



# TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

April 2017

[www.townsvillebridgeclub.asn.au](http://www.townsvillebridgeclub.asn.au)

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## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### President:

John Tredrea – 4775 1879

### Vice President:

Phil Rains – 0417 160 059

### Secretary:

Devan Mitchell – 0407 691 563

### Treasurer:

Fred Cole - 07 4779 3026

### Committee Members

Sandra Bunnett – 0439 384 462

Leonie Cunningham 4723 4092

Jilanne Dillon – 0413 152 816

Lyn Joye – 0402 248 086

Jan Manders – 4772 7087

Robert Mischlewski – 4779 7637

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Geoff Allen – 07 4721 0161

Diana McAlister – 0402 761 152

## Active Club Directors

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Bruce Bowden – 07 4779 6809

Clive Bunnett – 07 4773 1029

Betty Hobdell – 0457 965 454

Kay Lehmann – 07 4778 2914

Ian Patterson - 0474 706 214.

Phil Rains – 0417 160 059

Elsie Stubbs – 0451 013 753

Gloria MacDonald – 0402 010 595

## Zonal Positions

John Tredrea – Zonal Secretary

Geoff Allen - Delegate

## COMING EVENTS

One Day Pairs 8 April

Easter Congress, Cairns 14 -17 April

Diggers Congress, Cleveland Bay 21 -25 April

Barrier Reef Congress, Yeppoon  
29 April – 1 May

Bridge for Brains 4 May

Townsville 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Congress  
16-18 June

Barrier Reef Congress Townsville  
14-18 May 2018

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Albert Beric

Jacquelyn Bliss

Phil Rains

Heather Colbert

Betty Collins

Margaret Dousset

Delma Johnson

Margaret McSweeney

Jane Seawright

Kelly Walker

Judy Hunt

Mick Knewstub

Dot Shannon

## FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

By Ian Patterson

A new feature in the December '16 issue of *Australian Bridge* is a column "System Ideas". In this issue, Simon Andrew describes his version of Stayman when 1NT may contain a 5-card Major. **Five-card Stayman : An update on an old convention** even accommodates a 4-5-2-2 shape (with both doubletons containing Q x or better).

The December issue of *Australian Bridge* also contains these useful tips in play and defence:

TIM BOURKE'S Card play challenge (p7, 23) is a Declarer play problem titled "Solid". The challenge is to make 12 tricks in 6NT after your opponents lead gives nothing away. With 7 tricks in the red suits and 3 top tricks in the black suits you need to find the remaining 2 tricks in Spades (A 4 in dummy opposite K J 10 5 in hand) and Clubs (J 8 7 6 3 2 in dummy opposite AQ4). His solution: Win the (J H) lead in dummy and lead a **small** Club to the Queen. If both opponents follow, regardless of who has the King, you will make the 2 extra tricks in Clubs. The challenge is to make those 2 extra tricks of R H opponent shows out (LH opponent holds K 10 9 5 of Clubs). Solution is on P23.

BOYE BROGELAND describes play in a PRO-AM tournament in which the professional Bridge players paired up with "not quite so proficient" players and how he was fooled by a poker star (and an unusual bidding system).

In Tales from the Monastery of St Titus, the ABBOT gets it wrong again. Holding D: K Q 10 9 4 and C: K Q 10 6 3 (and having got a 3C response to his (unusual) 2NT overcall) he leads the K of his "better" suit against the opponents 7 S contract. What did he lead and why did it backfire? Find out on pp 21-23 of the magazine.

The hand chosen for Best of Tim Seres (p 37) is an example of an end play executed at the '81 ANC. Titled "Dancing with the devil's coup" (Ask Johnno what that is!) Tim is in a 24 point 4 S game in a 5-3 fit missing the Q and J of trumps. Tim plays a cross-ruff **without drawing any trumps**, eliminating the 2 red suits and with 4 cards left to play throws his Right Hand opponent in with his last Club forcing him to lead Trumps and concede 3 more tricks.

