

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At a recent Monday club session I addressed club members about two concerns of the committee.

The first was in relation to challenging the director's decision. The rules clearly state that the director's decision can only be challenged within thirty minutes of the end of play. I believe that some recent challenges have bordered on being aggressive. The committee has asked our senior director Bill

Bishop to address several sessions before play, setting out the rules. They will also be published in our newsletter. The committee will not accept challenges of the director's decision which are outside the rules.

The second issue that concerns the committee is conduct and etiquette at the table. The ABF has a player code of conduct for members. This has been included in this newsletter. The first item states "I will be polite and courteous at all times". The committee expects all club members to comply.

The club Championship Pairs event was held in May. This honour board event was won by Pat Larsen and Bill Redhead. Congratulations.

At the end of May the Australia wide Novice event was held on a Tuesday to encourage more entries. Congratulations go to the winners Terry Hughes and Frances Summerhayes (NS) and Elizabeth Johnson and Bill Pickering (EW).

Entries for this year's Townsville Congress to be held at the end of June are the highest for over five years.

Finally I would like to thank Carolyn Allis for arranging for Senior Constable Tricia Cheesman (her daughter) to address club members on issues of personal safety.

Wilfred Tapiolas



*Courtesy –
Adrian
Raeside*

Bill Bishop has become a State Director. He is only one in the State of Queensland.

Congratulations Bill!!!!



Ann Smith - last day of autumn
preparing for winter



- One way to get a real kick out of bridge is to sit opposite your wife.
- Giving a man his physical, the doctor noticed several dark, ugly bruises on his shins, so he asked, "Do you play hockey, soccer, or some physical sport?"

"No," he answered. "I play bridge with my wife."



Bridge ode

So it's all over tonight – I'm off to the backwoods
 I'm bidding goodbye to Gerber and Blackwoods.
 I can't stand the hassle,
 I can't stand the pain
 I'm getting those bad cards again and again.



Another bad night Nothing's gone right.
 My partner's a dope
 I'm losing all hope.
 When opponents say "double"
 I know we're in trouble.

My points are not high,
 and I'm wondering why
 She kept on bidding right up to the sky.
 We're in seven spades,
 I doubt she makes
 When surprise, surprise,
 all tricks she takes

The defenders feel sick
 My partner's really slick.
 All of a sudden,
 gone is my sorrow
 And yes, I'll play again tomorrow!

I ♥
BRIDGE



Townsville Club pairs event
 – parking was at a premium
 with a competing sports
 event - Bill and Sam Bishop
 not deterred and found a
 sneaky spot to park



RECENT PROMOTIONS

Ian Leach	Bronze State
Mary Overell	Silver Local
Bernard Kirwan	Local
Anto Wilson	State
Greg Lawler	State
Stephen Lee	Bronze Local

70 percent Club

JOHN TREDREA/ BILL BISHOP
JAYNE DALTON/ BILL REDHEAD
BETH WHEBELL / CHED TWYMAN
BILL PICKERING/JOHN LARKIN

GRAND SLAMS

ANN SMITH / ANTHONY WILSON
BILL REDHEAD / ROSLYN SNEDDON
JEANETTE MCKENZIE / BILL PICKERING
KENN WINTER / MARY OVERELL
CATHY CRAWFORD/ GLADYS TULLOCH

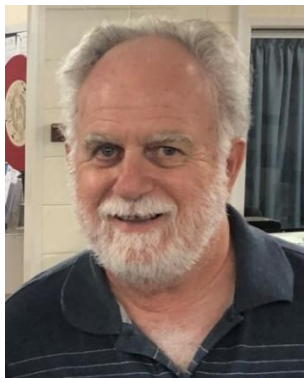
Barrier Reef Congress - Yeppoon

Restricted Pairs Barrier Reef Zone Winners
Nina Doyle & Ian Leach



What has the Dealer Declared? by
Leonard Raven-Hill (1932).





Recent Hands by Ian Patterson



DIGGERS SWISS TEAMS

Two hands from 1 match in the Diggers Teams I thought are of interest. Although one is a play problem and the other is a defense problem, they both illustrate the need to stop and think before acting.

