



ISSUE 217 OCTOBER 2024

President's Report

The 2024 AGM was held on Saturday September 7. We welcomed three new Board members/directors, Theo Armenis, Judy Stevens and Debbie Usmar. A big thank you to those members who retired from the Board:

- Greg Tosh who has been on the Board for five years
- Jenny Martin who resigned for health reasons
- Jenny Williams who was the Secretary last year

The big day is nearly here. If you haven't replied to your invitation to the **HIGH TEA on Sunday October 20** to help celebrate our 60th Anniversary, please do so immediately. We need to know how many treats to provide.

Have you noticed our new signs on the highway at the entrance and exit driveways? They now face both sides of the highway and are solar powered giving our club a better presence and helping those who can't find us.

The Interclub event with Ballina on 15 September was won by Ballina on the day. However, after an error in the scoring was discovered, a recount resulted in the Gold Coast Bridge Club as the winning team. Sincere congratulations to everyone involved. I was in Hobart celebrating my birthday with family so this was a lovely surprise belated present.

More teams with **under 50 masterpoints** are needed for the **congress on Monday 7 October**. This is a fabulous opportunity for our less experienced players to play teams and not scary as you'll be playing each other. Teams are great fun.

Congratulations to the GCBC team, made up of Margaret Pisko, Trish Anagnostou, Krystyna Homik, Frank Hymus and Sue Spurway, for securing a slot in the finals of the GNOT 2024. Great achievement and we wish them well in Sydney.

We have a very busy time coming up:

- **Melbourne Cup Lunch on November 5** with lunch, drinks, bridge and sweeps. As always, it will be a great day.
- **Joan Butts** will be doing a class on **MODERN BIDDING METHODS on Friday 15 November** from 9.30 - 11.30 at the club. More details to follow.
- **Christmas raffle tickets** will go on sale soon!!

Carolyn

Sponsor of the Month

Our featured sponsor this month is TBIB Insurance. With summer approaching many members may be thinking about travelling and requiring travel insurance. TBIB is ABF endorsed and offers very competitive rates.



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TBIB is also sponsoring the **QBA Festival of Bridge** on 12th to 14th October. This promises to be an exciting competition not too far away in Brisbane.

Remembering Neville and Margaret de Mestre

Neville and Margaret were much loved members of our club. Coincidentally, they were born within two years of each other and died within two years of each other. By the time you read this newsletter the RSVP date of 20th September will have passed. This, of course, was needed to facilitate catering. However, you may still be able to be present for the scattering of the ashes at North Burleigh beach if you wish.



Neville John de Mestre

15th June 1938 – 24th May 2022



Margaret Jean de Mestre

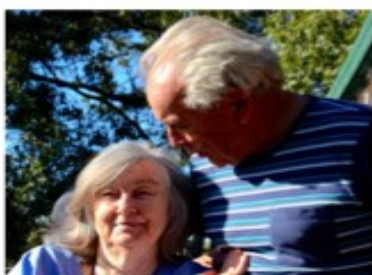
15th February 1940 -10th March 2024

Dear friends and family of Neville and Margaret,
We will be gathering to scatter Mum and Dad's ashes at North Burleigh Beach
on Friday 11th October, 2024.

Please meet us in front of the surf club at 10am.
Afterwards we would love you to join us for morning tea in the surf club,
and share memories of our wonderful parents.

Nicole, Simone and Justine

Please RSVP by Friday 20th September to
nicole_demestre@gmail.com or 0402702103



A Summary of Scoring

With some red point teams events coming up now might be a worthwhile time to give a brief summary of differences in scoring.

1. Matchpoints (MPs) - Pairs

Most of your bridge sessions at the club will be played as pairs. This form of the game is scored by matchpoints meaning you and your partner will be competing against other pairs sitting the same direction and who play the same boards as you. For instance, in a pairs session, each board is played a number of times which is usually the number of rounds you play. At the end of the session, you get a matchpoint score on each board. This equates to 2 matchpoints for every pair you beat or 1 matchpoint for every pair you tie. The best possible score on any board is called a top. The worst possible score is called a bottom and scores zero.

Therefore, in matchpoint scoring it is how many times or how frequently you beat your opponents' scores that is important and NOT by *how much* you beat them on various boards; all boards are equal.

2. IMP Scoring (IMPs) - Teams

Playing in a team of 4 you only ever play one other team at a time, NS of each team plays EW of the opposing team, and it is only what happens in that particular board that counts, it is immaterial what happens at the other tables. It becomes easy to see that, in teams play, the *size* of the gains and losses is more important than the *frequency* of gains and losses.

3. Victory Points (VPs)

The total IMP score for a match could be very large (either positive or negative). This leads to the issue that a single outstanding or catastrophic match could unduly dominate the overall result for a pair. For example, in round 1 of a Swiss Pairs event a highly seeded pair could have a massive win against one of the lowest seeded pairs, giving the winning pair an unassailable lead for the rest of the event.

This issue is addressed by using Victory Points (VPs). The overall IMP score for a match may be converted to VPs using an appropriate VP scale. The field is then ranked by VPs rather than IMPs. The number of VPs awarded flattens out as the number of IMPs increases. This reduces the impact of unusually large magnitude IMP scores.

The VP score for a match is between 0 and 20. VPs are always positive and the scores for the two sides sum to 20. For example, a maximum win for one side scores 20 VP and 0 VP for their opponents. A draw with 0 IMPs earns both sides 10 VPs. The specific IMP to VP table used depends on the number of boards per match.

Whether an event is scored on IMPs or VPs and which specific IMP to VP table used will be determined by the event organisers and is often detailed in the scorebook for the event.

