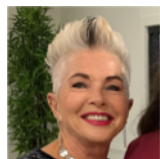


Byron Bay Bridge Club Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with club news



JUNE 2023
President's Report

Greetings members,

Well, it's now 4 weeks since we left the Cavanbah Centre for the greener pastures of the Bowlo. It's been an interesting 4 weeks learning to cohabit with the Bowlo, the Mullum Orchestra practice group every fortnight, welcoming quite a few old/new players back to our Friday bridge as well as ironing out some "issues" with members grievances about the Bowlo in general.

We are also having to "learn on the go" to create a bridge movement that keeps everyone happy. Not always successfully to everyone's taste but always remind yourselves your directors and committee members are volunteers who always try do their best so please no criticism during and even after play.

We held our Autumn Pairs last month and a huge congratulations to Ian Pick & Graeme Carson, our worthy winners with runners up Pin Sultas/Edna D'Cruz & Mary Solway/Lesley Lawrence.

Lismore Bridge Club held their annual Molly McDermott Cup on Sunday 21st May. Helen & Greg paired with Edna & Pete Q in the Open group with Pete B & Patsy & Eric & myself teaming together in the Restricted section. Tough competition against Ballina, Lismore, Lennox and Tweed Heads but as always it's a fun day catching up with "bridge friends" from afar and enjoying the hospitality of the Lismore Club. Any member of our club can attend so keep it in mind for next year as it's a great inter club day.

Our own Club Championships will be held this month and we ask that you register to play. Last years champs, Helen & Greg, will be back to defend their trophy.

The play committee commenced a weekly handicap award with an overall players yearly improvement award to be presented at our Christmas luncheon...stay tuned for more details.

Have a great month. See you around a card table,

Eda

We meet every Friday at the
Bangalow Bowling Club
21 Byron Bay Rd Bangalow
We ask that you be seated by 12.30pm
for play to commence at 12.45.
Club Bistro opens 12MD for lunch
Join us for a social time afterwards on the
rear deck of the Bowlo. Buy your own drinks

Directory

President Eda Bridgeman 0411 872 423/66930359
Vice President Brian Sundstrom 0429 311 830
Secretary Leo Prendergast 0429 672 262
Treasurer Greg Farrell
Committee Members: Helen Baker, Kay Milne,
Patricia Ellis, Starlette Beaumont, Eileen Malabre

JUNE REMINDER

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

WEEK 1-16TH JUNE WEEK 2-23RD JUNE

This championship is a two week event.
Please let Leo or Helen know if you are playing so
that a bridge movement can be pre determined. A
game may be organised for those NOT interested
in the championship event

JULY EARLY REMINDER

**BRIDGE WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY 13TH NOT FRIDAY 14th
TIME TO BE CONFIRMED**



Kath Morgan 5th
Jenny Coffey 6th
Chris Chase 10th
Simon Rose 13th
Eda Bridgeman 19th
and to all those we
don't know about

even. When playing low encourage, it is common to play upside down count where high low is odd. We can mix the two and play low encourage and natural count. If you ever see UDCA – it means upside down carding and attitude.

In this article we play low encourage and natural count.

The first signal we use is on the opening lead. Partner carefully selects their lead – the most important card of the hand. Your response to this is critical. Do we continue, do we change suit immediately, does partner continue high or can they play low? Generally, on partner lead we show attitude – how do you like THIS suit?

As with all hands we need to evaluate partner's response. Partner is trying to answer our first question as clearly as they can. What do we make of their card? We need to consider the bidding to gather additional information. For example if you have bid Hearts and partner has raised Hearts, but they are declaring in SPADES. When the Ace of hearts is led – partner discards the TEN. What are they saying?

This is dummy –

♠ QJ T7
♥ 7 6 2
♦ AJ 7 4
♣ 4 3

Partner played the 10H. They don't like hearts – the 10 is a serious card. They are saying that you need to consider switching immediately. Partner could have 4 hearts and we need to establish another suit now before they get in and start drawing trumps and cashing tricks.

