
CABOOLTURE BRIDGE CLUB

QLD



JUNE NEWSLETTER

Editor Derek Stringfellow

President's Comments

June has been a busy month for competitions. The Zone GNOT Club Semi Finals were played early in the month. The competition was strong with 30 teams competing for a place in the top 10 to play in the Zone finals later in the year. Unfortunately, despite great competitive play, this year some of our players were close but just missed out in the end.

Our 2024 Club Pairs Championship was won by Peter Gruythuysen and Gary Wardrop. We had 12 teams competing in this event. Congratulations to Peter and Gary.

At the end of the month, our Club will be competing in the Caboolture/Bribie Teams Challenge hosted by the Bribie Club on 30th June. Both Clubs are fielding 8 teams. Caboolture won the Shield last year, so we will be very keen to retain this honour this year.

The following week – 7th July, 14 pairs from Caboolture will compete with 14 pairs from the Redcliffe Club at Caboolture. The Caboolture Club fought off stiff competition last year to win the Shield – so again we will be defending our win this year.

We would like to see as many of our members as are available, attending the Special General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 16th July. The Secretary has emailed details of the agenda. Please register on our website to assist with food ordering.

As you can see, our Club members are supporting our Special events which is very encouraging, but our weekly table numbers continue to cause the Committee great concern. There is only so much the Committee can do to encourage players. In the end it is up to the members to support our wonderful, friendly club.



A WINNER listens to his partner's point of view;

A LOSER just waits until it's time to express his own.

Hope to see you at the Bridge table

Happy Bridgeing

Noreen Weyling President

MEMBERS CORNER

We greatly thank Robyn Smith for penning this delightful summary of her recent cruise with Ron -

On 13th May, we boarded the Pacific Encounter for a 12 day cruise to visit the Pacific Islands of Fiji.

After 2 days at sea, we anchored off the tiny island called Mystery Island. This island is uninhabited but the locals from the nearby island, Aneityum, motor across and set up their various craft and food stalls to cater for the passengers off the cruise ships. This island is covered in greenery and surrounded by a healthy coral reef. Some of the morish food items on offer were locally caught lobster and prawns. There is also a small grass airstrip on the island which was used during World War 11.

Dravuni Island is another very small island with a population of only 150 people. These small islands are truly paradise in the Pacific with beautiful bluewater and unspoilt beaches. We enjoyed handing out sweets and gifts to the children.

When we arrived in Lautoka, we were able to walk off the ship and get the ship's shuttle bus into the main city. The main industry is sugar cane and the second largest sugar mill in the southern hemisphere is here. It was very hot and humid, so we were pleased to head back to the comfort of the ship after a short tour of the town.

As we were unable to dock in Lifou due to civil unrest, we spent two days in Port Vila. We could either travel by water taxi or road taxi into the township. Port Vila is famous for its duty free goods. We visited the lovely fresh fruit markets and also the numerous craft markets by the ocean.

After a very relaxing holiday which we both enjoyed, it was good to get home once again. I always say that it is great to go away, but there is no place like home.

Bridgemate Results

Most of you will be aware that I had tried to have the bridgemate game results restored to the bridgemates after each game. After discussing this matter with Club Committee members, I have been reminded that the running of a Bridge session must be at the absolute discretion of the Director. None of our Club Directors feel that having Bridgemate results displayed is in the best interests of all members and so do not support any reintroduction of this Bridgemate function. Having directed for a number of years and know of the difficulties of directing, I accept their decision. I therefore wish to advise the many Club members who signed my letter about this matter, that I will be taking no further action to have these results restored to the bridgemates.

Principal of full disclosure:

The philosophy of bridge ethics tells us that winners should be determined solely by skill, flair and normal playing luck. Actively ethical partnerships take pains to ensure their opponents are fully informed. This means that all information available to your partnership must be made available to your opponents. The actively ethical player will often go beyond what is technically required in volunteering information to the opponents. Quite often, the declaring side in an actively ethical partnership will volunteer such information before the opening lead is made. Remember, when there has been misinformation given, such as a failure to alert or a mistaken alert, there is a LEGAL obligation on the player whose partner misinformed the opponents. He, the bidder, must give the opponents the correct information at the end of the auction if his side is the declaring side or at the end of the play if his side is defending.

Deviation from System and Psychic Action:

A player may deviate from his side's announced understandings or system, provided that his partner has no more reason than the opponents to be aware of the deviation. Repeated deviations lead to implicit understandings which then form part of the partnership's methods and system and must be disclosed in accordance with the regulations governing disclosure of system. There is a responsibility for both the bidder whose bid has deviated from his/her system, and the opponent who may or may not be disadvantaged, to report the deviation to the Director who will log details into a register.

If the Director judges that there is undisclosed knowledge of such repeated deviations that has damaged the opponents he shall adjust the score and may assess a procedural penalty.

Deviation from systems can be simply described as bids that do not comply with system cards or accepted systemic standards.

FOR THE IMPROVING BRIDGE PLAYER

THE SUIT QUALITY TEST

This guide measures how strong a suit you hold. This often determines whether the suit is strong enough to bid at a given level. It is useful for pre-empts, weak twos, overcalls, deciding whether you can afford to insist on your suit as trumps, just about whenever suit quality is a relevant criterion.

