

REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

TRUMPIT



JUNE 2023

Hi Everyone,

We are in for a busy month with Winter Eclectic red point days, as well as the Doris Kerr Trophy and GNOT qualifying rounds – enough to keep you warm in the first month of Winter!

Whilst we have been promoting our club as a friendly environment, it is very disappointing to see that there are still undercurrents of rudeness and bickering amongst certain factions which has a negative impact on us all.

Please remember inappropriate behaviour includes criticising partner or opponents; negative comments re bidding or play; discussing hands after round is called; badgering, rudeness, threats, profanity, insinuation; disputing a director's ruling during play (an appeal request is appropriate).

Let's set a good standard where our newer players can feel safe and comfortable in our environment.

Good bridging and keep smiling!



Robina Cooper

Don't worry about old age, it doesn't last.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The competition fields on Mondays and Tuesdays are now at reasonable levels, with around thirteen tables. These are now our largest groups for play. The other days are not as well attended. We are seeing a few new players at the club. Some have come through lessons, and one or two have moved to the area. If you have someone at your table who you don't recognise, then please make them feel welcome. Also, if there are players out there who haven't been along for some time, then come and give it another try.

On the subject of new players, those from the last set of lessons have moved into supervised play, and some of them are also getting close to joining the Tuesday or Thursday games. Look out for people wearing a "New Player" badge and treat them gently. Remember how daunting your first attempts were.

We're getting to the season where some of the annual competitions are coming up. We've had the Marie Currell novice pairs which was won by Sammy and Wilmy Ziada. The next competition is the Doris Kerr pairs on the 21st and 28th this month. These are Wednesdays, so if you want to join in and don't normally play on Wednesday, then start organising your partner now. The club rounds for the GNOT are also being played this month on Fridays. The type of movement we use at Redlands requires an even number of teams. If you don't want to miss out, then put your team members onto the sheet soon. If we end up with an odd number, then the last team become reserves.

We're setting up to run another congress in July. It's for Under 500 and Under 100 MP. We hope this one has better attendance than our last attempt, which had to be cancelled due to low numbers. The notice sheets for this congress have been sent round to other clubs, and there are copies at the front desk. Nomination is going to be through the MyABF website. This has been forced on us because of the numbers of spam emails that were swamping the old method of online registration. The saga of the automatic taps in the bathrooms is ongoing. It's not just an annoying noise; the intermittent flow has been dumping lots of hot water down the drain (more than 200 litres/day) so the heater flow has been closed until we can get the system fixed. We apologise for the in-convenience (pun intended).

Nigel Cleminson – Club President

BRIDGE TOPIC OF THE MONTH

ALERTING STAYMAN BIDS

1. A response of 2C after a 1NT opening bid is not alertable in an uncontested auction, no matter what the meaning.
2. However, normal alerting rules do apply if (a) the opponents have entered the auction, or (b) Stayman or similar is used in any other sequence e.g. following a 2NT opening or a 1NT response.
3. Normal alerting rules also apply to all responses to Stayman and other asking bids.

PSYCHE BIDS

1. A psyche bid is "a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or of suit length".
2. Psyche bids should be reported to the Director by the psycher or their partner, and if the Director agrees that it is a psyche, it will be recorded in the Club's Psyche Register.
3. Partnerships that have a track record of psyches may need to modify their system accordingly.

From ABF Rules and Ethics

COMPETITION RESULTS

The Marie Currell Novice Event was held last month, and it was pleasing to see that 22 pairs of novice players competed in this event.



Congratulations to the winning pair **Wilmy and Sammy Ziada** who are pictured below.



Nigel Cleminson (President) with Wilmy & Sammy Ziada

Neal Healy & Robyn Esdale and John Gaibor & Janet Wilkie came second and third respectively.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Thursday, 1 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points

Friday, 2 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points

Saturday, 3 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points

Friday, 9 June – GNOT Qual. Round 1 – Gold Points

Wed. 21 June – Doris Kerr Trophy – Red Points

Friday, 16 June – GNOT Qual. Round 1 – Gold Points

Wed. 28 June – Doris Kerr Trophy – Red Points

Sunday, 9 July – Redland Novice and under 500 Pairs Congress – Red Points

*****(Register on the ABF website)***

**** Go to the ABF website abf.com.au, click on the "MY ABF" heading and follow instructions to register for the Congress.**

OPENING LEADS

Gary Brown



Against a Suit Contract

You usually want to make a 'Safe' opening lead that will set up tricks for your side without giving declarer extra

tricks. Your general order of preference can be:

1. A singleton (hoping partner can lead the suit back for you to trump).
2. A suit partner has bid. Lead **low** if you have 3+ cards to an honour; Q82. Lead **MUD** (Middle-Up-Down) 862 with 3 or more small cards; lead high from any 2 cards. K3 82 107 J3.
3. A suit that offers a good attacking combination -- two or more touching honours (KQ10x, QJ10, AKxx, J109).
4. Your longest suit. Lead **low** if you don't have touching honours.
5. A suit the opponents have not bid.
6. If there are no unbid suits, choose a suit that **dummy** has bid.
7. Lead trumps if you have no other safe lead **OR** if declarer has shown a two-suited hand. This may prevent declarer from using dummy's trumps separately.

