

# NOOSA BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

January 2015

## From the President

New Year's greetings to all!

It's been an exciting time since the last newsletter, highlighted by the amazing Christmas Party. Hopefully everyone has enjoyed all events on the calendar.

Now, we look forward to a new year filled with new opportunities and possibilities. Some of our members will participate in the Annual Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra in January and many will play in February's Gold Coast Congress.

Good luck and happy times to all. Then, in March we are hosting the prestige event of the year – the Queensland Mixed Teams. This is a three-session event over Saturday/Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of March and will probably attract many players from Brisbane and beyond. Everyone should consider participating. If not playing, please consider volunteering as caddy or kitchen help and everyone's donation to the food table will be much appreciated.

And now it's only two short months until our Club's AGM. That means it's time to start thinking about whether you could make a contribution to your Club – by nominating for an executive or committee position or by posing a motion. Why not have some input?

All the best from Gerald



thank  
you!

Big thanks to Maureen Jakes for taking Jill Tuckey's place as Partnership Arranger over the past several months. Now Maureen will be away a bit, so Jan Beckett will fill the role until 23 January & again between 30 January – 5 February. Thanks Jan!

## Christmas Party



As evidenced by continuing accolades the 2014 Christmas Party was a success enjoyed by 176 members – with a big factor being the lunch provided by Tori's Catering. No doubt the champagne flowing at 11.00 am also helped.

Regarding the actual bridge playing on the day, the unusual division of the room into four sections of 11 tables each meant that Novice & Open players were thrown together. Because of the "party" atmosphere, this was generally well-accepted and many players report that engaging with people they barely knew was a very positive result.

It's at the Christmas Party that prizes won during the year are awarded. And the winners were:



March – President's Trophy  
Open – Kath McKay & Elma Paull  
Intermediate – Gillian Hardy & Rhona Vickers



May – Club Pairs Championship  
Winners – David Harris & Tim Ridley  
Runners Up – Ross Gyde (absent) & Di Quigley,  
pictured with Gerald Schaaf





May – Novice Pairs Championship  
 Winners – Meg Pace & Pam Robinson  
 Runners Up – Warrick Newton & Don Robertson



SWOOP – Best Non-Open Team at GCC – Lizi French, Ross Gyde, Di Quigley & Penny Sykes



June – Pro-Am Pairs  
 Winners – Malcolm Mawson & Tessa Townend

**WELL DONE  
 EVERYONE!!**



QWP (5<sup>TH</sup> N/S) - Hilary French & Di Quigley

Joan Rathbun Trophy (to the novice who gained the most points at the Club in 2014) – Don Robertson



August – Club Teams Championship  
 Winners – David Harris, Tim Ridley, Di Stagg & Kendall Early



Encouragement Award (Best performing Nil Master) – Syl Thiebaud



Runners Up – Ross Gyde, Pam Hawkins, Barry Midgley & Dick Trollope

SWOOP – Best Open Team at GCC – Margaret Bazzan, Georgina Cassels, Beth Gutteridge, Jeanette Roughley



November – John Fell Pairs  
 Open – Ross Gyde & Di Quigley  
 Restricted – Angela Hall & Susan Lee  
 Novice – Lesley Cobb & Alexa Parker

**\*\* Big thanks to our photographer, Lorraine Vachon \*\***



# Bridge Quiz – Question

♠ Q 10 4 2  
♥ K 5  
♦ A 7 3  
♣ A K J 6

♦ K lead

♠ K 3  
♥ Q 10 6 4 3  
♦ 10 9 5 2  
♣ 7 3

West	North	East	South
pass	2 ♣	pass	1 ♠
pass	6 ♠	all pass	2 ♠

West leads the ♦ K against 6♣. Declarer wins with dummy's ♦A and leads the ♠Q. Will you cover or not? [Answer later in newsletter.]

