



Gold Coast Bridge Club NEWSLETTER

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Partnership Etiquette



Preamble: When you play bridge, you and your partner strive to outwit your opponents. A partnership must be a cohesive force to be successful, otherwise it is powerless and ineffective. To maintain this cohesion in the heat of battle is not easy. It requires great strength of purpose and understanding from both of you. Disunity between partners at the table is a great boost to the morale of the opposition.

If your partner makes a terrible blunder on one deal, do not comment. It is conceivable that you could do likewise within the next few deals.

Example: Pietro Forquet was one of the great players of all time. As well as winning two World Team Olympiads he won ten consecutive World Team Championships as a member of the famous Italian Blue team. He established a reputation for calm, unruffled performance, and did not succumb to the tension which often gripped his opponents. In the European Championships many years ago he partnered Siniscalco, another member of that remarkable team. Against France Forquet sat North on this deal.

North

♠ KQT7643
♥ void
♦ K87653
♣ void

West

♠ void
♥ KQJ732
♦ QJT
♣ 8654

East

♠ J852
♥ AT96
♦ 94
♣ 972

The bidding reached 7 Spades by Forquet (North) and East doubled. The double alerted Forquet to the trump position and gave him a chance to make this contract for an excellent score. However his partner Siniscalco (South) decided to rescue and bid 7 NT. He was doubled and lost the first six Heart tricks.

Pietro Forquet did not say one word. He calmly exchanged that board for the next one, and proceeded without fuss. His pleasant demeanour gave Siniscalco the help and encouragement to overcome the disaster and afterwards play well. What a partner! The Italian team went on to win the Championship.

Contributed by Neville Gaha



TIPS FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

Lynley Jenkins &
Cecily Critchley

All players understand that if they would like to keep their bridge partners then they need to agree on what different bids mean within their basic system (eg Standard American 5 Card Majors)! Unfortunately not all bridge players understand that they need equally clear agreements with partners about which cards they lead in defence.

As our annual June Congress approaches and you're looking forward to playing well with your favourite partners in those events, here are a number of tips from some of the world's experts!

Opening Lead Against NT Contracts

If partner has bid a suit, lead it! Experts recommend these leads in partner's suit:

- Lead the top card from a doubleton (eg **73**, **Q4**)
- Lead the top of touching honours (eg **QJ3**, **1095**)
- With no sequence, lead low (eg **K83**, **Q942**, **976**)

Otherwise, lead your longest suit (unless it's been bid by the opponents):

- Lead the top of touching honours from a three-card sequence, a broken sequence or an interior sequence (eg **KQJ32**, **QJ964**, **KJ108**)
- With no sequence, lead fourth highest (eg **Q1083**, **KJ654**, **A97643**)

With a choice of suits to lead:

- Lead the stronger
- Lead the unbid suit

Opening Lead Against Suit Contracts

Experts recommend the following guidelines when choosing a suit to lead against a trump contract:

- Lead partner's suit
- Lead a suit with a strong sequence rather than one where you'll lead low from an honour
- Lead an unbid suit
- Lead a short suit when partner is likely to be able to give you a ruff before trumps are drawn
- Lead a trump when declarer is likely to want to ruff losers in dummy
- Lead a long suit when you, or perhaps partner, have four or more trumps

When choosing the card to lead:

- Lead the top card from a doubleton (eg **72**, **Q6**)
- Lead the top of touching honours (eg **KQ832**, **QJ3**)
- With no sequence, lead low or fourth highest (eg **K83**, **Q942**, **KJ752**)

Keep your leads clear and simple! This will ensure you have a very happy partner ... and a ride home if you need one!

Di Hillman & Connie Cassar Win the 2015 Gold Coast Zone Novice Pairs Championship

32 Pairs contested the 2015 Gold Coast Zone Novice Pairs Championship sponsored by Philip Roberts (Roberts Law) and held on Saturday May 23rd at Gold Coast Bridge Club. This was the second year of the event and fantastic to see the increase from 24 pairs (2014) to 32. The format for the event is a One Day Swiss Pairs Competition for players with fewer than 100 Masterpoints.

22 of the pairs were from GCBC with the remaining 10 pairs made up of pairs from Surfers Paradise & Sanctuary Cove. We reserve bragging rights and are proud to announce that the top 7 placegetters were from GCBC!

Di Hillman & Connie Cassar were in great form and were in either 1st or 2nd place from Round 4 onwards. Second place went to Valerie Reuter-Buck & Colin Lewis with Delma Christen & Philip Roberts coming in third. Well done all three pairs!

However, not to be outdone by these senior novice players, Pamela Hare & Ethne Huddleston were in equally fine form and came 4th overall to very comfortably win the special prize for the highest placed pair with fewer than 15 Masterpoints. A fantastic achievement for players who each have fewer than 10 Masterpoints! Second in this category were Bob Still & Tony Donkersloot (13th overall) with third place going to Rookies Lesley Sutherland & Carolyn Jordan (21st overall). Congratulations! And a very big thank you to Phil who donated his 3rd place overall prizemoney to Bob & Tony.

