

GYMPIE BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

August/September 2017

Issue No 55

Hello fellow bridge club members,

Welcome to our new look newsletter, heralding a new era after the resignation of our writer of 10 years, Fran. I hope you will all support me in my endeavours to bring you a worthy newsletter, and I welcome your feedback and input on all matters concerning bridge. However, I will not be writing this newsletter for as long as Fran did, so please, anyone (younger) who is seeking to give more to the club is welcome to apply for the role.

Meanwhile, do you have any ideas/suggestions which you believe would help in the smooth running of the club? Aside from our already successful bridge lessons, do you have any input into how we could bring in - and keep - new players? Put your suggestions in the box on top of the bookcase, next to the office. Or, now's your chance to have your say at this year's **AGM**, on Tuesday, 5 September, at noon, in the club rooms. If you wish to nominate anyone for the committee, or put forward any motion for consideration, you must submit it **in writing** to the secretary no later than 15 August.



It's been a fairly busy two months for members, starting with the GNOT semi finals in early June and the final in early July, won by Maryborough. Congratulations to them. (The Roughley team was third). The Red Point President's Trophy, held June 22 and the following Thursday, was as usual, a great success, and this year won by Jennifer and Carolann. Congratulations ladies. And, the Gympie Winter Pairs on 13 July, also a Red Pointer, was won by Kay and Nan. Well done and congratulations to you all.

The Soup Day fundraiser, held Tuesday, 11 July before regular play, was well attended with plenty of heart-warming soups, home-made bread and other wintery goodies for everyone to tuck into. The club made \$700, which will be donated to Wish List, which is an amazing effort and up on last years' total. Well done everyone. However, some sentimental cutlery has since gone missing, so if anyone finds a stray soup spoon at home, accidentally picked up that day, please return it to the club. Thank you.

A new air conditioning system has won the approval of our members, with the contract going to TSR (Tony Stephens Refrigeration). It will be installed soon and the old ones will be removed. So please be patient as there could be some disruption while work is in progress.

I've started a new column, which will feature a different guest columnist each issue. Jennifer gets the ball rolling this month with a short summary of the popular two-over-one bidding system.

Last but certainly not least, we welcome a new member to the bridge club - Daniel Grady. Turning 30 this week - happy birthday - Daniel is one of our younger members and we wish him every success.

Thanks everyone, and don't forget to put those ideas in the suggestion box.

Cheers, Jenz

President's report

Hi everyone and welcome to this report, my second only!

The club has had a great year - player numbers are up and some important decisions have been made.

An almost unanimous decision will see the air conditioning upgraded. Special thanks to Bevan Anderson and Jeff Streat for all their hard work and input. Once completed, we will touch up the plaster and paint work.

Making table fees a flat \$5 not only helped with the banking but also raised our bottom line - a more than \$900 profit for the year.

As for the committee itself, my biggest thanks go to my vice president, Kelly Chapman. Thank you for everything.

I must also compliment our treasurer Trevor Simpson - a position he has thrived in.

Kaylene Lingard was working full time while carrying out her secretarial duties in an exemplary fashion for the past three years - that expertise will be missed.

Renee Pettit, our purveyor of all goodies, has also kept us well supplied in biscuits, tea, coffee and of course milk. Keep up the Vegemite Renee!

Fran McDonald deserves a special mention too. Thanks for all your input with the newsletters, as well as your directing and teaching roles.

One of the most organised women I know, Kay Kerr, is also leaving the committee. Good luck in your future endeavours Kay. Bridge can't exist without directors, so thank you.

Bridge also can't exist without cards - which have to be dealt - so thanks Bill Thorne and the team.

Masterpoints are in the capable hands of Ross Muirhead and Kathy Vince; and then there is the congresses, library, gardens, flowers and the cleaning. Thank you for everything and to everyone who help make this club run so well.

I'll conclude by saying that I have had a great two years as president - sometimes challenging but always rewarding.

I now wish the incoming president and committee every success and I know it and the club will continue to prosper and provide enjoyment to all our members and our visitors.

Pete



OUR BIRTHDAYS

IN AUGUST

Daniel Grady - 2
Ruth Greentree - 2
Don Griggs - 2
Tertia Brink - 8
Shelley Gauld - 8
Val Jerram - 9
Yve Welsh - 15
Jean Harm - 20
Wendy Banham - 24
Keith Johnson - 24
Keith Brown - 27
Brian Butterfield - 30

AND SEPTEMBER

Jeanette Roughley - 2
Nev Harington - 12
Dana Wildey - 18
Anthea Stevenson - 20
Cathy Maertens - 27

Thumbs up

To the many volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep our club running smoothly.

