

TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER – JULY 2021



PRESIDENT'S REPORT – JULY 2021

President's Report July

The Townsville congress was held recently from 3 to 5 July. The covid lockdown forced the walk-in pairs to be abandoned and a number of entries had to withdraw. Twenty two pairs and 13 teams were able to participate.

The disruption caused an enormous amount of extra work for our director Geoff Allen and Charlie Georgees and Bill Bishop to rearrange the event. I would like to thank them, and Margaret Dousset and her team for putting on a great lunch on the final day. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the congress a great success.

Congratulations to the winners and placegetters.

The QBA has advised us that Queensland Health has issued a public health directive requiring our members to use the Checkin Queensland App when arriving at the club to help with contact tracing in the event of a covid 19 outbreak. Posters with the Townsville Bridge Club QR Code are at the entry to the club and on every table. Most of us are familiar with using the app and its ability to check in additional people should anyone not have a mobile phone with them. Please ask one of the committee members if you require any help with the app. Following the lifting of the recent lockdown on Friday 2 July, please refer to the website for the current restrictions.

The club has made an application for a grant totalling \$20,200 from the Gambling Community Fund. The grant closed on 30 June and successful applicants will be advised by the end of November. If we are successful the grant will be used to upgrade the ageing equipment in the dealing room, including a new dealing machine, bridgemates, cards and printer. With the club hosting the Barrier Reef Congress next year this upgrade is needed as we will have to deal and store over 3000 sets of boards.

We have delayed removing the larger table tops as Covid is still with us, but most of the black plastic covers have been removed. If anyone is having difficulty picking up cards Donna and Di have solved the problem by using non slip mats.

Finally, congratulations to our newest Grand Masters Lesleigh Rooney and Rosemary Glastonbury and to John Johnson for reaching 3000 master points. They are all featured in this newsletter.

Wilfred Tapiolas

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 2021

- 10th** BOWEN Pairs Congress (Red) (2 days)
- 12th** TBC Monday Pairs (Red) (3 days)
- 17th** NWP (Green Pts in club, Red Pts online)
- 17th** CNS Show Congress (Red) (2 days)
- 19th** Monday Pairs 2 of 3 (Red) - [Open & Under National]
- 26th** Monday Pairs 3 of 3 (Red) - [Open & Under National]

AUGUST 2021

- 5th** NWP (Green Pts in club, Red Pts online)
- 6th** MISSION B. Cassowary Coast Pairs (Red) (3 days)
- 12th** TBC Thursday Pairs 1 (Red)
- 15th** CBBC Cleveland Bay Teams (Red)
- 19th** TBC Thursday Pairs 2 (Red)
- 20th** NWP 16 - (Green Pts in club, Red Pts online)

Check in and you're good to go!

We're using the new Check In Qld app to help keep you COVID safe the next time you visit. All you need to do is:

- ✓ visit www.covid19.qld.gov.au/check-in-qld for links to download the app from Google Play or Apple App stores
- ✓ enter your details once when you first open the app
- ✓ open the app when you next visit us
- ✓ select 'Check in Now' and scan or enter our code

Using this digital check in means your details will be stored securely by the Queensland Government for 56 days to assist with COVID-19 contact tracing (if needed).

The Check In Qld app is safe, secure and private. By using it, you are helping Queensland's pubs, clubs, restaurants and cafes to stay open, and you can visit us with confidence, knowing you can be contacted quickly and easily if there is any risk of exposure to the virus.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

FARWELL JENNIFER MULLEN



Best wishes for the future!

The club wishes Jennifer and Ray all the best on their return to Perth, Western Australia.

You will be missed but hopefully we will see at the bridge club in the near future when you return for holidays visits

2021 Australia-Wide Novice Pairs Competition

Colleen Evanson (L) and Anne Murphy (R) - BEST IN QLD and
6th IN AUSTRALIA



GRAND MASTERS!!!



