

Byron Bay Bridge Club Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with monthly club news



November 2022 President's Report

November is upon us and we are rapidly approaching the end of 2023. Some warm sunny days might be nice though. I actually don't have too much to report to you this month apart from the fact that your committee are working behind the scenes to keep our club moving in a forward direction.

Helen took over the lessons from Pete Q and has actively been working with the new members from the bridge lessons and they are now up enjoying supervised play Friday mornings for a few hours. You'll find Helen's report in this newsletter.

Don't forget on November 4th we will be playing at Bangalow Bowling Club for one Friday only at the usual start time. The club are not charging us any rent for the day so please say thanks by coming early for lunch or stay afterwards for a drink from the bar.

November is also our charity month. Julie Wells will be coming along prior to bridge to tell us more about The Shift Project. Bridge badges have been ordered, Christmas luncheon is on the agenda but I still hope there will be a few extra dollars available for this worthy charity. You will find their bank details under reminders and a box will be available on the day. As usual our tables will also be donated.

On a happy note for those that may not already know Renia and Ruth were married mid October. A huge congratulations to two very special ladies from all their bridge friends.

Happy bridge playing
Eda

We meet every Friday at the Cavanbah Centre Ewingsdale Rd Byron Bay. We ask that you be seated by 12.15pm for play to commence at 12.30. Join us for a social time afterwards BYO + glass

Directory

President Eda Bridgeman 0411 872 423/66930359
Vice President Brian Sundstrom 0429 311 830
Secretary Leo Prendergast 0429 672 262
Treasurer Jeff Dolin 0455 315 099
Assistant Treasurer Greg Farrell
Partner Co-ordinator Peter Roger 0421635305
Masterpoints Helen Baker & Edna Millard
Welfare Officers Kay Milne & Peter Kiernan
Afternoon Teas Patricia Ellis 66870441
Recorder Peter Brosnan 0411 121 281
Meet & Greet on Friday's Eric Bridgeman

Committee Members: Kay Milne, Greg Farrell, Helen Baker, Edna Millard, Patricia Ellis, Edith MacAuley

CHARITY DAY 11th Nov

SUPPORTING THE SHIFT PROJECT

www.shiftproject.org.au

DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE PAID DIRECTLY INTO THE SHIFT PROJECT WESTPAC BANK ACCOUNT

BSB 032 573

ACC 373 054

NOVEMBER REMINDERS

WINE TASTING 11th

Host Lorraine McKenzie \$5 per person

**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
9TH DECEMBER FROM 11AM
ALL DAY EVENT**

\$25 per person which includes table fees

We are self catering for our luncheon.

YOUR early booking and payment would be appreciated before November 25th

More info from Leo soon

“I Love Howells” from Janet Brown

(with permission)

For many years, I was a member of a fairly small bridge club, which met once a week and attracted five or six tables. We met every opponent and played every board which meant for good, fair competition.



The event was nicely sociable because, during play, we enjoyed the company of each and every bridge player. Then our club began to grow – seven, eight and more tables. Drat! – this meant we could no longer enjoy our friendly little Howells.

We could no longer play against every opponent, we sometimes did not even play every board – a Skip Mitchell or a curtailed Mitchell – (Did I miss a good board ? Oh look - they skipped over the strong pair – it's not fair !) players began to fight for North South seats, or check out the field to see which way the strong players were sitting, and then choose their direction.. None of these ugly things can happen with Howell movements.

Fairness

The Director's Handbook states, The movement should be as fair as possible: in principle, this means that each pair should have an equal opportunity to oppose each other pair. This happens in a Howell movement.

Scoring

Matchpoint pairs is a game of comparisons. When you and partner bid and play, your result is compared with others who hold the same hands. It does not matter in which compass position you sit. If sitting NS your result is only compared against the other NS players, who held the same hands as you. Likewise EW. So it does not matter if you are in a Howell or Mitchell, the scoring comparisons are the same.

Masterpoints

We all love to win Masterpoints! Many more points are given out in a Howell movement. In a five table Howell, the points go to the top five placings. 30 pts to 1st, 21 to 2nd, 15 to 3rd, 10 to 4th, and 8 to 5th. Multiplied by 2 (points awarded to both players) this comes to 168 points. In a 5 table Mitchell, only 1st and 2nd placings earn points . 15 for 1st, and 11 for 2nd. Multiplied by 4 (1st & 2nd N/S and E/W) = 104 points.