From members who clean the premises, to the dedicated small team who make up the boards every week ready for us all to enjoy our bridge battles at the tables.

From the members who ensure there are refreshments available every playing day, to our gardening and maintenance volunteers; and of course, our directors and committee members.

Each and every one of these wonderful people make our club a great place to socialise and enjoy the camaraderie which is bridge.

Thank you one and all.

Thumbs down

Most members play bridge often and it becomes so easy to treat the club like home. But our dedicated few who clean up and keep the kitchen area running well, wish to remind you . . . it's not home.

So please, help them out. Used tea bags go in the bowl with the teabag photo in front of it. Used teaspoons go in the bowl with the teaspoon photo in front of it.

And, **please**, never, ever, put a used teaspoon back in the coffee jar.

And to those who fill the dishwasher; unless you're 100% sure of how it works, please take time to read the instructions before you begin.

The instructions are pasted on the front surface, so it's not difficult to follow the correct procedure.

So, just a few extra seconds taking the time to make things easier for those who do most of the cleaning up is very much appreciated.

Thank you.



Jennifer's Junction . . .

Two-over-One - Game Forcing (2/1: G/F)

2/1 (as it is commonly known) is a bidding style that has advantages over Standard (American) system and improves it.

It is based on that system and is a five-card Major approach. It is believed it is easier to play in a suit at the two-level than play at 1NT.

When opener starts bidding with 1♦ or 1♥ or 1♠, and responder - in order to show their own suit - bids at the two level, they promise enough strength to force the bidding to at least game.

Responder examples:

1♦, pass, 2♣. Game-forcing. Natural, shows at least four clubs, and at least opening strength (10 points are not enough).

1♥, pass, 2♣/2♦. Game-forcing. Natural, shows at least four clubs or diamonds, and at least opening strength.

1♠, pass, 2♣/2♦/2♥. Game-forcing. Natural, shows at least four clubs, diamonds, or hearts, and opening plus strength.

NOTE: The 2/1 is OFF and Standard American bidding is used when (a) partner opens 1♣, or (b) the opposition makes an intervening bid.

If partner opens 1♦, 1♥, or 1♠, and you do not have an opening hand, you can either:

. . . with a fit, use limit bids in their opening suit: eg 1♥ by partner. With 6-9 points, raise to 2♥, or with 10 points, raise to 3♥.

. . . with no fit, bid 1NT which is forcing for one round, and partner must alert this bid.

More descriptive auctions:

The 2/1 style is more effective and easier than Standard because it's good to know when you're in a game-forcing auction after just two bids . . . one from your partner and one from you.

How does 2/1 help locate slams?

Having a slower auction gives opener and responder more room to agree on a suit and to try for slam via cue bidding and then Blackwood.

The above is a basic description only of the 2/1 system and much more information is available in books and on internet bridge sites. Our own library also has books on this system.

Enjoy your bridge.

Bridge fair play

Bridge should be played competitively, with a sense of fair play and friendly rivalry, and with an awareness of the rules. A quick summary follows:

- ◆ Count your cards before you look at them.
- ◆ Agree on the number of tricks before packing up your cards at the end of a hand.
- ◆ Don't make any comments about the bidding or play until the end of the hand, and generally the less said at the bridge table the better.
- ◆ Don't take *too* much time. There is a certain amount per hand - it's not fair to constantly be slow.
- ◆ Don't discuss a hand played earlier. Your opponents may not have played the hand, and you may be giving them an insight into what they should do.
- ◆ It's best not to comment on your successes, which are also the opponents' failures. Saying things like: "Oh that's a top partner" is very bad manners.
- ◆ Don't convey information to your partner by gestures, hesitations or mannerisms. It's unethical to do this.



- ◆ You may draw inferences from the opponents' hesitations (at your own risk), but it is not accepted to draw inference from your partner's hesitation or manner.
- ◆ Don't recriminate over a bad result. Don't harass partner by asking questions that start with "Why?"
- ◆ North or South should do the scoring, and East or West must check their score.
- ◆ Call the director whenever something goes wrong. It's proper procedure, and they will advise you of relevant rulings. The director is there to keep things equitable.
- ◆ You should warn the opponents, by saying "alert" when your partner has made a bid that isn't what it seems in your system. An opponent may, in his turn, ask the meaning of the alerted call. You are bound to give a full explanation.

Thanks Paul Marsden: ABF site

Coming up soon . . .

The **Sunshine Coast Bridge Club** will be hosting their **Teams Event** on Sunday, 8 August. The **Wide Bay Zone** trials are being held the same day. Renee, Jeff, Janette and Margaret are heading up there for that one.

