

NEWSLETTER



Illawarra Bridge Association

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♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT

Coming Soon

April

Mon 16th Mixed Pairs Championship qual 2
for NSWBF

Wed 18th Nationwide Pairs 8

Sat 21st CNOT 1

Tues 24th Red Masterpoints 1

Wed 25th Graded Session Figtree, Anzac Day

Sat 28th GNOT 2

Sun 29th South Coast Autumn Teams
provisional

May

Tues 1st Red Masterpoints 2

Wed 2nd Nationwide Pairs 9

Thurs 3rd Bridge for Brains

Sat 5th Hi-Lo 2

Mon 7th Teams Champs qual 1

Sun 13th Mothers Day

Mon 14th Teams Champs qual 2

Wed 16th Nationwide Pairs 10

Sat 19th Birthday Party

Mon 21st Teams Champs final 1 + side pairs

Fri 25th Australia Wide Novice Pairs 25-31

Sat 26th State Mixed Pairs NSWBA

Sun 27th State Mixed Pairs, Swiss Pairs
NSWBA

Mon 28th Teams Champs Final 2 + side
pairs (provisional)

Wed 30th Nationwide Pairs 11

June

Fri 1st Friday Welcome Pairs 1.30pm

Sat 2nd Chris Diment Pairs Congress (IBA)

Sun 3rd Chris Diment Teams (IBA)

Wed 6th Wed Pairs Championship 1

Fri 7th Pirate Day Thirroul

Sat 9th Committee Meeting

Wed 13th Wed Pairs Championship 2

Thurs 14th Past Presidents Cup & Shield 1

Sat 16th Nationwide Pairs 12

For the Very Experienced

Cover the E & W cards. If unsuccessful, can
you then do it by knowing the full lay-out.

S 96

H AKT52

D AQ765

C 8

S _

H J4

D J92

C AKQJ7543

S QJT7

H 976

D KT83

C 92

S AK85432

H Q83

D 4

C T6

The contract is 5S. Lead CA followed by the
CK. Answer later.

For the Not So Experienced

S T32
H AQT
D AKQJ94
C K

S KJ94
H 8754
D T5
C A42

West North East South
1D P 1NT
P 3NT All Pass

Partner leads CJ. Plan the defence.

My apologies to our Rod Lavings who I referred to in the last newsletter as Rod Lavers. Guess I must have been watching too much tennis. I think Rod was rather amused that not only is he a top dog in the bridge world, but I have now made him an also ex tennis world champion.

Another misprint in the last letter was a hand from the Canberra SFOB, from the Martin Bunder Team. Sorry guys, correct version below as received from Martin Bunder.

Based on our results so far, playing Team 78 should not have worried us, but we lost by 14 imps. Board 15, below, cost us almost exactly those 14 imps. Bill and I messed up our asking for Kings and so we finished up in 6H, making 13, while the pair playing Duncan and Tony bid and made the grand slam.

S QJT97
H 9
D 976
C QJT

S AK653
H A4
D AK52
C A9

S - -
H KQJT873
D T3
C K752

S 82
H 652
D QJ84
C 8643

Bridge is a thinking game. I myself do think a lot. The only reason I am not a top Australian player is that my train of thought keeps leaving the station before I get there.

Surely Not Right

This I'm told happened at the Canberra SFOB. A player picked up a bidding card, held it on his lap for a little while, then put it back in the box and bid a different card.

Naturally, the Director was called, but to the amazement of the players, and mine when I was told about it, the Director said it was allowable. If that is not allowing unauthorised information, then I don't what is. There must be something somewhere that I'm missing. Must ask our Directors about it.

I was surprised to hear an experienced member say he did not know when the bidding card, after being shown, should be put back in the bidding box. As I remember Chris Diment saying, "When both opponents have been made aware".

Make This A Habit

When you are opening lead, please lay down the opening lead card, **before** you do your marking. Lay down the opening lead card **before** you do your marking. Lay down the opening lead card **before** you do your marking. This is just one of the points our directors have asked us to do to try to speed up the game.

Re Directors

I would like to see our directors enforce a, so far, unwritten rule. I would call this rule 'The Rule Of Courtesy'. Under this rule, when the Director of the Day is addressing the meeting, everyone, and I mean **everyone**, stays silent. When we have directors who give up their time and expertise for free, so that we can all enjoy a game of bridge, then surely you and I can listen politely to what information they are telling us. If I was a director, and that was happening to me, I don't think I would be so polite as our directors are now.

New Members.