What do we switch to? The 10H says, do not continue hearts but does not tell us what to switch to? If partner has the KQ of Diamonds, we can make both. Lets play thru dummy's strength, not into declarers strength. Declarer can take the Ace, but we have now established two diamond tricks, as well as a heart or two and maybe a spade. Blinding leading the KH after the ACE makes no sense – there is no long running suit in dummy for declarer to discard all their hearts.

Consider dummy with this hand – you still bid and raised hearts

♠ QJ T7
♥ KQJ
♦ J 9 4
♣ 6 4 3

Partner leads the AH – never lead away from an ACE in a suit contract! Now partner plays the 2. Is this encouraging hearts? How can it be? What is partner asking for? This has to be

a suit preference because the attitude has just become meaningless. What is the point of signalling high, discouraging – we can see that. Play a club on the next trick.

Another dummy – partner leads the ACE

♠ QJ T 7
♥ K
♦ KJ 9 4
♣ 6 5 4 3

Same lead and 10H response from partner. What does the 10H mean now? This is asking for a diamond – yes that's right – believe partner and play a diamond – partner has AQ106 of diamonds.

As you can see most signals on partners lead is for attitude. However when its obvious that this signal is meaningless, we switch to suit preference. A singleton in dummy tells us to switch our attitude signal to suit preference.

Some partnerships play that the lead of the K asks for count. This lead would be from AKxx or from KQxx, never from Kxxx. We want to win\establish the suit and want some information at the same time. The ACE asks for Attitude, and the King asks for count.

Dummy – Partner leads the King

♠ QJ T 7
♥ J 8
♦ KJ 9 4
♣ 6 5 3

With the lead of the King, partner responds with count. Dummy is irrelevant.

- Q from Q2 - hi-low, even
- 9 from Q942 - hi-low, even
- 4 from Q94 - low-hi, odd
- 2 from Q9432 - low-hi, odd
- 2 from KQ2 - low-hi, odd
- 3 from AJ32 - hi-low, even

Give it a try. But just because you are signalling perfectly, your partner needs to be looking at your discards. And you need to be looking at their cards. Its useless for you both to be signalling on each card if neither of you are looking at each other's cards.

More next month



Ian's Story

I was stillborn. I have a deep feeling that has caused the way I am. Apparently the midwife had given mum a wrong injection and the doctor had to give me several severe spanks to get me to breathe. Starting life with a spanking has not deterred me from a liking to be naughty. I enjoy being different and I do have an inclination to break the law when it is safe to do so. When I am driving all the passengers gaze at the odometer to check the speed. Cycling illegally up a one-way street is a pleasure. I better not give more examples or I will end up in the clink! Anyway, I digress. Going back to my birth. I was born at 12.01 am on May 13. Mum being superstitious persuaded the doctor to register my birthdate a day earlier. It's a nice feeling that when I celebrate my birthday, I am actually younger than everyone thinks! The Pick family goes back as far as I can delve, into a long line over at least three centuries of ancestors all living in Yorkshire. Now I am a proud Tyke or Yorkshireman to the rest of the world. "All the world's queer save thee and me and even tha's a little queer." "Save the pennies the pounds will look after themselves." Where there's muck there's brass" One trait that Tykes have that has got me into trouble many times in Australia is always stating the truth. Because of this many women have asked my opinion on their looks and clothes in the past, knowing I would answer truthfully unlike their girlfriends who automatically would say how they admired the new look. I remember when I landed in Australia a client asked me "How are you?" This was after a night out on the tiles and I was feeling under the weather with many self-caused symptoms. I proceeded to relate my condition in detail. I will never forget the horrified look on the shocked bloke's face. Now I just reply "Great". One other problem is that I have inherited the Yorkshire sense of dry humour that I find very funny that nobody can understand. Boy, have I got myself into trouble many times when my sentiment has been misinterpreted. I digress.

