



TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

<http://townsville.fnqbridge.com/>
Clubhouse phone 4779 4043
PO Box 1053, Aitkenvale, 4814
townsvillebridgeclub@gmail.com
Bank Details:
BSB: 034 212
ACC #: 913659

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:

Clive Bunnett - 4773 1029

Vice President:

Gloria Macdonald - 0402 010 595

Secretary:

Rosemary Glastonbury
0422 222 191

Treasurer:

Geoff Allen - 0407 154 716

Committee Members

Peter Hall - 4779 5464

Lyn Joye - 0402 248 086

Robert Mischlewski - 4779 7637

John Johnson - 4778 2797

Fay Blower - 4403 921

Devan Mitchell - 0407 691 563

Congress Directors

Geoff Allen - 07 4721 0161

Diana McAlister - 0402 761 152

Bill Bishop - 0409 598 214

Active Club Directors

Clive Bunnett - 07 4773 1029

Maria Chippendale - 0407 640 949

Betty Hobdell - 0457 965 454

Kay Lehmann - 07 4778 2914

Gloria MacDonald - 0402 010 595

Ian Patterson - 0474 706 214.

Phil Rains - 0417 160 059

Bill Redhead - 0427 753 167

Elsie Stubbs - 0451 013 753

Zonal Positions

Geoff Allen - Delegate

John Tredrea - Secretary

October 2018

COMING EVENTS

Friday Pairs (Keith Ramsbothom Memorial Pairs)
5, 12, 19 October

GNOT Final
6, 7 October

QBA Open Pairs (Brisbane)
13, 14 October

Club Teams
27, 28 October

Cleveland Bay Anniversary Matchpoint Pairs
4 November

Melbourne Cup Pairs
6 November

Restricted Convention Teams
7, 14 November

Novice Teams
10 November

2018 AGM

The AGM was held on Saturday 8 September. The new committee is listed in the column to the left.

Issues discussed included the possibility of not displaying results on the bridge mates to reduce the conversation about results. The desirability of others nominating for the position of President was also raised.

KEITH RAMSBOTHOM MEMORIAL PAIRS

By Lyn Joye

Keith was a long- standing member of this Club. He had a great love of people and was a skilled card player. He taught beginners for a number of years and then took on supervised play sessions. Many members have become good players because of Keith's help. Although he was a good player himself, he always had time for players of a lower standard. Keith was made a Life Member at the 2013 AGM.

He is missed by many and the Friday pairs have been renamed in his memory.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2018

By Clive Bunnett

Welcome.

It was with much trepidation that I took on this role last year, but despite it being a huge learning curve about what was required to make this Club an enjoyable and functional place to play our great game, it has been a rewarding, and I feel a successful experience.

What it has taught me is appreciation of the dedication and care of a large number of people who contribute their services voluntarily to make things 'work'. This is not only at the macro-level such as the role that a committee member requires, but also at the micro-level such as tidying up or making this a pleasant environment in which to be. In a way it is a second 'home' and one feels among old friends. If this spirit can be fostered and maintained then I feel we have a successful Club.

That of course is up to each of us. After all we are the Bridge Club.

This year included the conducting of the Barrier Reef Congress. Thanks to the vision and attention to detail of John Tredrea as Convenor and all of his hardworking committee and volunteers, what a successful event it turned out to be. The venue at the price was outstanding value and the feedback on the fact that it was midweek was largely highly positive. I must mention Fay Blower here, (especially in the matter of biscuits!) as she was tireless in her efforts to make it a success but there were many more people involved from selling raffle tickets to taking lunch orders and acting as caddies for the event. In this regard I have to thank people who helped who were relatively beginning members. Also, the volunteers who loaded and unloaded all the equipment required; Bill Bishop and Geoff Allen who ensured the IT necessary for the directors; And Bill and Robert and helpers for dealing all the boards. Not to mention our catering liaison person, Lyn Joye; and Lesleigh Rooney and Robyn Nolan for contributing to and organising the very profitable raffle. Thank you all.

One of the major areas of focus of the committee was on marketing our great game. Fay Blower was again instrumental in getting an advertising banner produced and Wilfred Tapiolas had some professional posters and flyers printed. Thanks also to the people who manned the tables at Castletown for our bridge session to promote the lessons and the people who had flyers distributed throughout the community. Also thanks to Gloria Macdonald and Jean Dartnall for their efforts in getting our message into the media. Not an easy thing it seems. Although our first attempts produced a good result with up to 4 tables presenting for beginning lessons, the second attempt has not been so successful with just one table for Tuesday morning and one for Wednesday evening.

Hopefully next year we can make another concerted effort to increase membership.