John Carvan, Terry Bisley Val Hudson, Adrian Barnett, Graham Rosetta and Elizabeth Czubala have joined our ranks. Welcome to each of you and I hope you get as much pleasure out of this game as I do, but not so many of the heartaches.

Cold, Lonely World

I asked our secretary Lindsey how many members IBA have. She replied around three hundred. Since the last newsletter, guess how many of that around three hundred have advised the newsletter editor of something they think might be newsworthy.

Recycle Everything

Our daughter, who lives in America, is here on a short visit. One of the gifts she brought for us was a notepad. Nothing unusual about a notepad you may think, but this one is made from moose poo. Before the rougher element amongst you say, "That can't be true, it must be a load of crap", you are wrong. It is fair dinkum notepaper. You know the saying, 'waste not want not'.

Dr James Barry

Born in County Cork, Ireland in 1790. Moved with mother to London, then studied medicine, receiving a degree of medicine from University of Edinburgh, Scotland, at age of twenty two.

Joined the army as an hospital assistant but was soon promoted to assistant staff surgeon. Served more than a decade overseas in the colonies, rising in rank to become the top army surgeon.

Back in the U.K. fame rose to be the renowned surgeon of his day, with the title of Inspector General of Hospitals.

Although very eccentric, he was years ahead of his time in sanitary reforms. He even ticked off Florence Nightingale once. He performed the first ever successful caesarean operation where both mother and child survived.

He received a recommendation from Queen Victoria.

He made the unusual request that when he died he was to be buried in whatever clothes

he was wearing at the time. This request was denied him, which was how it was discovered that James Barry was in fact a woman. Stretch marks proved that she had given birth.

You can imagine what consternation that caused in that day and time. She had fooled the army, the university, the establishment, Royal College of Surgeons, for decades. This was fifty years before women were even allowed to study medicine, let alone practice it.

(Ed) The above story I found interesting so I've printed it, hoping that others would also find it of interest. It has nothing to do with bridge, although, I would add, have you looked closely at some of our club male members recently?

So True

I would enjoy mornings a lot more if they wouldn't start just so early.

It's Time

As most of our members know, IBA is a successfully run club. This is largely due to the well ordered hard working committees we have had for many years. Over the years, new members have joined the committee which ensures new ideas and thoughts are constantly considered. It enables we members to see talents in new committee members that we may never have been aware of. This enables IBA to be run at a constant high standard, and always modernising.

It has made me think of myself as newsletter editor. The previous newsletter editor was Andrew Smith. Andrew was doing numerous jobs for our club and asked to be relieved of being editor. Although no experience in this field I felt I could possibly help and so I volunteered. I planned to do it for two years and then someone else could take over. However, I now find myself in my eighth year. I have made mistakes as I learned the ropes. I guess over the years I have developed a style to my limited abilities which I considered best for our club. I now consider it is time for someone new to take over. Possibly someone with a different approach, bringing new ideas and

thoughts to the position. So I have decided it is time for someone else to show an otherwise hidden talent.

If you believe this is a position you would like to try, then please raise your hand. If you know a member who is suitable for this position, then encourage that member to volunteer.

I have advised the committee of the above.

I am prepared to edit the June newsletter only if necessary but that would be my swansong.

Any of our members who have Irish connections will be pleased to hear that Pat O'Hearn, who hails from a small villiage just south of Dublin, hopes to enter The Guinness Book Of Records by being the first man to cross the English Channel on a plank. He plans to do this just as soon as he can find a plank long enough.

Bridge Hand Answers.

Experienced hand

East has ♠QJ107, and in order to avoid two trump losers, you must subject East to a 'trump coup', which means reducing your trump length to East's current length (three), plus you must end in dummy at trick 10.

The hoped for ending is this. You want your last three cards to be A85 whilst East will have JT7.

When you lead a red card from dummy, East will be forced to trump with an honour. You will under ruff with the S5, taking the last two tricks with SA&8.

In order to reach this ending you must ruff three Diamonds, be able to cash three hearts and still end up in dummy at trick ten.

In other words, you must find East with a 4-3-4-2 pattern. It's important to note also that the location of the ♦K is irrelevant, but that the location of the HJ is not.

After winning to SK at trick three, play the DA and ruff a diamond, cross to HK, ruff a second diamond, overtake the HQ with the HA,(Wests HJ needs to appear here), ruff a third diamond, cross to HT and there you are in dummy at trick 10. Lead a red card and go

into your under ruffing act.

Intermediate

After partner has lead CJ, **you should count declarers tricks.**

In dummy he has seven winners – six diamonds and one heart. If you win with the ♣A and return a club at trick two, you are giving up without a fight. South will win with the queen and run for home. You don't have either the King or Jack of hearts, so that suit is behaving for him.

