

# NEWSLETTER



## Illawarra Bridge Association

Edited by Peter Graham

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**June 2018**

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### Upcoming Events

#### June

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Wed Pairs Championships 2  
Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Past Presidents Cup & Shield 1  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Nation Wide Pairs 12  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Wed Pairs Championship Final  
Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Past Presidents Cup & Shield 2  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Graded Session Figtree  
Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Red masterpoints Teams 1  
Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Country Teams Zonal Final

#### July

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Red Masterpoints Teams 2  
Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Nation Wide Pairs 13  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Red Masterpoints 1 Figtree & Thirroul  
Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Red Masterpoints 1  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Red Masterpoints 2 Figtree & Thirroul  
Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Red Masterpoints 2  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Club Pairs Championships Qual 1  
Nation Wide Pairs 14  
Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Red Masterpoints 3 Figtree & Thirroul  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Club Pairs Championships Qual 2  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup> State Wide Pairs Figtree & Thirroul

#### August

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Hi-Lo 3  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Gnot 1  
Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Club Pairs Chamionships Final & Side Pairs  
Nation Wide Pairs 15  
Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday  
Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> GNOT 2

Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Club Pairs Champ Final 2 & Side Pairs  
Committee Meeting  
**xxx**

#### Learners hand

S 32  
H 32  
D 432  
CAK6543

S AK54  
H AK54  
D AK5  
C 87

Bidding. W N E S  
P P 2NT  
P 3NT all pass

West leads the queen of hearts. A quick survey of your winners reveals 8 tricks (the ace and King of all suits), but where is your ninth trick coming from?

#### Intermediate hand

S KQT  
H KJ72  
D 654  
C A98

S T97  
H T963  
D KQT  
C KJT

Bidding.	W	N	E	S
	P	1C	P	1H
	P	2H	P	3H
	P	4H	All Pass	

West leads the Spade ace and another spade. You win and lead a diamond, losing to West's ace, who continues with spades. Everyone follows. You lead a diamond to the King and run the ♥10 finessing to East's Ace. A diamond is returned, which you win and you run the ♥9 to West's Queen and dummy's king. You draw the last trump. You have lost three tricks - ♠A, ♥A and ♦A and need to find the ♣Q. It could be in either hand and a successful finesse will see you home, but who should you finesse?

Answers later.

### **Bridge Rules 7 Regulations**

After the bidding sequence has finished, do not pick up the bidding cards until the opening lead card has been turned face up on the table. Opener has the right to study the bidding before he makes the opening lead. (If opener, only turn opening card face up when your partner has given the o.k.) Some members simply refuse to leave bidding cards on the table until the opening lead card is played, despite this being a bridge rule. That, of course, is not you because you always play to the bridge rules, don't you?.

When the hand is finished, do not move your cards until it has been agreed on the number of tricks taken. If there is a disagreement about number of tricks taken, and you have moved your cards, the Director will undoubtedly rule against you and your partner.

There was an incident recently at Figtree where someone picked up their cards, looked at them, and then noticed they had more than thirteen cards.

Remember, the first thing you do is count your cards without looking at them. If you have looked at them and find you have other than thirteen cards, do not be annoyed when the Director says the hand will not be played and you and your partner are given a bad score.

### **Quick Change**

I went to my doctor for an examination. He told me I had low blood pressure. Then he sent me the bill.

Guess what.

So another Figtree Annual Bridge Party has come and gone, the twentythird one. Once again a top success. One has to congratulate the committee for their efforts on our behalf. The procuring of the adjacent hall was a top idea. I'm sure everyone enjoyed the day. A feast of a lunch, with something for everyone, followed by a bit more boisterous than usual bridge afternoon. Perhaps barman Ken was responsible for the bit more than usual din between hands. I can also blame Ken for the mistakes I made at bridge on the day, he forcing me to drink those glasses of bubbly.

A pity we have to wait a full year before the next one.

### **Book Table**

At Figtree there is a small table where members can leave books for other members to read. This is welcomed by many members.