The teaching program has been somewhat restructured since Elsie's retirement. There are now six lessons on non-competitive bidding conducted by myself and Diana McAlister (and currently Betty Hobdell). These are followed by another six lessons (Improvers) on more conventional and competitive bidding (currently with Fay Blower and myself). The next stage (Intermediate) has been in the capable hands of Betty Hobdell and these have been well patronised by members. Finally, John Johnson has conducted some lessons on advanced concepts. Fay has been particularly involved in mentoring players into playing and I would like to thank Gloria Macdonald for supporting this with her "social Sunday" sessions. I would like to encourage members with an interest in teaching and mentoring to become involved in the future. It can be a very rewarding experience. Thanks also to the members of the Club who show friendliness and tolerance to our 'Beginners'. Much appreciation also to our tireless supervised play mentors especially Del Ward, Beth Whebell, Vivienne Otto and of course our indomitable Elsie Stubbs who continues her Saturday morning sessions. Elsie also has continued with the Calendar with Di McAlister as a willing apprentice.

Another significant addition to the club has been the Directors' Station with its accompanying monitors. Thanks to Bill Bishop for conceiving of it and along with Bill Redhead for getting it up and running.

At last we have NBN and a landline telephone system in place. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Peter Housden over the best part of 2 years and more recently to Phil Rains who got the process kick-started again. Thanks to Bill Bishop who got the transition to a new server and email operating. He is definitely the go-to man for all matters technical.

I am aware of the danger of naming names as always someone will be left out, but I want to acknowledge publicly, those who have put in a great deal of time and effort on the Club's behalf, so I apologise in advance to those I've forgotten.

John Tredrea, whom I have already mentioned in regard to the BRC. I want to also thank him for handing over a well organised process for the management of the Club and also for his efforts at the Zonal level which currently resulted in a third GNOT competition being conducted by the Ingham Club. This ensures that the GNOT competition will remain alive for the foreseeable future.

Helen Tapiolas for her dedicated efforts as Secretary until her resignation due to family matters. Thanks to Rosemary Glastonbury for agreeing to take on the role. She is a very capable replacement. Also, Devan Mitchell and Peter Housden who substituted when necessary.

Geoff Allen, who is a Treasurer's Treasurer. His zeal is renowned. The club is in a very favourable financial position and the money is managed and accounted for extremely well. He also continues to put in effort in the scoring and Directing departments.

Lyn Joye whose catering abilities are second to none and who is an invaluable source of information into the details of what needs to be done in the Club and to organising people to get them done.

Fay Blower who as I mentioned is tireless in her efforts to market and teach and to ensure that things run smoothly

Peter Hall who capably manages the Masterpointing and ensures that swift attention is paid to maintenance matters. Thanks also to Bill Redhead for dealing with our electrical issues.

Robert Mischlewski who is meticulous in the management of the dealing area. Thanks also to Geoff Allen and Bill Bishop who supervise computing aspect of this process. Thanks also to the many assistants who are needed to ensure the boards needed are available for sessions and competitions.

Gloria Macdonald, who always has the best interests of this Club in mind and makes many suggestions for its improvement and marketing. As previously mentioned, her Sunday Session is proving extremely popular, especially to beginning members. She also has been responsible for beginning the process of education for our new directors along with Bill Bishop and Phil Rains who also mentored them. Now we have two new directors in Maria Chippendale and Bill Redhead. Congratulations to them. Hopefully more will add to the ranks in the coming year.

Bill Bishop (already mentioned) who although not on the committee puts in many hours of work on IT and scoring matters as well as directing at both the Club and Congress level. His help is sought from other Clubs in conducting their Congresses. Well done Bill in helping to bring our game into the 21st Century.

Our money collectors, Marie Stabler, Joan Elliott and Lyn Joye who spend countless hours meticulously collecting and collating the fees.

To my wife Sandra for her support and for her help in matching partners and in dealing with the entries and such for our major competitions.

Robyn Green for the issue of sessional prize tickets

To all of our hardworking directors who ensure sessions are conducted as smoothly as possible. We are fortunate to have so many active ones as well as three Congress Directors.

To all those who contribute in many ways to our Club. This report would be almost endless if I were to try to name you all.

As can be seen, it takes many people to make a Bridge Club and we are so fortunate that you are the people in question.

I would like finally to make mention of the proposed extension to the club. It has been decided by the committee this year to postpone the approval for this project as our current membership does not seem to warrant the expense such a major building program would entail. The main concern has been the number of male toilets available, but at this stage most seem satisfied with the current arrangements. If our marketing campaigns result in increasing membership we may revisit this decision. We have about another 12 months in which to do this. I would like to see a general show of hands if you support our current position. If you have anything you would like to say on this matter please approach the committee.

In conclusion I look forward to our 52nd year. Most of the committee and I have agreed to serve another term with your approval. If duly elected we will endeavor to continue the efforts we have made this year into making this the best and friendliest club serving all levels of participation.