Match 5. Board 2 (DLR: E, VUL: NS)

Sitting West you hold: Partner East holds:

S: AQJ32	S: T986
H: KJ4	H: -
D: 763	D: AQJ92
C: QJ	C: K852

The bidding was:

N	E	S	W
	1D	P	1S
3H	3S	4H	4S

All pass.

The lead was A of C followed by a 2nd Club. Plan your play to make 10 tricks.

At first glance you appear to have 4 sure losers (3 Hearts and the Club Ace) and potentially 2 more if the Spade and Diamond finesses don't work. You can ruff the Hearts in dummy except you don't have enough entries outside of the trump suit, and if the S finesse fails, a trump return means you will only be able to ruff 2 Hearts before being stranded in dummy. If the finesses do work, you may need to take each finesse twice before dropping the kings. Again, if the finesses do work, you will be able to discard 2 Hearts, 1 each on the K of Clubs and the long (4th or 5th?) Diamond, leaving just 1 Heart to be trumped in dummy. You may need this card as your entry to the 5th Diamond.

So, win the 2nd Club in hand with the Q and immediately take the D finesse. When this works, lead the 10 of Spades and let it run. When this works, repeat the finesse and take out the K leaving 1 trump in dummy. Now repeat the D finesse and play the Ace. If the King drops, you can discard all 3 Hearts and claim. If not ruff out the K of D and enter dummy with a Heart ruff to discard the remaining Hearts.

The full hand was:

BOARD 2		
BD: 2	♠ 7	Dir: E
	♥ QT98732	Vul: NS
	♦ KT5	
	♣ A7	
♠ AQJ32		♠ T986



♥ KJ4	♥	♥ AQJ92
♦ 763	♦	♦ K852
♣ QJ	♣	
	♠	♠ K54
	♥	♥ A65
	♦	♦ 84
	♣	♣ T9643

				N
	♣	♦	♥	♠
				T
N		2		9
S		2		14 10
E	3 6		6 5	7
W	3 6		6 5	

Match 5. Board 11 (DLR: S, VUL: None)

The bidding was:

N	E	S	W
		1C	P
	1D	P	2S
			P
	3NT	All PASS	

Sitting East you hold:

S: A52
H: 87542
D: K43
C: 86

On lead, you choose the unbid suit, Hearts, and Dummy comes down:

S: Q965
H: K3
D: AQ
C: AKT92

The play: Declarer (N) wins the Heart King (partner discouraging) and (after some thought) plays the Ace then Queen of Diamonds. Clearly, once the King has gone, the Diamond suit will be set up for tricks.

Now is the time to stop and think. Ask yourself why declarer didn't win the Heart in hand and take the Diamond finesse. There are 2 possible reasons: 1. If the finesse loses, the suit is blocked and declarer will need 2 entries to hand to take their remaining Diamond tricks; and 2. Declarer doesn't want West to switch to Spades before the Diamond suit is established.

Your best option is to hold up the King and make declarer use 1 of their outside entries to establish the Diamond suit. After all, you can always take the DK when in with the Ace of Spades.

Declarer crosses to hand (with a heart?) and plays a third Diamond.

Partner signals for a Spade switch.

Which Spade do you lead? Ace and a small Spade looks like 3 tricks in the suit at best. What if you lead a small Spade (promising an honour)? Partner wins a finesse, returns a Spade to your Ace, then takes at another 2 tricks (at least). 4 Spades and a Diamond takes the contract off.

What if declarer tries to establish Clubs? What do you discard on the 3rd Club? Which Heart did you lead: the "top of nothing" 8 or the "2nd from 4 small" 7 (which would allow you to use the 8 as a clear signal for Spades)? A Spade switch now still gives you 5 tricks: 1D, 1(?)C and 3 Spades.

An observation about the lead: Declarer has jumped to game suggesting they are not worried about the unbid Heart suit, should you consider another suit? Some authors recommend a lead of Dummy's 2nd bid suit. On this hand, a small spade lead would give you the 1st 5 tricks!