I was brought up in a South Yorkshire town called Pontefract. This town boasted three liquorice factories and two coalmines. Apparently, the soil around Pontefract was the best in Europe for growing liquorice. I often tell the story that each day after school I would walk home chewing a liquorice root that I had bought for one farthing at the corner shop. A farthing is one quarter of a penny. When Santa came, he would give us all kinds of liquorice goodies in many different shapes and sizes. The town was famous for its Pontefract Cakes which were liquorice discs stamped with the insignia of Pontefract Castle that Oliver Cromwell had destroyed 300 years earlier. Talking of primary school, my parents would give me 5 bob (shillings) each Monday to pay for school dinners. Now I am the most unfussiest eater I know. I can eat just about anything. The school dinners arrived in what looked like milk churns from somewhere in the universe. I became adept at slyly disposing of my food under the table when the beady eye of the patrolling teacher was turned away. The

cabbage was threadlike, which was impossible to digest. the desserts were so gluggy that it was impossible to swallow even with lashings of custard. Two memorable examples of dinner fare. One day I got a brainwave and realised I could skip school and go into town and buy fish and chips for a bob. If I ordered a patty (fish sandwiched between two slices of spud) and chips, that would cost eightpence and I would make a profit. One lunchtime dad stopped at school to give me something. I was found out! Never again would I enjoy a great lunch whilst at primary school.

My maternal grandparents lived in the main Yorkshire seaside resort of Scarborough. We (mum, dad and younger sister Lynda) would go there every school holidays. Every morning Dad would take Lynda and I on a coastal walk. Half way along dad would buy us a two-penny ice cream from a cabin. There were always larger ice creams costing three pence on sale which were double the size of ours. When we asked dad for the larger one his reply was if we ate the large one, we wouldn't eat our lunch. If at any time we didn't eat all on our plates he would ask us to think of the poor starving children in Africa. I could never understand how leaving a brussels sprout would affect children on another continent. Nevertheless, throughout my life I have never left or wasted food. We do not throw food into the waste. The act of a real Yorkshireman. Being brought up in England in the post war years I got used to eating offal, hearts, kidneys, liver and as a special treat, tongue. To this day, if we are out for a meal and lambs fry is on the menu I am in heaven. Talking of food, I love mushy peas! Anyway, back on the Scarborough story, when we were older my sister and I used to walk by ourselves into town each morning. By the harbour there was a particular bingo hall that would open up at 10am daily. At that time of the day there would be few people around and by playing at that time we had, on average a one in three chance of winning. We would always return home with gifts such as sets of china, glassware etc. Halcyon Days!

When I was 15, dad got transferred to Morecambe which was in the enemy territory of Lancashire. I have forgiven him. We left Pontefract on the day I hit a cricket ball through the neighbour's kitchen window and apparently, he was not recompensed. He reminded me of that fifty years later when we visited. A real Yorkshireman! One life changer for me was the introduction to rambling. Morecambe was close to England's largest national park, the Lake District. Our family started up a rambling club that is still going today, I actually joined them to celebrate their golden jubilee on a trip to Majorca a few years ago. At one time I knew almost every path and had climbed almost every Fell. I loved breathing in the fresh air and admiring the beauty all around.

I was put into a posh school "Lancaster Royal Grammar School". My class mates all went to Cambridge and Oxford - except me. One memory was accidentally being hit in the face by a spadeful of pig waste by a farmer when on a school cross-country run. I went to Leeds University to study chemistry. I hated it. My roommate studied accountancy and he had one tutorial a week to attend. I attended lectures every morning and lab work four afternoons a week. How was that fair? I played up and partied and somehow graduated. I

decided to try hard to forget every bit of chemistry I had learned. This I managed to do very successfully.

