

NOOSA BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

August 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year is certainly flying by and each week our club seems busier than ever. I would like to thank our directors for the marvelous job they do. The Club needs directors and we encourage anyone interested in training to discuss this with Kevin Feeney who has agreed to take on the role of director training. Congratulations to Doug Byrnes who has recently been appointed as a director. Thank you, Kevin.

The Committee decided to remove the "percentage" function from Bridgemate. To speed up play, North (or South) is to control the Bridgemate and enter the score, East (or West) is to verify the result if correct, pressing the **cancel** button so the next game can start.

The committee recently discussed the question of the biscuits supplied and is satisfied with the quality and the cost of the biscuits currently provided. Thank you Pam.

Thanks also to Peter Althaus for ensuring that the air conditioners are working to full capacity. Members are reminded that the Committee Member of the day is in control of the air conditioners and that the control room is otherwise out of bounds.

Our front and back ramps have been repaired and I would like to thank Mike Flanagan for providing his assistance to the builder at no cost to the club.

Congratulations to all members who have been winners at our club or indeed at other clubs. Special congratulations to Maureen Jakes, Rosie

Green and Greer Tucker, members of the Queensland Team that recently won the ANC Womens' Teams event in Canberra. We are fortunate to have players of this calibre in our Club.

Remember members, that if you have any queries on any club matters, please talk to me or to another Committee member. Our Club membership now stands at 316.

Mark your calendar for Melbourne Cup Day on 3rd November and watch the notice board for further details.

To all members, enjoy your bridge and remember that 'Your Club is Simply the Best!'

Lyne Collins
President

With Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Gay Buckingham on the recent death of her husband Bryan.

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to the Club's new members:

Michael Shaw	Barbara Shaw
John Lewis	Jennifer Hurley
Marlo Douglass	Janet Brodie-Wallace
Jenny Mawson	



DIDN'T THEY DO WELL!

Australian National Congress Womens' Teams Championships

Maureen Jakes, Rosie Green and Greer Tucker

Maureen and Rosie's finely honed skills and partnership agreements and understandings stood them in very good stead in the Queensland women's team at the Australian Bridge Federation's Australian National Congress Womens' Teams event in Canberra recently. Greer's steadying influence as non-playing Team Captain helped the six player team to win the event, with Maureen and Rosie qualifying for the 2010 Australian national trials in March. Well done ladies!

Bundaberg Pairs and Teams

Kevin Feeney, David Harris, Kendall Early and Larry Norden

Kevin and David won the Bundaberg Pairs on 18 July then the following day, they joined with Kendall and Larry to win the Bundaberg Teams event. A great effort!

Dick Trollope, Sandy Regan, Ines Dawes and Tessa Townend also played very well, being placed second in the Bundaberg teams event.

NOOSA SWISS TEAMS CONGRESS

This event again proved very successful with 32 teams competing and a profit of \$742.81 before ABF fees were deducted. While the objective of running a congress is to provide an enjoyable day of competition for players, the small profit indicates that the club is able to manage such events without the need so far to increase the entry fees.

Such events could not be run so well without the help of our members including the Congress

Committee Bev Salter, Muriel Loveday and Kath McKay - Muriel's contribution was outstanding; our Director Peter Busch, ably assisted by Bev Salter; Colin Regan, who organized the printed materials and the QBA approvals process; Doug Byrnes for setting up the room; Caddies Alan Pringle and Helen Tomson; Kitchen helpers Carolyn Dalton, Phyl Moody, Beth Tolley and Dawn Mansfield and also Karen Phillips, our kitchen manager whose role is integral to the smooth running of our meals and refreshments at these congresses and all those players and others who helped tidy up at the end of the day.

It was especially gratifying to note the contributions of some of our newer members.

Thanks also to the members who provided a sumptuous array of cakes and other treats to keep the hunger pangs at bay.

All in all, another outstanding team effort!

The results were:

Section A

1st: Jackman Team (Tony Jackman, Ron Clark, Alan Smith and Robyn Clayton)

2nd: Walford Team (Tony Walford, Dick Trollope, Joan McPheat and Reg Busch)

3rd: Shaw Team (Elizabeth Shaw, Sandy Regan, Lanning Smith and Peter Tall)

Section B

1st: Reed Team (Catherine Reed, Hilary French, Ross Gyde and Barry Midgley)

2nd: Halvorsen Team (Sam Halvorsen, Georgina Cassels, Jane Dalziell and Sheryl Cullenward)



Section C

1st: Beckett Team (Ed Beckett, Jan Beckett, Doug Carlson and Julia Carlson)

NOVICE GRAND NATIONAL PAIRS

This competition for players under 300 MPs as at 1 January 2009 was held over three days (a week apart). The results demonstrated that consistent good play is the key to winning such events.

