



CABOOLTURE BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5
JANUARY 2013

From the President.

We've had the Merry and the Happy, so now it's time for another year of the Good -- good bridging. I thought the Christmas party was the best ever. Particular thanks must go to Robyn S. and Jenny H.. They and the rest of the workers did us proud. It's a pleasure to be president when you're presiding over such a fine bunch. And weren't you all great singers. Maybe we should form a Bridge Choir? Soon you'll be electing a new committee. The committee needs new/more blood. Is there anybody out there? (A Pink Floyd would say) - no vampires please.

One of our best kept secrets is Thursday night Bridge. Thursday night needs more players. 6.45 to 10.15 or 10.30. Think about it. Find a willing partner. Join us. Thursday night's bunch are friendly, kind, generous and....

Five new players have begun lessons. They're doing well and hopefully will soon be joining formal bridge. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning they, together beginners and improving players meet at the clubhouse for informal bridge sessions. They all tell me it's invaluable. We can all improve. The mornings are free, include morning tea. You are all welcome. You do not have to be a member to attend.

The following extract is taken from the Queensland Bridge Regulations:

LOUD DISCUSSIONS DURING OR AFTER PLAY

When discussions or comments are made at any table and are heard at a nearby table, the Director will apply a penalty to the offending pair(s) if he considers that the rights of other players may have been jeopardised. The penalty will normally be 10% of a top or 3 imps. The Director will have the right to increase this incrementally for repeat offences.

If a table is obliged to take an adjusted score because of such overheard comments, the penalty will be 50% of a top or 6 imps.

Bridge on,
Finn.



To all members of the
Caboolture Bridge Club
and their families

Cheers to the New Year and another chance for us to get it right.

Members Corner: (Contributed by Robyn Smith)

Pat and Paul Lyons have just returned from a holiday to Melbourne visiting family before crossing Bass Strait to the "apple isle". Here they hired a car and had a wonderful time exploring Tasmania.

Paul said that he enjoyed the cruise on the Gordon River and Sarah Island.

Rhonda Niven has had a visit to Abu Dhabi. Her husband was sent there on business for work so Rhonda was able to spend the days Sightseeing.

Welcome back to bridge.

Frances Toomey has now moved from her unit at Fernhill Village to the hostel section .

Frances loves to see people and would love to have some visitors when we have some spare moments. For those of you who don't know, Frances is 98 years old and has been a member of our Club for many years and always loved her Bridge.

Cees, Wikke, Jan and Martine are going to cruise the Pacific Islands in January.

"There surely will be a lot of bridge games during the trip. Hopefully you will notice the difference when we come back." (Tine)

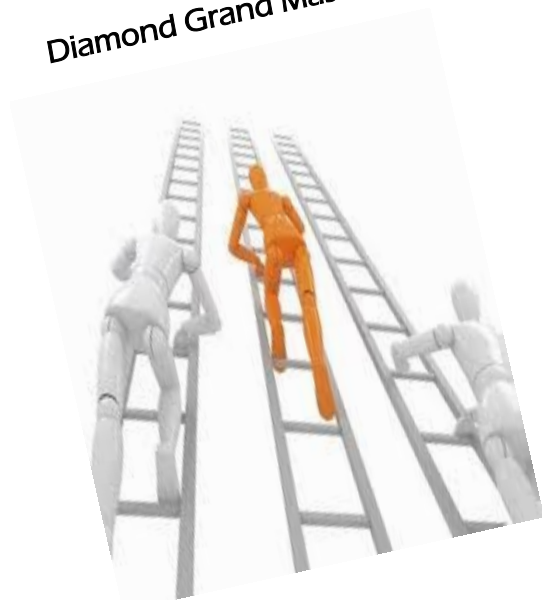
Jenny Hays is retiring from her teachers job in 2013. We wish Jen a happy retirement.

Masterpoint movements: (Contributed by Charlene Frederiksen)

Congratulations to the following players who earned a promotion.

Peter Finney	to Club
Judith Lecomte	to Local
Charlene Frederiksen	to State
Jean Trafford	to State
Frida Boeser	to *State
Margaret Sinclair	to Local
Mitch Kostaschuk	to State

Diamond Grand Master



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Australian Masterpoint Scheme - How does it work? By Peter Busch

In most countries around the world, masterpoints are used as a measure of a bridge player's achievement. In each country the scheme is different.

In Australia, we have 3 grades of masterpoints: *Green*, *Red* and *Gold*. Each bridge event, from national and international congresses right down to normal club sessions, awards masterpoints on a scale based on a number of factors: the number of players in the field, the grade of the event (as determined in advance by the ABF), any restrictions on entry (seniors, women's etc), and in some events, the strength of the field.

