦ J32
 ♣ A1086

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

My 1C was Precision, the 1H overcall showed both majors, and the 2NT bid showed 9-11 with stops in both majors.

Since I already had the AK of spades, I reasoned that Wynne's other honour cards would give me a chance for 12 tricks and bid a simple 6C. South gave the bidding some thought when it came around to her, not surprising after the leap to slam, but passed and North led the HK.

Unfortunately I did not divine the trump position, so finished 1 off for an equal bottom. After the hand was over, South admitted that she gave some thought to doubling, and if she had I probably would have been able to write up +1090, as running the C9 at trick 1 is now a much better bet.

This illustrates the folly of doubling high-level contracts for 1 off when you have a trump surprize, as it can often show declarer how to play the hand.

Do not sacrifice with a 4-3-3-3 shaped hand

Ron Klinger

F 2 ♠ KQ8762
 Bd 20 ♥ KQ109
 Dlr W ♦ 92
 Vul Both ♣ 10

♠ 1053	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ AJ
N		E				
W		S				
♥ 876		♥ A53				
♦ J1075	♦ 84					
♣ A98	♣ QJ7654					

♠ 94
 ♥ J42
 ♦ AKQ63
 ♣ K32

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

North opened 1S on a shapely hand as some would, but made the mistake of bidding again over my simple 3C raise of Wynne's overcall. South had nowhere else to go except 3NT, and I led the C8.

This was meant to be low from an honour, but the spot card is very large, and South misread the situation when he ducked the CJ from Wynne. This was foolish as my raise showed at least 3-card support, so he should have taken the CK and then tried to run 5 diamond tricks and get a few discards from us.

However, he tried to take the CK on the second round and then realized that he had made a mistake, finishing 4 off for +400 to us. This seemed like a top, but was only worth 80%.

The North hand is difficult to evaluate, as it has great potential in spite of only 10 HCPs if South has a fit, but no potential with a poor fit. It is not normally a good idea to open with a weak-2 holding 4 cards in the other major, so maybe a wait and see approach would be better.

Richard Wallis

Some time ago when an Australian team was playing the Far East Championships in Hong Kong, one of the players visited a tailor and bought four suits. The tailor was highly persuasive as Hong Kong tailors invariably are, and our man was talked into buying a fifth suit. It was clearly a case of fourth-suit forcing!