



# THE QBA BULLETIN

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# 2

## From the President



**Richard Wallis**

FROM June 11-20 Queensland's Pele Rankin has been a member of the Australian Mixed Team competing in the APBF Championships in Singapore. This event has been dominated by teams from China while

Australia's Open team produced the best performance with a 4th placing in the qualifying rounds.

The next major event on the bridge calendar is the ANC in Melbourne in July, where, as usual Queensland, will have a team in the Open, Womens, Seniors and Youth.

The last time we had a meeting of club presidents was in 2018, and it was judged a great success, and a resolution was made to have them every 2 years. In accordance with this, the next meeting is scheduled for September 28/29 in Brisbane, and I look forward to seeing as many presidents as can make the time. ■

## Barrier Reef Congress



**Richard Ward**

WHAT could be better than Cairns in May? Blue, sunny skies. Warm, comfortable weather. Plentiful lush, green, tropical vegetation. And, along the Esplanade, such a wide choice of good-value places to eat either between sessions or afterwards for dinner.

The Cairns Bridge Club certainly put on a first-class show with the venue being the luxurious Pullman Reef Hotel Casino. The playing area was spacious and well-lit; the iced water was plentiful and replenished frequently; and the coffee, tea and light snacks were reasonably priced. The level of entries was solid: 68 tables in the Pairs and 66 tables in the Teams with Novice and Restricted sections well-represented and catered for.

A highlight for me was the efficient delivery of the Presentation Lunch - a stand-up, finger-food model which provided appetizing, gourmet food to suit all tastes. With some players anxious to catch flights home, there were no concerns in this regard.

Whilst the congress was undoubtedly a team effort, Club President William van Bakel was clearly at the helm and deserves congratulations for his efforts over the four years leading up to the event. He was ably assisted by: Barbara Power, Pippa and Andrew Hooper: Directors John McIlrath, Peter Busch and Bill Bishop; four caddies and many club



## 2020 Gold Coast Congress

### February 21-29

Walk Ins every session but Sunday morning  
Rookies Thursday session back to morning  
Seniors' Pairs and Seniors' Teams events have been discontinued  
Seniors' and Women's categories introduced in the Open Teams with their own Finals and PQPs

## 2020 Barrier Reef Congress Yeppoon

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members who volunteered to set up and pull down the playing area.

Yolanda Carter and Toni Bardon were members of the winning team this year. They have played together at various times over the years, their most recent claim to fame being their emphatic 1st place in the 2018 Queensland Women's Trials for the Australian National Championships. On this hand from the teams, they demonstrated how to pick up 10 IMPs simply by bidding thoughtfully to the best game.

Dir E	♠ A74		
Vul Both	♥ K103		
	♦ A62		
	♣ 10962		
♠ KJ63		♠ Q10985	
♥ Q9875		♥ 62	
♦ J4		♦ Q85	
♣ J3		♣ K85	
	♠ 2		
	♥ AJ4		
	♦ K10973		
	♣ AQ74		

	W	N	E	S
		Yolanda		Toni
			P	1D
	P	2NT	P	3C
	P	3D	P	3H
	P	4C	P	4D
	P	4NT	P	5D
	All pass			

2NT was 10-11 HCP balanced; 3H was stopper-showing; 4C was natural, forcing and sensibly deciding to bypass 3NT in view of

the apparent double-minor suit fit; 4D was taken as Minorwood; and 4NT showed two key cards.

Toni made quick work of the play, guessing correctly the whereabouts of the ♥Q, and losing just one diamond and one club.

Nothing special here you might think, but, of the 44 results on this board, only 30% bid and made game while some 40% failed in 3NT on an opening spade lead.

A recurring theme of the congress was deciding what to bid when competing with a super-solid suit and a good hand. As some discovered, starting proceedings with a takeout double was not the best way to go.

Dir W	♠ 10652		
Vul Both	♥ J4		
	♦ AJ953		
	♣ A2		
♠ 4		♠ 8	
♥ A962		♥ K1083	
♦ KQ842		♦ 1076	
♣ K98		♣ 107543	
	♠ AKQJ973		
	♥ Q75		
	♦ —		
	♣ QJ6		

	W	N	E	S
	1D	P	P	X
	All pass			

South thought it best to double first then jump to game next. Sadly, the second step of this plan did not

eventuate when North chose to go for a vulnerable penalty double by passing. This collected 200 for NS but lost them 10 IMPs against 650 in 4S at the other table.

Dir E	♠ 2		
Vul NS	♥ 85		
	♦ AQ9874		
	♣ Q742		
♠ J93		♠ 75	
♥ 1097643		♥ J2	
♦ —		♦ KJ1032	
♣ K1063		♣ J985	
	♠ AKQ10864		
	♥ AKQ		
	♦ 65		
	♣ A		

	W	N	E	S
			2D	X
	All pass			

East opened 2D showing either 9 cards in diamonds and another suit OR a weak two in diamonds. South decided to start with a double and there the bidding ended. The defence held declarer to just four tricks for a score of +800. This was a lucky 3 IMP pick-up for NS in their match as their opponents missed the slam at the other table. In retrospect South has an easy immediate 5S bid asking partner to bid 6S with a diamond control. The slam was bid at 65% of the tables.

These two hands prompted a discussion about a useful treatment when holding Good One-Suited Hands (acronym GOSH!). Essentially this says that if you make a jump pre-empt over the opponents' pre-empt you are showing a game forcing hand with slam interest and requests cue bids from partner. This works well over weak twos and multi-two diamonds but not so much over 1-level or 3-level openings. Eg:

- (2H) – 3S is a game forcing single-suited spade hand; so
- (2H) – 4S can be made on a variety of hands, but weaker than bidding 3S.

But then, these come up so rarely perhaps it is better not to further clutter up your systemic understandings and just bid immediately what you think you can make.

See you next year at Yeppoon. ■



Open Teams winners: Yolanda Carter, Therese Tully, Toni Bardon (holding the John Brockwell Trophy) and Richard Ward

## RESULTS

NOVICE PAIRS: 1 Audrey Ladbrook/  
Simon Jones; 2 Ming and David Ting;  
3 Jonathan Jones/Sharon Poole.