## Members Achievements

### 10-17 Nov – John Fell Pairs – Nett

Open – Ross Gyde/Di Quigley

Rest – Angela Wall/Susan Less

Novice – Lesley Cobb/Alexa Parker

### 15-16 Nov – Noosa Pairs Congress

A-2<sup>nd</sup>- Geoff Hart +

B-3<sup>rd</sup>- Ed & Jan Beckett

C-2<sup>nd</sup>- Pat Wakeford/Di Musgrave

C-3<sup>rd</sup>- Kath MacKay/Geraldine Howard

### 23 Nov – Zone Graded Pairs @ SCCBC

A-2<sup>nd</sup>- Arch Morrison/Ines Dawes

A-3<sup>rd</sup>- David Harris/Tim Ridley

B-2<sup>nd</sup>- Pat Wakeford/Di Musgrave

### 7 Dec – Redland Graded Teams

A-2<sup>nd</sup>- Maureen Jakes +++

### 22 Dec – Pro-Am (One Day)

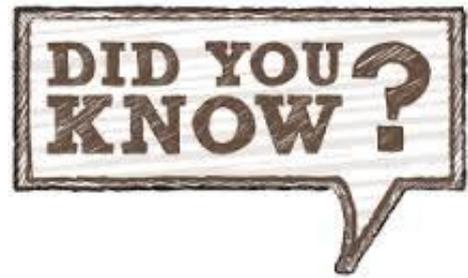
1st – Penny Sykes/Sally Simmons

### “Top 50 Most Improved Players for 2014, Qld”

4 Noosa members are on this ABF list – Don Robertson, Kiyomi Avunduk, Margaret Robertson, Tim Ridley

### “Top 100 Players Nationally for 2014”

2 Noosa members are on this ABF list – David Harris, Maureen Jakes



... that our website now has a photo page currently featuring candid snaps from the Christmas party. <http://www.noosabridge.com/picsshow.asp>

... that the McCutcheon Trophy was established by the ABF in honour of Dr George McCutcheon, recognizing the national player gaining the most Masterpoints annually. The ABF produces a list of the top ten such players in each rank. For 2014, Noosa Bridge Club has 5 members on these lists:

- Tim Ridley – 2<sup>nd</sup> Bronze Life
- Kiyomi Avunduk – 4<sup>th</sup>, National\*
- Margaret Robertson – 8<sup>th</sup>, Local\*\*
- Don Robertson – 2<sup>nd</sup>, Club
- Susie Osmaston – 8<sup>th</sup>, Graduate

... that the James O’Sullivan Trophy was established by the QBA in honor of James O’Sullivan, recognizing the Queensland players gaining the most Masterpoints annually. The ABF produces a list of the top ten such players in each rank. For 2014, Noosa Bridge Club has 11 members on these lists:

- David Harris – 2<sup>nd</sup>, Grand
- Maureen Jakes – 4<sup>th</sup>, Grand
- Ann Mellings – 7<sup>th</sup>, Grand
- Tim Ridley, 1<sup>st</sup>, Bronze Life
- Jill Tuckey, 10<sup>th</sup>, Life
- Merrelyn Daly, 10<sup>th</sup>, National\*\*
- Gayna Ryan, 7<sup>th</sup>, State\*
- Margaret Robertson – 3<sup>rd</sup>, Local\*\*
- Don Robertson – 1<sup>st</sup>, Club
- Susie Osmaston, 4<sup>th</sup> Graduate
- Helen Lawson- 8<sup>th</sup>, Nil

... that Peter Busch has been appointed as Queensland State Masterpoints Secretary. Congratulations Peter!

... that 43.6 percent of all slam contracts fail;  
62.7 percent of all bridge players are women;  
97.8 percent of all bridge statistics, including these, are made up.



# Tips for Teams

At normal Club sessions we play Matchpointed Pairs. When you play as a team of four in a teams event, the form of scoring is quite different. To perform well at teams scoring you need to adjust aspects of your bidding and play.

## A. Your performance on the big hands - games and slams - is what really counts.

When playing a session of pairs, all hands are of equal importance. The differences in board scores on a vulnerable slam hand will be of far greater *magnitude* than the differences on a part-score hand, but these *magnitudes* do not matter as your matchpoint score is calculated simply from the number of other pairs you tie or defeat.

But when playing head-to-head against another team the *magnitude* of the differences in board scores does count. If the N/S opposition bid and make a vulnerable game (board score 620), and your N/S do not bid game (board score 170), your team will lose heavily on this board. When a vulnerable game bonus is available, stretch to bid games that you may regard as too risky at pairs.

When your opponents are vulnerable and you are not, there will be opportunities in competitive auctions for you to make sacrifice bids (that you don't expect to make) above their (making) game bid. For example, you sacrifice in 4S over their 4H; or you sacrifice in 5C over their 4S. These can be valuable opportunities to win the board, when the cost of your sacrifice is less than the score they would have achieved by making their game. As a guide, sacrifice **ONLY** when you are not vulnerable to their vulnerable, and you have a combined number of trumps equal to the level of your sacrifice bid. Also, you are less likely to be doubled if you can make your sacrifice early.