A fantastic day with Margaret Pisko as Director. A big thank you to Margaret.

Phil is determined to see this event go from strength to strength and announced that not only would GCBC be hosting the event again in 2016, but that he would be increasing the prizemoney. Wow! Calling all Novices!

Cecily & Lynley



Overall Winners Di & Connie (NS) playing Under 15 MP's Winners Ethne & Pamela (EW) on the last round.



Sponsor Phil with Rookies Lesley & Carolyn



Director's Corner

Role of the Tournament Committee

I would like to congratulate the club on enrolling over 70 new members in the past four months, with many of these members being new to bridge. With that in mind I believe that newer members should be made aware of the various functions of the club.

The Tournament Committee comprises of the 17 directors who are responsible for organising events and over seeing each session. In my role as Chair it is important that directors are reminded of their roles and responsibilities and recently I sent the following memo to the directors:-

The role of a club director can be summed up as follows:-

- setting up the movement
- responding to calls
- ensuring a friendly atmosphere during the play and
- scoring

With the advent of many new and

inexperienced players, President Di is enlightening them as to the role of the director and need to call them when there may be a possible infraction. Being inexperienced many players are very hesitant to call a director fearing the unknown and not certain of the outcomes. We as directors need to allay these fears.

At a club level I believe that the most important role as a director is diplomacy thus making players feel comfortable with the environment so that they can enjoy all facets of their day at the club.

We were all new players once and perhaps some of us were more timid than others, however the very presence of a diplomatic director can have a calming effect on these players. Speaking politely, asking not telling, making them feel at ease, will result in them seeing a director as their friend and not some type of alien.

Directing new players is not an environment some directors like as they may not have the patience or a caring nature towards them. It is important to make these players feel at ease and I would like to remind all directors to put themselves in the shoes of these players and treat them as you would have liked to have been treated yourself when you first started playing bridge.

By reminding directors of their roles I believe that the already friendly atmosphere at the club can only be enhanced.

Neil Raward
Chair – Tournament Committee

Gold Coast Club Teams' Championship held on 31 May

1 - BERGER TEAM

Tony Berger - Eva Berger - Kathy Johnson - Margaret Pisko

2 - CRITCHLEY TEAM

Cecily Critchley - Lynley Jenkins - Charlie Lu - Watson Zhou

3 - KENYON TEAM

Lesley Kenyon - John Pellen - Elaine Hennig - Erin Waterhouse

Which Plan and How to Make It Work

Board 27 in Match 8 of the recent Gold Congress Teams was fascinating due to aspects of the bidding, defending and declarer play. It was described by Paul Marston in his Weekend Australian bridge column on May 9-10. There the lead was the CT, but against me it was the D5. Here are the hands, but you should cover the East/West hands while making your plan. Dealer is South with nil vulnerability.

♠ AKJ86	♠ QT5432
♥ 93	♥ 82
♦ QJT6	♦ 985
♣ Q2	♣ AJ
♠ 97	♠ void
♥ QT65	♥ AKJ74
♦ 74	♦ AK32
♣ T9865	♣ K743

The bidding proceeded as follows at our table, where we sat N/S.

S	W	N	E
1H	P	1S	P
2C	P	3NT	P
4D	P	4NT	P
5D *	P	6D	P
P	P		

* Roman key card showing 0 or 3

Because of the bidding, the defence led a trump to reduce declarer's ruffing power.

Below is a trick-by-trick summary with comments at each stage when appropriate. The winner of each trick is in brackets.

Trick 1: D4, D6, D8, (DA)

Declarer has 8 immediate tricks, one eventual Club trick, and so needs another three. Spades will probably break 5-3, so no extra trick there, as no finesse is possible. Hearts

will probably break 4-2; a bonus will be 3-3. To establish the winning Heart in hand, declarer must be able to get back twice. Two Spade tricks have to be taken before declarer gets back the last time. Timing is crucial, and Diamonds have to break 3-2.

Trick 2: (HA), H5, H3, H2

Trick 3: (HK), H6, H9, H8

Trick 4: H4, HT, (DT), S2 (Hearts are 4-2, so declarer must establish an extra entry.)

Trick 5: C2, (CA), C3, C5

East must take the defender's first trick. If East plays CJ instead then the entry is already there for declarer via CK.

Trick 6: D8, D2, D7, (DJ) (Defence continues to reduce declarer's ruffing power.)

Trick 7: CQ, CJ, (CK), C6

Declarer notes that it looks like East only had two Clubs. Therefore West most likely started with five, and has three left.