LESLEIGH ROONEY

ROSEMARY
GLASTONBURY


70 Percenters – last 6 months

- Betty Hobdell and John Johnson
- Ken Manders and Bill Bishop
- Peter Elliott and Bill Redhead
- Lina Diquer and Ched Twyman
- Dusk Care and Wilfred Tapiolas
- Betty Hobdell and Marie Stabler
- Jo-anne Gillis and Gay Loughnane

RECENT RANKING PROMOTIONS

- Lesleigh Rooney – **Grand**
- Reg Burton – **Silver Local**
- Danny Bowden – **Bronze Local**
- Philip Allnutt – **Graduate**
- Jana Zrno – **Bronze local**
- Wendy Schwerin – **Graduate**
- Lily Morrish – **Graduate**
- Rosemary Glastonbury – **Grand**

Courtesy of Artwork Audrey Q

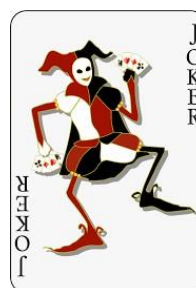


Opening Lead

There are only 3 reasons not to lead partner's suit:

1. You don't have any of their suit
2. You have a better lead of your own e.g. AKQ
3. You don't want to partner them next week.

Bernie Hunt



The difference between genius and stupidity at the bridge table is that genius has its limits.

*We had a partnership misunderstanding.
I assumed my partner knew what he was doing.*

Source – Eddie Kantar

TOWNSVILLE CONGRESS 2021

The snap 3-day lockdown from 6 pm Tuesday 29th June to 6 pm Friday 2nd July could not have come at a worse time. The Congress was scheduled to start with the walk-in pairs on Friday, but this was the last day of lockdown and the popular walk-ins had to be cancelled. The decision to proceed with (Plan A) or cancel the whole Congress (Plan B) could not be made until the 11th hour.

Thankfully an early announcement by the Qld Government on Friday morning enabled us to trigger 2 hours of vigorous discussions between key players including Committee members, Covid Sub-Committee members, and our Resident Covid Officer/Adviser. We were assured that Qld Health would have worked through the night for up-to-date results, all negative, from the previous 2 days of Townsville and Magnetic Island Covid testing. Phone calls were also made to 2 leading Townsville Clubs regarding the use of masks.

In the end, at 10am Friday, we decided to proceed with the Congress from Saturday, as did the Organisers of the Townsville Show and other imminent events in our area. Thank you to all who helped.

