



# NEWSLETTER

## Illawarra Bridge Association

Edited by Peter Graham

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**Dec 2017**

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♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT

West leads the S2. You have 11 top tricks.

What are your chances at a twelfth?

### Coming Soon

#### December

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Teams 1

**Sat 9<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Party Figtree

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Party Thirroul

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Party Figtree

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Party Thirroul

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Teams 2

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Day

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup>** Boxing Day

No supervised play until mid January.

PLAN THE PLAY - for intermediate players.

S J63

H T87

D J3

C A732

S QT9832

H K

D AKQ

C T54

### For the experienced

This hand received from Steve Hurley.

He named it 'There is still hope'

A quick glance will show you the hope is snowballs in 'that' place. You cannot lead to spades to finesse the SJ and you cannot avoid CA&K. Or can you? Have a think and discussion later in newsletter.

Contract 4S by S

Lead CK

Answer later

I was handed this hand by a friend and asked about the possibilities of making 6NT.

S AJ2

H QT543

D KQ95

C Q

S K

H AKJ6

D AJT7

C J965

### **NSW STATE NOVICE AND RESTRICTED TEAMS**

#### **At Figtree**

WOW!! Another fabulous congress! And this time we were hosting the NSW State Novice and Restricted Teams so it was wonderful that we had such a good turnout as the success of this years event reflects well on everyone in our club. So much of the events success was due to Jill's great organisaton, the fabulous food, volunteer assistance from our members, **and most**

importantly the camaraderie between teams! It was simply good fun!!! None of the goodwill and enthusiasm would have meant anything without the hard work of the kitchen volunteers, so a big 'shout-out' THANK YOU to Judith Kingston, Ruth Neild and Jan Greenlees for volunteering Saturday, and Rilla England and Renate La Marra for volunteering on Sunday. We had a total of nine Restricted Teams and sixteen Novice Teams. In the Restricted section, 1st place went to the Van Weeren Team ( Hans Van Weeren, Peter Clarke, Je7 Conroy and Jill Blankey), 2nd the Carr Team ( Margaret Carr, Karen Irvine, Steve Dynan, Peter Graham) and 3rd, the Dippenaar Team (Antoine=e Dippenaar, Sheila Fonesca, Ani Basu, Marie Pickering, Barbara Overington). In the Novice Section 1st Place went to the Lynch Team (Sara Lynch, David Num, Michael Brassil, Louise Brassil), 2nd place went to the Borthwick Team (Marieta Borthwick, Heidi Colenbrander, Ray Hurst and Annegrete Kolding), and 3rd was the Brown Team (Marion Brown, Gail McKenzie, Sally Morton, Derek Ponsford). On Sunday morning I handed out sheets of paper for people to write down their feedback and they were such a delight, I thought you would enjoy reading them.

1. *Our team travelled from Maitland through Friday afternoon Sydney traffic. We are very dedicated to our bridge!! We stayed at the Belmore Suites in Smith St, so we could be close to restaurants. Next year we will stay at the Sovereign Inn and party with the Long Jetty crowd!! Bridge has been great – fantastic food and fantastic Director. Thank you!*

*Perris Team, Maitland*

2. *This has to be the **best** food we have ever been given at a Congress! Living in Sydney, we just love getting out of town as the little clubs are so friendly and have a lovely community feeling ... and all the fabulous home baking!!!! We stayed at the Sovereign Inn and had a great time. We also loved that it was so easy to park at the club.*

*McAuliffe Team, Sydney Bridge Centre*

3. *We all enjoyed the congress, a great lunch and met many nice players. Many of us stayed at the Sovereign Inn, comfortable accommodation and very handy position to the club. The first night we had a great time at the Hotel (Figtree) ... some joined in on the Karaoke and made great fools of themselves ... we all had a great night! Sat night we went to the Bowling Club for dinner and dancing and another night enjoyed by all ... especially Carol and Shirley!*

*Cotton Team, Central Coast Bridge Club, Long Jetty.*

4. *After a rousing team hug, we began the Illawarra competition. The crowd was alight with chatter and a warm feeling. The challenge was in the unique card combinations! Time for lunch and it felt more like a country 'dinner' YUM! Our bridge day was literally a long one from 10am – 6pm ... but how did it happen to go by so quickly? It was time for a glass of wine and 'home' to our venue, Sovereign Inn which was within walking distance. Max the proprietor was a happy soul. We all felt very*

*happy at the end of Sunday, but never the end of BRIDGE!!!*

*Morris Team, Community Bridge Club, Bateau Bay, Central Coast.*

**(ED)** The above excellent report was received from Erica Gray. Thank you Erica for taking the time so we can all enjoy your report. I fully support your comments about the volunteering from numerous members, everyone of whom should be proud of themselves. Personally I feel I would especially say to the ladies in the kitchen that you were all worth your weight in gold.

