



# GYMPIE BRIDGE CLUB

## NEWSLETTER



October/November 2017

Issue No 56

Hello fellow bridge club members,

The big news this newsletter is of course, the installation of our fab new air conditioning system. Second has to be this year's annual general meeting, held on Tuesday, 5 September. Your new committee is listed inside, straight from the desk of our newly elected president, Kelly Chapman.

The air-con is now ready for the long hot summer, and with the boxes around the units, and the patching and repairing of walls and ceiling completed, and finally, the repainting of the main tables' area done last weekend — a huge and expensive refurbishment of our club is now mostly completed. A big thank you to Jeff Streat for supervising it all.

And, just as the doors, windows, bridge-mates, cards, urn and water cooler etc, are the responsibility of the director, so it is with the air-con settings. They will be set before the session starts, and by the time everyone is seated and ready for play, they should be at the desired temperature and should remain at that comfortable temperature for the session. So please, let the units do the job they're intended to do. Don't leave doors and windows open, as all that does is make the units work harder to get back to the set temperature and that means more cold air blowing down on players.

At the AGM, a move to change Thursday evening bridge to Wednesday, at an earlier start time, was overwhelmingly defeated. Perhaps putting forward just the one option at the earlier start time was a step too far, but other options could still be considered before giving up on the idea of separating the "two-sessions-on-one-day" of bridge.

In view of that, Kelly has produced a survey for all members to complete. Please, please, take the time to put across your views. You can remain anonymous and you don't have to answer every question but if there's something in the survey you feel strongly about, tell us! (A survey form is included here with the newsletter and more are readily available if you need one.) Remember, the committee welcomes your feedback and input on ALL matters concerning bridge. That suggestion box is always there.



The past two months, have as usual, been busy for our members. The Muster Pairs was held in August, won by Peter Coppin and Rennie Pettit — congratulations. Unfortunately, the Hervey Bay Novice Pairs was cancelled as there were not enough entries. And, Judith Malcolm and Jack Wright competed in the Noosa Novice Pairs in the B-grade and were 14th out 36 pairs, with 51.5%. Well done both of you. Our Red Point Spring Pairs event, held Thursday, 14 September, was won by Lester Pettit and Merv Rettke. Congratulations you two. And as usual, many of our members have travelled to other clubs, competing in normal club days, red point days and other events — all enjoying the different challenges playing at larger venues can bring.

Finally, Lee Lewis is our guest columnist this edition; we have our always informative director's column from Kay; plus an interesting hand from Kevin Feeney and some advice from director Peter Busch.

**Good bridging everyone, Jenz.**

A GOOD BRIDGE MIX  
ALWAYS INCLUDES FOUR NUTS



## OUR BIRTHDAYS

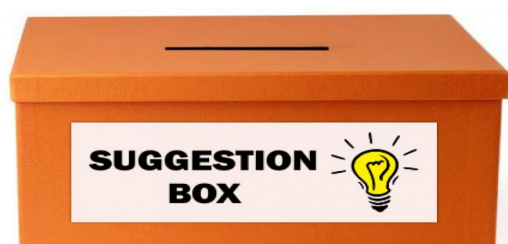
### IN OCTOBER

Ron Organ - 6  
John Roughley - 8  
Lester Pettit - 25  
Bill Thorne - 27  
Shirley Bishop - 30  
Peter Thorogood - 31

### AND NOVEMBER

Rennie Pettit - 15  
Ross Muirhead - 22  
Kaylene Lingard - 23  
Merv Rettke - 25

Keep those suggestions coming in folks ...



# President's report

Welcome to the first newsletter following this year's AGM.

Elected to the incoming committee are:

**President** — Kelly Chapman

**Vice president** — Jeff Streat

**Secretary** — Rennie Pettit

**Treasurer** — Trevor Simpson

**Committee members** — Kaylene Lingard, Jack Wright, Kathi Vince, Ruth Greentree and Jenz Davidson.

A big welcome to Ruth and Jenz and nice to see Kathi come back. Many thanks also to Kay Kerr who has stepped down from the committee after 10 years.