Slam bidding is a particularly risky business. You need to add some special tools to your system, especially cue bidding, to improve your slam bidding. I suggest a cautious approach. Try not to get carried away by the thrill involved. If you can manage to bid and make a good proportion of the high-probability slams, you will miss some riskier ones that make and many more riskier ones that fail. You will rarely contemplate a grand slam - only when you can count 14 tricks!

## B. Marginal differences in scores are unimportant, relative to making your contracts or defeating theirs.

Overtricks are not important. Play your game and slam contracts as safely as possible; take safety plays to ensure success.

There is no advantage to playing in NT for the 10-point gain; play in the surest game contract, even if 5C/D instead of 3NT.

Defend tightly so that they have to work for their close contracts. But if their contract seems about to succeed unless partner has a specific holding, attack aggressively even if risking overtrick(s).

If you can see a certain way to defeat their contract by one trick, and a less certain way to set it two tricks, SET it now.

Don't try to improve a partscore contract; play in the safer one.

## C. Don't expose yourself to big penalties.

Be very wary of doubling their partscore contract; if it happens to make, and they get the game bonus, you will lose the board badly!

Don't make crazy saves at high levels when vulnerable.

Keep your two-level overcalls disciplined, with sound suits and values, especially when vulnerable.

If you want to show a hand with interesting shape but lightish values, get your bid in early, before the opponents have a chance to describe their hands.

Don't play catch-up bridge. You might think the match is not going well, but you don't know what is happening at the other table. And losing discipline can often make things worse.

## D. Maintain team harmony. We all play better when relaxed and confident.

Leave your (constructive) discussions with partner until after the match is over.

And when your partners report a particularly poor result during the score-up, don't enquire too closely; next match it may be your turn to report a stuff-up.

Geoff Hart



# Bridge Quiz - Answer

- |            |               |              |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| ♠ 6        | ♠ Q 10 4 2    | ♠ K 3        |
| ♥ J 9 8 2  | ♥ K 5         | ♥ Q 10 6 4 3 |
| ♦ K Q J 8  | ♦ A 7 3       | ♦ 10 9 5 2   |
| ♣ 10 5 4 2 | ♣ A K J 6     | ♣ 7 3        |
|            | ♠ A J 9 8 7 5 |              |
|            | ♥ A 7         |              |
|            | ♦ 6 4         |              |
|            | ♣ Q 8 5       |              |

You should not cover. You know declarer probably has at least six trumps, maybe seven; there is no possibility that you could set up a trick for partner by covering the ♠Q. With seven spades, his correct play is the ♠A when you fail to cover (even with only six he may try to drop a singleton king offside). When your ♠K does not fall, he will play four rounds of clubs, hoping to ditch his diamond loser in time. Not today! You will ruff the third club & return a diamond. Down one.

[Printed with permission from: 'Bridge, 25 ways to be a better defender' by Barbara Seagram & David Bird, Masterpoint Press 2006. Available from The Bridge Shop, www.bridgeshop.com.au]

## New Monday & Wednesday play arrangements

Whenever numbers permit there will be 3 sections.

Mondays – based on Masterpoints:

- 0-34
- 35-300
- 301 +

Wednesdays – based on experience:

- Less than 3 years
- More than 3 years - Intermediate
- More than 3 years - Open

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 20 March 2015

10.30am

Closing Dates:

Motions – 27 February

Nominations – 6 March



A man is stranded on a deserted island for 10 years. One day he notices a speck on the horizon, and he watches intently as it draws near. "It can't be a boat," he thinks. "It can't be a fish." Suddenly, a beautiful woman emerges from the sea wearing scuba gear and a wet suit.

"Hi there!" she says.

The man is amazed. "But... but... how did you get here?"

"Never mind," says the woman as she unzips the left pocket of her wet suit and hands the man a cigarette.

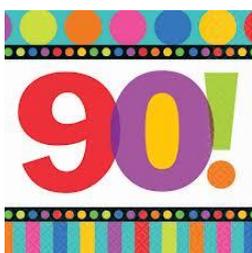
"Wow, this is terrific! I haven't had a smoke in 10 years!"

"Enjoy!" says the woman as she unzips the right pocket of her wet suit and gives the man a flask of whiskey.

"I can't believe it! This tastes so good!"

Next the woman starts to unzip the long zipper that runs down the front of her wet suit. "Now I've got something you must *really* want bad."

"What!" he says, "Don't tell me you've got a *deck of cards* in there too!"



**90<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
congratulations to  
Richard Goddard &  
Joyce Parker**