RESTRICTED PAIRS: 1 Debra &  
Eric Goodchild; 2 Valerie & Peter  
Robbins; 3 Christine Newberry/  
Annette Scott.

ERIC PARSONS OPEN PAIRS: 1  
Ken Anderson/ Justin Mill; 2 Verna  
Brookes/Ken Dawson; 3 Diana &  
Hugh McAlister.

RESTRICTED TEAMS: 1 Ming Shu  
Yang/Gill Phillippo/Eugene Pereira/  
Rex Meadowcroft; 2 Nick Edginton/  
Christine Newberry/ Annette  
Scott/Rhonda Graham; 3 Charlie  
Georgees/Jennifer Mullen/Audrey  
Ledbrook/Kay Mukai.

JOHN BROCKWELL OPEN TEAMS:  
1 Yolanda Carter/Toni Bardon/  
Therese Tully/Richard Ward; 2 Chris  
Stead/John Brockwell/Richard Hills/  
Michael Cullen; 3 Ashley Bach/  
Simon Andrew/Gwen King/Kim  
Del'Monte



Open Pairs winners: Ken Anderson  
and Justin Mill



Jonathan Jones (CBC) Sharon Poole  
(CBC) - 3rd in the Novice Pairs



Julie Duncan (Secretary CBC), William van Bakel (President CBC and  
Convenor of the BRC), Warren Entsch (Federal Member for Leichhardt) Jai  
Hawkins (Caddy) and Jenny Crawl (Vice-President CBC)



Caddies Josie Fraser (Head Caddy), Jai Hawkins, Nicholas Walsh  
(CBC Youth Ambassador) and Elijah Keenan



Di Garside, Donna Fitch, Sam Bishop and Kay Lehmann,  
all from Townsville - 4th in the Restricted Teams

## Qld Open Team Trials



Peter Evans

**S**TAGE 2 of the Queensland Open trials took place over the weekends of March 23-24 and March 30-31. The 12 pairs vying for a place in the 2019 team played a 20-board match against all the other contestants for a total of 220 boards. My partner, Tony Treloar, and I got our noses in front on the first day and we weren't caught from there. Ralph Parker and Paul Hooykaas finished second and Charlie Lu and Martin Qin were third to complete this year's team. Martin Doran will be our non-playing captain.

This hand was a comedy of errors at our table.

Dir N	♠ Q85	♠ 6
	♥ AK76	♥ J8
	♦ AKQ	♦ J9432
	♣ J52	♣ AQ1074
♠ 1043		♠ 6
♥ 42		♥ J8
♦ 10876		♦ J9432
♣ K863		♣ AQ1074
	♠ AKJ972	
	♥ Q10953	
	♦ 5	
	♣ 9	

NS bid to 6S by South after North opened with 1C and rebid 2NT. Over the final 6S bid, I Lightner doubled from the East seat, asking for an unusual lead/lead of dummy's first bid suit. I reasoned that the ♣K was likely to be in the North hand and that partner might have to lead them now for me to get my ♠A and ♣Q.

Impeccable reasoning on my part except for the fact South had a club singleton and 6S will roll home losing just the ♣A. However, a nervous North pulled the contract to 6NT in the hope I held ♠AQ rather than ♠AK and would be dissuaded

from leading the ♠A! This promptly occurred when I thought North was protecting his ♣K. I didn't want to set this card up by leading the ♠A and so I led a diamond rather than take the first 5 club tricks! South easily wrapped up all 13 tricks.

The Lightner double reared its head again on this hand and prudent opponents paid attention.

Dir E	♠ A	♠ Q93
	♥ 10987632	♥ AQJ54
	♦ Q943	♦ A7
	♣ 7	♣ AK9
♠ KJ10764		♠ Q93
♥ K		♥ AQJ54
♦ K2		♦ A7
♣ QJ82		♣ AK9
	♠ 852	
	♥ —	
	♦ J10865	
	♣ 106543	

After West opened 1S and East bid 2H, most pairs found 6S. When South Lightner doubled for an unusual lead/lead of dummy's first bid suit, East should have heeded the warning and converted to 6NT. Or perhaps some found it hard to believe that South was void in hearts?

This hand wasn't my finest hour, though only one declarer brought the contract home

Dir E	♠ QJ32	♠ AK10764
	♥ 852	♥ Q94
	♦ K1095	♦ 4
	♣ 73	♣ K98
♠ 98		♠ AK10764
♥ J103		♥ Q94
♦ A73		♦ 4
♣ AQJ62		♣ K98
	♠ 5	
	♥ AK76	
	♦ QJ862	
	♣ 1054	

I played in 4S from the East hand. South had overcalled my opening 1S bid with a rather hairy 2D. South led ♥A-K and then switched to a diamond.

Having lost two tricks, I can afford to lose one spade trick but no more. The diamond call from the South hand increases the chance that spades are breaking badly with

South having shortage. The right way to play the hand is cash the ♠A in case of a singleton honour with South but then go to dummy and finesse the ♠9.

Of course I clumsily failed to unblock the ♥Q under the ♥A or ♥K to provide an easy avenue to dummy, and then got unreasonably nervous about a possible club ruff from wandering across to dummy in clubs and conducting a failed spade finesse. Banging down the ♠A-K was -50.

This next hand was an object lesson in how to handle a clanger by partner.

Dir S	♠ J9	♠ 63
Vul EW	♥ KJ98654	♥ AQ102
	♦ K103	♦ AQ6
	♣ 10	♣ AJ86
♠ AK108752		♠ 63
♥ 3		♥ AQ102
♦ 82		♦ AQ6
♣ 973		♣ AJ86
	♠ Q4	
	♥ 7	
	♦ J9754	
	♣ KQ542	

	W	N	E	S
		Tony		Peter
				P
	3S	P	4S	4NT!
	P	5D!	X	All pass

Partner and I have no opening bid for 5/5 in the minors so I had to pass the South hand. Bidding was up to 4S by the time it returned to me. Despite the favourable vulnerability (nil vs vul) my 4NT was far too speculative. Instead of panicking or getting angry, partner very coolly reasoned that I didn't have a lot of hearts with my minors, West didn't have a lot of hearts with her 3S pre-empt and therefore East has a stack of hearts over the North hand. Partner thus bid 5D, not unreasonably hoping for 6 or more given my 4NT bid. He then played it well for five off for -1100.

