



TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

February 2020

<http://townsville.fnqbridge.com/>

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townsvillebridgeclub@gmail.com

Bank Details:

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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

Lyn Joye – 0402 248 086
Robert Mischlewski – 4779 7637
Fay Blower – 4403 9421
Hugh McAlister 0403 592 061
Charlie Georges 4779 4956
Wilfred Tapiolas 0407 961 160

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
Charlie Georges
Betty Hobdell – 0457 965 454
Kay Lehmann – 07 4778 2914
Gloria MacDonald – 0402 010 595
Elinor Murray – 0402 809 448
Ian Patterson - 0474 706 214.
Phil Rains – 0417 160 059
Bill Redhead – 0427 753 167
John Toogood – 0409 275 191

Zonal Positions

Geoff Allen – Delegate
John Tredrea - Secretary

COMING EVENTS

Thursday Different Partners 7, 14 February

Zonal Teams (Cleveland Bay) 9 – 10 February

Learn to Play Bridge 2020 lessons start 9.30am
February 11 and 7pm February 12

Gold Coast Congress (Broadbeach) 15 – 23
February

GNOT Qualifying 1 (Townsville) 2 – 3 March

BUSHFIRE DONATION

The QBA has invited Queensland clubs to donate to its State-wide Appeal for funds to assist those who suffered from the 2019 – 2020 bushfires.

Our Club has donated \$1000. Clive points out that this is approximately a week's takings of table fees.

WINNERS OF THE FESTIVE TEAMS



Winners Festive Teams: John Tredrea, Clive Bunnett, Jan Manders, Sandra Bunnett
2nd: Betty Hobdell, John Johnson, Rosemary Glastonbury, Robyn Nolan, Vivienne Otto
3rd: Gloria MacDonald, Lesleigh Rooney, Charlie Georgees, Maria Chippendale

RESULTS AUSTRALIA DAY CONGRESS

(Photos next newsletter issue)

2020 Australia Day Congress Butler Pairs

- A category 1st Leigh Owens and Jan Smith
 2nd Audrey Ledbrook and Simon Jones
 3rd Betty Hobdell and Rosemary Glastonbury

B category 1st Kenn Winter and David North

C Category 1st Charlie gorges and Russell Woolley

2020 Australia Day Congress Swiss Pairs

- A category 1st Janelle Conroy, Noel Bugeia, Monica Darley, Del Ryan
 2nd Bill Redhead, Gayleen Brown, Barbara Hospers, Pat Leighton
 3RD Maria Chippendale, Clive Bunnett,, John Tredrea, Ched Twyman
- B category 1st Bill Bishop, Sam Bishop, Di Garside, Donna Fitch
- C category 1st Jan Harris, Helen Van Der Broek, Richard Wix, Janine Rogers

INFORMATION FROM THE PRESIDENT

Player Development News

Our current crop of beginners is now being introduced to play in the Club thanks to some exciting new developments. Geoff Allen suggested that the Saturday supervised play could be adapted to run a mini-session of bridge for newbies and mentors to familiarise beginners with movements, scoring, Bridgemates and bidding and playing to the clock. The sessions have been run by Charlie Georgees and have been very well received by both new players and mentors. There are no Masterpoints but results are calculated and displayed and some hands discussed. Beginners are still able to ask questions about bidding as they would in supervised play. As a result a number of new players are starting to play in the Club. Hopefully the transition from Supervised Play to Club play will be facilitated by these developments. Thanks to all those who are giving up their valuable time for this endeavour.

New lessons start this month. See dates in the 'Coming Events' section and fliers, available in the Club.

Irish Finnegan's

The marketing manager of I F has offered his location for a high tea and information session on Bridge. He is willing to promote the event and our lessons by distributing flyers and advertising in the catchment area. It is proposed to have one or two tables operating manned by members with a couple of people explaining the game. A short introductory talk (or video) may also be used. If you would like to participate, please advise Charlie or Gloria. The Club has also been provided with vouchers for meals and discounts which we have elected to raffle from time to time. It is great to see a local business involved in our great game.

Works in Progress!

February will be a busy month for the Club with the installation of LED lighting, the commencement of building the new male toilet facility, the rearrangement of the office and the installation of new windows and screens to replace the old metal louvres. We have already saved considerably on our power bills as a result of our solar panels. Wilfred has been busy coordinating all of the above so a big thanks to him and his helpers.

CONGRATULATIONS GLORIA

. . . on getting the Townsville Bridge Club included in Elizabeth Silvester's series '100 clubs in 100 days'. The article appeared in the *Townsville Bulletin* of Monday 13 January.

Gloria is quoted as saying 'playing bridge can be a constant challenge.' But added 'You can just play or you can keep increasing your knowledge. Either way it is a fascinating hobby.'

2019 CHRISTMAS PARTY



As always Club members were generous in their Christmas donations to the Women's Shelter.