Thank you

RANKING PROMOTIONS

FOR AUGUST

Pam Jamieson – National
Ched Twyman – State *
Bev Neilson – Local *
Charlies Georgees - Local *
Anto Wilson – Club

FOR SEPTEMBER

Trudy Low – Silver Life
Charlies Georgees - Local **
Ann snuth – Local **
Griffo Bancroft - Local **
Annette Alton - Local

ALL ABOUT ALERTS

By Bill Jacobs

(This article originally appeared in the VBA newsletter and is reprinted here, with permission, at the suggestion of Kim Ellaway)

Alerting is about drawing the opponents' attention to your side's unusual bidding. It is controlled by a set of regulations issued by the Australian Bridge Federation. That document runs for 11 pages (!) so I'll save you some reading here.

With written bidding you alert *your partner's* unusual bid by circling it and saying "Alert". Don't explain anything: wait to be asked.

If using bidding boxes, say "Alert" and optionally fish around in the box in the hope of finding the Alert card.

The definition of an "unusual bid" is somewhat opaque, but the general principle is that, if a bid's meaning is not what it sounds like, then it should be alerted. Usually this involves bidding a suit that does not show length in that suit, or bidding no-trumps when it does not indicate a desire to play in no-trumps. It also includes bids that have an unexpected HCP range. Examples of alertable bids:

- Transfer bids
- Unusual No-trump or Lebensohl
- Multi 2♦ opening
- 'Pass or correct' bids
- Weak jump responses
- Inverted minor raises

Self-alerting bids

Some bids are defined as self-alerting, meaning they do not require an actual alert as they are "obviously unusual". These are:

- Doubles and redoubles
- All bids above 3NT (except unusual high level opening, eg NAMYATS)
- Cue bid of opponents' suit
- 2♣ response to a 1NT opening bid

Asking

You can ask about any alerted bid, or un-alerted bid for that matter, but only at your turn to bid or play. Most people only ask if the answer may affect their upcoming bid or play, but it is entirely up to you whether or not you ask.

When asking, ask in general terms, not using leading questions. So say: "what does 2♣ mean?", not "does 2♣ show clubs?" (which could be interpreted as code for 'I have clubs'). At the end of an auction that had multiple alerts, if on lead you should say: "explain the auction please", rather than asking about one specific alerted bid. If not on lead, wait until partner has led face-down and then ask your question.

Answering

You are required to explain your partnership agreements, nothing more. If you're not sure what partner's bid means or have forgotten your agreements, try not to guess. Just say: "I don't know" or "I don't remember". (The director will adjust the result if your opponents are damaged by this failure of memory.)

If you haven't discussed a bid, say: "it is undiscussed". Again, do not offer a possible explanation, or how you are going to take it.

Partner fails to alert, or mis-alerts, or mis-explains

Happens all the time right? You must stay shtum for the moment. Then ...

At auction's end, with your side declaring:

Before the opening lead, draw your opponents' attention to the problem. Explain what you think went wrong.

If your side ends up defending:

You can say nothing until the end of play, at which point you should identify the issue.

Pre-alerting

At the start of each round, you should pre-alert your opponents to any unusual convention that they may need to arrange a defence against. Main examples are:

- Switched responses to 1♣

- Very unusual 2-level openings (eg 2NT for the minors) ... the Multi scheme does not need a pre-alert, as it's so relevant

- A system other than some form of Standard American: eg Precision, Acol

SOME RECENT RESULTS

Monday Teams

1st Phil Rains, Lesleigh Rooney, John Johnson, Jennifer Mullen

2nd Betty Hobdell, Ken Manders, Rosemary Glastonbury, Clive Bunnett

3rd Geoff Allen, Pat Allen, Angela Little, Robyn Nolan

Restricted Convention Pairs

1st Bill Bishop, Charlie Georgees

2nd Anne Smith, Joyce McArthur

3rd Tony Byrne, Sharon Morley

Magnetic Teams

1st Gloria McDonald, Lesleigh Rooney, Christine Perkins, Yvonne Houbolt, Kath Peever

2nd Noel Bugeia, Terrence Sheedy, Robyn Nolan, Angela Little

3rd Bill bishop, Bruce Bowden, Albert Beric, Ian Patterson

Mackay Congress – Townsville successes

Pairs A section

1st Ian Patterson, John Tredrea

Teams A section

1st Rosemary Glastonbury, Maria Chippendale, Hugh McAllister, Diana McAllister

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday also to anyone with a birthday this month who has been missed. If you would like your birth month added to the list, please contact the editor jeandartnall@hotmail.com

Geoff Allen
Bruce Bowden
Shirley Pruden
Robyn Nolan
Pat Fittler