Part of the field appears to have followed my action, but their partners tried 5H and proceeded to go for -1400. In the end, we only lost 3.2 IMPs on the board. Partner in quietly minimizing the damage and not getting angry or blasting me allowed us to keep focussed and we won this match by a big margin.

There were two grand slam hands in our direction over the 220 boards, and fortunately for us fairly straightforward to bid. Here's one.

Dir N	♠ KQJ72		
	♥ 10		
	♦ A42		
	♣ K853		
♠ 53		♠ 96	
♥ J8		♥ Q97652	
♦ QJ1053		♦ 96	
♣ 10962		♣ J74	
	♠ A1084		
	♥ AK43		
	♦ K87		
	♣ AQ		

W	N	E	S
	Tony		Peter
	1S	P	2NT
P	3H	P	4NT
P	5S	P	5NT
P	6C	P	7S
All pass			

My 2NT response was Jacoby saying I had 4-card spade support and an opening hand or better. Partner's 3H showed a singleton or void in hearts, so I knew I had no losers there. My 4NT was Roman Key Card Blackwood and partner's 5S said two keycards with the trump queen. Knowing we had all the aces and the KQ of trumps, I bid 5NT which we play as a specific king ask and partner's 6C said exactly the ♣K. I now knew I had no losers in clubs and the third diamond could be dumped on the ♣K so I had an easy 7S bid.

This was Richard Wallis rather cleverly end-playing me to make a difficult 3NT.

	♠ 98		
	♥ A98		
	♦ 1085		
	♣ Q8642		
♠ J763		♠ A104	
♥ Q1075		♥ KJ2	
♦ A764		♦ Q93	
♣ K		♣ AJ103	
	♠ KQ52		
	♥ 643		
	♦ KJ2		
	♣ 975		

Richard played 3NT from the East hand. I led the ♠2. Richard won with

the ♠10 and knocked out partner's ♥A. Partner led a spade to me, which I won with the ♠Q and led a low spade to Richard's ♠A.

Richard now cashed all his hearts and the ♣K leaving this picture.

—	1085	
—	Q86	
J	—	
—	—	
A764	Q9	
—	AJ10	
K		
—		
KJ2		
9		

Richard has eight tricks in the bag (two spades, three hearts, the ♣A-K and the ♦A) and needs just one more. He led the ♠J from the table putting me in with the ♠K. I now either had to lead a club finessing partner's ♣Q or lead a diamond finessing my own ♦K giving Richard his 9th trick.

On this hand (next column), we were the only ones to find the small slam.

My 3D is the critical bid. I believe seven clear tricks justifies a jump bid by opener. It is an overbid but you don't have 2½D available as a bid.

Partner's 4C was Roman Key Card Blackwood in diamonds. After my

Dir E	♠ 10864		
	♥ Q97		
	♦ J62		
	♣ Q74		
♠ J5		♠ A97	
♥ AK52		♥ J86	
♦ 93		♦ AKQ1085	
♣ AKJ62		♣ 10	
	♠ KQ32		
	♥ 1043		
	♦ 74		
	♣ 9853		

W	N	E	S
Tony		Peter	
1H	P	1D	P
4C	P	3D	P
4H	P	4D	P
6D	All pass	4NT	P

3 key cards response, 4H asked if I had the ♦Q. Once learning I had the ♦Q but no outside king, partner settled for 6D.

I got a suspicious looking ♠Q lead (though our opponents did lead Q from KQ). Rather than trying for a spade ruff for my 12th trick, I decided it was safer to draw trumps and try to bring down the ♠Q in four rounds. Failing that, the ♥Q might be doubleton or there might be a club/heart squeeze. Both roads led to Rome, but in the end my line got all 13 tricks. ■

### Queensland Open Team



Tony Treloar, Peter Evans, Paul Hooykaas, Ralph Parker, Charlie Lu and Martin Qin (Martin Doran is the npc)

Seniors' Team



Therese Tully, Richard Ward, Tony Hutton, Ewa Kowalczyk, Gheorghii Belonogov and Neville Francis (Martin Doran is the npc)

Women's Team



Maha Hoenig, Janeen Solomon, Pele Rankin, Annette Corkhill, Sue Spurway and Greer Tucker (Sue O'Brien is the npc)

Youth Team

Jack Luke-Paredi, Ben Leung, Darren Brake, Jasmine Skeate, Ellen Visscher and Oliver McCarthy (Paul Brake is the npc)

Arana Teams



Richard Wallis

FOR many years now I have played with Ian Halford in the Arana Teams on the first Sunday in June with team-mates Ralph Parker and John Mills. This year we were again successful, having last won the event a couple of years ago. The Moses team (Larry Moses/John Gough and Louise/Terry Collins) were second, with Kumar (Rakesh Kumar/Nikolas Moore and Dorothy Gehrke/Errol Miller) in third place.

This year Julie Jeffries was the very efficient director, and she had no problems that I am aware of, nor did I get any notifications in my duties as the recorder. Arana did a great job keeping the 34 teams well-fed with all manner of delicious food throughout the day, and the event was very friendly and played in good spirit.

M 1	♠ AKQ432
Bd 5	♥ 87
Dlr N	♦ AKQ97
Vul NS	♣ —
♠ J6	♠ 105
♥ KJ	♥ 96542
♦ 86532	♦ J4
♣ K942	♣ A1065
	♠ 987
	♥ AQ103
	♦ 10
	♣ QJ873



W	N	E	S
P	1S	P	3S
P	4C!	P	4H
P	4S	All pass	

North bid 4C as Gerber, correctly interpreted by South, and then could not determine if the 1-ace response by South showed the one she wanted, so she subsided in 4S and the good slam was missed.

At the other table Ralph was North and he also bid 4C after the spade support, but this time it was a cue-

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 Tue 9.30 am  
 Fri 9.30 am

bid, as was the 4H rebid by John, and thus Ralph jumped to 6S, making 13 tricks for +1460 and 13 IMPs.

This hand shows the disadvantage of asking for aces when you hold a void, and cannot be sure which ace partner shows by the response.