However, please do not bring in books that are discoloured with age or delapidated. These are not welcomed at all. Someone brought in the book 'Fifty Shades Of Grey'. I guess you all know what that book is about. Malcolm Kerr saw that book there and was evidently worried it may have been picked up by an underage member because he put a note on the book which read, 'Proof of Age Required'. I like it

Malcolm, I like it.

### **Experience**

You will often hear newcomers say they wish they had more experience. They are correct because experience is a wonderful asset at bridge.

Experience gives you the ability to recognise mistakes when you repeat them.

Received the following from Martin Bunder.

### **No Declarer Play**

On Thursday Neville Mooney and I played twenty four boards. (There was a sit-out), and Neville got to play only 4 of them - not many. I however did not play any at all and that's the first time that I remember that happening! The probability of not being declarer on one board (that's not passed in) is  $3/4$ . The probability of that happening for 24 is  $3/4 \times 3/4 \times \dots \times 3/4$ , where there are 24  $3/4$ s. This comes to almost exactly  $1/1000$ .

As, mostly we play 26 or 27 boards, on average, the chance of not being declarer in a session is about  $1/2400$ . Playing twice a week comes to about 100 sessions a year, so this should happen once every 24 years or so. As I have been playing competition bridge in Wollongong since 1970 it's surprising it hasn't happened to me before. Regards, Martin.

(Ed) Martin, maybe you shouldn't have played bridge that night.

Maybe you should have bought a lottery ticket instead.

### **Also on Odds**

How many times have you been sitting at the table when someone has picked up a hand and said, "I think I have played this hand already".

With a reasonable bit of confidence you can tell that player that they are undoubtedly wrong.

Why this? Because the chance of ever picking up a hand you have played before is,

1 in 635,013,559,600.

Therefore, if you play 100 hands a week, the chances of you picking up the same hand is 1 in 6,350,135,196 weeks.

Or 1 in 129,810,299 years.

How many years do you hope to play bridge?

### **Bridge Knowledge.**

I would believe over the years I have learned all there is to know about bridge.

Now if only I could remember even half of it.

### **Bridge Law.**

You are dummy. After some tricks have been played, you notice that declarer has placed one of the cards the wrong way. (Winner instead of loser, or loser instead of a winner).

Can you tell declarer that the card has been placed the wrong way?

Only on the last trick played, otherwise you must not say or show anything.

### **Morning Time**

Mornings have been a bit chilly lately. Reminds me of the old Scottish song.

It's nice to get up in the morning,  
When the sun begins to shine,  
Four or five or six o'clock,  
In the good old summer time,  
But when the wind is blowing,  
And it's murky overhead,  
It's nice to get up in the morning.  
But it's nicer to lie in your bed.

### **So Sad**

In my grave, I will lie,  
No one will laugh, no one will cry  
Where I go and how I fare,  
No one will know, no one will care.

The above would never be the case for any of our members.

How not?

Because we always care for our fellow members, don't we?

## **2018 Chris Diment Annual Congress**

So another Congress has come & gone. How did it go?. Surely this had to have been up there with the best ever. With close to one hundred and twenty players on both days, we will need a bigger hall if we want to accept more.

I would like to name all the organisers and helpers on the day, but there were so many I know I would miss one or two and that I definitely do not want to do.

To those who organised it, those who ran it, those who were prepared to help in any way they could, the kitchen staff, and those who brought along plates of goodies and those who helped clean up at the completion: you made me feel very proud that I was a member of the IBA.

### **Winners**

#### **Friday Welcome Pairs**

Ist N/S Malcolm & Carol Kerr

1<sup>st</sup> E/W Kae French & Ian Lisle

#### **Saturday was Pairs Day.**

Sixtytwo pairs competed with top fourteen pairs to play in the finals. Hugh MaGinty & Ruth Neild finished first with Grant Cowan & Marelle Irvine, Steve Dynan & Peter Graham the other two pairs to make the cut.

I am pleased to say that Grant & Marelle won the pairs. To be kind, I will just say the other two IBA pairs didn't.