Results:

1st Diane Quigley and Ross Gyde
2nd Elma Paull and Tim Ridley
3rd Carole Robinson and Susan Lee

COMING EVENTS

Check our web site and watch the notice board for the following events

Club Team Championships - Friday 31 July, Friday 7 August and Friday 14 August (2 sessions at 9.15 am and 12.30 pm)

Noosa Novice Pairs - Sunday 30 August. This is our first ever Novice Congress and we urge all our members with fewer than 100 Master Points to enter.

Noosa Swiss Teams - Sunday 20 September

Pro-Am Pairs (Red Points) - Monday 21 September and Monday 28 September

Spring Pairs (Red Point) - Monday 12 October and Monday 19 October.

TEACHING AND DEVELOPMENT

Once again, there was an outstanding response to the Club's invitation to the public to join our

Learn to Play Bridge classes. Clearly the word has spread that in David and Bev we have two remarkable teachers able not only to teach the basic skills but to instill an enthusiasm for the game among our students. It is heartening to see students joining the club, progressing to play initially in the Novice/assisted group before moving on to play in regular games and events.

WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

The popularity of the Wednesday morning session suggests that many of our learner and less experienced players appreciate the opportunity to play at a slightly more relaxed pace and in divisions where they will meet competition at a level comparable to their own experience.

The Wednesday morning tea treats are another incentive to attend, especially in the winter months when we all appreciate the hot savoury pies. Our slightly extended morning tea breaks provide the ideal opportunity for members to meet and get to know each other.

It must be acknowledged that while some of our members thrive on the stiff competition this club provides, others simply love to come along for a friendly game in a relaxed, social environment.

It is nice when we can accommodate the needs of all of our members.

LIBRARY CORNER

Every bridge player who reviews a session of play invariably comes to the conclusion that they could have scored better if they had not made so many silly mistakes. Very rarely can a disappointing score be attributed to brilliancies on the part of other players.

If we could just cut down on our errors we could score better. Help is available in our library.



A couple of authors have attempted to identify the most common areas in which mistakes are made:

43 Hugh Kelsey, How to Improve your Bridge (highly recommended)

87 S J Simon, Why You Lose at Bridge

54 Ron Klinger, Bridge Without Error

Other authors have listed a series of quick tips:

48 Ron Klinger, 50 Winning Duplicate Tips

92 Ron Klinger, 100 Winning Bridge Tips

When it comes to the correct way to play particular combinations of cards, the Official Encyclopedia of Bridge (19 - Reference Book kept in library, ie, not to be borrowed) is a wonderful source of information.

In the centre pages (pages 426 to 481), you will find pages covering a wide range of card combinations and the percentage chances of winning different numbers of tricks by different plays. Do you play for the drop or the finesse? Do you finesse twice or play the Ace and lead towards the Queen? Should you play away from the Ace and lead towards a lesser honour? Should you finesse a much lower card like the 8? It can save you a lot of wasted mental energy at the table (and mistakes) if you are familiar with many of the correct plays on particular card combinations.

Geoff Hart

MEMOIRS OF A SOMETIMES BEMUSED DIRECTOR - NOOSA BRIDGE CLUB

DIRECTOR PLEASE!

Director: What is the problem?

Table A "We haven't played together before so I didn't know whether to bid 2C or 2D to show a big hand. I wrote 2, then as I didn't know what to do, I wrote 3 as I has 23 points. Sorry, Director."

Table B "North was about to open the bidding when West said "Of course" and immediately wrote an X on the bidding pad. West then said, "That's what I should have done on the previous hand. Sorry, Director."

Table C North/South and East/West were best friends who had not seen each other for years. They sat down to play and after the round, realized that they had played He with Him and She with Her, as they had done years ago.

"We played North/East and South/West. Sorry, Director."

Table D 1 S from east. 2K from South. "I suddenly realized I should have put up the King from dummy on the last round. Then I would have made my contract. Sorry, Director."

Table E "I was about to win the trick with the Ace of Diamonds, when South also played an Ace of Diamonds."

Director: "Show me the backs of the cards"

South: "Oh! I haven't put back the cards from the last round. Sorry, Director."

Table F "I have 14 cards in my hand" said North. "I have 12 cards in my hand" said West.

The Director then checked the traveling score sheet to find that they had been recorded that way and already had been played at 3 tables before the mistake surfaced. The players at table 1 all chorused: "Sorry, Director."

There are more such tales but that is enough for now. The Club is calling for volunteers to become directors. If you are interested, please see Kevin Feeney. Directing classes will start mid August.

Kevin Feeney