CONGRESS PAIRS – JULY 21



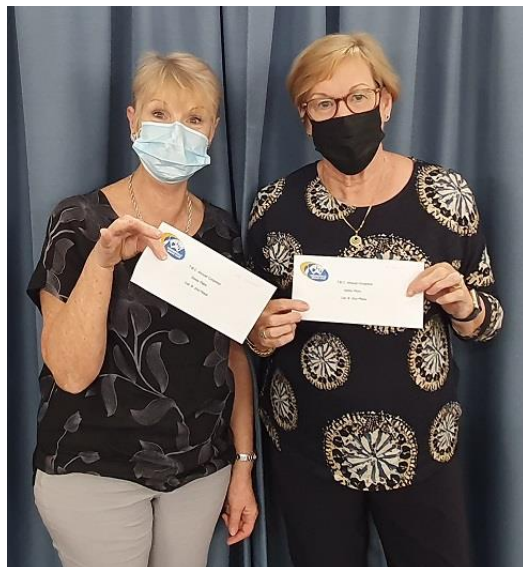
1ST A - PAT LEIGHTON/ ROBYN NOLAN



1ST B - JENELLE DALTON / CATHY CRAWFORD

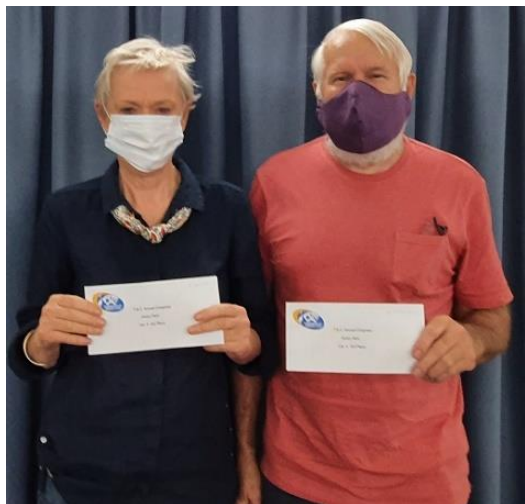


2ND A - BETTY HOBDELL / IAN PATTERSON



2ND B - MARGARET DOUSSET/JOAN ELLIOTT

3RD A – MARIA CHIPPENDALE/BILL BISHOP **1ST C - HELEN TAPIOLAS/WILFRED TAPIOLAS**



**2ND C - COLLEN EVANSON
/FELICITY HORNE (absent)**

CONGRESS TEAMS RESULTS

Category A



**1ST CHARLIE GEORGEES,
ROBYN NOLAN, PAT LEIGHTON
and JOHN TREDREA**



**2ND BILL BISHOP, MARIA
CHIPPENDALE, JAN SMITH and
LEIGH OWENS**



3rd ANGELA HALL, PETER HOUSDEN, GLORIA MACDONALD, and SANDRA BUNNETT

Category B



1st JOHN LARKIN, MARGARET DOUSSET, JOAN ELLIOTT, and PETER HALL



2ND JOHN TOOGOOD, MARGIE TOOGOOD, SUE REILLY and JO GILLIS

Category C



1st - DI GARSIDE, SAM BISHOP, DONNA FITCH, and COLEEN EVANSON

YOU DID IT!

Congratulations



JOHN JOHNSON

3000 MASTERPOINTS!!!!

Well done - An
amazing achievement
for our first current
member to reach this
milestone



MEMBER PROFILE – John Johnson

When did you first play Bridge?

1974

Who introduced you to bridge?

Friends in Mt Isa.

Who taught you to play bridge?

No formal instruction, largely self taught.

Where did you grow up?

Brisbane.

Did you have a nickname at school?

Yes, 'Stick'

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

Putting the rubbish out.

If you could be an animal, what would it be and why?

A dog because they are friendly and loyal if well treated.

What is your favourite song?

Lady in Red and Bohemian Rhapsody

Do you have any "hidden talents" or achievements that might surprise us?

Very retentive memory, almost eidetic.

What personality trait has got you in most trouble?

Sometimes being too inquisitive.

What is the best advice you have been given or your Motto is? You are only in trouble if you believe you are in trouble

If you could invite three famous people for dinner (dead or alive) who would it be? Well, it's John Monash, Leonardo Da Vinci and Albert Einstein.

Best advice for your bridge partner? Keep away from critical comment be constructive



NEGATIVE DOUBLES REVISITED

By Ian Patterson

Got it wrong again? (The next chapter in the Patterson book of Competitive bidding). I thought this one was perfectly clear - my partner didn't see it the same way. It all comes down to your understanding of Negative Doubles. The bidding had gone:

E	S	W	N	
P	1C	1D	1S	
3D	4C	P	4S	(ALL PASS)

Dummy was no help, holding no Spades, and the contract duly went 4 off. I was South, and in the wash-up, I churlishly muttered something like "but I didn't show Spade support by making a Negative Double". Afterwards I wondered if I wasn't expecting too much of a negative Double.

We learn Negative Doubles as showing "the unbid suit(s)". After 1C is overcalled by 1H, X shows 4 Spades. After 1C is overcalled by 1D, X shows at least 4/3 in the Majors. Significantly, it suggests that the doubler has at least 3-card suit for the opening Minor as it generally promises a shortage in the suit overcalled. The only exception to this should be when the Doubler has a 6(5?)/4 in the unbid suits and intends to bid the longer suit at the next opportunity if there is no other fit. e.g.

Holding: C: xx D: x H: QJ8752 S: KQ74

I would double to show both Majors then bid the 6 card Heart suit if my partner didn't show up with 4 Spades. I've even been known to argue that bidding this way shows a weaker hand than if I had overcalled first and then doubled at my next turn to bid. e.g. Holding: C: xx D: QJ8752
H: K974 S: x

after the bidding: 1C / 1S / ? I would X, then if partner bid anything other than 2H (or LHO bid 2S and partner passed), I would bid 2(3)D to show my 6-card suit and weak hand. If I'd had 10+ HCP I would overcall 2D first, then X at my next turn to call to show the Hearts (and wouldn't panic if my partner passed the X for Penalties). (Judgement(luck?) is required here - it would be sad if my partner had 6 Clubs and only 1 Diamond, and we missed our Club fit.)