RANKING PROMOTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2019

Shirley Strike – National**

Charlie Gorgees – National

Donna Fitch – National

Joe Hobdell – State*

Heather Colbert – State*

Russell Woolley – State*

SOME BIDDING IDEAS

By Phil Rains

Rule of Twenty

This can allow you to bid if you are in 1st or 2nd bidding position, have two long suits, but 'not enough' high card points to open. Add the number of high card points to the number of cards in your two longest suits. If the addition comes to 20 or more, then you can legitimately open the bidding with one of your best suits.

Casino Count Bidding

This can allow you to open the bidding in 3rd or 4th bidding position. Add the number of high card points to the number of spades. If the addition comes to 15 or more, you can legitimately open with one of your best suit.

Control Bidding

This is a system you can use after your partner has opened 2C. A control in this situation is either a King or an Ace, with a King having a count of 1 and an ace having a count of 2.

If you have 0 or 1 control cards bid 2D

If you have 2 control cards bid 2H

If you have 3 control cards bid 2S

If you have 4 control cards including 2 Aces bid 2NT

If you have 4 control cards (1Ace, 3 Kings) bid 3C

If you have 5 control cards bid 3D

This system provides your partner with a lot of useful information in one bid which may allow you to reach the best final contract.

Reporting inappropriate behavior

A few bridge clubs in other states have experienced bullying and insulting behaviour which has even led to legal action. Because of this, the ABF and QBA have recommended that all clubs keep a record of any such behaviour.

If you feel you have received behaviour of this sort, please report it to Jean Dartnall who will maintain a record of each report. You can contact Jean in person, by phone (4729 0068), or by email (jeandartnall@hotmail.com).

The Committee of the Townsville Bridge Club hopes and expects that everyone playing in this club, resident or visitor, grand master or beginner, will experience a happy, comfortable time here.

(Although they can't do anything about the cards.)

INTERESTING HAND

Assessment of long-suited hands is always an interesting topic in bridge. The topic becomes especially intriguing when **TWO** long suits occur in the one hand. If you use a conventional approach such as counting high card points and ace-asking bids for assessment, you will almost invariably not bid the hand to its full potential. Long-suited hands are highly unusual distributions, and normal bidding systems that have been developed in bridge over numerous decades to cover the most common or "usual" hands are mostly inadequate to describe "unusual" hands.

Here's an instructive example of a 2 suited hand that was played recently at the Club. The bidding is mostly straight forward but you would never get to the cold small slam if you stuck rigidly to a point count, as NS have only 23 points between them - not even enough for game in strict terms!

So it is no surprise to hear that a variety of contracts were settled in the auction. The hand was played 8 times, 4 times in 4 spades making 10, 11, and 12 tricks, once in 2 spades making 10 tricks, 2 times in clubs part scores making 11 and 9 tricks, and only once in 6 clubs making 12 tricks.

<p>♠ AKJT98</p> <p>♥ 8</p> <p>♦</p> <p>♣ KQJ876</p>	<p>Dir: E</p> <p>Vul: Both</p>
<p>♠ Q652</p> <p>♥ AQJ43</p> <p>♦ 654</p> <p>♣ 3</p>	<p>♠ 74</p> <p>♥ KT5</p> <p>♦ KQ872</p> <p>♣ 942</p>
<p>♠ 3</p> <p>♥ 9762</p> <p>♦ AJT93</p> <p>♣ AT5</p>	

		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	
						T	
N	6	-	-	5	2		14
S	6	-	-	5	2	9	8
E	-	-	1	-	-		9
W	-	-	1	-	-		

Auction

E	S	W	N
pass	pass	pass	1S
pass	2D	pass	4NT
pass	5H	pass	6C
pass	pass	pass	

North opened 1 spade with 14 points, **two** strong 6 card suits and importantly, a 3-loser count. All North needed to know was if South had 2 aces in the 10 points shown by the 2D bid, and which suit was preferred, spades or clubs. North chose to ask for aces via Blackwood in case partner thought a 4 club bid was Gerber. When South showed 2 aces, North bid 6 clubs. South then realised the 6-6 distribution and passed with the club support.

In playing this hand, trumps will be no problem but Declarer **MUST** firstly set up the second suit with enough rounds of ruffs to ensure the Queen of spades will eventually drop on the King before drawing trumps.

The guideline with long suits as shown in this example is:

- Use loser counts rather than high card points to assess long suited hands such as this
- Be careful with Ace asking, it can sometime raise more questions than answers where there are voids. In this particular case it was straight forward but what if declarer was missing 2 Aces?
- Before drawing trumps, set up the second long suit first to bring home the bacon later.
- Be wary of opponents ruffing ability before drawing trumps. Where there's long suits and voids in your hand, there will be a similar shape also in the opponents' hands.

LOOKING FOR A BRIDGE PARTNER?

Partners for the Wednesday evening, restricted convention sessions can be arranged by Sam Bishop (0409 578 214).

For other sessions, Sandra Bunnett (0439 895 533) is the point of contact.

FEBRUARY 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

Elaine Brown
Kay Lehmann
Ken Manders
Bev J. Neilsen
Nina Doyle
Joyce McArthur
Val Staneke
Wilfred Tapiolas
Di Garside
Rosemary Glastonberry
Gay Loughane
Raymond Stewart