Byron Bay Bridge Club Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with monthly club news





September 2022

Your President's Letter

Hi everyone,

September is upon us with the promise of warmer weather, longer days, new growth in our gardens and spending more time outdoors. Covid restrictions seem to be a thing of the past and many of us are back to attending festivals and travel which was a distant memory for quite a while.

It also means that we may see smaller numbers in our bridge room but that's ok too. We have a core group of loyal, committed members and life is not all about bridge BUT when we do play we love the game and the friendships it has brought into our lives. I have heard some members say that they remember the days of larger table numbers, yes that may be the case, but we play a game that attracts, to a larger extent, an older age group which in itself comes with some issues related to health, getting to a club games, the desire to travel etc. So I never feel disheartened if our table numbers seem small at times...I encourage us all to come with an attitude of just being glad to be there, playing bridge, catching up with bridge friends and sharing a yarn with a glass of wine at the end of play. Sounds pretty perfect to me.

I am excited to share with you though that on 2nd September we start our first series of six bridge lessons in a very long time. We have sixteen new players registered and I am thrilled that Peter Quirke and Helen Baker will be their tutors. Our students couldn't want for better educators. Students will be following Paul Marston's "Introduction to Bridge".

Happy bridge playing, see you soon.

We meet every Friday at the Cavanbah Centre Ewingsdale Rd Byron Bay.

We ask that you be seated by 12.15 for play to commence at 12.30PM

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

SEPTEMBER REMINDERS

Bridge Lesson 9.45-11.45am from 2nd September

PLEASE turn your mobile phone off during play Thanks



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

SEPTEMBER

Renia Gyrc 7th

Dianne Dowd 14th

Jenny bush 24th

Margaret Fleming 25th

AND TO ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS

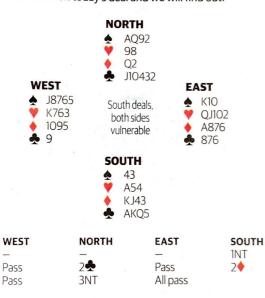
WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT



bridge

There are three broad stages in the life of a declarer. In the first stage, we are fully engaged with the 13 cards in front of us. Everything else is greyed out. In the second stage, partner's hand comes into view and we start setting up suits and taking finesses. It is only sometime later that we enter stage three. This is when the opponents' hands finally come into view. For the first time, we are building a picture of the opponents' hands and spotting the early signs of trouble.

Whereabouts are you on this scale? Put yourself in the South seat on today's deal and we will find out.



West leads the six of spades against your three notrumps. How would you play? Remember, your main goal is to make your contract.

The first declarer was at stage two. He finessed the queen of spades in dummy, but East won with the king and shifted to the queen of hearts. At this point, declarer had five club tricks plus the two major suit aces, so he would need two tricks from diamonds. He therefore won the third round of hearts and played a diamond, but East grabbed the ace and cashed a heart for one off.

Was this bad luck or bad play?

The second declarer was stage three. She began by counting her certain tricks, those you can take without losing the lead. Five clubs and two aces = seven. It is abundantly clear that the other two tricks can be established in diamonds, so the prevailing thought is to avoid losing five tricks. There is no danger of the opponents running riot in the spade suit, but the same cannot be said about the hearts. Declarer therefore rejected the spade finesse and locked up her contract by rising with the ace of spades to play a diamond. The defenders could take the ace and shift to a heart by everything was under control. Declarer simply won with the ace of hearts and took her nine tricks.

PHYLLIS KEYTE

SENDING OUR CONDOLENCES TO WILLIAM, LINDA AND FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF PHYLLIS IN AUGUST

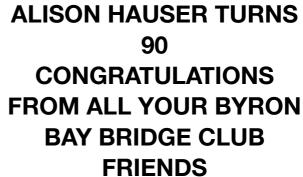


GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE

HELEN BAKER

I was born in Newcastle and started teaching there. I spent most of my married life in Victoria though before retiring to Nelson's Bay in 2001. When moving around, I did teaching jobs, teaching in every grade from kindergarten to Year 12, specialising in Art. Victoria then had an education system to admire. Once pressured to retire and leave Victoria for warmer climes by my English born husband I declared I would not work again as I was leaving a job I enjoyed. Two years later I took bridge lessons and became addicted, playing 6 times per week. I don't play as much now but still enjoy the game. My husband Colin died in 2013. Greg and I have been together since the start of 2014. We met at the bridge club in Nelson's Bay. Since then we have done a lot of travel before that became impossible. Hence, spending time in Brunswick Heads, where we live part of the year, which has been fantastic...will we ever travel so much again?

We love the bridge vibe in this area and hope to continue to spend a lot of time around the good





On a personal note I would like to say to Alison how much Eric and I appreciate her friendship and love. I met Alison through Eric and she has been a strong supporter of our relationship. Alison's zest for life is an inspiration. Yes at times life for her at present can be tough but that is part and parcel of reaching 90 years which have been full of living.

I think it is appropriate that Alisons's birthday greeting is on the same page as bridge humour because she has plenty of that...Happy 90th year Alison

BRIDGE HUMOUR

One Wish

A bridge duffer was polishing a lamp and... poof! Out popped a genie who said, "I will grant you *one* wish."