#### **Best Illawarra Pair.**

Hugh McGinty & Ruth Neild

#### **Best Restricted Pair**

Steve Dynan & Peter Graham

#### **Best Novice Pair**

Julie Cowling & Carolyn Githens

#### **Consolation 1**

Roslyn Howes & Tony Howes.

#### **Consolation 2**

Martyn Hopkins & Robert Mirrington.

#### **Pairs Plate**

Cevat Emul & Catherine Zhang

Sunday was Teams Day and the competition was keen. By the time the I's were dotted and the T's crossed, the winning teams were:

1<sup>st</sup> Crewcock team, Sydney

2<sup>nd</sup> Dawson team Sydney & S Highlands

3<sup>rd</sup> Stead team Canberra.

#### **Best Illawarra Novice Team**

Cheryl Waters, Erica Gray. Susan Hammond, Tony Hammond.

#### **Best Restricted Team**

Ken Soldi, Lynne Soldi, Philip Barker, Dave Gallagher.

I am a bit disappointed that no Illawarra team made the top awards, however, I hope all our visitors come back again next year because I want to have another crack at them.

Probably the biggest problem over the week-end was when modern technology didn't do what is promised of modern technology. (scoring machines). It certainly gave Jeff & Rob a few headaches they would happily have done without.

### **Ups & Downs**

It is true that nothing is guaranteed at bridge.

One day the cards fall beautifully and you are top dog.

Next day you are the tree.

### **Answers from Page 1**

#### **Learners hand.**

You have eight tricks. The ninth must come from Clubs. You must hope that Clubs break 3-2. If you play Club A&K you will go down no matter what. So you must win the AH and immediately give away a Club. Win any return and play Club A K and the remaining Clubs are now good.

#### **Intermediate Hand**

Some players do not consider the auction and the play to be connected, but this is not the case. What has the auction told you about the defenders hands. West passed This shows fewer

than 12 high card points. You have seen West show up with the Ace of Spades, the Queen of Hearts and the Ace of Diamonds.

4+2+4= 10 HCP

If West also had the Queen Clubs he would have had 12 points and would have opened the bidding.

So you can finesse Easts Queen Clubs with confidence.

I find it rather odd that the Trade Union Movement celebrate Labour Day on a holiday.

### **In The Beginning**

The following is a copy of the first paragraph in the very first IBA newsletter. The date is February, 1995. The editor is Chris Diment.

“Welcome to the first issue of the Illawarra Bridge Association Incorporated’s newsletter. It is planned that this newsletter will be produced six times a year, expanding in size and content with the IBA.

For a publication of this type to thrive, contributions are needed from **YOU**, the members of the IBA. So, if you have (mis)played or (mis)defended an interesting hand, or have any other bridge worthy news, please submit it for an issue in the newsletter”

“The Inaugural Annual General Meeting of the IBA will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at the Eastern Star Hall in Deninson Street, Wollongong, (opposite Guests Smash Repairs). A social duplicate will follow the meeting.”

This from an article on the Summer Festival Of Bridge at Canberra, 1995. "Graeme Simpson's team of Rob Kinloch, Kaye Hart & Jeff Carberry were holding down second place in the novice section of their field". (Ed 2018) Might be difficult for some our present day members to imagine that those members were ever novices. For those with an interest, the above team finished second.

( 2018 Ed). As a result of the 1st AGM,

the committee make-up was as follows.

President Tony Wright  
Vice President Jeff Carberry  
Treasurer Leo Hezimans  
Secretary Kaye Hart  
Committee members

Margaret Spira, Graeme Simpson, Chris Diment.

The following is the first hand ever printed in an IBA newsletter. The answer will immediately follow the hand, so hide the answer until you have tried the hand problem.

Bidding.	W	N	E	S
			3D	6S

all pass

West leads D2 to the 6, J & ? East is void in Spades and the HQ is not dropping. How do you play to make 12 tricks.