Your job is to figure out how to make five tricks before declarer is unleashed to cash all of his winners. The only possible suit is spades. Partner has to have the ♠A, otherwise you have no hope. Now the question is, which spade to lead? If you play the ♠4 and the layout is as above, declarer can make the contract by playing low. If you start with the SK declarer can duck again and take a trick in the suit if you continue. The correct card to lead is the Jack. You have dummies top card, the 10, encircled by your Jack and 9. In this position you should make a surrounding play, leading the card directly above the top card in dummy. Declarer will have no hope now, and you will **win the first five tricks.**

T32

AQT

AKQJ94

K

A75

KJ94

J92

8754

62

T5

JT986

A43

Q86

K63

873

Q752

I'm not sure just how many of our members played in the Kiama Restricted Pairs, But twentyone of them gained some masterpoints. Seems a pretty good effort from IBA.

Ten of our members have gained an promotion lately. They are, Roz Harding,

Gary Kennedy, Ron Knowles, Di Travellionscott, Sue Buchan, Aileen O'Brien, Keith Pittaway, Eddy Weich, Conny Stency, Marie Pickering. Congrats to you all, and now let's get on with earning points towards the next promotion level.

Latest Grand Slam winners are Catherine Ashcroft and Andrew Smith. Well done. They say that everything comes to those who wait. That's all very well but, I'm still waiting and I ain't getting any younger.

(Ed) That's all folks. I will attach committee jottings when they come to hand.
PBG (Ed).

APRIL JOTTINGS

From the management committee

- Carolyn Githens will find you a partner while Marie Pickering is away. Contact 4229 2247 or 0416233873. Remember that members have found requests on Pianola most successful, too.
- A big thank you to Andrew Smith especially, and John Spira too, for directing so many extra sessions during January and February.
- Charity month begins in May **BRIDGE FOR BRAINS**, the NSWBA supported charity, followed by the Cancer council **BIGGEST MORNING TEA**.
- Our IBA BIRTHDAY PARTY is on Saturday 19th May 2018. "Bring a plate luncheon" begins at 12 noon with a welcome drink. Play as "usual" at 1.30 pm. If you are over 85, please be our guest. If you no longer cook at home please give another member (or Jill MacRae) \$10 to bring something for you. Please tell us that you are coming, and register on the list supplied. All members will be welcome on the day so don't be shy. Please invite

members who no longer play to come to the lunch, let the MC know if they need a lift.

- The Club has received the new **NSWBA CONGRESS DISCIPLINARY AND ETHICS REGULATIONS**. These begin with: *"Bridge players should be:*
 - *Polite and courteous to partners, opponents and officials at all times;*
 - *Have respect for other people's rights to have different opinions;*
 - *Play in a proper, mature and inoffensive manner;*
 - *Be aware of their obligations under Laws 73 and 74 or the Laws of Duplicate Bridge."*

The Tournament committee is preparing a document based on this that will expand our current CODE of CONDUCT, and be used at all IBA sessions.

- **CHRIS DIMENT MEMORIAL CONGRESS** will be held on Saturday 2nd June (pairs) and Sunday 3rd June (teams). Please enter on line. You will be asked to confirm that you have read the above document on the NSWBA website before completing your entry. Ask a director or other MC member to enter you at the Club computer if you need to.

We will be catering for both days so we are asking for volunteers and contributions of cakes and slices. We especially need a kitchen manager for each of the days. Erica Gray would like to gather some ideas from last year's volunteers, that would help improve our efforts.

- **THE IBAND PIRATE DAY** has been moved to 15th June 2018. We wish Barbara O a safe trip on her well earned holiday.

INVITATION

BRIDGE FOR BRAINS: Thursday 3rd May 2018, at 6 pm for a light supper of quiche, pasta, salad and drinks before sitting down to play the NSWBA prepared "active brain" bridge hands, which will be scored state wide.

Members pay \$10 each for the supper, supplied by the MC and \$5 table fees which the club will donate to support the Charity. Baskets of goodies will be raffled and drawn on the night. (\$2 per ticket or \$5 for 3.) Other donations will be gratefully received. Please help with catering by registering

your name.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Wednesday 23rd May at the morning tea in the usual Wednesday session. Tax receipts will be available for your donation. Thank you, Antionette D for your time and efforts.

We thank Peter Graham for the excellent job he had done as Editor of this Newsletter. It is time to pass the lead type, templates and ink to another IBA member. So we are looking for a NEW EDITOR. Please consider taking up this challenge.

Jill Macrae.