Appointments made at the September committee meeting are:

**Ethics committee** — Dean Hollingworth, Adele Harington and Bevan Anderson

**Gardening** — George Konyi and Bette Geary will continue sprinkler duties, but private professional gardening contractors will now undertake weeding, pruning etc as required.

**Library** — Joy Anderson

**Maintenance** — Jeff Streat

**Member care** — Kathi Vince

**Newsletter** (12 months) — Jenz Davidson

**Partnership co-ordinator** — Rennie Pettit

**Sundays only** — Arlette Cook

**Providor** — Rennie Pettit

**Teaching** — Jennifer Hollingworth

with assistance from Fran McDonald

**Web and Publicity** — Kay Kerr.

As incoming president, I looked at the honour board showing the previous club presidents and thought "wow — these are big shoes to fill". It is my intention to do my best to live up to the wonderful standard set by my predecessors and to ensure that the Gympie Bridge Club continues to have a bright and prosperous future.

September was a big month for the club. The gardens have been overhauled and look wonderful (although some rain would be good!), new air conditioners are fitted and up and running — and will no doubt get a workout over the next six months or so. The plastering is finished and painters were in last weekend, while the roof/solar panels/pathways have been pressure-cleaned. Honour boards are now being updated and should be back on display shortly. The club is looking fantastic inside and out and is a place to be proud of, just in time for our upcoming congress.

I have also prepared a survey which is being circulated this week. The committee is seeking feedback regarding some key issues and would appreciate as many responses as possible.

Melbourne Cup and Christmas Party function planning is under way and both events should prove to be fun and happy occasions.

**Happy bridging, Kelly.**



Another tradie has replaced broken roof tiles and quoted on fixing the leak inside, and the "blind man" has fixed the mechanisms inside our blinds. A security screen has been installed on the office window and now, all that remains is the internal painting.

Jeff's wife Sandi has almost forgotten what he looks like these past few weeks, so thank you Jeff — and Sandi.



Too cold I hear  
some of you say.



Just a suggestion — perhaps you could bring a jacket or cardigan to sessions, and have it handy if you get a little chilly.

It is so much easier to warm up than it is to cool down, so please, if you know it's going to be a hot day and the air con will be on, bring something warm to put on. (There are also scarves available for use in the bottom drawer under the cup drawers.)

Cool bridging everyone!

## Lee's Ledger . . .

## What is a Reverse Bid?

Brent Manley, author of "The Everything Bridge Book" as well as many other publications, wrote a marvellous article on Reverse bids.

"For many new players, the reverse is an enigmatic bidding tool that is frequently overlooked or 'missed' in the bidding. It is important however, to recognise a reverse when your partner employs the device."

Put simply, a reverse is a second bid, usually by the opener, at the two level or higher in a higher-ranking suit than the original bid.

West	North	East	South
1D	Pass	1S	Pass
2H			

Another

West	North	East	South
1C	Pass	1H	Pass
2D			

And

West	North	East	South
1H	Pass	1NT	Pass
2S			

These bids ALWAYS show strength. Reason? Because if responder prefers opener's first suit, he has to take the preference to the three level. Opener is not forcing the bidding to that level with a measly 12 or 13-point hand. A good example of a typical hand for a reverse is: ♠AJ3 ♥AQT9 ♦AQT95 ♣7

Open this lovely hand with 1D. If partner responds 1H, you will go to game in their suit. If partner responds 1S, your rebid should be 2H. This bid shows your strength — at least a good 16 HCPs, often 17 or 18.

When partner makes a reverse bid, the weakest response is to go back to their first suit. That bid can be passed. Any other bid is forward going and usually ends in game.

Take care not to confuse the sequence 1C—Pass—1H—Pass—1S with the reverse principle. A rebid of a higher ranking suit at the one level is not a reverse because responder can make a bid at the two level.

As my mentor, director supremo Reg Busch was fond of saying — “You may not use it often, but is handy to have in your armamentarium”. This applied to all nuggets of knowledge. I love that word.

These are the bare bones of reverse bids, so let me know if you're keen to add it to your "armamentarium".

**Lee Lewis**



## Kevin's Korner . . .

### The Power of Shape

I wonder what £20,000 in 1750 would be worth in today's money?

