



TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

January 2017

www.townsvillebridgeclub.asn.au

Clubhouse phone 4779 9731
PO Box 1053, Aitkenvale, 4814
bridgeclub@westnet.com.au

Bank Details:
BSB: 034 212
ACC #: 913659

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:

Vacant

Vice President:

Vacant

Secretary:

Devan Mitchell – 0407 691 563

Treasurer:

Fred Cole - 07 4779 3026

Committee Members

All positions vacant

Congress Directors

Geoff Allen – 07 4721 0161

Diana McAlister – 0402 761 152

Club Directors

Bill Bishop - 0409 598 214

Bruce Bowden – 07 4779 6809

Clive Bunnett – 07 4773 1029

Betty Hobdell – 0457 965 454

Kay Lehmann – 07 4778 2914

Ian Patterson – 0448 777 288

Phil Rains – 0417 160 059

Elsie Stubbs – 0451 013 753

Kenn Winter – 0412 218 050

Gloria MacDonald – 0402 010 595

Zonal Positions

Diana McAlister - Secretary

Geoff Allen - Delegate

COMING EVENTS

ABF Summer Festival of Bridge
Canberra
10-22 January

General Meeting of Members to Elect a New
Committee
10.30 Saturday 21 January
(Nominations close 14 January)

Australia Day Congress
26 - 29 January
(Note on Thursday 26th there will be no morning
session of bridge. Instead there will be walk in
pairs as part of the congress)

Thursday Different Partners
February 2,6,16

Gold Coast Congress
Broadbeach
18-25 February

Carol Blackman is doing the decorations of
the Clubhouse for the Australia Day
Congress. She is seeking help with the
work and Australia for use in the
decorations.

CLUB BUSINESS

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF 10 DECEMBER 2016

This meeting was attended by over 20 members. Issues discussed included the need (or otherwise) for the proposed extension, including the issue of conforming with current building regulations; other possible configurations for the proposed extension; and possible sources of funding.

The meeting decided that Wilfred Tapiolis should be requested to redraw the plans for the extension to extend it across the full width of the existing building so that in addition to toilets, there would be a new area to be designated a teaching space. When these drawings have been completed, the Committee will seek potential sources of funding and a further general meeting will be called to consider the final decisions about seeking building approval and progressing to building.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF 31 DECEMBER 2016

This meeting was called in response to a request from a group of members to dissolve the existing management committee and elect a new one. John Tredrea chaired the meeting and explained some of the background that had made the existing committee unworkable including the resignation of four members.

After much general discussion, including airing of concerns about the legality of aspects of the meeting and of the request, the motion was passed to dissolve the committee. A further motion was passed to allow the Secretary and Treasurer to remain in office in a caretaker capacity until the new committee is formed.

Nominations are open for office bearers and committee members and will close on 14 January. A General Meeting will be held at 10.30am on Saturday January 21 to elect a new committee.

CHANGES TO TELEPHONE AND EMAIL ARRANGEMENTS

The Club is in negotiations with the NBN and Telstra for broadband connection. (Peter Housden is considering writing a novel.) This will mean a change of email address. The email address has not changed yet.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cara Bragg
Clive Bunnett
Nuala Clayton
Fay Down
Janina Mazierska
Lynne Healy
Kath Peever
Keith Ramsbotham
Maree Eales
Felicity Horne

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This was attended by a number of elves and reindeer and lots of good fairies who brought delicious things for afternoon tea and lots of gifts and useful items for the Women's' Shelter.



A REPORT ON THE GNOT NATIONAL FINALS

by Ian Patterson

TEAMS

This was probably a case of "least said soonest mended"? Seeded 39th, we started the competition against Melbourne 1, seeded 26th (although given their subsequent results, probably not the no.1 Victorian Team: Melbourne 3 made it to the 3rd round of the Knockout where they lost to Sydney 2 who were the eventual winners; Melbourne 1 lost in the 2nd round to Sydney 4.)

Hence we went into the "Swiss". The top 2 Teams in the Swiss at the end of Day 2 played in a repechage against the Teams who finished 3rd and 4th in the Knockout to see who would advance to the Semi-finals. Our subsequent results were a bit like riding a roller coaster:

MATCH	VS	RESULT	PLACE
1	Team 64	small WIN	37th (56) or 23rd (32)
2	Team 63	better WIN	31st (56) or 23rd (48)
3	Team 31	big LOSS	38th (56) or 30th (48)
4	Team 24	big LOSS	46th (56)
5	Team 59	big WIN	34th (56)
6	Team 28	big LOSS	42nd (56)
7	Team 62	winning DRAW	45th (60)
8	Team 43	Big WIN	37th (60)
9	Team 36	LOSS	44th (60)

The most obvious observation is that we couldn't beat a Team that was seeded higher than us.