The full hand was:

BOARD 11						
BD: 11	♠ 3		Dir: S			
	♥ AQT6		Vul: None			
	♦ JT7652					
	♣ 53					
♠ KJT74			♠ A82			
♥ J9			♥ 87542			
♦ 98			♦ K43			
♣ QJ74			♣ 86			
	♠ Q965					
	♥ K3					
	♦ AQ					
	♣ AKT92					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	
					T	
N	2	5	2	1	2	7
S	3	5	2	1	2	8 7
E						18
W						

One hand doesn't prove anything. Only success from repeated actions is a good guide. You be the judge.



MISBIDS AT THE CLUB by Ian Patterson

Two hands in a recent game at the club had a significant effect on our overall result, one good (for us), the other bad.

A "Grand" Slam.

Try your bidding on these hands:

	N	S
DLR: W	S: AK863	S: 5
VUL: BOTH	H: AT6 D: K95 C: AK	H: K987543 D: - C: T9863

At our table the bidding went:

N	E	S	W
			P
2Nt	P	3D	P
3H	P	4Nt	P
5D*	P	5Nt** p	
6S*** p		7H	All pass

Note: 1. 5D* shows 0 or 3 Keycards, NOT 1 or 4 as South thought.

2. 5Nt** promises all the Keycards.

3. 6S – Whoops, we’ve gone too high. Now we’re in 7H without knowing about how many Hearts opener has or about the presence of the Trump Q. Still, with 5 losers in Souths hand, opposite the 5 (or 6) loser 2Nt opening there should be a play for 13 tricks.

Now plan your play after East has led the J of Hearts. Oddly enough, this ridiculous seeming contract can be made after examining the South hand closely, even if East has 4 Clubs. This is a “dummy reversal”.

The plan: After playing the A and K of Clubs, there are 3 losing Clubs left in dummy. How do you get rid of them? Well, 1 can be discarded on the Spade K. If the suit breaks 3 -3, you will only need to ruff 1 Club in hand, but you will need to ruff 2 Clubs in hand if they break 4 -2. In which case, you will need to keep 2 trumps in hand, but you need both the top trumps to draw out the Q and J.

The play: Run the J Hearts to the Ace. **DO NOT PLAY ANOTHER TRUMP NOW.** Thankfully West followed to the Heart lead. Play the A and K of Clubs, followed by the A and K of Spades (discarding a Club). Enter dummy by ruffing a Diamond and play a 3rd Club. Whether West follows or not, ruff with the 6 of Hearts. Re-enter dummy with another Diamond ruff. If the Clubs broke 3 – 3, you can draw the last trump and claim. If East still has a Club remaining, ruff the last Club with the 10 of trumps before re-entering dummy with a 3rd Diamond ruff to draw the last trump and claim.

The full hand:

BOARD 20						
BD: 20	♠ AK863		Dir: W			
	♥ AT6		Vul: ALL			
	♦ K95					
	♣ AK					
♠ Q9742				♠ JT		
♥ 2				♥ QJ		
♦ AJ873				♦ QT642		
♣ Q7				♣ J542		
	♠ 5					
	♥ K987543					
	♦					
	♣ T9863					
				N		
	♣	♦	♥	♠	T	
N	5	7	2	5		21
S	5	7	2	5	9	7
E		1				3
W		1				

A "lead direct" bid.

I have often questioned the value of a "lead direct" bid. In this example the lead direct bid allowed declarer to make 11 tricks. Left to their own devices, another lead would have held the contract to 9 tricks.

The full hand:

BOARD 30						
BD: 30	♠ 432		Dir: E			
	♥ K2		Vul: None			
	♦ AKQ98					
	♣ QJ9					
♠ QJT6				♠ K975		
♥ 64				♥ A9853		
♦ T762				♦ 4		
♣ K54				♣ 762		
	♠ A8					
	♥ QJT7					
	♦ J53					
	♣ AT83					
				N		
	♣	♦	♥	♠	T	
N	4	4	1		3	15
S	4	4	1		3	6 7
E						12
W						



The bidding went:

N	E	S	W
	P	1C	P
1D	1H	1Nt	P
3Nt	All pass.		

The 6 of Hearts was lead. If East wins the A of Hearts and continues the suit, declarer has plenty of time to set up the Clubs for 3 tricks before the Spade suit is attacked leading to 11 tricks. If East (seeing dummy) rises with the A of Hearts and immediately switches to a Spade, then only 10 tricks are available to declarer (1 S, 3 Hs, 5 Ds and 1 C). On a Spade Q lead, declarer has only 9 tricks available (1 S, 2 Hs, 5 Ds and 1 C), losing 3 Ss and 1H.