Trick 8: H7, HQ, (DQ), S5 (Now the winning Heart is established.)

Trick 9: (SA), S3, C4, S7

Trick 10: (SK), S4, C7, S9

The D9 is still out, but declarer now is almost certain that West has three Clubs while East has the D9 and two Spades. So here goes.

Trick 11: S6, ST, (D3), C8 (Home!)

Trick 12: (DK), C9, S8, D9

Trick 13: (HJ), CT, SJ, SQ

So timing, entries and deductions about Clubs are all important.

Unfortunately we made only 10 tricks and were over-ruffed twice (once in Spades and once in Hearts) as we tried to cross-ruff the hand with low trumps early. However I was interested that Deep Finesse could make twelve tricks, so I kept looking for a plan that worked. It took me quite some time!

The Editor

DO NOT ABANDON HOPE

Dealer: South

South: ♠KQJ ♥A4 ♦AQJ6 ♣AQ32

North: ♠AT9 ♥9873 ♦873 ♣954

The Bidding:

S	W	N	E
2C	P	2H*	P
2NT	P	3NT	P

2H* shows 2 controls, either an Ace or 2 Kings.

West leads the H2, North plays the H3, East HJ, and South ducks with the H4 using the rule of 7. The full deal is:

	NORTH	
	♠AT9	
WEST	♥9873	EAST
♠6532	♦873	♠874
♥KT62	♣954	♥QJ5
♦KT5		♦942
♣T8	SOUTH	♣KJ76
	♠KQJ	
	♥A4	
	♦AQJ6	
	♣AQ32	

East continues with HQ and South wins the HA, and makes a plan for the play of the hand. Declarer has only 6 immediate tricks, including one already won. Three more are needed for the contract, and there is only one entry to dummy via the SA to take one finesse. But which minor suit should the finesse be taken on?

If Diamonds break 4-2 declarer makes one extra trick whether or not the finesse is taken, if Diamonds break 3-3, the Diamonds give declarer 2 extra tricks, whether or not the finesse is taken. If Clubs break 4-2 or 3-3 the Club finesse makes 0 or 1 extra trick only. Therefore, the Club finesse is the only hope, with Diamonds breaking 3-3.

LEONARD FISHWELD (An anagram of a famous bridge personality.)

Hullo everyone,

I would like to begin by thanking Neville De Mestre, our hard-working editor of this quarterly newsletter for his dedication in putting this out. He always needs contributions and if you have a funny story from bridge or an interesting board please send it to him.

Many thanks to Paul Brake and Valerie Reuter-Buck, our Hard working Treasurer and Secretary who have worked together to provide the workshops on Pianola. Again, I urge you all to keep Pianola on your computers because it not only provides a great teaching tool but it also allows the club to contact members on line - a facility we have not had before. And of course, best of all it is free for you all.

We certainly had some unusual distributional hands yesterday in our Club Teams Championship. Eighteen teams played and a great day was had by all. The Berger Team started at Number 1 and won the day. Food was great as usual (thanks Delma and Chris) and it was a very happy event.

I am thrilled to see so many novice players starting to play regularly in our Team Events. Lynley Jenkins and Cecily Critchly have encouraged this by having a monthly Novice Teams event on a Saturday afternoon and our novice players now are starting to enjoy playing in teams. We hope lots of you will come along in June for our Butler Pairs and our Swiss Teams Congress.

Numbers are growing fast and our club seems to be a very happy and friendly place to be which is how we want it. Don't forget that the Board always welcomes good ideas and suggestions so just ring me at any time if you want a chat or to put something forward.

Di Hodges (President)

MARCH RESULTS

ECELECTICS

Monday Eclectic

1st KATHY JOHNSON

=1st EVA BERGER

3rd HEATHER REID

=3rd KERRY HISCOCKS

Monday Evening Eclectic

1st NEVILLE DE MESTRE

=1ST LAZAR MIKATA

3rd EVA BERGER

=3rd TONY BERGER

Wednesday Eclectic

1st TONY BERGER

2nd EVA BERGER

3rd BASTIAN BOLT

Thursday Eclectic (Sections A)

1st PATRICIA ADAM

2nd ANTHONY DONKERSLOOT

2nd BOB STILL

Thursday Eclectic (Sections B)

1st SUSAN HERSE

2nd PAT HINTON

3rd WILMA DAWSON

Friday Eclectic

1st KATHY JOHNSON

=1st LOIS STEINWEDEL

3rd EVA BERGER

=3rd TONY BERGER

Saturday Eclectic (Section A)

1st MARLENE DWYER

=1st CAROL HARRIS

3rd JULIET ROGERS

=3rd GLORIA RYDON

Saturday Eclectic (Section B)