The places are confusing. For some reason the Top 8 Teams still in the Knockout are listed at the bottom of the Table, while the remaining Teams are listed at the Top. So in Round 1 of the Swiss, the Top 24 Teams were actually playing in the Knockout. In Rounds 2 and 3 the Top 8 Teams were still in the Knockout. After every round of the Knockout the losing Teams were placed at the Top of the Swiss. You had to be 1st or 2nd in the Swiss after the 9th Round to earn a place in the repechage. The honour went to Geelong and Sydney 1.

So after 2 days of Teams Hugh and I signed up for the Swiss Pairs on the Sunday.

SWISS PAIRS

We all know you need luck to win at Bridge. You also need good judgement in bidding, as well as skill in the play of a contract and (with good communication) in defence. There were 46 tables in the Pairs. Some of the 92 pairs are locals who take advantage of the opportunity to earn some Gold Points as the Swiss Pairs is open to all comers, others are not. We started at Table 30 NS. Our original opponents didn't turn up so there was a reshuffle and we subsequently played 2 Chinese gentlemen who were playing a sophisticated form of precision. The hands favoured EW (Av 25.25 combined, to 14.75 for NS) and they enjoyed mainly undisturbed bidding. We did not score a single Imp over 8 Boards, losing by -37 and earning 0.00 VPs. Was it bad luck or bad play/judgement? You be the judge.

BOARD	CONTRACT	BID BY	IMPS	COMMENT
1	6SE (12)	39 of 46	0	Cold
2	4HE (10)	17 of 46	-3	Cold - 30 tables made 10 or 11 tricks
3	3NTW (9)	3 of 46	-11	Taking it 1 off is worth 4 Imps. Lead makes the difference.
4	4HW (10)	3 of 46	-4	Makes 11 (Claim did not mention outstanding trump)
5	6SW (12)	6 of 46	-11	Makes 11 if you do not lead your Ace.
6	4HE (11)	40 of 46	0	Cold
7	2DN (10)	12 of 46	-2	7 pairs bid and made 3NT with 22 HCP for 9 or 10 Imps
8	3NTE (9)	16 of 46	-6	Makes 10 but so did others in 4SE, 4 NS pairs sacrificed in a Minor for -800 or -1100 losing 12 or 14 Imps

That Lead problem from Board 3: What do you lead from: S: K975
C: K3

H: KQJ64 D: K5

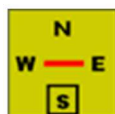
West has opened the bidding with 1H, East has denied a fit. Leading the K Hearts should earn you at least 2 Hearts, but is that enough?

The full hand is:

Board 3
 Dealer S
 Vul E-W

♠ K975
 ♥ KQJ64
 ♦ K5
 ♣ K3

♠ AJ2
 ♥ A9873
 ♦ Q6
 ♣ 975



♠ 6
 ♥ T5
 ♦ A98743
 ♣ AQJT

♠ QT843
 ♥ 2
 ♦ JT2
 ♣ 8642

15
 11 11
 3

Makeable contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	-	2	-
S	-	-	-	2	-
E	3	4	2	-	1
W	3	4	2	-	2

As you can see, partner cannot return your Heart lead. Is this foreseeable? Probably not, but Declarer only has to hold up 1 Round before it becomes clear to him, and he can then freely take any finesses into South's hand knowing he can't be hurt in Hearts. All he has to do is win the second Heart, play a 3rd to knock out your Jack, win the return in hand and take 2 more Heart tricks, discarding Diamonds. Then he can take a Club finesse. A 2nd round of Clubs drops your doubleton King, giving Declarer 4 Clubs, 3 Hearts and 2 outside Aces. Returning a Diamond (even the King) doesn't help as it allows Declarer to set up the Diamonds for only 1 loser.

So what is the "killing" lead. What happens if you lead a small Spade? There is no point Declarer holding up. His best chance is the to set up the Diamond suit by leading the Queen(?). Even if you don't (??) cover the Queen, partner will get in with the Jack and return a Spade. As long as you are careful to unblock, the defence will get at least 4 Spades and 1 Diamond. It doesn't help Declarer to let you have the King of Diamonds. A Heart switch now will force his hand.

This hand illustrates my belief that leading your 2nd best suit (in which your partner is more likely to have some high cards) is often the best way to take the Contract down.

After the debacle of Round 1 we were in 91st place (of 92) and could only go 1 way, which we did in typical see-saw pattern: 91st, 81st, 56th, 51st, 67th, 52nd, and finally 54th. We had 1 pleasurable win against Rosendorff and Bloom (name dropper?). What were they doing at Table 42? Our other 2 losses were also against Precision players (Suzie and Andrew Braithwaite, and Charles Howard and Kerry Wood). Howard/Wood were 1 of 10 pairs (out of 46 tables) to bid and make 6D with a combined 29 HCP (of which only 26 were working) for 10 Imps. Against them, I was the only player to put his partner to 4C going 2 off Vulnerable (losing 5 Imps) when the best the opposition could make was 3D. Considering that we lost the Match by just 4 Imps I think the poor judgement outweighs the bad luck.

Major Sponsor

EscapeTravel[™]
the holiday people

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.