In "Getting ahead: Educational columns for club players" (pp 26/28):

1. MIKE LAWRENCE in "Cutting Communications" shows how to use the bidding to determine how long you should "holdup" your stopper in the suit lead. But first, do you know "the first rule" of declarer play? Ans: do "not take a trick until you are sure what you will do next". Mike uses the Rule of 11, the bidding (weak jump overcalls) and the vulnerability (Vul vs Non-vul) to predict the locality of the high card points and so decide to hold up for 2 rounds.

2. The Real Deal with LARRY COHEN in "Your longest suit" says to start the bidding with "your longer suit" even when it is the lower of the Majors (Hearts) when 6/5. e.g. S: Q 8 6 5 4, H: A J 10 9 8 5, D: A, C:8. He says "judge later whether (and how) to get spades into the picture". In his example hand, both side are Vul., W (with the hand above) opens 1H and LHO (N) makes a Takeout Double with only 3 Spades (S: 1092, H: K2, D: KJ98, C: KQ65). The bidding proceeds:

1H	X	2H	2S
4H	/	/	4S
?			

Larry uses the Law of Total Tricks (Trumps: 9 + 8 = 17, so total available tricks = 17. If he can make 10 tricks, the Opponents can only make 7 tricks) to Double for penalties. At the other table, W opened 1S and was passed out, making 5 tricks for -200 as S chose not to re-open with 1NT (12 points and 4 Spades). (E/W can make 4 H with 16 HCP, the best N/S can do is 7 tricks in 2D with 24 HCP!).

3. Pairs Tactics with ANDREW ROBSON in "Avoiding guesswork in a competitive auction" says "Make just one supporting bid - to the limit. Then shut up." What is the limit? It seems to be the total number of trumps + 1 (or is that 2?). The object is to put the opponents in the position that they have to guess whether to Double for Penalties or bid 1 more. If you are prepared to bid to the 5 level in a competitive auction, just do it in 1 bid.

4. DANNY ROTH in "Adjusting the percentages" shows how to combine the percentages of a **lower probability** play **before** making a **higher probability** play. In this case Declarer needs to make a discard before playing trumps as the lead has set up a second tick to go with the master trump for the opponents. He has 2 choices: play for a 3-3 break in a suit with A K Q 4 2 in dummy opposite 8 6 in hand (36%) OR finesse for a missing Q when holding A 7 opposite K J 2 (50%). If either play is successful, Declarer can discard a loser. Roth argues that you should play for the 3-3 break because the chances are improved by having a 4-2 break with doubleton on declarers right (1/2 x 24%) giving a total of 48%. The advantage of playing for the 3-3 break first is that you can then take the finesse if

RHO ruffs in. The hand reinforces his point from an earlier column: "the 'percentage' play is not necessarily a winning play on a specific hand."

In his column "It's your lead" RON KLINGER discusses what to lead against a NT contract. Using 2 hands from the World Open Teams, he illustrates the value of leading the unbid Major or your strongest Major when both Majors are unbid. Ron cites a hand from "Winning Notrump Leads" by David Bird and Taf Anthias. In the 1st example the opponents have arrived at 3NT after LHO has bid Spades. What would you lead from:

S: Q 7 6 4 H: J 5 3 D: A 9 6 5 3 C: 2 ?

The top award goes to the H3.

Ron's 2nd problem is to find a lead as West from:

	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	/	/	/
	/	3C	/
	/	3NT	all pass.

1. 3H denies a 4-card or a 5-card Major.

Ron argues that the Heart lead need less (Q or 10) from partner than the Spade lead (K J 9? or J 10 9?).

In the November 2016 issue of the **ABF Newsletter**, JOAN BUTTS emphasises the importance of playing ATTITUDE on partner's opening lead: Do you want them to continue or not (and if not what suit should they shift to).