When Leading to a Suit Contract Try to Avoid:

- Leading an unsupported ace if you have another safe lead.
- Underleading an ace (don't lead a small card from a suit headed by the ace).
- Leading a suit declarer has bid.

Against a No-Trump Contract

You usually want to make an attacking opening lead to set up tricks in your long suit.

Lead the fourth-best card (count down from the top) from your longest and strongest suit *unless*:

1. Partner has bid a suit. You should then lead his suit.
2. Your long suit is one the opponents have bid. You should choose your longest unbid suit, or a suit dummy has bid.
3. Your long suit has three or more touching honours (KQJx, QJ10x, AQJ10x, J109x, etc.). You should lead an honour to be sure you force declarer to win with the highest card possible (top of a sequence).

When Leading to a No-Trump Contract Try to Avoid:

- Leading a short suit unless it's the suit partner has bid.
- Leading aces or "unprotected" high cards, especially ones in your short suits.

Q73 K84 A83 J82 Q4

In all of these card combinations, if you were to lead the high card (underlined) you will have led an **unprotected** honour.

If you were to lead the queen from QJ104 you will have led an honour that is **protected** (by the jack and ten).

- Leading a suit declarer has bid.

SPECIAL 80th BIRTHDAY



*Congratulations to
Marj Lower*

Marj recently celebrated her 80th birthday at an enjoyable morning tea with club members. Many thanks to Di and Helen for organising the celebration cake.

WHAT ANNOYS PLAYERS (Part 2):

Peter Busch, QBA

Rearranging dummy to close up a void:

When dummy becomes void in a suit during the play of the hand, some dummies move the remaining three columns of cards together to fill the space. Defenders keep a mental picture of the shape of dummy which helps the plan their defence, and when the hearts column is suddenly the diamonds column it is off-putting and disruptive.

Thanking opponents for doubling or pushing you to game when you make it:

No matter how much you mean it in jest, your opponents will feel uncomfortable and maybe annoyed at themselves if they've doubled a making contract or pushed you into a making game when you weren't going there yourself. Making a gratuitous comment at this point will add fuel to the fire. If this happens to you, consider yourself lucky but say nothing.

Making gratuitous comments after seeing you achieved a good result:

It is the nature of bridge that a good result by one pair at the table equals a bad result for the other pair. So, when you get a top board and announce, "top board, partner", it is equivalent to telling the opponents they got a bottom. Say nothing. If you like, just pass the Bridgmate to your partner or opponents if they seem interested.

Fiddling with the Bridgmate or scoring sheet before making the opening lead:

After the auction period, the whole table is waiting for the player on opening lead to make that lead. If you have other duties, like entering the details to the Bridgmate or writing on your personal scorer, make your lead first. When you have two tasks to do and people are waiting for one of them, it's just good manners to do that one first. Same applies to dummy if they are on Bridgmate duty – spread dummy before fiddling with the Bridgmate.

Not claiming as declarer when the outcome is obvious:

If you are nearing the end of play of a hand and it's quite clear that you have all the remaining tricks, it is bad manners to continue to play. The opponents are often squirming, wondering what cards they should keep, and it can be a difficult decision. It's annoying for

them when they later find that anything they did made no difference. Of course, don't claim if you're in doubt, and when you do claim, state what you are going to do "e.g., drawing trumps and the table is high". Similarly, if you're in dummy and can't get back to hand and there's a potential loser on the table, the opponents won't be silly enough to throw out the winning card when they can see what's on the table, so saying "I'll give you the last trick" saves everyone time.

Asking questions during the auction when you have no intention to bid:

The laws allow players to ask questions about the bidding at their turn to call. But when you don't intend to bid regardless of what the meaning might be, then don't ask. It just slows the auction down. You will be entitled to a full explanation of the bidding at the completion of the auction, so your rights are protected. In fact, asking questions needlessly can have a downside – firstly, the bidder's partner will hear the answer and will know whether they're on the same page, and secondly, expressing interest about particular bids, especially alerted ones, suggests to your partner that you have an interest in that suit and under the laws of Unauthorised Information, this may limit their options when they get on lead.

Saying "having none" when you trump an opponent's trick:

This happens typically when you are trumping when the opponents aren't expecting it. The opponents won't be happy about this, and saying "having none" is simply unnecessary, and sometimes seems like tightening the thumbscrews. Of course, the partner of the player who is trumping can (and should) ask "No spades, partner?", as this serves a purpose.