It's our Red Point **Muster Pairs** on Thursday, 17 August. Please put your names up on the board, and hey, how about digging out your best cowboy or cowgirl outfit and Akubra for this. Yeeha.

The **Harvey Bay Novice Pairs** is on Sunday, 20 August. Unfortunately, this has been cancelled because there were not enough nominations. At least 2½ Gympie pairs were heading north for it, (Brian and Tertia; Jane and Jenz; and Kaylene, who would have been competing with her regular Bay partner) so it's a big disappointment for them all.

However, it's the **Noosa Novice Pairs** the following Sunday, 27 August. Last count there were only eight pairs for that, so anyone keen to extend their bridge playing prowess should consider giving this one a go. Nomination forms are available online through the Noosa Club or QBA site.

September starts with the **Noosa Teams Event** on Sunday, 10 September. Again, you can find the form on the net, or the QBA site.

Then it's our own Red Point **Spring Pairs**, on Thursday, 14 August. Good grief, Spring already?

And finally in September, the **Sunshine Coast Bridge Club** will hold its **Graded Pairs** on Sunday, 17 September. The **Wide Bay Zone** will hold its **Pairs Finals** the same day.

DATE CLAIMER: Gympie Congress Teams on Sunday, October 8.

It's open to one and all so get your team together and sign up for this great day of bridge.

Director's Corner

Well, the new Laws are now upon us and the Directors will do their best to ensure a smooth transition. Most of the changes are not major, just a bit of tweaking here and there. They were covered very well in Jan Peach's column in the last QBA Bulletin. Hopefully most of you have read it and have an understanding of some of the changes. I'll just cover a couple of the more pertinent ones here.

Dummy may now prevent an infraction (as in leading from the wrong hand) by any player, not just the Declarer as was previously the case. So if Dummy sees that one of the opposition players (or Declarer) is **about to lead** when it is not their turn to do so, he/she may prevent this happening; however, if the lead is already tabled (or called for by Declarer) Dummy **must not** draw attention to it.

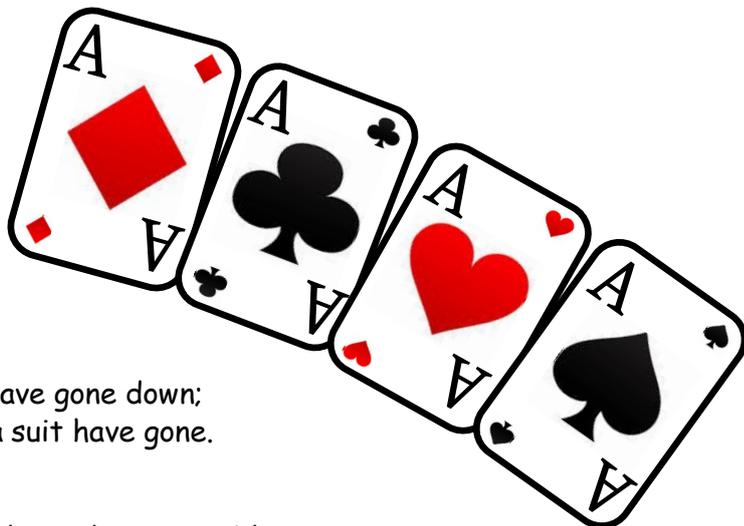
When a player "claims", they must expose their hand and give a clear statement of how they propose to win the tricks claimed. If there is any dispute to the claim, providing all four players are in agreement, the hand may be played out. If this occurs, the result obtained will stand and the Director will not become involved. If the players do not agree to play the hand out, then the Director should be called.



Three reminders for Dummy:

Dummy must **not**:

1. Call attention to an irregularity during play.
2. Touch a card in Dummy until it is called for by Declarer.
3. Rearrange the cards in Dummy after they have gone down; e.g. to fill up a space after all the cards in a suit have gone.



A few time saving tips (repeat):

1. When the Director calls "move", do so quickly to the next table.
2. On arrival at the next table, by all means greet your opponents but at the same time, be taking your cards out of the board.
3. Count and arrange your cards as quickly as possible.
4. Try to bid as quickly as possible. Some hands require more thought but generally there are only a couple of options.
5. Once bidding has finished, if you are on lead, be ready to lead promptly.
6. If you are Declarer - call for Dummy's cards without Dummy having to ask which card you want.
7. After the play of the hand, restrict any post mortem and/or studying the Bridgемate.

If you are in charge of the Bridgемate

1. If you are Dummy - put Dummy down before entering data in the Bridgемate and similarly;
2. If you are on lead - lead before entering data in the Bridgемate.

Good bridge!

Kay