

NOOSA BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

June 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Bridgemate scoring system has proved a great success and members have handled the initial settling in period with ease and enjoyment. The Directors have appreciated the time saved at the end of each session, thus enabling members to receive results immediately. The air conditioning improvements will hopefully be completed by the time this edition is published. My special thanks to VP Peter Althaus for all his time and effort put in to ensure the best possible trades people to complete the assignment. Thanks also to his assistant Mike Flanagan. I have heard many figures bandied around the club as to the cost of the works. The total cost was \$14,865. Please members, if you wish to get correct details, do ask me or a committee member. It is your club, and your committee thoroughly investigates all quotes before making a final decision on any contract. We have now accepted a quote from Anderson Painting and Decorating Pty Ltd in the sum of \$22,760 for painting the exterior of the building. Peter, ably assisted by Mike, took a lot of trouble getting the right contractor for the job.

Congratulations to all who have won events at this club or indeed at other clubs.

On a personal note, our family has had a safe arrival of a new grand daughter Sienna Grace. Further, our son Mark recently married the lovely Lisa on the Noosa Queen. All the wedding guests flew from interstate so our place has been very busy. Our club membership now stands at 310. A special welcome to all of our new members. To all members, enjoy your bridge and remember, ""Your Club is simply the best!"

*Lyne Collins
President*

With Deep Regret

With deep regret we have to advise the passing of Jimmie Rolt, a much loved member of the club.

NAME BADGES

Thanks to all members wearing their name badges. The badge allows us to greet each other by name and helps to foster friendly relationships among members.

CAR PARKING

Some days there is real pressure on the amount of parking space available in this part of Wallace Park. Please try to park close to each other to make room for others.

FLU ALERT

By now everyone should be aware that there is a new kid on the block delicately described as "swine flu". The "usual" flu bugs will also be among us this season.

In the interests of the club, we ask members to please stay home if you even think you may be getting the flu.

While we are not proposing to require the use of face masks (that might be a trifle excessive), we would ask members to refrain from coughing at the table and PLEASE, if you must cough or sneeze, do so into a handkerchief. Do not use



the cards as a shield, as this will most surely spread the bugs among all players.

Please wash your hands before returning to the table after the tea break.

BRIDGE FOR BRAINS 4 MAY

A good attendance resulted in \$451 being raised for the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute's studies into ways to help prevent or at least delay the onset of dementia and Alzheimer's Disease. The researchers believe that being socially active and playing games that challenge the mind (like bridge) may help delay the onset of these debilitating illnesses. Regardless, it is a lot of fun. Our sincere thanks to all who contributed to this fundraiser.

FUTURE EVENTS IN JUNE/JULY

Grand National Open Teams (GNOT) 2nd Stage will be held on Sunday 14 June at Noosa. We wish our teams every success in this event.

The Novice Grand National Pairs will be held on **15 June** and again on **22 and 29 June**. This is for players under 300 MPs as at **1 January 2009**. This is a Gold Point event.

On Monday 20 July the first round of the **Tony Delaney Red Point Nett event** will be held with the second round on Monday 27 July. Tony Delaney was Club President in 1980/81 and was also a bridge teacher in the club.

Noosa Swiss Teams - Sunday 5 July. See the Notice Board for details. This is the Winter Swiss teams Event. Entry is \$100 per team. The organizing committee (Bev Salter, Muriel Loveday and Kath McKay) would appreciate help from members to ensure the success of the day. It would be appreciated if members could provide a plate of treats for morning or afternoon tea and volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen and as caddies. Please sign the notice board if you can help.

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to the following new members:

Ian Callcott	Virginia Callcott
Alexa Staal	Neville Craig
Mirte Craig	Janet Loosmore
Peter Watts	Angela Watts
John Higgins	Shirley Cripps

REVISED MEMBERSHIP LIST

An up to date list of telephone number changes and additions to the membership list is pinned on the wall near the telephone. Please update your list. Please advise Colin Reagan if your telephone number changes.

OTHER MAINTENANCE WORKS

The committee's focus this year is on preventative work to ensure that the structure of the building is protected against the weather.

The club has programmed more regular cleaning of the gutters and has also arranged for the replacement of some gutters and down pipes.