Unless you use "Voidwood" or exclusion Blackwood, a cue-bidding sequence is often the best way to proceed to slam. After spade agreement, 5C by North would be Voidwood, and the 5H response (one ace) would have clearly identified the ♥A, since the ♣A is ignored.

M 1	♠ —		
Bd 6	♥ 8		
Dlr E	♦ Q5		
Vul EW	♣ AK109876542		
♠ 7532		♠ KQ108	
♥ J9		♥ AKQ542	
♦ K98762		♦ 1043	
♣ Q		♣ —	
		♠ AJ964	
		♥ 10763	
		♦ AJ	
		♣ J3	

W	N	E	S
P	5C	1H	1S
			All pass

I had a fair hand when I opened 1H as dealer, but it was diminished somewhat by South's 1S overcall, so I passed North's 5C bid, hoping we had enough to beat it!

Of course there were 12 top tricks and North wasted no time in claiming them when she ruffed the second heart.

Is the North hand too good to jump to 5C, that is the question, but the void in partner's overcalled suit is not an asset, so maybe not.

At the other table the bidding was the same on the first round, but then East bid 5H over 5C, and when this came around to Ralph he could not take a chance that this would make, so at favourable vulnerability he sacrificed(!) in 6C.

That was +920 and 11 IMPs to us, but would have been more if EW had doubled the sacrifice.

On the following board North has a difficult decision when Ian overcalls 1S, as he has 15 HCPs, 4-card support, and a singleton, but only one ace!

M 2	♠ K107		
Bd 9	♥ KQ52		
Dlr N	♦ K8653		
Vul EW	♣ A		
♠ AQJ942		♠ 83	
♥ A63		♥ 98	
♦ 1074		♦ A92	
♣ Q		♣ J98753	
		♠ 65	
		♥ J1074	
		♦ QJ	
		♣ K10642	

W	N	E	S
1S	1D	P	1H
			All pass

A 3H response tends to show 15-17 in support, but including distribution, the hand looks more like 18, especially as the ♠K is well-placed.

South had an easy decision over 3H and passed, and Ian led the ♣Q, won performance on the table.

There was nothing to the play, since we had three aces and the diamonds broke, so 10 easy tricks for -170.

At the other table Ralph bid 4H and John had no trouble making the same 10 tricks for +420 and 6 IMPs.

M 3	♠ A		
Bd 23	♥ K987432		
Dlr S	♦ AQ93		
Vul Both	♣ 7		
♠ KQ10854		♠ 72	
♥ —		♥ QJ106	
♦ 5		♦ KJ86	
♣ AJ9864		♣ 1053	
		♠ J963	
		♥ A5	
		♦ 10742	
		♣ KQ2	

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

Both Ian (West) and North have shapely hands, but no solid support, and South was overly optimistic.

The 2NT bid by South was about right, but when North showed her second suit, rebidding 3NT was very risky, and passing 3D or converting to 3H were both safer.

Even though South has shown a club stopper by the 3NT rebid, North would have been safer converting to 4H with the likely 7-2 fit.

Luckily for NS neither of us doubled and this awkward contract finished three off for +300. I would have doubled 4H, which is at least 1 off, so the cost was not great.

At the other table, Ralph was more aggressive and jumped to 4H over the 1S opening, and the final contract was 4SWX, which went one off for another +200 and 11 IMPs.

The trouble with overcalling 2H is that it only shows a 5-card suit, and leaves room for EW to compete.

M 4	♠ 72		
Bd 5	♥ K94		
Dlr N	♦ K973		
Vul NS	♣ AQJ10		
♠ J1093		♠ AQ65	
♥ AJ73		♥ Q10652	
♦ 654		♦ AQJ	
♣ K9		♣ 6	
		♠ K84	
		♥ 8	
		♦ 1082	
		♣ 875432	

W	N	E	S
2H	1C	X	2C
4H	P	3H	P
			All pass

South was a bit frisky with his 2C response to 1C after my take-out double, and Ian made a free-bid of 2H. I do not guarantee four cards in both majors by my double, so Ian got lucky when I supported.

A system that works in this situation is to cue-bid after the double, to show both majors, and then you are sure of a 4-4 fit, but South's 2C took that away. Holding the badly placed ♣K, Ian was not strong enough to force to the 3-level, hence his choice of 2H.

North led the ♠7, and each of the three finesses Ian initially tried failed, but, with the ♦K under the hammer, 10 tricks finally emerged for +420.

At the other table the contract was the same, but somehow declarer only made 9 tricks, so we gained 10 IMPs.

M 5	♠ 9
Bd 10	♥ 109
Dir E	♦ K6
Vul Both	♣ AQJ108653
♠ QJ742	♠ K106
♥ AQ	♥ J543
♦ A8742	♦ Q53
♣ K	♣ 942
	♠ A853
	♥ K8762
	♦ J109
	♣ 7

M 6	♠ AK94
Bd 17	♥ AJ1087
Dir N	♦ A5
Vul None	♣ Q7
♠ 10	♠ Q3
♥ K9	♥ Q64
♦ J732	♦ Q1086
♣ KJ10863	♣ 9542
	♠ J87652
	♥ 532
	♦ K94
	♣ A

M 7	♠ KQ104
Bd 28	♥ AJ87
Dir W	♦ 42
Vul NS	♣ 1065
♠ 97	♠ 8632
♥ 9654	♥ 1032
♦ KQ1076	♦ AJ9
♣ 72	♣ 984
	♠ AJ5
	♥ KQ
	♦ 853
	♣ AKQJ3

W	N	E	S
		P	P
1D	4C	All pass	

W	N	E	S
	1H	P	2H
P	4H	All pass	

W	N	E	S
P	P	P	1C
P	1H	P	3NT
All pass			

Ian (West) opened 1D in third seat and North jumped to 4C, which was passed out.

I led the ♠6 and declarer was in dummy for the first and only time, and had reached the crucial point in the play.

Two finesses to take, but which one? My ♠6 indicates an honour, so it is likely that Ian has most of the missing high cards, and especially the aces, so the diamond is the best, but declarer led the ♣7 and was probably delighted when the ♣K appeared.