Half Table

Howell movements are particularly preferable if there is a half table, as these movements do not have many boards per round. Thus the pair having to sit out for a round does not have too long to wait, before re-joining the game.

The Social Side of Things.

The Howell movement supports these attributes, by allowing every pair to have an encounter with every other pair in the game. This is particularly important for new players, who are able to meet more people and make new friends. With a six table Howell movement, a player can meet twenty three players, whereas in a Mitchell he only meets half that number. (What's half of 23 ?)



OCTOBER WINE TASTING SELECTIONS

THANKS TO FAY BOGG
 A number of comments have been made about these wines especially the white and rose. Unfortunately the white Coriole Piquepoul 2020 is no longer available to purchase



"So I told them, "Ladies, you've got to be fit to play in our bridge tournament. " "

SPRING PAIRS WINNERS

1ST GRAHAM CARSON & IAN PICK

2ND JOHN KABLE & KAY MILNE

3RD PETER BALDWIN & LESLEY LAWRENCE

Answer

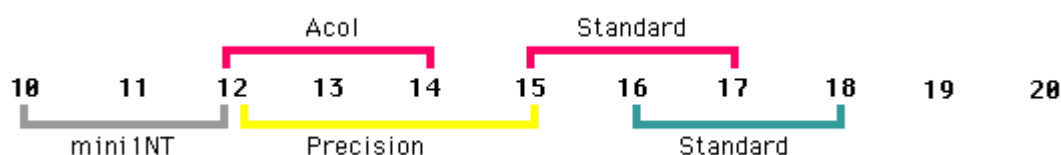
Ace (of any suit)

Taking the vertical, horizontal and 2 diagonal lines through the centre of the square, the sum of the values at the ends of the lines equal 12 the value of the centre card.

WHAT'S YOUR 1NT & WHY - Clive Klugman

After teaching a few different groups recently, I was surprised to find how many people play a 1NT range of 15-18 or 16-18. Upon investigation, most people were not sure of the reason for their range other than this is what they originally learnt. It has not evolved with the times or with other changes to their system.

My preference for a 1NT range is 15-17, and with some partners 12-14 non vulnerable. While doing some research I found this handy guide:-



A while ago 16-18 was the preferred standard for 1NT. This has changed over time, as we open more and more aggressively. 15-17 has become more common and even 14-17. We do not see as many weak No Trump openings (anywhere from 10-14 points) in Club Bridge but more so with the experts. A weak NT can be trickier and thus left to those with more experience. Bridge is a game of moving with the times. 40 years ago most Doubles used to be for penalties but today we have so many doubles and very few are for penalty. The same goes for our NT openings – we need to move with the times.

16-18 NT has changed to 15-17 primarily due to its frequency. 15-17 point hands occur more often than 16-18. Opening a NT gives partner so many options – transfers, stayman, garbage stayman – as well as making it more difficult for the opponents to bid. You therefore want to open 1NT as often as possible, and 15-17 fits the bill.

The other problem I see with the 16-18 NT is that partner with a miserable 7 points does not know whether to bid Stayman or not. 7 points opposite 18 should be game, which you could well miss. Additionally what's your bid after 1x – 1y by partner – 2NT by you. The 16-18 and 15-18 NT bidders tell me that's 19 points exactly. Most of us play that as 18 or 19 – a handy two point range. Why have a 4 point 15-18NT but only a 1 point 2NT rebid range? Some people tell me they may open 1NT with 18 or instead may choose to rebid 2NT after partner's 1 level response – there is no science in this, just a feeling on the day. How is partner to know which one it is?

15-18 point NT range was popular with extended stayman, but this too has gone out of vogue for the above reasons. Another thing to think about is what do you bid with 15 points if you don't open 1NT? It is not enough to reverse and means that the 1NT rebid is now 11-15 – another 4 point range.

What about a 5 card Major

There is a lot of talk about whether you should include a 5 card major in your 1NT. I am definitely in favour of this. With 15-16 points what do you rebid after 1H-1S-? 1NT (12-14) undervalues your hand and 2NT (18-19) over values your hand and a reverse (17+) is out of the question. 1NT with 15-17 and a 5 card major is perfect. NOTE – when you alert the 1NT with the point range as required by the ABF, you do NOT have to include “may contain a 5 card major”. It's something you can add to your announcement, but it is not in the rules – the opponents can ask if they want to know.