Count the number of honours in the long suit.

Add the total number of cards in the long suit.

The answer is the Suit Quality (SQ) of that suit. For example, Q-8-7-4-2 has 1 honour and 5 cards, 1+5=6, that is SQ of 6.

For an overcall, the SQ should equal or exceed the number of tricks you are bidding. With an SQ of 6, such a suit is not good enough for an overcall even at the one level (seven tricks requires an SQ of 7). K-J-9-5-4 has a SQ of 7 (2 honours+5 cards). That is good enough to overcall at the one level (assuming you have extra other strength) but not strong enough for a two-level overcall.

Count the J or 10 as an honour card for the SQ test only if you hold a higher honour in the long suit.

J-8-6-4-3-2 has a SQ of 6. Do not count the J if you have no higher honour. K-J-8-4-3-2. However has a SQ of 8. The jack has full value as an honour as the king is also present.

The Rule of 10 is a useful product of the Suit Quality Test. If you have a suit with a SQ of 10, you may insist on that as trumps. For example, suppose you hold –

S A,3	D 8,7
H K,Q,J,10,6,4	C Q,3,2

Partner opens 1D, you bid 1H, and partner rebids 2D. What now?

The heart suit has a SQ of 10 (4 honours+6 cards), and you only have 7 losers. You should therefore insist on hearts as trumps and jump to 4H. Even if partner is void in hearts, chances are you will lose only one trump trick.

Change the hand to –

S A,3	D 8,7
H K,Q,8,6,4,3	C Q,J,10

Now after 1D : 1H, 2D, you should bid only 3H. That is a strong rebid and shows A six card heart suit and 11-12 HCP's, but with a SQ of 8 is not strong enough to bid 4H.

I have included this item as it touched me greatly in my old age –

CRANKY OLD MAN

When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in outback Queensland, it was believed he left nothing of value. When the nurses were going through his minor possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content impressed them and a copy was given to each nurse. One nurse took her copy to Melbourne and it has since appeared in magazines and Mental Health journals. This old man, with nothing left to give to the world, is the author of this widely acclaimed “anonymous” poem.

Cranky Old Man

What do you see nurses? What do you see?
What are you thinking . . . when you're looking at me?
A cranky old man, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit with faraway eyes?

Who dribbles his food and makes no reply.
When you say in a loud voice . . 'I do wish you'd try!
Who seems not to notice . . . the things that you do.
And forever is losing A sock or shoe?

Who, resisting or not lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding The long day to fill?
Is that what you're thinking?. . Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes, nurse .you're not looking at me.

I'll tell you who I am As I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your will.
I'm a small child of Ten . . with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters who love one another

A young boy of Sixteen with wings on his feet
Dreaming that soon now a lover he'll meet.
A groom soon at Twenty my heart gives a leap.
Remembering, the vows that I promised to keep.

At Twenty-Five, now I have young of my own.
Who need me to guide And a secure happy home.
A man of Thirty My young now grown fast,
Bound to each other With ties that should last.

At Forty, my young sons . . . have grown and are gone,
But my woman is beside me . . . to see I don't mourn.
At Fifty, once more, . . . Babies play 'round my knee,
Again, we know children My loved one and me.

Dark days are upon me My wife is now dead.
I look at the future I shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing . . . young of their own.
And I think of the years . . . And the love that I've known.

I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.
It's jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles grace and vigour, depart.
There is now a stone . . . where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass . A young man still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells
I remember the joys I remember the pain.
And I'm loving and living life over again.

I think of the years, all too few gone too fast.
And accept the stark fact . . . that nothing can last.
So open your eyes, people open and see.
Not a cranky old man .
Look closer see ME!!

PLAN

Bridge players should **learn to plan and prepare**, or prepare for failure. This applies most definitely when you are declarer following the lead being tabled and prior to playing a card. You don't touch a card until you have formed a plan, including assessing opponents holding from bidding.

In a NT contract, count the number of tricks on top, where you can develop extra tricks if needed, what are the dangers? Do you need to hold up taking a trick, has bidding indicated a "danger" opponent.

In a suit contract, count your losers and if this is more than you can afford to make your contract, then look at ways to remove one or more losers – ruffing in dummy, discarding losers on winners in other hand. Your plan must include whether losers must be removed before trumps are drawn, or if your losers are only in trumps, then should be drawn immediately to protect your suit losers.



Club Pairs winners for 2024:
Peter G and Gary W.
Well Done gents.

MAY & JUNE ACHIEVEMENTS

Cathy Mc & Martyn C came first at Bribie in the
Aus Wide Novice Pairs Heat, with 63.54%
- great effort.

Sarah H-W and Tim S placed 2nd
in the B Grade
Graded Pairs Competition at Caloundra.



B Grade 2nd place getters at
SCBC Swiss Teams:
John R, Jan K,
Jenny H & Keith C

10 members slugged it out at the River City Gold Mixed Pairs Congress at Toowong.
106 pairs contested the event. Several of our Pairs finished at a higher rank than their starting position.
Well done for making the effort: Sarah, Tim, Deb, Gary, Jan, John R, Jenny, Keith, John N & Ross.