Even if the club finesse works it cannot be repeated, and the diamond position is clear, only the ♦A with Ian is needed. Also with only four missing, the singleton ♣K is a real possibility.

Declarer lost two hearts and two diamonds for 1 off and +100, whereas at the other table Ralph made 10 tricks in 4C for +130 and 6 IMPs.

On this board South had a dilemma. Should she show her bad 6-card suit as her first response or support her partner's 5-card suit with three small?

She chose to support him; after all she has 8 HCPs and ruffing power with a singleton ace, and then it was her partner's decision. He could have investigated further with a forcing 2S, but instead chose to jump to game.

I led the ♦6 and thanks to the split honours in hearts and 2/1 break in spades, 12 tricks were easy, and we quickly wrote down -480, with North lamenting his failure to bid 2S.

At the other table John did respond 1S and Ralph took over and put the final contracts to 6S, also making 12 tricks for +980 and 11 IMPs.

On the following board the bidding was very direct, with South giving nothing away and Ian and I silent throughout.

This was the last match, and I did not know that we were underleading honours, but Ian led the ♦Q, which I thought was very peculiar.

After trying to work out the possibilities, I concluded that we must have been underleading all along, so I won the DA at trick 1, cashed the DJ and returned the D9 and thus we took the first 5 tricks for +100.

I did not get the bidding at the other table, but I assume that John opened 1C and West, having already passed as dealer, overcalled 1D. Ralph doubled to show both majors.

Not having a diamond stop and 20 HCPs, John tried 4S and for some reason West did not cash 2 diamonds, so John made 12 tricks for +680, thus we gained 13 IMPs.



## Queensland Graded Pairs

### Saturday August 31

A Grade: Open B Grade: <750mp C Grade: <150mp  
 Fee: \$60 per pair Director: Alan Gibson  
 Format: Swiss or Round Robin - Matchpoint scoring

## Queensland Graded Teams

### Sunday July 7

A grade: Open B Grade: <750mp C Grade: <150mp  
 Entry fee: \$120 per team Director: Jan Peach  
 Format: Swiss or Round Robin (depending on size of respective fields)

Enquiries and entries to: **3391 3241 qcbc1@optusnet.com.au**  
**www.qcbc.org.au**

### Director - please

Club directors are precious resources for all of us. We need to assist them in every way we can. Please realise that these people are unpaid volunteers who have put much time and effort in studying for and then passing the demanding accreditation exam. They are also willing to tolerate the constant disruptions to their own club games. Their own capacity to concentrate and their personal results suffer when distracted by other duties. They deserve our courtesy and co-operation. So, instead of bellowing "DIRECTOR!!" let's start by calling "Director please".





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## Teacher's Corner



Joan Butts

**R**EINFORCEMENT online for classroom lessons is readily available, so make an email database for each class, and keep in touch by emailing your students quizzes and other helpful bits and pieces. Students, especially young ones, want to play online. Now they see bridge as fitting into their world, rather than as something only an older person would want to do. Give them info about how to do this.

ABF Education offers a weekly hand on the ABF Facebook page, and it's exciting to observe the growing activity there... people interacting with each other, deciding on bids and plays, and experts coming in to offer their very insightful suggestions. We make a point of answering queries quickly too. It also gives me a window into students' understanding of particular areas of the game. It's quite extraordinary how helpful these modern tools are.

The more a teacher explains to students the reason they might need a particular convention, and the logic behind it, the more the students will "get" it and remain enthusiastic. Teachers themselves should consider why they are pushing certain conventions and whether they fit into an overall structure. Old teaching methods failed to focus on this, and it's off-putting to give newish students long lists of rules to learn off. Most people start off wanting to test the water and dabble with bridge, playing lots of hands.

Whatever you offer students re online updates, newsletters or information, make sure you are consistent with it. If it's supposed to be there on a certain date, make sure it goes out on that date! This is good advice from Kate Wilson, who does all ABF (and JBB) social media. When asked what she considered the most

important ingredient for business growth using social media, she had no hesitation in saying "consistency of communication".

Embrace the New! It's so much more fun! ■

WHAT bid would you choose with this hand It was in the 8th match of the VCC played in Melbourne. The Hutton team was playing the McGann team, and were the event leaders.

Jill Magee in one room held the following hand, and Matthew Thomson was in the other room. They viewed the hand differently.

♠ 9874 ♥ KJ3 ♦ A10986 ♣ 3

You're the dealer and you pass, then

partner opens 1S. Next hand passes to you.

Make a decision. You're playing two-way reverse Drury, as well as splinters.

The decision you make will have a big difference on the outcome.

On one room, Matthew Thompson chose to use four-card Drury, 2D, and although his partner Hugh McGann had a big hand, they played 4S.

Jill Magee valued her hand as being good enough to splinter with 4C. This was all Terry Strong needed to quickly bid 6S.

Seems to me the question is: do you think this hand is good enough to commit to game after a third position opener?

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Here's the whole hand.

Dir E	♠ J		
Vul None	♥ 10762		
	♦ Q43		
	♣ AQ872		
♠ AKQJ1052		♠ 9874	
♥ A		♥ KJ3	
♦ K7		♦ A10986	
♣ J1095		♣ 3	
	♠ 63		
	♥ Q9854		
	♦ J52		
	♣ K64		

Hutton's team picked up 9 IMPs for bidding the slam.

Would you have reached it? ■

## Just Because ...



Matthew  
McManus

### PART I

THERE are many situations in bridge where what is conventional wisdom is really not that wise. Quite often, someone says, "so and so told me that...". And also quite often the "so and so" is a director, so therefore it must be true! A little more investigation usually shows that the person doing the quoting was relaying what they wanted to hear, not what they were actually told. So, in the interests of trying to shed a little more light, here are a range of "just because" situations.

**Just because** an opponent claims and there is a trump outstanding, it doesn't mean that you will get an extra trick. There are a range of tests that the director has to use before deciding what the appropriate ruling will be. In many cases, it will result in an extra trick or tricks to the non-claiming side, but it is not automatic.

**Just because** someone revokes, it does not mean that there will be an automatic 2 trick penalty. The rules for revoking are quite complex - call the Director - make him do his job!