Off-Shape 1NT

We were taught that a 1NT opening requires a balanced hand – 4333, 4432 or 5332. Is this all we are permitted? Professionals are opening 1NT with all sorts of hand shapes today. Singletons or two doubletons are considered ok.

I am not a fan of this as partner will expect a balanced hand, but like anything in bridge you need to use some common sense and be creative if it makes sense. Consider your rebid and sometimes a 1NT opening may prevent a rebid problem. Consider what your partner is expecting. Discuss the possibilities with them.

I will definitely open 1NT with two doubletons if there is no better bid – but I will probably have Ax and Kx as my doubletons. How else do I open Ax KQxx Kx KJxxx. I can open 1C, but what do I bid over partner's 1S bid? I don't like a rebid of 1NT (12-14) or 2H (17 point reverse). If I open 1NT, partner has an arsenal of conventions they can use to find the right contract, and if not, I play in 1NT.

Summary

The structure of NT in standard American is well thought out and can be part of a complete system. No system is perfect but I think 15-17 with the correct version of Stayman wins the day for beginners wanting to transition from the collection of NT ranges out there. Additionally, including a 5 card major in your 1NT will open a whole new world to you. Give it a try.

5 Card Puppet Stayman

If you choose to try opening 1NT with 5 card major, you might like to try this version of Stayman.

The simplest version is to use puppet Stayman bids similar to the 2NT puppet Stayman. The responses to 2C enquiry then become

- 2D at least one 4 card major
- 2H – 5 hearts
- 2S – 5 spades
- 2NT – no 4 or 5 card major and minimum (15\16)
- 3NT – no 4 or 5 card major and maximum (16\17)

The responder's response to 2D is now puppet

- 2H says responder has 4S and not 4H
- 2S says responder has 4H and not 4S
- 3D says responder has both 4H and 4S
- 2NT says I was looking for a 5 card major 8\9 points
- 3NT says I was looking for a 5 card major 10+ points

Partner must bid Stayman with 8 points and at least one 3 card major. For example with Axx Kxx Kxxx Jxx you would normally just bid 3NT, but now you can bid 2C asking for a 5 card major. How fantastic is that?

How many books can you write about bridge? Non-bridge players might think four or five, otherwise you would just be repeating yourself, but this is not the case.

The Bridge Shop has been an Australian retail institution since 1974. These days, they are forging new directions in eCommerce. In July, they will shut the physical shop and complete the pivot to online and mail order.

How many bridge books? Nick Fahrer, who runs the Bridge Shop, says he has 500 different bridge titles. He also has some 1200 bridge-related items, knick-knacks, giftware and the likes. Check out his website.

It is worth pointing out that the Bridge Shop is not the only dedicated online bridge retailer in Australia. Paul Lavings Bridge Gear is also alive and well.

Today's deal came up in a team game. Both declarers played in four spades but only one of them delivered the goods. Both Wests led the king of clubs.

	NORTH		
	♠ KQJ5		
	♥ K108		
	♦ A75		
	♣ 864		
WEST		EAST	
♠ 8	South deals,	♠ 642	
♥ 9543	East-West	♥ AJ7	
♦ Q1082	vulnerable	♦ J943	
♣ KQJ10		♣ 953	
	SOUTH		
	♠ A10973		
	♥ Q62		
	♦ K6		
	♣ A72		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Declarer has two club losers, so the challenge is to avoid losing two hearts. Both declarers won the ace of clubs and drew trumps ending in dummy. The first declarer now played a heart to his queen, followed by a heart to dummy's 10. He was pinning his hopes on West holding the jack of hearts. Not today. East won the jack for one off.

The second declarer found a play that would allow him to make provided West held either the jack or the nine of hearts, effectively doubling his chance of success. He first cashed the king and ace of diamonds and ruffed dummy's remaining diamond before exiting with a club. West took two club tricks but then he had to lead a heart. (The lead of a minor suit would allow declarer to ruff in dummy and throw a losing heart.) Declarer played the 10 of hearts in dummy and when East covered with the jack, he was able to win with the queen and play a heart to the eight in dummy, making the contract when West held the nine.