So I would argue that (unless you have a self-sustaining suit of your own in a weak hand) a **Negative Double should show support for any suit your partner bids**. Can you then argue that **if you don't make a Negative Double, you do not have support for your partner**? If, in the opening example, my hand had been: C: AKQJ73 D: T H: QT62 S: Q95 I would have been happy to Double to show my 4 Hearts and support for my partner in a strongish hand. My partner has already shown 4/5 Spades, so with an extra Spade we have a fit. I can tolerate a 3S bid, as well as 3H or even a 4C bid. So, what should I do with this holding? C: AKQJT98 D: T5 H: QT62 S: -. I do not want to encourage my partner to bid Spades again. If I double, I could hear: 3H (note my partner didn't X over the 1D overcall), 3S with 5+(?) Ss, 3Nt with a D stopper, or even Pass. Being the eternal pessimist, I chose to bid 4C (made 9 tricks) which might encourage the opponents to go on in Ds. I could have doubled then bid 4C over 3S but would this be more or less encouraging for partner? Am I more likely to hear 4S from her then? **Feel free to comment in the next monthly Newsletter!**

As an aside, I could have opened the hand 2C to show a 4 or 5 loser hand but chose not to so that I might hear Hs from my partner at a comfortably low level. If I had opened 2C, the bidding might have gone (without interference):

/ 2C / 2H* / 3C / 3S / 4C / 4S? where the 2H bid shows 4-6 HCP and says nothing about the Heart suit.

My partner held 6 Spades to the A Q and 3 rag Clubs.



Some suggestions to help new players improve.

Play

The **plan** is everything, and needs to be worked out on **every** hand, right after the lead is made. In no trumps, count winners, in suits, count both winners and losers.

Check how many tricks you need to develop, and then decide which techniques you will use. Sometimes working out which technique to use first is the problem, but having a basic knowledge of the **odds** will save you here. An even number of cards against you will divide oddly more than evenly, and vice versa, eg

- You and partner hold 7 cards in a suit, (missing 6 cards). Expect them to divide 4-2 more than 3-3.
- You and partner hold 8 cards (missing 5 cards). Expect them to divide 3-2 much more often than 4-1.

As declarer, we are sometimes taught to draw trumps too early. Roughly 40% of the time, you need to do something else with the trump suit (usually dummy's) **before** you draw them. The trump suit is a good way to cross to and fro between hands.

Don't panic as declarer – you need to remember the lead and try to build up a picture of the opponents' hands. Also practise keeping **count** in important suits. This means mentally recording the distribution of some suits.

Source: Australian Bridge Federation.

ONE DAY TEAMS JUNE 2021 – RESULTS

A GRADE:

1st Place: BILL BISHOP, PAT LARSEN, JAN SMITH and LEIGH OWENS



2nd Place: PHIL RAINS, LESLEIGH ROONEY, IAN PATTERSON, ALBERT BERIC and BETTY HOBDELL (Absent)



3rd Place: BILL REDHEAD, VIVIENNE OTTO, HELEN LOVEGROVE and GAYLEEN BROWN



B GRADE: Won by C Category team

1st Place: JOHN LARKIN, MARGARET DOUSSET, JOAN ELLIOTT and PETER HALL



C GRADE

1st Place: KENN WINTER, DAVID NORTH, JOHN TOOGOOD and MARGIE TOOGOOD



FROM THE VAULT

Margo Byrnes, Alan Duncan, Mary Tonner and Gwen Cordingley (mid 1970s)



Farewell to Matt Mullamphy. Matt going to Nottingham UK to represent Australia in the World Youth Teams. Cicely Edge, Daphne Crimston, Marj Jeppesen, and Matt Mullamphy



1992 Townsville Congress - Jim Foley

David Vance, Bernice Morton, Iris Rutherford, Wendy O'Brien, Elsie Stubbs, Fay Down, and Gay Loughname



Below - Opening of the Aitkenvale Bridge Club House March 2002- Helen Bolton, Mary Riordan, and Edith Howard



A TRIBUTE

by Marg Foster

A quest for companionship – a passion for play
Saw the birth of our club which we honour today.

On this her Silver Anniversary.

Praise due to pioneers, who, first in the Synod Hall,
Nurtured a fledgling from those beginnings small,
To soar and triumph over all adversity

To how proudly extend to all who would enrol,
A challenge to the mind – friendships solace for the soul.

Your club, my club, our club – always respect her name.

Play with skills and play with science,
Complete with undaunted defiance –
But never make the winning more important than the game.

Give allegiance – bring her glory,

Help forge the never-ending story.

Of the TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB – forever may she reign!

I hope you have enjoyed the series of poems from Marg Foster. If anyone has any poems that would like published, then please let me know.



LIKE TO SHARE ANYTHING?

If anyone has any photos, jokes, ideas or feedback for the newsletter, then please contact Albert Beric on 0403 153 211 or email me - aberich@tpg.com.au