Work,work,work. Union Strikes, strikes, strikes. Three Day working week. Keeping employed doing a job I was unqualified to do. Enough is enough. Australia called me. (I have to be honest here – my first choice was NZ – the climate and walking opportunities seemed to be preferable -I hate hot weather). I remember my first night in Sydney, I was bought something called a burger for \$1 at a place called Kings Cross. I was offered a job as rep for an electroplating process company. They sold processes for any type of plating, chrome, gold, zinc etc. I was a technician who was also supposed to sell the products. I couldn't believe the contrast. In England you had to work really hard if you were desperate to keep your job. In Australia all the company staff knocked off every Friday lunchtime to enjoy an afternoon of prawns and beer. It was the mid-70s when the time of the Australian economy long boom was coming to an end. I sensed this and realising I was last in and probably the first to be put off. I decided to really work hard, working long hours which resulted in many new sales. This was in contrast to the rest of the staff who were programmed into what I considered to be casual work. I remember going to my boss one day and saying that I should get a percentage of new sales above a figure I had yet to attain. He thought that the figure I quoted was impossible to achieve so he readily agreed. One week later I had doubled the sales well above the base line and I was now earning far more than him. This caused problems and I realised that for all my work I was only getting a very small return compared to my employer. I resigned my job and started up a prototype printed circuit board business with an acquaintance. During this time, I met Gail. On our first date we played squash. I was a hacker and swung the racquet in such a way that hit Gail above the eye. Our first date ended up in a hospital emergency department with Gail getting several stitches. I have always been a hopeless romantic (Cough!). I am surprised she married me. The Company we started did really well. Unfortunately, my partner and I were incompatible and he agreed to buy me out. By then I was sick of city living. I hate stopping at red traffic lights when there are no cars going the other way. I hate being in cars queuing for ages. How much time does a city dweller spend travelling to work? A significant amount in my opinion.

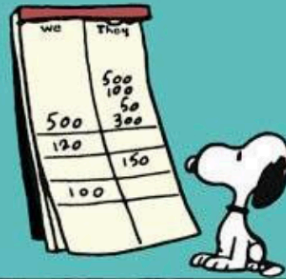
One day we left Sydney looking for a business to buy. We ended up in Byron Bay, moved into a house at Suffolk Park and saw that a health food shop "Noni's Natural Foods" was up for sale. We bought it, not knowing that this was an alternate living area. Most of our customers didn't wear underwear and sales boomed when all around traditional businesses were closing. I remember the abattoir closed and we were told that it would not affect us. Our biggest customers lived in the hills around Mullumbimby. They would carry great wads of cash to buy our macrobiotic foods, organic foods and expensive vitamins. They were very health conscious. I wisely never asked where they got their money from. During this time our son, Stephen was born. He now lives in London and has made a successful career in the finance industry After four years of smiling at customers I had had enough and sold the business to Fundamental Foods. They eventually moved the business into Byron Bay Post Office where it is today. I made hommus for a while before

starting up a fragrance business. Remember when fragrance pots and burners were all the rage? We did well for a number of years before I sensed the market was turning and we changed to producing an essential oil range. We owned a tea tree farm at Bungawalbin and a bottling facility at Goonellabah. We produced a range of essential oils under the brand name of The Oil Garden. I continued to be a workaholic. I knew that I had missed out on much of life and at the age of 54 I realised that I had worked more hours than the average person retiring at 65. I was lucky to sell the business at the height of the aromatherapy cycle and thanks to Peter Costello I managed to put the proceeds into superannuation ensuring financial independence for the rest of my life.

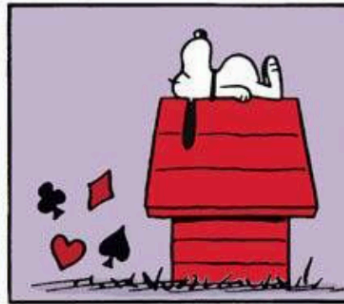
We moved from Suffolk Park to Ewingsdale, grew a rainforest and joined the Northern Rivers Bushwalkers Club which consumed my life for many years. I am still heavily involved. One of the members was a chap called Brian Sundstrom. I told him I once played bridge at uni accompanied by a myriad of pints of beer. Next thing I knew I was playing at Bangalow and my partner was a chap called Gary Lynn. Having no idea of a bidding system we played "natural". I remember shaking when I had to play a 2NT contract and Gary doing his best to calm me. To my surprise we won. I thought this game must be so easy. Next week I played with a different partner and we came last. At that time Graham Carson had just moved up from Sydney and we became bridge partners. We had some successes originally winning at the Gold Coast Congress in the Novice section and Coffs in the intermediate section. We went to Coffs a few more times, each year we continually got worse results. Graham was taking bridge seriously playing most days and I wanted a more balanced life. We now play once or twice a week when I am around. I enjoy playing with Gail. One result of belonging to a bridge and bushwalking club is the friendships that are made. Something I never had time for previously. As a result of this I celebrated my 70th birthday by booking Binna Burra Lodge for a weekend and held a cross dressing party on my birthday night. The two photos shown are one of Brian and myself at the party and one of another member – I will leave you to guess who it is.