I often have problems with hands that contain singletons or voids, so decided to do some re-research on the power of shape and came across an article first published by Edmund Hoyle in 1750.

Legend has it that the Duke of Cumberland lost a £20,000 bet on a wager against North/South in the hand seen here at the right. Why wouldn't you double when you are East?

— ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ —

The declarer is South. There is no way of stopping this grand slam, no matter which suit is led, as any spade, heart or diamond can be ruffed. If ruffed in Dummy, a club is returned to CT. Declarer ruffs another spade and again takes the trump finesse. The Duke repeated the process until he had drawn all trumps and his spades are high. The Duke chalks up all 13 tricks, as East's high cards crash on South's good spades. Happy bridging.

**Kevin Feeney**

Dealer: East

Vul: Both

♠ —

♥ 5432

♦ 5432

♣ 65432

♠ JT

♥ JT9876

♦ T9876

♣ —

♠ AKQ

♥ AKQ

♦ AKQJ

♣ KJ9

♠ 98765432

♥ —

♦ —

♣ AQT87

Contract: 7CXX

(X from the opposition says: "I don't believe you can make this contract. The second X comes from Declarer, who says: "Oh yes I can". Needless to say, the point count is very high if a redoubled contract is made.)

## Coming up soon . . .

The **Gympie Teams Congress** is on this Sunday, 8 October. Several teams from other clubs will be making the trip here for this, so it should be a great competition.

The two-day red point **Rhoda Clifford Nett Competition** is being held next Tuesday, 10 October and the following Tuesday, 17 October. This is a handicap event and open to ALL players, making it a great competition for every club member, whatever their level of expertise.

In between, on Sunday, 15 October, it's the **Wide Bay Zone Pairs** being held in Maryborough. The club is keen to get more entries, so if you've never played in a competition at another bridge club, this would be a great place to start.

And on Sunday, 29 October, it's the **Inter Club Teams Final**. (Play Offs were held on 1 October).

### DATE CLAIMER

**Melbourne Cup Day — Tuesday, 7 November — dress up and be in to win.**

After that fun day, we have a red-point **Armistice Pairs**, on Thursday, 9 November, in the morning.

The **QBA Novice Pairs Final** is Sunday, 12 November. (Following on from the Oct 15 WBZ Pairs)

The **Noosa Imps Pairs** is on the following Saturday and Sunday, 18 and 19 November.

And to end the month, it's the **Queensland Wide Pairs** competition, on Tuesday, 28 November.

# Director's Digest

In the recent reprint of the Laws of Bridge, there were some changes made to Law 45, dealing with the play of a card. I think it is worthwhile to print here the portion dealing with "when a card is deemed to be played".

## **Law 45C. Card deemed to be played**

1. A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face is deemed played to the current trick (if the defender has already made a legal play to the current trick, see Law 45E).
2. Declarer is deemed to have played a card from his/her hand if it is:
  - (a) held face up, touching or nearly touching the table; or
  - (b) maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.
3. A card in the dummy is played if it has been deliberately touched by declarer, except for the purpose either of arranging dummy's cards, or of reaching a card above or below the card touched.
4. (a) A card is played if a player names or otherwise designates it as the card he/she proposes to play (but see Law 47).  
(b) Declarer may correct an unintended designation of a card from dummy until he/she next plays a card from either their own hand or from dummy. A change of designation may be allowed after a slip of the tongue, but not after a loss of concentration or a reconsideration of action. If an opponent has, in turn, played a card that was legal before the change in designation, that opponent may withdraw the cards so played, return it to his hand and substitute another (see Laws 47D and 16C1).
5. A penalty card, Major or minor, may have to be played (see Law 50).

Those of you who are keen enough to follow up on the references to Laws 45 E, 47 and 50 are welcome to inspect the Directors' Law Book, on the bookshelf near the office.