**Just because** on the hand records

Deep Finesse says that partner can make 7NT, it doesn't mean that she has misbid and misplayed when she only makes 9 tricks in 3NT. The Deep Finesse analysis can frequently be quite misleading. It is based on what you could do if you saw all the hands. Sometimes making the same number of tricks as Deep Finesse can be indicative of bad play, not good play. Suppose you find yourself in 7NT and have to make 4 tricks out of this suit combination:

J 10 9 8 opposite A Q 7 6. Deep Finesse makes it by playing the ace on the first round to drop the singleton king. However, in real life that would be a very bad play. You would be taking a line with a 2.5% chance of success, as opposed to the 50% chance by finessing.

**Just because** the players take the cards from the wrong pocket of the board and look at them, it does not mean that you won't be able to play the board. One of two things may have occurred:

1) North took out South's cards and East took out West's cards, and vice versa. NS still have the NS cards and EW still have the EW cards. The board is played and scored normally.

2) The players take the cards out of the board, but the board is turned through 90 degrees. That is, West has South's cards, North has West's, East has North's and South has East's. This known as an arrowswitch board, and in most cases the director can allow the board to be played this way. NS and EW will get the score they get based on the cards they actually hold and play with. This is even though in normal circumstances they would have had the other ones. This leads to...

**Just because** the hands are arrow-switched, it doesn't mean that the result will be unfair to your side. In fact, it will not be unfair at all. You will get the result you deserve. Some players are incensed and believe that they are hugely deprived by not getting the right cards. Such thoughts may be real though they are not rational. If one side is disadvantaged, then surely you would think that the other side must benefit. Very recently, I was confronted with

the following arguments from both sides about the unfairness of the arrowswitch. According to the hand record, NS could make 6S. But the board was arrowswitched, so the EW pair got to hold the good cards. NS were furious that they had missed out on a possible slam. ("That's so unfair"). Their actual matchpoint score on the board was rather good as the opponents who held the cards didn't bid the slam, but they were still unsatisfied. EW, on their part, were also unhappy - they played the hand in 3NT, which only just made, not a good score compared with the rest of the room. What was their complaint? If they had had the proper cards, they would not have had the opportunity to have the bidding mix up that they did.

**Just because** you think it is too cold, it doesn't mean everyone else does. Please remember!

**Just because** a special agreement is on the system card, it does not mean that you are excused from your responsibility to alert it. For example, the opponents open 1NT, your partner bids 2♥. You play DONT, so this shows hearts and spades. You fail to alert it and the opponents get into trouble when they end up in a spade contract and assume that she just has hearts. If the director is called, it will be no defence to say, "But it is on the system card". You still have an obligation to alert an agreement which the opponents may not know about.

**Just because** an opponent claims without stating a line of play, it does not mean that you can tell them how to play the cards. With 5 cards to go, declarer has this club suit:

A K Q J 2 opposite 7 6 5 4 3

and just puts their hand face up on the table. You have 10 9 8. You cannot make them play a low club first, so you can make a trick.

**Just because** you expect partner to pass your sign off, you can't write the contract on your personal score card before he has bid. Nothing more to say! ■

*Reprinted from the eCongress  
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*Part 2 will be printed in the next  
issue.*



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## Novices



Jan  
Steele

Dear Fellow Novices

If you attended the Sunnybank Novice Pairs on May 5 then you will probably be aware that I have taken over from Chris and Shelley Farr as Novice Coordinator. I have been a member of Toowoomba Bridge Club for just over a year and because I am a glutton for punishment, I put my name forward and was also elected Secretary of the Toowoomba Club last October. Whoever said that retirement was leisurely!

I did manage to meet a number of the novices who attended the Sunnybank Novice Pairs Congress. My congratulations to Ying Liu/ Ping Xie (A Grade), Tom Lyons/ Peter Lyons (B Grade) and Spencer Hamson/Ben Leung (C Grade).

I hope to be able to get around to meet as many of my fellow novices as I can manage over the coming months. I will be away overseas from May 20 for around 7 weeks so unfortunately won't be able to attend any of the events falling in that period. I am however particularly interested in finding out from you as much as

I can about the "novice experience" within your clubs; eg how your clubs integrate novice players within weekly play, whether mentoring is encouraged and more generally your experience as a novice. Novice players sometimes find it daunting to play with experienced players but this can be an invaluable and great learning experience. I found this out myself recently when I played with one of my club's longstanding, high points members. Here is the hand we bid and played as EW.

Dir S	♠ QJ92
Vul NS	♥ KQJ843
	♦ —
	♣ Q42
♠ 7	♠ A108654
♥ —	♥ 6
♦ KJ10976	♦ A8542
♣ AJ9863	♣ 7
	♠ K3
	♥ A109752
	♦ Q3
	♣ K105

As you can see our combined point high card count was just 17. The bidding was competitive as you can imagine from the distribution, but as we were not vulnerable my partner in West decided that 6H from NS could be a certain contract so he bid 7D and was promptly doubled. Our score +1630! Would I as a novice bid the grand slam? Probably not but it was a terrific experience to be part of the hand.

I would like to encourage you as novices to participate in as many Novice events as you can manage. The atmosphere is less stressful than when you are up against players of vast experience and of course there are always red points to be won. In particular I would encourage you to attend my home club's Novice Teams' event (Toowoomba) on August 4 where my successful team from last year will be defending our title!

You can always reach me on the specific QBA novice email address: [novicecoordinator@qldbriidge.com.au](mailto:novicecoordinator@qldbriidge.com.au)

I am happy to answer any concerns you may have.

Finally I would like to thank Shelley and Chris Farr for providing guidance and previously acting as Novice Coordinators. Chris has now moved on to the more exalted heights of 100+ points.

In the meantime, enjoy your bridge.

### Sunnybank

SUNNYBANK Bridge Club had the pleasure of hosting the QBA Novice Pairs Congress on Sunday, May 5. And it was indeed a pleasure to see 108 novice bridge players all having such a great day together.

The Congress was opened by Richard Wallis, QBA President. Fourteen clubs from the Brisbane and Gold Coast Zones were represented, in addition to 15 pairs from Sunnybank. We were also pleased to welcome players from Toowoomba, Gympie, Bribie and the Whitsundays.