The exterior of the building is to be repaired as required then painted to protect the cladding and enhance its appearance. In addition, the vinyl floors are to be resealed to help prevent slips.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the winners of our Club competitions to date:

President's Trophy

1st Open - Sharon McGhee and Carolyn Dalton
1st Novice- Doug Carlson and Julia Carlson



Pairs Championships

1st- David Harris and Kevin Feeney
2nd- Lizi French and Sam Halvorsen

Plate 1st - Gwen King and Simon Andrew
2nd- Daphne McGhee and Peggy Hillhouse

Novice Championship

1st- Bill Passmore and Len Sweetman
2nd- Sheryl Cullenward and Robyn Kilpatrick

CHARITY DAYS

Through the year the Club generally runs three Charity Day events. This year they are scheduled for

Thursday 25 June 2009 -Noosaville View Club

Thursday 6 August 2009 -Noosa Salvation Army Accommodation Service

Thursday 8 October 2009 -The Noosa Branch of the Australian Red Cross

The rationale behind these events is that many club members who play regularly find themselves unable to be active in local charities but still welcome the opportunity to make a contribution towards a deserving local group.

LIBRARY CORNER

Want to improve your card play?

There are numerous books in the club library that will help you do this. The library has a number of copies of the best book ever written on card play at bridge – **Card Play Technique** by Victor Mollo and Nico Gardener (20). The authors present card play challenges and techniques for both declarers and defenders under descriptive chapter titles and at the end of each chapter, readers are set problems to test their understanding. All serious bridge players should re-read this book regularly.

Another good book on play, particularly for beginners, is Paul Marston's **The Principles of Card Play** (72). He also groups play techniques into chapters and presents exercises at the end of each chapter.

Terence Reese was such a wonderful player and writer that **All you Need to Know about Play** (77) by Reese and David Bird, must also be good value.

There is also a series of small book (numbers 127 to 134) written by two very great players, the UK's Terrence Reese and France's Roger Trezel. Each book deals, in a particularly clear style, with a well-defined aspect of play (eg Master of Odds, Safety Plays, Elimination Play, When to Duck).

I have always found the problem-solving challenges to be the most effective way of learning about bridge play from books. The author usually only presents the bidding (and perhaps dummy) and the diligent reader has the opportunity to select an approach to the play (just like being at the table) before the full hand and successful line of play are disclosed on the next page. We have numerous books which simply provide a series of challenge hands; these are more difficult problems than posed by Mollo and Marston because readers do not have a chapter reference to alert them to the technique required. Look for the following book numbers: 33, 47, 69, 75, 85, 91, 116, 117, 119, 126, 143, 150 and 154.

In a slightly different vein are two instructive books by Terence Reese. In Play Bridge with Reese (33) and Bidding and Practical Play (75) the author takes the reader through his thought process in arriving at a particular bid or line of play on a large number of hands. Enjoy!

Geoff Hart



KEVIN FEENEY'S CHALLENGE

In the last newsletter, I set a challenge:

Contract 4 Spades by South.

Lead: Queen of Hearts.

	K7542	
	A8	
	KT5	
	987	
A98		Void
QJT8		K7632
Q976		432
32		QJ654
	QJT63	
	54	
	AJ8	
	AKT	

How did you go?

It has been pointed out that the contract can be made by taking a finesse in diamonds. However, the hand contains a two-way finesse through North's King/Ten of Diamonds or South's Ace/Jack. *This is only a 50% chance.*

Using our "strip and throw in squeeze" we have a 100% chance of making the contract.

On the Heart Queen lead, DUCK, then on the next Heart lead win with the Ace. Lead trumps until the Ace is taken. Win the return lead. Now lead the Ace of Clubs, the King and then our chosen "throw in" card, the Ten of Clubs. Whatever East returns, we must make our contract. East must lead into our Diamonds, but if East leads another suit, we discard a Diamond from one hand and trump in the other. So, we use this "strip and throw in" when we have a hand where Dummy and Declarer have a similar distribution, an extra trump in each hand after trumps are drawn and a "throw in" card. After drawing trumps and stripping the same two suits from both hands, be careful not to play your "throw in card" too early.



Kevin Feeney

DIRECTORS' CORNER - Bev Salter

Many players do not seem to realize that alerting is not an option. It is mandatory to alert any non-self-alerting call up to and including 3NT that has a special meaning or a meaning the opponents may not expect.

Opponents are entitled to know as much about your system as you do. This means that you and your partner must have identical properly completed system cards on the table.

You are required to pre-alert (before the auction starts) any bid that could be misunderstood by the opponents. A pre-alerted bid must also be alerted during the auction.

Some examples of bids that need pre-alerting:

1C opening that is forcing for one round.

A natural NT overcall, in the direct position, which does not promise a stopper in the opponent's suit.

Negative free bids that may be made on very weak passed or unpassed hands should be pre-alerted.

A jump raise of opener's one level bid by responder which may be weak or preemptive. e.g. 1C, /, 2H 0-5 HCP's.

When playing a multi system commonly accepted bids are reversed e.g. 2C shows a multi and 2D is the strong bid.

For 'alerting' infractions Directors may adjust the score and may award a procedural penalty.

Bev Salter