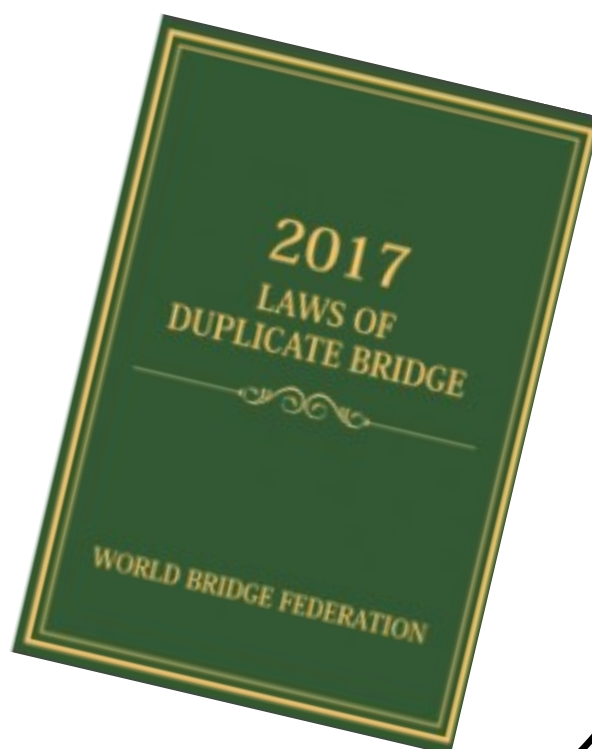


## **A reminder to Dummy (once again).**

Do not move the position of your cards laid out in Dummy once they have been placed on the table.

The cards should be placed at a sufficient distance from the edge of the table to allow the quitted tricks to be comfortably placed along the edge of the table above the laid-out dummy.

Good bridge!  
**Kay**



# *Busch's Blog*

## *Unauthorised information from partner*

I am surprised to learn that even experienced bridge players are not aware of some of the basic laws of bridge. One example I encountered recently is to do with unauthorised information from partner, and it seems that many players are unfamiliar with this concept.

Anything your partner says or does during the auction, except for their legal calls (i.e. bids, doubles, passes), is unauthorised information to you, and you must not factor it into your bidding or play. This includes their explanations of your bids made to opponents when asked. It also includes their alerts of your bids and their failure to alert what you believe should be alerted.

The laws says that even though you know you and partner are not on the same page, you are not allowed to know this. You must keep bidding in accordance with your original plan, and can only deviate from that plan if it is apparent from the subsequent auction or play that you are at odds.

This can be tricky in some cases. For example assume you open 2NT strong which your partner alerts and tells the opponents it is 5/5 in the minors and weak. They respond 3C which is, they believe, a simple preference for clubs over diamonds. You know this because of the explanation you have heard, but you must not base future bidding on it — you must assume partner knew you were showing a strong balanced hand and has bid 3C in response.

For most people that would be some sort of Stayman bid asking for a major, and you would need to respond accordingly, even though you know it's not.

Likewise, if they bid 3D, meaning to prefer diamonds over clubs, you need to interpret that based on your original plan and this may be a transfer to hearts in your system. Where it goes from there depends on many factors including the hands themselves and the partnership agree-

ments, and in some cases you might legitimately end up in the best contract.

The confusion could become evident to the opponents who are allowed to make any deductions they like from this. For example if they ask partner about your 2NT opening and partner says "minors and weak", and ask you about partner's 3C bid and you say "Stayman", they will know there's a problem and this is authorised to them, even though it's not authorised to you or your partner.



An interesting way to look at this is to compare it to when players play behind screens, which happens in major events. A diagonal screen is placed across the table in such a way that you cannot see your partner and can only see one of your opponents (your screen-mate). The difference with alerting is that you alert your screen-mate of your own alertable bids and your partner's alertable bids in a way that your partner cannot see, and when the bidding pad or box moves to the other side of the screen, your partner will do the same.

Likewise with explanations — when asked for an explanation by your screen-mate, you do not speak to them but you write down the meaning, and your partner will do the same with their screen-mate. This way neither player knows whether or not their partner has alerted their bid, nor do they know how their partner has interpreted their bid.

This is a very "pure" environment, and it is a test that will be applied by the director at your table to help decide if unauthorised information was a factor in your subsequent bidding.

In short, and as with all such issues, if in doubt call the director.

*From the blog of Peter Busch*

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