So, did the H bid help? Was the Heart suit really more valuable than the Spade suit? East is always going to get the A of Hearts. If they don't bid, South bids 1 H and the S lead is confirmed. Similarly, with 5 – 4 in the Majors and an opening hand, it often works better to double for takeout rather than overcall the 5-card suit. Experience will tell!

Did
you
know?

Beer Card

In trick-taking card games such as bridge, the beer card is a name informally given to the seven of diamonds (7♦).

Players may agree that if a player wins the last trick of a hand with the 7♦, their partner must buy them a beer. This is not considered as part of the rules of these games, but is an optional and informal side-bet between players. This practice likely originates from Danish Tarok or Skat in the middle of the 20th century. In most decks, the 7♦ is the only diamond number card that lacks rotational symmetry.

It is not considered as part of the rules of these games, merely as an informal side-bet between players.



A BOOK REVIEW? Ian Patterson

Two years ago (or was it longer) I agreed to do a book review for Ched. The book has been sitting on my bed-side computer desk ever since, UNREAD! Why? Because it's not the sort of book you read in 1 or a few sittings. It's a reference book supplying basic information about common Conventions (e.g. Two-over-one and Benjamin twos) and card play techniques (e.g. safety plays and endgame strategies such as squeezes).

The book: *The Bridge Player's Bible : Illustrated strategies for staying ahead of the game* / by Julian Pottage. It was published by ABC Books in 2006. It has a 2 page table of contents, a 2 page Glossary and a 3 page Index. In the body of the text there are 250 pages. Each page deals with a separate topic and is illustrated with hand diagrams and/or bidding tables. It contains just 3 Chapters:

Chapter 1: Getting Started. In just 10 pages, it introduces the game and includes a review of scoring and hand evaluation (including Point Count and Losing Trick Count). It even shows how many points are required to make a contract (e.g. 3Nt = 25-27).

Chapter 2: Bidding. 96 pages of every anticipated aspect of bidding, so 96 aspects. At the bottom of each page is an "Important Point". E.g., On the page headed "Jump Shift Rebid", the Important Point says: "Since a simple reverse is forcing, many tournament players play that a jump reverse is a splinter. It shows extra values, support and a shortage in the bid suit." Significantly, this is one of only two mentions of "splinters" in the book that I can find – both under Important Points.

Chapter 3: The Play. 230 pages of every aspect of play from Opening Leads (17 pages) to Defender's Discards and Ruffs (8 pages, including 1 on John Johnson's favourite play "The Uppercut"). That's 230 different (but many related) topics. There are 3 pages on Counting alone: Losers, Shape and Points (in that order). The amount of information is almost overwhelming, but if you are really keen (and don't need much sleep) this is the book for the relative beginner who is determined to improve. It took me over 30 years to learn just some of the techniques illustrated here.

For the Teacher: I don't think you could teach everything illustrated in this book. Even at a rate of 5 topics per lesson that would require 50 lessons. But I promise I will return the book to the Club Library "eventually", maybe even next week. Perhaps the Club should try to get multiple copies (1 for each member?) if it's still available from ABC Books.

RECENT CLUB RESULTS



CLUB PAIRS CHAMPINSHIP

- 1st Place** Patricia Larsen – Bill Redhead
- 2nd Place** Barbara Hospers – Pat Leighton
- 3rd Place** Ched Twyman – John Tredrea

CLIVE BUNNETT SHIELD

Winners of Clive Bunnett shield Helen Lovegrove and Phil Rain's with Wilfred Tapiolas and Ainslie Ponti and Daniel Ponti, Sandra and Clive Bunnett's family



ONE DAY TEAMS – MAY 2025

- 1st Place** Jo Gillis - Pat Larsen - Kelly Walker - Bill Bishop
- 2nd Place** Bernice Morton - Kenn Winter - Vivienne Otto - Audrey Ledbrook
- 3rd Place** Joan Elliott - Betty Hobdell - Lesleigh Rooney - Phil Rains

When and where did you first play Bridge?

Townsville Bridge Club 2012

Who introduced you to bridge?