1st LOUISE GARNETT

=1st LOL GARNETT

3rd PAT HINTON

=3rd ALAN JONES

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rob Slobom Pairs

EVA BERGER - TONY BERGER

Open Masters Pairs

TONY BERGER - BASTIAN BOLT

TBIB Pairs

A -PATRICIA ADAM - JUDY FITZGERALD

B - PAT HINTON - SUSAN HERSE

Ken Nicholson Memorial Pairs

A -PATRICIA ADAM - JUDY FITZGERALD

B - STUART WISMER - WILLIAM GUTHRIE

APRIL RESULTS

ECELECTICS

Monday Evening Eclectic

1st STRONG EDDA

2nd STRONG TOM

Tuesday Eclectic (Section A)

1st HARTNELL ELIZABETH

=1st RICHARDS DENISE

3rd DAVIS GEOFFREY

Tuesday Eclectic (Section B)

1st GUTHRIE WILLIAM

=1st WISMER STUART

3rd SEGAL ESTELLE

Wednesday Eclectic

1st STEINWEDEL LOIS

=1st STEINWEDEL ROSS

3rd LIGHTBODY ANGUS

=3rd MORRIS RITA

Thursday Eclectic (Sections A)

1st DONKERSLOOT ANTHONY

2nd REYNOLDS MARGARET

=2nd BOURNEVILLE PATRICIA

Thursday Eclectic (Sections B)

1st HODGES DI

=1st ROBERTS PHILIP

3rd HINTON PAT

=3rd HERSE SUSAN

Thursday Evening Eclectic

1st DEAN KEVIN

=1st STRONG TOM

3rd YOUNG RUTH

=3rd SIMPSON KAY

Saturday Eclectic (Section A)

1st DAVIS GEOFFREY

=1st DONKERSLOOT ANTHONY

3rd STEPANEK DOBY

=3rd ANDERSON MARGARET

Saturday Eclectic (Section B)

1st HINTON PAT

=1st JONES ALAN

3rd SPRINTALL NORMAN

=3rd ROBINSON LOIS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Easter Red Point Swiss Teams

KATHY JOHNSON - EVA BERGER - TONY

BERGER - MERLE BOGATIE

National 1* and Below Masters Pairs

STUART WISMER - WILLIAM GUTHRIE

Spits & Pieces Pairs

RUTH YOUNG - KAY SIMPSON

Friday April Pairs

LOIS STEINWEDEL - KATHY JOHNSON

R E S U L T S

Obituary: Saul Isaacs 1929 – Jan 2015

Saul was a popular long-time member of the Gold Coast Bridge Club, joining our friendly group in 1995. He was a Silver Life Master.

Saul passed away after a long battle with cancer. Everyone who knew Saul admired him for his gentleness, kindness, sincerity and a mischievous sense of humour. It was always a pleasure to play with Saul and his lovely wife Connie knowing that you would be treated with the greatest respect.

Saul was born in Rangoon, Burma in 1929 where he lived until the Japanese advanced into Asia in the 2nd World War caused his family to move to India. After several years Saul settled in the England where he married Connie in 1957. In 1962, the family with two sons moved to Sydney where Saul (who had a science degree) got a position as a nuclear scientist with the Atomic Research Centre at Lucas Heights in Sydney where he remained until he retired in the 1980s. In retirement Saul and Connie moved to the Gold Coast in 1992 and joined our bridge club in 1995.

Saul was a very talented guitarist and composer and enjoyed the company of many musicians from the Coast at their regular jam sessions. Connie is also a very accomplished singer who loved to join in with them. Saul greatly enjoyed cryptic crosswords, backgammon and other card games.

Saul was one of nature's gentlemen and will be sorely missed by all that knew him.

Obituary: Fred Krauss 1936 – 2015

Fred was born in Rumania and lived his childhood years in Europe. As a teenager he served his apprenticeship in engineering and was one of the top 100 out of 3,000 candidates.

During 1956 Fred left Europe to seek adventure in Australia where he became a well-known character during the building and expansion of Australia in the 60's to 90's. Fred was known as "King of the power stations" as during this era he was involved in the planning and building of major power stations throughout Australia.

Fred next decided to retire to the Gold Coast and made his second home the Gold Coast Bridge Club. No matter when you turned up at the club you would see his beloved vehicle – the blue 4-wheel drive "chariot" parked at the club. Sure enough, Fred was inside the club playing bridge or dealing boards as chief dealer for many years.

A lifelong love of the theatre and opera were another of Fred's passions. He enjoyed many shows in major cities and the local Gold Coast Arts Theatre.

Fred suffered a serious illness two years ago, consequently his leg was amputated. But this didn't stop Fred, he still turned up at the club in his new "chariot" (a red motorised wheelchair) looking forward to his game of bridge.

The club is saddened at Fred's death and he will always be remembered for the dedicated time and effort he put into his favourite game and favourite club.

RIP Fred.

"Supplied by Valerie Reuter-Buck, our Club Secretary"