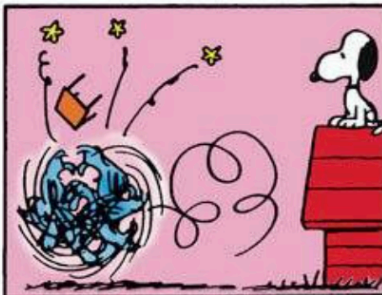
Classic
PEANUTS
by
SCHULZ



ORDINARILY, I FROWN ON CARD PLAYING, BUT BRIDGE IS A PRETTY GOOD GAME, AND AFTER ALL, THEY DO NEED A PLACE TO PLAY...



NORTH
 ♠ 8762
 ♥ 10 9 6
 ♦ A J 9 8
 ♣ Q 8
 WEST EAST
 ♠ AKQ9 ♠ J1054
 ♥ A 2543 ♥ K Q
 ♦ K 1043 ♦ Q 2
 ♣ - ♣ J10932
 SOUTH
 ♠ 3
 ♥ 372
 ♦ 765
 ♠ AK7654
"PASS"?!



SOME PEOPLE JUST SHOULDN'T PLAY CARDS TOGETHER!



What happens when you don't play a board

Mark Miller

There are several reasons why you may not get to play a board. They include:

1. A pair has a sitout and so has no opponent in a particular round. They cannot play the boards on their table for that round.
2. There is an even number of tables and the movement is a Skip Mitchell. When you skip you will always miss a set of boards.
3. Because of time constraints and a desire to keep the movement simple, the director may curtail one or more rounds from a complete movement. Each round that is curtailed results in missing a set of boards.
4. Because of slow play or other delaying factors, the director decides to disallow play of a board at a table because the playing of that board will cause the session to run late or result in unwanted delay for the other tables.

Interestingly there are few complaints about the first three of these. Nothing can be done about the first one. The second and third reasons may be resolved by a more complicated movement but that can cause other grumbles. So why is it that the director gets so much grief when they enact reason number four?

The director has the right to disallow play of a board. Law 81C1 says that the director has the duty 'to ensure the orderly progress of the game'. Complaints from affected players often transgress Law 74B on etiquette where 74B5 says players should refrain from 'addressing the director in a manner discourteous to him or other contestants'.

What does happen if you do not play a board? What score do you get for that board? The answer is the same for all of the above reasons - you do not get any score for a board that you have not played. A pairs final percentage is based solely on the boards that they have played. Your percentage is determined from the total matchpoints earned on the boards that you did play divided by the total number of matchpoints that you could have made on those boards if you had a top result on each one.

So a claim that you have been disadvantaged by not playing a board cannot be supported. You would have to be able to argue, in advance, that you will achieve a better percentage result on that board than your average percentage of all the other boards that you have played. It may well be the

case that rushing the play of that board could result in an inferior percentage and so you may be advantaged by not playing the board. Certainly having some extra time because you do not play a board may give you a chance to collect your thoughts and be prepared for the next round. The shorter round will certainly relieve some stress for novice players.

So if you are ever involved in reason number four then just accept the director's ruling, understand why it has been done and that you are no more disadvantaged by this than by any of the other reasons which you generally accept with no complaints.

NOTE: Law 90B2 allows the director to impose a Procedural Penalty for 'unduly slow play by a contestant'. So don't try to leverage an advantage by deliberate slow play.

It's not the end of the world if you do not play a board.

APRIL WEEKLY BRIDGE WINNERS

5th May Kay Oxley/Clive Klugman

**12th May N/S Leo Prendergast/Jan Gasteen
E/W Sophie Davis/Carol Hocking**

19th May Anne Riley/Gary Lynn

**26th May N/S Anne Riley/Gary Lynn
E/W John Kable/Graham Askey**