Saying "thank you" gratuitously:

It gets my shackles up when declarer has dropped a singleton king, or extracts a queen they successfully finessed, and says "thank you". Unnecessary, and irksome to the defenders.

Putting pen to the bidding pad without knowing what you want to bid:

Bidding often requires thought. While you're thinking, the other players will be looking at their cards and thinking about their next move. When you move your hand to the table, all players instinctively look across to

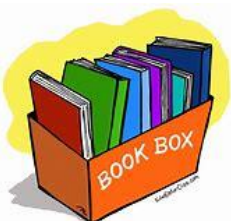
the bidding pad waiting to see what you do and tend to stay focussed till you make your bid. It can be annoying if you then retract your hand without doing anything, especially if you do it a number of times. It can also result in your left-hand opponent thinking you've passed and making their call, which would be an infraction if you didn't actually write anything.

I'm sure everyone agrees with at least some of these. It all comes down to players being aware of how their actions affect others – a good policy at the bridge table, and in life generally.

Peter Busch, QBA

Bits & Pieces

- Don't forget, our website has changed to:
<https://redlands.bridgeaustralia.org/> (no www).
- **Sunday Bridge** will be held on **Sunday, 3 June at 1.00 pm**. Please enter your name on the booking list and bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.
- **Name Badges** - Official club name badges are available for \$13. Please see ask the Director for an order form to fill out with your details. Payment to be made when ordering. The badges are generally available within a couple of weeks.
- **Library** – Members, especially newer members are encouraged to use our library. To make it easier for borrowing books, you no longer need to sign for them, and the glass cabinet is not locked. However, as we operate on an *Honour System*, please be mindful that others may wish to borrow the same book, so please return them in a timely manner.



If you have books that you have borrowed some time ago and forgotten to return them, please bring them back to the club – no questions asked.

Supervised Play continues with sessions held from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm on Wednesdays for new players and members who wish to refresh their knowledge of bidding. New members are encouraged to advance to a competitive playing session as soon as they can.

Any members who are willing to join the roster to assist with supervised play would be most welcome. If you need any further information, please contact Nigel Cleminson on 0419 642 498.

It's not enough to win the tricks that belong to you, try for some that belong to the opponents.



A Doctor was addressing a large audience and said, "The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. High fat diets can be disastrous, and none of us realise the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water. But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year-old woman in the front row raised her hand, and softly said, "I believe it's Wedding Cake?"



A Genie once granted me one wish, so I said, "I just want to be happy". So now I'm living in a little cottage with six dwarfs, working in a mine and singing "Whistle while you work....."





While flying from Melbourne to Sydney, my mother was sitting across the aisle from a woman and her eight-year-old son. Mom couldn't help laughing as they neared their destination and she heard the mother say to the boy, "Now remember, run to Daddy first, then the dog."



A blind man was describing his favourite sport, parachuting. When asked how this was accomplished, he said that things were all done for him: "I am placed in the door and told when to jump. My hand is placed on my release ring for me, and

out I go." "But how do you know when you are going to land?" he was asked. "I have a very keen sense of smell and I can smell the trees and grass when I am 300 feet from the ground" he answered.

"But how do you know when to lift your legs for the final arrival on the ground?" he was again asked.

The man quickly answered. "Oh, the dog's leash goes slack."



Little Johnny's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures tacked to a bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture

and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. "Yes," said the policeman. "The detectives want very badly to capture him." Little Johnny asked, "Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?"

A German tourist jumped into a freezing river to save my dog. After he climbed out, he said. "Here is ze dog, dry him off and keep him varm, he vill be fine." I asked him, "Are you a vet?"

"Vet?" He said, "I'm bloody soaking!"

After a torrential rainstorm filled all the potholes in the streets and alleys, a young mother watched her two little boys playing in the puddles through her kitchen window. The older of the two, a five-year-old lad, grabbed his brother by the back of his head and shoved his face into the water hole.

As the boy recovered and stood laughing and dripping, the mother runs to the yard in a panic. "Why on earth did you do that to your little brother?!" she asks as she shook the older boy in anger.

"We were just playing 'church' mummy," he said, "and I was just baptizing him in the name of the Father, the Son and in the Hole-he-goes."

Little Tony was nine years old and was staying with his grandmother for a few days. He'd been playing outside with the other kids for a while when he came into the house and asked "Grandma, what's that called when two people sleep in the same room and one is on top of the other?"

She was a little taken aback, but she decided to tell him the truth. "It's called sexual intercourse, darling."

Little Tony said, 'Oh, OK,' and went back outside to play with the other kids. A few minutes later he came back in and said angrily, "Grandma, it isn't called sexual intercourse. It's called Bunk Beds! And Jimmy's mum wants to talk to you."