### **More Congress News**

A few weeks prior to the above, Bathurst held their Novice Congress. Chris Yates sent me the info on that and once again IBA did well.

In the Pairs, Julie Cowling & Faye Franklin came first with Connie Szency & Graham Jones taking third spot. There were thirty pairs in that section.

In the Teams event, Julie Cowling, Faye Franklin, Elizabeth Cusack & Ngaire Meehan finished fourth.

(Ed) My congratulations to all the above.

Xxx

### **Couple for the ladies**

Growing Up Daughter: "Mum, I want to ask you a question about marriage".

Mum: "Ask your Dad, he made a better job of marriage than I did".

Xxx

Woman: "I've been living with this headache for soo long."

Friend: "You need to go see a doctor".

Woman: "I need to go see a divorce lawyer".

### **Brings tears to your eyes**

One of our newcomers made the comment that learning bridge is like peeling an onion.

You peel bit by bit until you've peeled a whole layer. Then there's another layer. And another layer and another and anth-----Well

I guess learning bridge is like starting a trade. The more you study, the harder you work, the quicker you become proficient. But it does take time. As the saying goes, you can't have a baby in one month by making nine women pregnant.

Xxx

### **What's In A Name**

I called on an old school friend recently and asked what he was doing.

He replied that he was working on "Aquathermal treatment of ceramics, aluminium and steel, in a constrained environment". I thought what a fantastic job.

That was until I discovered he was doing the washing up in his own kitchen.

Xxx

The following received from a member who would prefer not to be named.

Hi Peter,

This is a request from one of my bridge partners and also, myself. Aforementioned partner has a severe allergy to heavy perfumes that some ladies wear. After one session, she left with a headache and nausea and had to stop driving until she partly recovered. I wouldn't say that I have a severe allergy too, but at times, such strong odours nauseate me as well and fill the entire room where there is no reprieve until the end of the session. I trust that, in your own gentle words, you would be able to address this issue in the next newsletter. I'd like to stay anonymous

Kindest regards.

(Ed) From a male perspective I am surprised. I thought all ladies loved perfume, the more the merrier. Just proves that some people suffer unusual allergies.

Xxx

What did Adam say to Eve the day before Xmas?.

It's Xmas Eve.

Talking of Xmas, when I was a little boy growing up in Scotland, we were told how Santa came on Xmas Eve and delivered presents to good boys and girls. We were told how he delivered the presents by coming down the chimney. I've often wondered how it is that Santa went down and up all those chimneys, yet he never got his suit dirty. Can anyone tell me how he does this?.

Xxx

This often happens. At the end of a session we look at the sheet showing all the hands. The opposition have played in 4H. We are pleased that they have gone one down, only to be disappointed when we see that we could have made 4S. However, we should remember that because seeing how the cards lie, we know how we could have made 4S, it does not necessarily follow that we would have made 4S when we did not know how the cards lay.

Hindsight is a wonderful gift and one that I certainly do not have.

Xxx

I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. I spoke to Santa in a store and he asked for my autograph.

Shirley Temple.

Antoinette Dippenaar brought three bags of playing cards from Thirroul to Figtree. Just another one of those jobs that has to be done every week. Antoinette brought them on a Thursday morning whilst TAMS was on. She also brought two plates of goodies that she had just baked and they were much

appreciated by our newer members. Thanks Antoinette, very thoughtful and kind.

xxx

What if I write an article about a member and the member is annoyed to such a degree that the member thinks I should apologise?.

Well, I never apologise. Sorry, but that's just the way I am.

(Ed), Think about it

xxx

The AGM is over and the committee for the next year elected.

President \_ \_ \_ \_ Jill MacRae

Vice President \_ Marie Pickering

Secretary \_ \_ \_ Lindsey Smith

Treasurer \_ \_ \_ Ngaire Meehan

Committee \_ \_ \_ Ken McIvor, Barbara

Overington, Phil Barker, Julie Cowling,

Cheryl Waters, Carol Jeffs,

Congratulations to all the above on their election. As far as I am aware, for the first time ever, there were more nominations for a committee position than number of positions vacant. What I found very encouraging re that, was the fact that the members nominating for a position were doing so, not because they thought the previous committee were not doing a good job, but because they just wanted to do something for the IBA.

That bodes well for the future of IBA.

I would like to add my thoughts here. I believe that we members have the right to expect that the new committee will do their utmost to ensure the continuing smooth running of our Association. I also believe that the new committee members have the right to expect that we members will do everything we can to assist them. We are a Club. We should all contribute.