Paul Marston

Beginners Lessons Report 2022

Peter Quirke gave the first 4 lessons in September and I finished the last two. We have now moved on to assisted play for two hours prior to our regular club game.

We have some keen players who now have BBBC Membership, ABF numbers and many have ordered name badges. Leo handled the processing there.

Due to the enthusiasm of the group, the original 3 assisted play sessions will now be extended. From 11/11, our Charity Day, we will continue through to the Christmas break.

Edna and Graham, along with Peter Q, have regularly helped out. Leo, Eric and Eda attended early sessions (Chris Morgan came to a play session). So quite a few involved. In November we would ask for any volunteers who would like to help out. Let me know if you are interested.

When the new players feel ready we will also look for experienced players (who are willing to play the basic bridge being taught here) to play club games with newer players to help them integrate. A terrifying step we all remember, that first club game.

These players have been introduced to Bridgemates and our web site with the intention they can look at the hands they played and study the possibilities all that data provides. They will use some of our hands from the previous week. 9 played last Friday, this week 9 or 12.

Helen Baker

Which Card completes this sequence ? (Answer in the purple bubble)



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
WISHES FOR NOVEMBER**

**LYN HARCOURT 11th
THOMAS FLEMING 18th
COLLEEN WELLINGS 20th
KAY MILNE 21st
STEVE STEWART 30TH**

**and to ALL those we don't know
about**



Looks like I am one down !!

Get to know EDA BRIDGEMAN

I was born in Wollongong NSW in 1951, the youngest of three and named after my two grandmothers Geertruida and Johanna, after my parents fled the atrocities of WW2 from the Netherlands in 1950. As far away from Europe as they could get. My father Johann, a constructional engineer, and my mother Wilhelmina, a pharmacist, worked long hours to make a new and prosperous life for my two brothers and I in Australia.

My parents loved bridge following the Goren System and I vowed I would never play the game after hearing so many weekly late night or early morning “discussions/arguments” about what should or should not have happened during their bridge games, always over a glass of port if at night I might add.

After finishing year 12 I went into nursing as my maths wasn't good enough for my first choice of physiotherapy. Those were the days when you just had to be good at some subjects to get in to the course you wanted,

I completed my nursing career at the Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards and continued on with a Midwifery diploma at King George V at Camperdown where I met the father of my three amazing daughters. Our first child was born in NZ and the other two in Sydney. We travelled extensively in the remote areas of China in the early 80's as part of a medical volunteer group. China was a very different country back then.

I studied Beauty Therapy in 1989 as shift work nursing wasn't possible with my husband's work commitments as a paediatric cardiologist and three girls at school. We moved to Brisbane in 1990 and shortly after I purchased my salon in Strathpine which I managed for 13 years starting out as a single operator and selling my business in 2003 with 5 therapists and a full time receptionist. My love for the Beauty Therapy industry has now spanned over 30 years. In those days beauty therapy wasn't all about looks but about skin health and nutrition.

I relocated to the Byron Bay region in 2005 having sold my salon in 2003 and in a new relationship. Moving to the Northern Rivers was that moment of realisation when I knew I had arrived to right community and lifestyle...the perfect place to grow older in.

Never say never about bridge...I needed to add more into my life at that time so started my bridge lessons with Pete Quirke on the advice of his wife JM who was a client of mine and fell in love with the game. Hilary, Steve Stewart's wife became my bridge partner for a while. Little did I know how it would be more than just the game of bridge that would bring change to my life.

I met Eric in 2013 and the rest is history.

There aren't enough hours in the day for the things I enjoy doing...the gift of a beautiful home on acreage surrounded by so much natural beauty through meeting Eric, my fibre art that started when I inherited my mother's spinning wheel, my garden, my animals, a love of travel with my perfect life partner. And now that I have officially retired I may even get back to my art journaling and oh yes the odd game of bridge.

Eric and I are blessed to have 7 grandchildren and 2 god grandchildren between us. We both wish they were living closer to us and we could be more hands on rather than the holiday grandparents we are now. My eldest granddaughter is marrying next year and Eric will be driving the bride to her wedding in our 1968 mustang.