Everything ran very smoothly and lots of positive comments and compliments were received. Many thanks are owed to the director, Trevor Strickland, who ensured that the play stayed on timetable and that any calls of 'Director please' were dealt with promptly, efficiently and with a smile. He commented that it was wonderful that there was not even a suggestion of poor behavior by the players.

The catering was exceptional as always - thanks to Heather, Margaret, and all the volunteers



Winners: Ying Liu and Ping Xie with Jan Steele and President Ken Clem

who brought food and helped on the day. Heather and Margaret spend a lot of time in preparation for the day and deserve a special thank you. Thanks also to those who helped with the setup and clean up, and to Ken Clem, Pam Pratt (Recorder) and Deb Hoogerdyk (Caddie) who gave up their Sunday to officiate.

It was especially good to have a Sunnybank team as overall winners and QBA Novice Champions – Ying Liu and Ping Xie, who were presented with the QBA Championship Trophy and pens. Another Sunnybank pair, Michael Fox and Willy Van Zijl came 3rd in Category B. Trophy and prizes were presented by Pam Steele, QBA Novice Coordinator.

Well done to all the Novices who participated!!

Sunnybank Bridge Club has a 90 and a 93-year-old couple, Joyce and Max Worthington, who have been playing together since the inception of the club.

They were at the first meeting on May 8 1981, when about 24 people decided they would like to form a contract bridge club in the area. Max was the foundation president and together they spent many years on the committee. Joyce was also the Vice-President of the Sunnybank Club in 1992.

On April 16, they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.



Joyce and Max

## Manager's Travels



Kim Ellaway

THE Barrier Reef Congress was held in Cairns this year and of course we attended the 24th one. We played with Andrew and Pippa Hooper in the Teams and even though we did not shine, it was a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. The venue was the best out of the four clubs who host the event; however it's the most expensive. Well done to William van Bakel and his team for a great event.

This was the first congress that I had not organised a substitute for Ray in the last match of the day and boy did we have some interesting results in the last few boards played in each of the last matches. You can imagine my surprise when in one contract, where he was in 2H, he cashed eight tricks of clubs, diamonds and spades then virtually conceded, as he had said hearts instead of spades. It did not cost but was humorous.

Next year it's Yeppoon's turn to host the event and lots of players missed the opportunity when it was held three years ago so get your entry in early enough, and certainly start looking at accommodation.

Playing bridge the other day we got a bottom on the following board and we could do nothing about it.

Dir W	♠ 9
Vul Both	♥ K1043
	♦ QJ10743
	♣ 96
♠ AQ7	♠ K104
♥ J2	♥ AQ65
♦ 85	♦ AK
♣ KQJ852	♣ A1074
	♠ J86532
	♥ 987
	♦ 962
	♣ 3

W	N	E	S
1C	2D	6NT	P
7C	All pass		

They were the only pair to bid seven. Doesn't seem fair especially when they discussed that 7NT was a better contract. ■

## Club News

Gambling Community Benefit Fund Round 99 successful applicants were QCBC \$12,456, Mackay \$9,770, Arana \$11,300, Caboolture \$15,000, Cleveland \$24,600 and Sunnybank 20,000.

### Rockhampton

Rockhampton will be celebrating their 50th in 2020.

### Cairns

Congratulations to Cairns for a great Barrier Reef.

## Mixed Teams



Winners: Ryan Touton, Lyn Martin, Richard Touton and Jim Martin

## Results

Mixed Teams Winners - Ryan Touton - Richard Touton - Jim Martin - Lyn Martin  
 Novice Pairs Winners - Ying Lie - Ping Xie  
 Mixed Pairs Winners - Ewa Kowalczyk - Gheorghii Belonogov



### Queensland Teams of Three

**Saturday July 13**

For Novice players <50mp at  
31/3/2019

Start: 12 noon - finishing approx. 4.30pm  
 Entry fee: \$15 per player  
 Director: Alan Gibson

### What is a Team of Three?

The QBA Teams of 3 aims to encourage your enjoyment of the game, broadening your experience with teams' events and providing opportunities to learn from and with others. 3 Novice players team up with an expert as team captain. The expert plays sequentially with all 3 novices. QBA organises the team captains and matches an expert with our team but if preferred, teams may arrange for their own expert captain.

### Players from Overseas

Congress convenors, clubs and players should be aware that players from overseas who have become permanent residents of Australia may attempt to play in Novice or Restricted events because their earlier masterpoints are not transferrable to Australia. Such entries need to be scrutinised carefully as it is not in the spirit of Novice competitions to have experienced players in the field. Clubs can apply to the QBA Manager to have the masterpoint status of these players nominally upgraded so that such situations are avoided.