PAUL LAVINGS' "Bridge in the 21st century" looks at "Whether to Pass or Respond to One Club" with less than 6 HCP. His answers are based more on the number of Clubs held (less than 3 or more than 4) than on the length of the other suits. For instance, he suggests bidding 1H with **both** Majors and (i) 2 Clubs with just 5 HCP; (ii) 0 Clubs and just 1 HCP. He also suggests bidding 1S with 4 Spades, 4 HCP (KJ of Spades) and 5 Clubs. A common refrain is recommending a bid of a Major when there is a strong likelihood that the opponents will have a fit in the other Major. He suggests pre-empting with long suits but only if there is no fit in Clubs.

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

Marie Radford  
Joanne Mitchell

**SOME RECENT RESULTS**

Three Saturday Pairs

Beth Whebell – Bill Redhead  
Albert Beric – Bill Bishop  
John Johnson – Phil Rains

GNOT Qualifying 1

Hugh Mcalister – Diana Mcalister -  
John Johnson – Geoff Allen  
Phil Rains – Elsie Stubbs - John  
Tredrea - Robyn Nolan  
Judy Hunt - Lesleigh Rooney -  
Delma Johnson - Pat Allen

Club Pairs

John Johnson – Geoff Allen  
Beth Whebell- John Tredrea  
Elsie Stubbs – Darren Myerson

**RANKING PROMOSTIONS FOR MARCH**

Bill Redhead – Gold Life  
Peter Hall – National  
Albert Beric – State  
Wilfred Tapiolis – Local \*\*  
Ched Twyman – Local \*\*  
Shirley Pruden – Local \*  
Nina Doyle – Local  
Ian Leach - Local

## TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB 50<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

### **The Ellaways**

Kim Ellaway, who is now the Manager of the Queensland Bridge Association was kind enough to send me these memories of the earlier days of our Club.

My memories of the Townsville Bridge Club go back to the 1970s. The June congress was my very first and I was a regular after that. We (a bunch of us Mount Isa'ans) would leave early on the Friday morning on the milk run and would eventually arrive in Townsville mid-afternoon to play Friday night. Judy Valentine was the Director. Because all the calculations had to be done by hand, it was a long job but we always stayed at the venue until it was done. Friday was a long day! Saturday and Sunday had more leisurely starts and after play on Saturday those who could joined us at our hotel (the Sugar Shaker). All the bridge players were housed on the same floor and it always seemed to be someone's birthday or some other occasion for celebration and partying. On the Monday there was an early start so that congress play could be finished by lunchtime, though there was often a more informal session on Monday afternoons. (The plane to Mount Isa did not leave until quite late.)

The venue was not air conditioned, had minimal fans, plastic chairs and only average lighting. I wonder now how we could cope but the memories are fantastic.

I made many friends in Townsville and am sad about the many who are no longer with us. Great and old friends included John and Brian Blyth, Richard Ward and Lindy Vincent, Clarice and the Suthers family. We are happy to have close connections here in the Gold Coast with Laurie Kelso, Matt Mullamphy, Sean Mullamphy and Barbara Suthers.



Ray and Kim Ellaway at the 2011 Mackay Congress

Editor's Note: I plan to have something about the Club's history in each issue of this year's newsletter. If you would like to submit an article or offer material or suggest a topic, I would be very pleased to hear from you. Jean

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We have established a major partnership with **Escape Travel Townsville**, who is willing to offer sponsorship in the form of a “Kickback” to the club of travel rewards. This is available on bookings made and paid for by our members, their family, friends and associates from other clubs. This means that at the end of each quarter the Club will receive travel vouchers that can be raffled for prizes to assist with our fundraising efforts.

All you have to do is contact **Escape Travel Townsville** on **07 4722 5000** mention that you are a member of the Townsville Bridge Cub (or an associate of the Club) when making the booking, for the club to receive the “Kickback” rewards. This will apply to ALL bookings for club business and your leisure travel booked through **Escape Travel Townsville** even if you live in other parts of the country we can still receive the benefits if you just follow the steps above.