Points are usually awarded to the top half of the field, based on placing. First place gets the most, and awards for subsequent places diminish but are proportional to first place. Some events award points on a different basis, for example, events with qualifying sessions.

Some events also award points based on an overall result in addition to the awards for sessions that make up the event.

And in some circumstances, points can be awarded on a "wins" basis per match instead of the normal "top half" formula. This is common in Teams events, but can also be done for Pairs in some circumstances.

Some events also carry additional weightings, increasing the basic awards.

Every session or event has a masterpoint colour. Club sessions are green, except for specially designated red point sessions. (Each club is allocated a certain number of red point sessions per year.) Congresses are usually red, and some large events, and the GNOT and GNP zone-based events, are gold point events.

As players earn masterpoints, they graduate through the "Master" ranks. After a humbling start as "Nill Master" a player will be conferred the status of "Graduate Master" after earning 2 points, which for a beginner can seem an unattainable goal.

The scale goes all the way to Diamond Grand Master when a player reaches 15,000 masterpoints. (As an aside, until recently, the scale used to end with Gold Grand at 5,000 points, but as some prolific players passed the 10,000 masterpoint mark, it was decided to introduce two additional ranks Emerald and Diamond.)

Once you reach Regional Master, further promotion depends not only on the total number of points earned, but also requires that the total number include a certain number of red points.

Likewise, to reach Life Master and beyond, promotion depends on having a minimum number of both red and gold masterpoints.



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The **eclectics** will be

(for those who are interested, the explanation is on page 5 of the diary)

Saturdays in January

Tuesdays in February

Mondays in March

The following are the **Red Points days** for the next few months.

January Tuesday 8th

February Monday 4th

March Thursday 7th

There is a lot of apologizing going on lately, but are we really doing the right thing?

Professional athletes, late-night talk show hosts, financial gurus, corporate executives, celebrities and -surprise, surprise- politicians are once again in the news for acting badly.

And they're offering apologies.

Even with the best of intentions we all, at times, do or say things that fall short of our own standards and that hurt other people's feelings.

Here is a list -based on a few recent public examples- of the five most common ways how ***not to apologize***.

Blame the other person - Start by saying how sorry you are. Then shift the focus from your actions to the other person's reactions: "I'm sorry that you were offended by what I did or said." Make it sound as if the other person's thin skinned sensibilities, outdated notions of fairness, or failure to understand what you really meant -*not your misdeeds*- are the real culprits. This common ploy lets you sound like you're apologizing without requiring you to express regret.

If you are clever enough, you may even get people to apologize to *you*.

They might say, "I'm sorry, maybe I was overly sensitive"

Offer an excuse - If you can't blame someone else, you can always blame other circumstances.

You can always point the finger at any number of situations beyond your control: the weather, the economy, the computer, the economic crises, the stress of having too much to do.

If for example, someone criticizes you for missing a deadline, say with a sigh, "My computer crashed - must have been a virus- and it took forever to fix it." Not only have you shifted people's attention away from your failure to something you can't possibly be accountable for, you've also made yourself a victim.

Use the passive voice -Say "Mistakes were made", instead of "I made a mistake." "There was an error of judgement." Instead of "I was wrong." "Regrettably, things turned out not at all as were anticipated." Instead of "I regret having done things that caused so much trouble and hard feelings."

Delay as long as possible - you may feel inclined -decent people often do- to offer an apology the moment you realize you've done something wrong.

Avoid saying anything at all. Wait and see how things play out. Maybe people will forget about what you did, or maybe someone else will do something even worse. Then you're off the hook.

If people bring up your misconduct, you can sigh as if it is rude to mention something that happened so long ago.

Offer a quasi apology- "I'm sure we're all sorry that things turned out the way they did"- and suggest that there are more important issues at hand and shouldn't we be getting on with things.

Hide your feelings - If you feel remorse or even guilt because of what you have done -people with a conscience often do- make sure no one knows it.

Make an apology the way sincere people do. Tell people you're sorry. Accept responsibility. Offer to make amends. Ask for understanding and forgiveness. But, in the mean time make it sound as if you don't believe a word you're saying.

If possible, read from a script. Speak in a monotone. Avoid eye contact. And never reveal a heartfelt emotion.

If you follow these five simple guidelines, people may complain that you haven't apologized at all.

They may even feel more offended than before.

Martine



How would YOU play this hand.