S 83  
H JT7  
D T86  
C AKJT5

S AKQJ7652  
H AK3  
D A3  
C - - -

Answer. You must read the bidding. E bid 3D showing 7Diamonds. N&S have 5 Diamonds between them. W led a Diamond so it must be a singleton. Winning the AD and on leading AS, E shows out, so W has three Spades. Play SA, SK and then S2. W must win the trick and now has to lead. No matter what is lead, it is goodnight nurse for the defence and twelve tricks for declarer.

Isn't bridge an easy game.

### **Auld Lang Syne**

Having printed the first paragraph from the very first newsletter, I now come to what will be, unless we find a new Editor, the last paragraph in the very last newsletter.

As I stated in my last newsletter, I have decided to stand down, to allow a new editor to show his/her skills. I want someone to improve on what I have strived to make our newsletter mean.

Regarding my time in 'office'

To those of you who I have upset by something I wrote, or by a misprint: I am sorry, but I am human, I make mistakes.

To those of you who forwarded articles for consideration for printing: Thank you, you helped to make the newsletter interesting for fellow members.

To those of you who promised to send some article but never got around to it. Well at least your intentions were good.

To those of you who made kind comments for my efforts as editor, including Betty Pieters who sent a nice thank you e-mail: Thank you, it is always appreciated when one is thanked for their efforts. However, I would add that there are many in this club who also do things for the benefit of the club. They also would appreciate an occasional pat on the back.

As I leave being editor, and as I like humour, I would like my editor epitaph to read;

‘He done did his best’

Peter Graham. (Ed)

## **Jottings from the Committee**

### **Meeting**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

Office Manager:

A big thank you to Ken McIvor for getting the carpet cleaned, preparing the hall for the birthday party and chasing empty glasses during the day. He suggests we plan “ a big event” to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> birthday in two years time.....any ideas?

Band report by Barbara:

- All continues to go well at Thirroul. Pirate day is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Lunch

is at 12 noon.

### **Tournament Committee**

- The final version of the TC Rules were presented and ratified. These also included, our IBA Disciplinary and Ethics Regulations 2018 and our Code of Conduct. These can be found on our website and on our notice board near the director’s table. It is important that all players read these and take note of the full set of punitive measures, thus ensuring that courtesy and consideration at the table underlies the atmosphere of our club. These regulations will need to be known and acknowledged when applying to play in any NSWBA congress

### **Business Plan:**

- Carol and Julie offered to investigate possibilities for expansion of our premises to better fit our needs.
- Ngaire and Marie in conjunction with Steve and Liz H to continue to look at bridge lessons for young people.

### **General Business**

- Bridge for Brains was again a resounding success. (\$1000)
- Cheryl Waters continues to work on our website and possible alternatives. Please communicate your ideas to her. Thanks Cheryl.
- The Committee discussed the importance of good behaviour at the bridge table. Please make sure we are all listening when our directors are talking to us, that we are welcoming to each pair as they arrive at the table. (And not discussing the last hand) and that we treat our partners well. If we are not in agreement with our partner then it is time to look for another partner.

### **IBA Congress June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Our Congress was held over the weekend, with a Welcome pair’s event (12 and a half tables) on Friday afternoon. The Saturday Pairs had 62 entries and the Sunday teams had 28 teams.

A big thank you to the many people who

contributed to this major event on our calendar. A special thank you to Jeff our director for the 3 days, Jill our tournament convenor, Rob and Ken for assisting Jeff and the many members who spent all or part of the days in the kitchen, keeping the food up to us, cleaning up etc., etc. We are all very grateful.

Follow up lesson's to Martin Wilcox's.

In order to gain maximum benefit from the great lessons given by Martin last Thursday and Friday there will be some follow up lessons.

**When:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June  
(An additional one will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July if needed.)

**Time:** 9.30am to 11.30am

**Topics:** Cue bidding, Splinter Bids, Reversals, 4<sup>th</sup> Suit Forcing.

Please add your name to the sheet on the clip board in the club room.

Ring Marie if you have any questions.

The Editor, Peter has worked hard and set a high standard for the newsletter. This will be his last and it will be our last if he does not have a replacement.

MC