Steve Hurley hand.

First of all, West does not have the CA and K otherwise you would have been doubled and they would have been played. So they are either split or sitting with East. The line of play is to run off your winners. Do the Diamonds first then the Hearts. This leaves the following position with the last Heart to be played:

S AJ  
H 3  
D -  
C Q

S -  
H -  
D -  
C J965

There are now several layouts that allow 12 tricks. If the Club honours are split, or the SQ is now singleton, it will fall. It is unlikely that the SQ is now singleton (given the lead and expected ability to keep a support card), so the best play should be for split Club honours.

Now play the last Heart. To protect the SQ, a club must be discarded. With three tricks to go, that will leave that defender with two Spades and the singleton Club honor.

Now exit the CQ. Whoever wins either gives you a (now known) finesse of the Spade. Or if the other defender wins, with the other high Club honor falling, you can finesse the ST.

So with a little application, the odds are good.

**Page 1 Intermediate hand**

West leads the ♣K against your 4♠ contract. Counting your losers, you see you have two

spades, no hearts, no diamonds and two clubs. Too many.

There is nothing that can be done about the two spade losers, so you have to get rid of one of the club losers. You have an extra heart winner in dummy opposite your singleton King, so you can discard one of your clubs on that. You'll have to do this before leading trumps, because the moment the opponents win a trump trick they will be able to cash two winning clubs.

Start by winning the Ace of Clubs and play a low heart to the King in your hand.

The challenge now is to get back to dummy to play your second heart winner and discard a losing club from your hand, without letting the opponents win a trick. To do this, you have to take two of your diamond winners, and then ruff your third diamond winner in dummy.

Now you can play dummy's Heart Ace and discard one of your clubs. After that, it is safe to lead trumps.

XXX

Seeing it's December I must finish with a bit of Xmas humour.

Little girl was asked what she would like for Xmas. She said that, more than anything, she would like a baby brother. Lo and behold, Mum came home on Xmas day holding a little baby boy.

The following year, the little girl was again asked what she would like for Xmas.

“Well”, she said, “If it's not too much trouble for Mum, I would like a pony”.

xxx

Let me leave you with this Xmas wish. May all your troubles last only as long as your New Year resolutions.

Till next time, P.B.G (Ed).

## Late News

### SUPERVISED PLAY

Summer recess

TUESDAYS last day is 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Returns 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Thursdays last day is 14<sup>th</sup> December

Returns 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Friday IBAND Last day is 15<sup>th</sup> December

Returns 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018

LESSONS: INTRODUCTORY 1<sup>st</sup> March 9am

IMPROVERS 1<sup>st</sup> March 1pm. 4weeks

INTERMEDIATE occasional , to be announced

JOAN BUTTS 2nd September

## Jottings from the committee meeting

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

Jill, as President, welcomed the new committee, all but Phil (overseas) present. Jill thanked the outgoing committee, all those who nominated for the committee and the club members who have approached her with offers of help when required.

Office manager report by Ken:

1. The security changeover has been completed.
2. No bridge on Christmas day.
3. Andrew has offered to run Bridge on Boxing Day and on New Year's Day depending on interest.

iBand report by Barbara:

- Christmas parties as advertised on the Illawarra Bridge Club site.
- Numbers at Thirroul are great, on Fridays overflowing.
- Sessions at Thirroul finish on the 15<sup>th</sup> December and restart on Monday the

15<sup>th</sup> January.

### Tournament Committee

- The Tournament Committee was reappointment with Jeff Carberry as Chief Director. It was noted that they do a fantastic job and run the bridge at our club very professionally.

### Masterpoints Secretary

- Thank you Malcolm for continuing with this.

### Christmas Party

- Is on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. Please note that if you need a lift home the club will organise one for you.

### General Business

- Redistribution of Jobs
  1. Minute Secretary: Cheryl
  2. Substance Register/First Aid/Catering: Carol
  3. Catering/Social Events: Julie
  4. Melbourne Cup: Barbara
  5. Supplies: Ken, Lynne and Ken, Ngaire
  6. Web site and Facebook: Cheryl  
Please check these out, Cheryl will be updating these with all the information of our upcoming events
  7. Assistant Treasurer at Thirroul: Penny

### Bridge Lessons

Next bridge lessons will start on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018

Once more a big thank you to our wonderful directors, office manager and all the unseen helpers who keep our great club working so well.

The Committee wish our members all the very best for Christmas and for 2018 and look forward to seeing everyone at the bridge table in 2018.

Marie Pickering

### Late Humour

Be kind to Santa this year.

Lesson his workload.

Be naughty.