Dealer South - None Vulnerable

North	South
♠ 742	♠ AKQ
♥ 10 9 5 3	♥ AQ
♦ 542	♦ AK86
♣ AK9	♣ 6543



Bidding. South opens 2NT (22pts) and North raises to 3NT

On this hand there is a thoughtful, hopeless or 100% line of play. Can you find the 100% line?

Opening lead S J

West	East
♠ J10965	♠ 83
♥ K2	♥ J8764
♦ 10	♦ QJ973
♣ Q10872	♣ J

Solution. You start with 8 tricks and have a chance of a ninth in 3 different suits.

Hopeless. Crossing to dummy with a club and taking the Heart finesse.

Thoughtful. Duck a Diamond and duck a Club-if neither of the minor suits break 3-3 take the Heart finesse.

100%. Play the H A and then the H Q at trick 2 and 3. Win any return, cross to dummy and play the H 10 to drive out the jack. The H 9 is your ninth trick.

I decided that in 2012 I would enter some competitions other than the usual club weekly games and by writing this I hope that this will encourage other players to have a go as well.

GNP Regional Finals Caloundra Bridge Club

My first adventure away from our Caboolture comfort zone was the GNP semi finals held at the lovely breezy Caloundra Club in October. About 8 pairs represented our Caboolture club, all having qualified for the GNP earlier in the year. My partner Dawn Knight and I had just scraped through to qualify and, as we had hardly played together except for the qualifying rounds, we were not very familiar with each other's way of playing and had a hurried conference to try and remember.

It was my first experience of the mystical 'Swiss Movement' under the excellent directorship of Peter Busch, and I must admit that we played quite a few 'matches' before I understood the way it worked.

Basically for each round or match, sets of boards containing the same hands are placed within reach of all the tables, so that everyone in the competition played the same hands. Once I gained an understanding of how it worked I found it very exciting to join up with the other Caboolture players and compare scores after each round. After you play a round you then have a short break and are able to see the computerised results for that round. Each pair is given a slip with their score for each set of boards played and their percentage after each round. Everyone changed tables at the end of each round and depending on your result, the lower your table number became, the better you were doing on the day and the better your opponents were.

I think we came 23rd out of 42 pairs so we were very happy with the result as the competition was strong.

Our gun team of Frida Boeser and Jean Trafford gave us some nervous moments when they were right up with the best and just missed out on qualifying for the finals in Canberra in the New Year. We were very proud of them!

Caloundra Bridge Club put on lovely food and it was a very enjoyable day.

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Our next outing was on November 7th to the Sunshine Coast Bridge Club at Buderim for the Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs .

All the competitors had to have less than 100 masterpoints so it was a fairly even competition and yet we had to play against some outstanding pairs.

My partner Frida Boeser and myself were graded 7th and I think that they average the total of both of your masterpoints to start you off.

Once again Peter Busch was the very able director and the day went like clockwork. The best Frida and I managed was to be at table 4 and we finished up 11th out of 28 after we encountered some very good opposition in our last round.

The food was outstanding and I would not recommend going in too many of these comps if you were watching your diet.

Three Club Caboolture, Arana and Redcliffe Annual Competition

The three club competition against Arana, Redcliffe and Caboolture on November 16th is an annual event and had been won by the very strong Arana Club for the 7 years that the competition has been going.

We found it hard to field 8 pairs and had to rely on Arana to provide us with some players. Our gang consisted of Derek and Eunice; Dave and Dawn; Nigel and Jenny; Finn and Philippa; Charlene and Mitch; and myself and Frida.

I was feeling nervous as I was told how tough the opposition was going to be, true, and that plus the electrical storm raging for most of the day brought out a lot of tensions in the club.

The competition was as strong as we had expected but at lunch we were right up there.

By the afternoon I was feeling the pressure of playing so many boards and trying to interpret all the circling and strange systems the better players used. (Frida and I use the K.I.S system). I was tired and I lost track of a hand and even had my very first renege which was so embarrassing!

At the end of the day Frida and I were playing 5D doubled by Frida, and everyone else had finished and were all standing around the score board and looking back at us to await our final score.

Our opponents were taken down doubled whew! And... Caboolture WON!

We were all so excited and no-one more so than yours truly as Frida and I won the overall competition mainly of course due to my wonderful partner who I am sure carried me for most of it. We even won \$50 prize money each !

Our captain Finn made a very nice speech and proudly carried the trophy back to our Caboolture Club for the first time.

Lets hope next year we can field a full contingent and retain our trophy.

Well I hope this article will give some encouragement to players to go in some of the local events.

These competitions were very enjoyable and it was great to represent our club.

I look forward to next year .

Cheers,

Maureen Lovelock

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I'm looking forward to receive
your emails with
contributions for the Newsletter
in 2013