## Coming Events

Jul 7	QBA Graded Swiss Teams
Jul 13-14	Bundaberg Imp Pairs and Teams
Jul 13	QBA One Session Teams of 3 (Green pts 0-50)
Jul 13-14	Bowen Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Jul 13-25	ABF ANC - Victoria
Jul 14	Lockyer Swiss Matchpoint Pairs
Jul 14	Redland Novice & Rest. Swiss Matchpoint Pairs
Jul 19-20	Cairns Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Jul 20	Mackay Novice Matchpoint Pairs
Jul 20-21	Surfers Paradise Imp Pairs and Teams
Jul 20-21	Moreton Brinie Imp Pairs and Teams
Jul 27-28	Maryborough Imp Pairs and Teams
Jul 28	Darling Downs Swiss Matchpoint Pairs
Jul 28	GNOT Finals - Whitsunday
Jul 28	BBC Graded Swiss Teams
Aug 1	QBA Management Meeting
Aug 3-4	Sunnybank Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Aug 3-4	Proserpine Matchpoint Pairs
Aug 4	Sunshine Coast Teams
Aug 4	Toowoomba Novice Teams
Aug 9-11	Cassowary Matchpoint Pairs - Cairns
Aug 11	GNOT Finals - Darling Downs
Aug 11	Northern Suburbs Imp Pairs
Aug 13-18	ABF Coffs Harbour Bridge Gold Congress
Aug 18	Redcliffe Matchpoint Pairs
Aug 24-25	QBA Open Teams - Toowong
Aug 25	Cleveland Bay Teams
Aug 31	QBA Graded Matchpoint Pairs - QCBC
Aug 31-Sep	1 GNOT Finals - North Queensland
Aug 31-Sep	1 GNOT Finals - Sunshine Coast
Aug 31-Sep	1 Yeppoon Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Sep 4-8	ABF Territory Gold - Alice Springs
Sep 7-8	Mackay Barometer or Swiss Pairs
Sep 7-8	Surfers Swiss Matchpoint Pairs & Teams
Sep 7-8	Ingham Graded Matchpoint Pairs
Sep 8	Noosa Teams
Sep 8	Dalby Matchpoint Swiss Pairs
Sep 8	Kenmore Rookie Pairs 0-50 Masterpoints
Sep 13-15	Magnetic Island Teams - Townsville
Sep 14	GNOT Finals - Gold Coast
Sep 14-15	GNOT Finals - Brisbane Zone
Sep 15	Sanctuary Cove Novice & Rest. Swiss Matchpt. Pairs
Sep 15	Sunshine Coast Graded Matchpoint Pairs
Sep 15	GNOT Finals - Far North Queensland
Sep 22	Redland Graded Swiss Pairs
Sep 22	GNOT Finals - Capricorn
Sep 26	QBA Management Meeting
Sep 28-29	Presidents Meeting - QBA
Sep 28-Oct	5 New Zealand National Congress
Oct 4-7	Mackay Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Oct 4-7	Cairns Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Oct 5-7	Toowoomba Matchpoint Pairs and Teams
Oct 12-13	QBA Open Matchpoint Pairs - Northern Suburbs
Oct 13	Gympie Teams
Oct 16	Noosa Novice Matchpoint Swiss pairs
Oct 16-24	ABF Spring Nationals - Sydney
Oct 20	BBC Novice Matchpoint Pairs
Oct 26	Surfers Paradise Graded Swiss Teams
Oct 26-27	Hervey Bay Cross Imp Pairs and Teams
Oct 27	QCBC Teams and Novice Teams
Oct 31	QBA Council Meeting
Nov 2-3	Northern Suburbs Swiss Imp Pairs

## Directors' Corner



Jan  
Peach

**L**AW 26B has been poorly applied by directors completing the QBA Director Proficiency Test.

It says, "When an offending player's call is withdrawn and it is not replaced by a comparable call, then if he becomes a defender declarer may, at the offender's partner's first turn to lead (which may be the opening lead) prohibit offender's partner from leading any (one) suit which has not been specified in the legal auction by the offender. Such prohibition continues for as long as the offender's partner retains the lead."

Suppose East tried to start the auction with a bid of 2H (natural 6+ hearts 6-10 hcp) when South was dealer. South did not accept 2H so it was cancelled. East passed at her legal turn.

N	E	S	W
	2H	1S	P
4S	All pass		

A pass is not comparable to 2H and East did not specify any suits in the legal auction so declarer may forbid the lead of a spade or a heart or a diamond or a club from West for the opening lead.

Suppose East passed when North was the dealer. South did not accept the pass so it was cancelled. East bid 2H at her legal turn. Declarer may forbid the lead of a spade or a diamond or a club at the first time West must lead to a trick.

N	E	S	W
1S	P 2H	3S	All pass

Just because opponents have different agreements from ours doesn't make their calls unusual and ours normal. Sometime players have unrealistic expectations as to what should be alerted. It should

come as no surprise that many players will make natural pre-emptive raises in a competitive auction. These do not require an alert. 1S (X) 3S; 1S (2H) 3S. When next opponent passes a 1-level opening bid, a weak jump raise to the three level does require an alert. 1S (Pass) 3S where 3S may be bid with a range below that of an invitation.

If a player wonders if an opponent's bid should have been alerted and his choice of call depends on the meaning then he should ask. The director is unlikely to adjust a score for a player who suspected that an alert was missing yet failed to protect himself from damage.

To be part of a Green System, all 1-level bids must be natural. There is a dispensation for 4-4-3-2 and 4-3-4-2 hands to be opened 1C. The doubleton is clubs. If a pair has an agreement to open 1D holding  $\spadesuit AK \clubsuit 4 3 2$  and four cards in both majors then the system is not Green. If an opening bid of 1D may be made with a doubleton then 1D requires an alert.

Law 25A2 still seems to be giving trouble. It says, "If the player's original intent was to make the call selected or voiced, that call stands. A change of call may be allowed because of a mechanical error or a slip of the tongue, but not because of a loss of concentration regarding the intent of the action."

A lack of concentration *before* the call is chosen means the call is intended. Forgetting what suit has been agreed as trump, deciding to pass partner's cue bid, deciding to respond to an asking bid at too low a level for example 5NT - 5C and not sighting the auction correctly are usually intended calls. (For a call based on an opponent's call that the director deems to be illegible, see Law 21B.)

Pass and 5C *could* be unintended, the player could have decided to bid 3S or 6C however the element of doubt is usually so great that the call made should not be classed as unintended. What the player should

have done is not relevant. It might be obvious that the player should have bid 3S but pass is what he decided to do. Players are allowed to make poor decisions.

Deciding what to call and *then* having a lack of concentration may satisfy the test for an unintended call. Perhaps a distraction or turning away of the mind. A slip of the mind or pen if not the tongue. The director has to form an opinion as to what the player had intended to call. He does not look at the hand. He is only interested in what calls the player was considering. The director needs to establish what was going on in the player's mind.

If the player decided to bid 4H but called 4S because he was distracted by someone at the next table saying, "4S," then 4S might be unintended. That he "should have bid 4H" or that "we had agreed on hearts" is not relevant.

If the player decided to bid 4S, perhaps forgetting what the trump suit was, then 4S is the intended call and may not be changed. Perhaps he considered bidding 3S as a first round control and then thought, "No, I'm not strong enough to do that, I'll just bid 4S." He intended to bid 4S.

That a contract is ridiculous is not a reason to allow a call to be changed. Players are allowed to play in silly contracts and Law 25A is not there to save them from poor choices. ■

## Q B A

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## D E A D

**SEPT 30 (noon)**

Contributions to:

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## L I N E