The duffer unfolded a map of the world and said, "Let all of these countries live in peace and harmony."

"You've got to be kidding! I'm only a genie."

The duffer thought for a while and then suggested, "OK, then make me a winning bridge player." "Hmm..." the genie pondered. "Let me see that map again.

TURNING CARDS by Mark Miller

There is some confusion as to when it is permissible to turn your played card face down. The action is known as 'Quitting your trick'. Is it etiquette or a rule to wait for the winner of the trick to first turn their card down? What about looking at a card that has been quitted? The Laws have the answers.

Law 45B says

No player should turn his card face down until all four players have played to the trick

Law 65A says

When four cards have been played to a trick each player turns his own card face down near him on the table.

There is nothing here about waiting for any particular player to do so first.

But the Laws do partially allow for inspection of tricks.

Law 66A says

the laws require.

So long as his side has not led or played to the next trick, declarer or either defender may, until he has turned his own card face down on the table, require that all cards just played to the trick be faced.

So even if you have followed Law 65A and turned your card face down, another player who is yet to quit their trick can ask for all cards to the trick to be faced. Law 66B says

Until his side has led or played to the next trick, declarer or either defender may inspect, but not expose, his own last card played.

So you are sometimes allowed to peek at your own quitted trick.

Law 66C says that until the play of the hand has been completed, no other quitted trick may be inspected unless under a specific instruction from the director (perhaps to verify a claim of a revoke).

Law 66D says that after the conclusion of play of the hand, quitted tricks may be inspected but no player should handle any cards but their own. It is essential to preserve the orderly arrangement of tricks won and lost.

So what is the answer? Law 65A says you can quit your trick when four cards have been played but 66B allows for another player to request that you face it again. Some players might be very slow to quit their trick as this preserves their option under 66B but it does not preclude you quitting your card. So go ahead and turn your card face down once all four cards have been played.

Perhaps one proviso. It is against Law 73D2 to attempt to deceive an opponent by a hasty play. So rapidly quitting your played card after the fourth card has been played could be seen as an infraction. So quit your tricks in normal tempo.

The following was in a recent ABDA (Australian Bridge Directors Association) Bulletin: Sometimes there is a cranky pot who wants everyone to leave their cards face up on the table, while he, the important one, does his thinking. Now he has established his territory, taken control of the table, no one is game to quit tricks until the oh, great one, has turned his card. Watch for it. You see all the little tremors from the players who want to quit their tricks and get on with the game but don't want to antagonise the table boss. My sport is quitting my tricks as



MEET PETER BALDWIN

I was born in Walgett on 5th July 1935 at the Haroldene Private Hospital

My mother was from Mullumbimby

I spent 11 years at school in Walgett. My mother was not impressed by the teacher I had and when I got Chicken Pox my mother got the curriculum and taught me Maths and English which then gave me a

Scholarship and entrance to Barker College Sydney. I was too young to do law at Sydney University so I commenced Arts Law. When I finished my Law degree I returned to Walgett to help my father in his law firm which was diminishing because of his age. My wages were half my fathers He took \$16 a week and my wage was \$8 week. Needless to say hard to live on. I also was working in Coonamble for a time where I was fortunate to be asked to look after a practice as the solicitor there had been removed from his practice by the Law Society. while there I saw a very pretty nurse in her veil and in 1961 I married Lois.

We had 4 boys in 3 1/2 years. One boy then twin boys. Luckily we finally had a girl. It was a struggle financially but we managed, poor as church mice.

From 1970 the business improved greatly and we were able to purchase properties in the Byron Shire. We were attracted to the area as we visited my mother in Mullum for holidays. We had lived 52 years in Walgett. There are many stories I could tell but I would probably be sued for liable. Driving through Mullum one day I saw this beautiful Heritage building. Thought we could make it into an Antique Store. Not an easy career and one day we went on holidays and an actor friend Jean Brown was looking after the business and she discovered the best sales were in some old books of her mothers she had popped onto a shelf. So that's how we are now in books. I have always been involved in theatre, as was Lois and I performed and directed many musicals, as Gilbert and Sullivan, plays by Noel Coward and many other famous plays in the Mullum Theatre. I also founded the Byron Theatre Co. Over the years I have taught myself the piano and have enjoyed playing. Hopefully my piano was not too affected by the flood and moisture. My interest in Bridge started many years ago in Walgett, but as there weren't other players there it was few and far between games. I learned bridge from Lyn McDowell who was a Brunswick Valley Bridge Club Member who taught me a very important lesson as how to bid after an overcall. I spent many years playing with the Brunswick Valley Bridge Club and have been a Director of that Club.

My Bridge life is now as a member of Byron Bay Bridge Club and a social member of the Ocean Shores Social Bridge Club.



"Please don't' feel it's necessary to hurry on my account." Irwin Caplan March 20th 1948

Came across an interesting article online, one of many I'm sure.

Alzheimers.org.za

"Playing bridge for Alzheimers Research in South Africa

Check it out if interested