4. Impact on strategy

IMP scoring has an impact on your strategy when bidding and playing a hand. Your strategy "at IMPs" will be different to the strategy you would use if the event were being scored using another system (eg. Matchpoints).

Failing to bid a makeable game contract could cost 6 or 10 IMPs (not vulnerable and vulnerable respectively). Playing in game when a small slam is available could cost 11 or 13 IMPs. Allowing your opponents to play in a makeable game contract when you also have game could cost 13 to 15 IMPs. Going 1 off but preventing your opponents finding game could earn 10 to 11 IMPs. It is therefore particularly important when playing at IMPs to bid available games and slams. It is worth risking marginal game contracts particularly when vulnerable.

Making an overtrick at IMPs has a relatively small impact (eg +1 IMP) whereas at Matchpoints it can make a big difference. At IMPs it is more important to make your contract than risk the contract for overtricks. This being said, matches can be won or lost by 1 IMP and multiple small overtrick gains can be significant over a match.

The 10 point margin between No Trumps and a major suit contract does not impact the IMP score, so chose the safer contract (eg between 2S and 2NT). This applies if you expect to make the same number of tricks in either contract. Often a suit contract can make more tricks than a NoTrump contract and that overtrick may earn an extra IMP.

Bidding Made Easy in an Anonymous Poem

With 13 or more points, I'm required to speak
And mention a short suit that's not very weak

With five cards or longer, I need not be cute
I merely will open with one in that suit

But with four in a major, ah, that's the rub
I know I must open, so I'll just say "one club." (Or one diamond.)

With 15 to 17, one no trump will do
And with 20 or more, I'll open with two (no trump)

When opponents have opened, now I have trouble
I've an opening bid and I say so by "double"

The opponents have opened, my back's to the wall
I have good points and length, so I must overcall

My partner has opened, and I'm in a fix
Because I must pass with less points than six.

But if my count is six points to ten,
I must respond once, but need not again

Now eleven or twelve points is pretty nice
I will plan to respond, not once, but twice

With thirteen or more points, I would be to blame
If I let the bid end before we reach game.

September Winners - Congratulations

Thursday PM 1st - Frank Hymus and Margaret Pisko
Pairs 2nd - Joanna Reid and Dale Wells

GCBC Cup 1st - Kerry Wood and Charles Howard
2nd - Usher Zeng and Ann Liu



Interclub (Ballina) Challenge

GCBC won on total VPs.

Section A 1st - Kerry Wood and Charles Howard
2nd - Gary Lynn and Clive Klugman

Section B 1st - Zenon Olszewski and Eugene Krausz
2nd - Robert Sheahan and Ray Gioni

Section C 1st - Carmel Pollard and Jane Murray
2nd - Margaret Cusack and Rhonda Khong

Thursday Pairs

- Section A** 1st - Ann Liu and Usher Zeng
2nd - Lisa Basile and Margaret Watson
- Section B** 1st - Ian Jarvis and Theo Armenis
2nd - Angela Van Daal and Kevin Gosling

October Events

- **Tuesdays 1st and 8th October. <500 mps Super Green Master Pairs**
- **Wednesdays 2nd and 9th October. Open Super Green Master Pairs**
- **Monday 7th October. Anniversary All Day Red Point Teams**
Sponsored by The Yvonne Wain Trust Fund
- **Thursday Evenings 10th and 17th October. Pizza Pairs Night (Free pizza)**
- **Saturday 12th - Monday 14th October. QBA Festival of Bridge, Brisbane**
- **Sunday 20th October. GCBC 60th Anniversary High Tea. RSVP required.**
- **Mondays 21st and 28th October. <50 mps. Super Green Master Pairs**
- **Tuesdays 22nd and 29th October. Red Point Pairs**
Sponsored by Frank Hymus

New Members

Carmel Agiannitis, Ann Bennett, Jane Irvine, Chris Austin, Gavriel Elishav, Tatiana Elishav, Meryl Clarke, Charlotte Harrison, John Harrison.

Promotions

Silver Life - Lol Garnett
Silver National - Eduardo Besprosvan
Bronze Regional - Kerrie Goldston
Bronze Local - Lee Lethbridge
Local - Angela Van Daal
Club - Kenneth Swansborough
Graduate - Philip Mandie

October Birthdays

1st - Jan Jennings; 4th - Suinee Wong; 6th - Janelle Burton, Carol Vogel; 7th - Campbell Johnson; 9th - Helen Hordern; 10th - Russell Parry, Sue Small; 11th - Darren Brake; 12th - John Hiscocks; 14th - Ken Swansborough; 16th - Brett Hughes, Shirley Wanz; 17th - Lisa Basile, Bernadette Fulton, Frank Hymus, Sandra Middleton, Marie Orme; 18th - Mary Jojkity; 19th - John Henderson, George Powis, Shane Whiting; 25th - Birgitt Bingham, Jenny Simmons; 26th - Jill Dowling, Michael Hogan; 28th - Ethne Huddleston; 30th - Odette Hall, Pru Hux; 31st - Julie Hill.

Happy Bridging Julie Wicks

Would you like to contribute to the newsletter? Please forward to the editor, juliekwicks@gmail.com by the 25th of each month.

Need a Partner: Use your Pianola account to request or find a partner or contact:
Mon - Sat. Judy Fitzgerald 0412 739 984
Thursday Night Paul Brake 0490 117 482

Novice Co-ordinator (under 100mps) David Lewis. 0418 978 655
Rookie Co-ordinator (under 50mps) Jo-anne Martin. 0407 113 900

Welfare Officer: Cheryl Millar 0409 879 081

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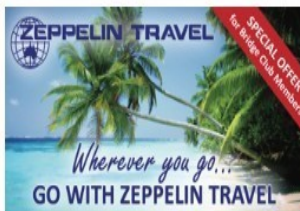
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