Myles and I were looking towards retirement and I commented that we had separate interests but nothing we did together so when he saw an ad in the newspaper to learn Bridge we thought that would be a good idea.

Who taught you to play bridge?

Elsie (do your detective work) Stubbs

Tell us some of your family background, for example where did you grow up, what is your favourite childhood memory?

I grew up in Maryborough Qld and had a wonderful childhood. So much freedom. I was one of 3 girls and I was the middle child. Some of my favourite memories were in the ocean on a giant tractor tube at Hervey Bay, skating rink also at Hervey Bay where we holidayed each Christmas at the caravan park right on the beach at Scarness. My most enjoyable time was performing on stage dancing either ballet, tap or jazz.

Did you have a nickname at school? If so, why did the name arise.

My dad had a nickname for everyone. He called me Cookie.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

Cleaning the bathroom.

Do you have any other interests, other than bridge?

Yes I love going to my pump classes at the gym and volunteering in pastoral care at TUH. I have been blessed with many friends and enjoy a good time of sharing over a great coffee.

What type of Jobs (employment) have you done? What was your first job? Did you have a favourite job?

I've always worked in the clerical area. My first job was with the local WBQ-8 Television station as secretary to the general manager. This was back when TV was black and white and at times I got to go on TV modelling for a bridal shop, demonstrating exercises with my dancing teacher (Shape up with Shirley) and some commercials. After Myles and I were married our first transfer was to Rockhampton and because I was concerned about getting a job I went for an interview and got a job at Austral Motors while we were still on our honeymoon.





I was a stay-at-home mum until the youngest son was in high school and I worked here in Townsville for 15 years as receptionist for Dr. Yong Tan which I loved.

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

Giraffe because they are tall which I am not and majestic with long eye lashes

What is your favourite song?

Unchained Melody is Our Song. Last year we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary and our youngest son Todd played guitar and sang it for us.

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

From the age of 15 I taught dancing in Childers and Gympie and later in Hughenden. Because of our many transfers I took Keep Fit classes (aerobics) in many places.

What personality trait has got you in most trouble?

Taking on too much

Who is the most famous person you have met?

A young Johnny Farnham at WBO-8 (He winked at me when I served him a cup of tea in the board room)

What the best advice you ever had given to you or your Motto is?

When our boys were young we lived next door to a family with 6 kids and the mother gave me this great advice "the boys won't remember if their clothes were ironed but they will remember if you didn't read them stories"

If you could invite three famous people for dinner (dead or alive) who would it be?

Keanu Reeves, Pope John Paul II and Nelson Mandela

Best advice for your bridge partner

Encouragement and keep it light

Do you have a joke?

Myles and I have this running joke.....

He says "I knew I was marrying Miss Right but I didn't know her middle name was Always"

And I reply "My mother thought Myles was one in a million, little did she know he was won in a raffle"

BRIDGEMATES

Helen Thompson, Mary Bloxom, John Johnson, Roger, Hooper, Dorathea Stewart



Bernie Morton, Elsie Stubbs, Dave Harrison, John Howe, and Brenda Hodgkns



Richard Ward, Elsie Stubbs, Diane Jones, Marg Ward



Lyn Richardson and Cecily Edge



THE FEEBLE
SARCASM

I MAY BE WRONG
BUT I AM LABORING
UNDER THE IMPRESSION
THAT THE GAME YOU
REFER TO TOOK PLACE
AT 11 O'CLOCK LAST
NIGHT - 8 AND $\frac{1}{2}$
HOURS AGO. IF
THAT'S TRUE THEN
LET'S FORGET IT

WHEN I MADE A
NEGATIVE DOUBLE
IN THE LAST RUBBER,
WHY, IN HEAVEN'S
NAME, DIDN'T YOU
GIVE ME YOUR
LONGEST SUIT?
I EXPLAINED ALL ABOUT
IT BEFORE WE LEFT
THE HOUSE AND I WAS
SURE IT PENETRATED.
WELL, THAT'S THE LAST
TIME I EVER TAKE
YOU FOR A PARTNER!

THE BEAUTY OF THE GAME IS
YOU CAN CONTINUE PLAYING IT
FOR DAYS

GERSTER