

# REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

# TRUMPIT



MAY 2023

Hi Everyone,

*Looks like the 'sneezing season' has arrived. If you haven't had your 'flu shot' yet, now is a good time to have it as it has been predicted that we can expect a bad 'flu season this year.*

*Several of our members have had Covid recently so a Covid booster shot may also be in order. Some members are still not covering their mouths when sneezing or sneezing into their hands, then continuing to play without washing or sanitising their hands. Please do the right thing by your fellow players and follow the recommended guidelines.*



*On a lighter note, **Sunday Bridge** will be held on **7th May** commencing at **1.00 pm**. Please enter your name on the booking list at the club.*

*Good bridging and keep smiling!*



**Robina Cooper**

*If at first you don't succeed, then skydiving isn't for you.*

## FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- Well, we finally have the new committee sorted out after a somewhat fraught election process. This is the first time I've been president of any organisation, so it will require some rapid learning on my part. I hope that we can now get back to concentrate on the main purpose of the club, which is to enjoy playing the game that gives us both pleasure and frustration.
- Before going on, I wish to acknowledge the huge effort that Molly put in to preside over the club last year. The committee worked well together and achieved a lot of good things for the club. The new committee is already in action, and I hope we will be a harmonious and productive group.
- The new Committee is as follows:  
Nigel Cleminson (President), Ros Putland (Vice President, Anne Ormerod (Treasurer), Cathy Mathieson (Secretary), Sandra Berns, Robina Cooper, Di Elliott, Paul Elkington, Max Latimer and Jim Williamson.
- We have several red point events lined up in the next month. These include the Marie Currell Novice Trophy and various eclectics. We also have the Bridge for Brains national competition. Good luck to all of you playing in these events.
- May your finesses work at least half the time.

## BRIDGE TOPIC OF THE MONTH

### OPENING LEAD

- The player on lead (Declarer's LHO) should select their opening lead, and place it face down on the table in front of them. Their partner should then acknowledge that it can be faced. This minimises the possibility of making an opening lead from the wrong hand.
- Once placed on the table, the card cannot be changed without the Director's consent, even though it may not have been faced.

### ALERTS

- Alerts are made by circling the bid and saying "alert". Saying "alert" minimises the chance of an opponent making a bid before you have had a chance to circle your partner's bid.
- Do not explain the meaning of the bid you are alerting unless asked by an opponent.

*From ABF Rules and Ethics*

*Supervised Play* has recommenced. Sessions are 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

*Bridge players are like woodpeckers. They succeed by using their head.*



## BRIDGE TIPS – (NON-FORCING) RESPONSES TO WEAK TWO BIDS

Gary Brown



In the previous tip I suggested that a new suit in response to an opening Weak Two bid should '**not**' be forcing. Okay, so if it is not forcing, is it a shutout bid, and is opener

allowed to bid again?

No, it is not a shutout bid. Yes, opener can bid again. However, if opener does bid again, it **must only be** to show support for responder's suit. In other words, opener **must bid again**, if she has support for responder's suit. Having said that, what is support?

Assume you open 2♥ with each of the following three hands and partner bids 2♠. What is your bid?

| #1                              | #2                            | #3                             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ♠1083<br>♥AK8753<br>♦109<br>♣96 | ♠3<br>♥KQJ874<br>♦Q862<br>♣82 | ♠83<br>♥AQJ1075<br>♦742<br>♣65 |

**Hand #1: Bid 3S.** You have support. This does not promise any extra values, just support. Holding ♠AKJ974 ♥10 ♦A3 ♣1084 partner might make game in spades opposite this hand.

**Hand #2: Pass.** Remember...a 'new suit' is not forcing. Partner knows you have six hearts and yet has shown a preference to play in her own suit and in a part-score. Respect that.

**Hand #3: Pass.** In one sense you do have support because you expect partner to have 6+ spades. But it is best to define 'support' as three cards\* in the majors. The reason we show 3-card support is that with a reasonable hand, partner might be 'max' for her non-forcing bid and 4♠ may be on. \*The 'Law of Total Tricks' will protect you at the 3-level with a 9-card fit.

*An added frill for more experienced players might be to include a 'Super Support' bid by the Weak Two bidder in response to a new suit by responder. Say you hold ♠Q102 ♥AJ9875 ♦98 ♣32. You open 2♥ and partner responds 2♠. You should now bid 2NT. Even though 2♠ is not forcing, you must bid again if you have support. This hand has super support, considering you have a Weak Two opening. (It is inconceivable to think that opener could bid no trump in a nonforcing auction). This is a great way to distinguish between just having support and having super support!*

## WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Friday, 5 May – Bridge For Brains

Sunday, 7 May at 1.00 pm – Sunday Bridge (enter your name on the booking list)

Monday, 8 May – Red Point Monday – **Red Points**

Tuesday, 9 May – Marie Currell Novice Trophy – **Red Points**

Monday, 29 May – Winter Eclectic – **Red Points**

Tuesday, 30 May – Winter Eclectic – **Red Points**

Wednesday, 31 May (AM) – Winter Eclectic – **Red Points**

Wednesday, 31 May (PM) – Winter Eclectic – **Red Points**

## The Neville Langford Trophy



Ros Putland & Jenny Boxer

Congratulations to Jenny Boxer who was presented with the Neville Langford Trophy by Club Vice-President, Ros Putland following the Annual General Meeting. Jenny won this award for the most improved Novice player for 2022. Well done, Jenny!

## Club history - the Marie Currell Novice Trophy

In the year 2000, the Club was granted a land-lease by the Redland Council. Plans were drawn up for our clubhouse and quotes were obtained. The estimate for the building and initial fit-out was around \$480,000. As we didn't own the land, we were unable to borrow from a bank or any other lending source. Permission was granted from ASIC to borrow from the members of the Club. ABF and QBA lent \$20,000 each, and the rest came from the current members at the time.

Loan amounts ranged from \$500 to \$20,000 as well as other small sums being donated. Larger amounts were to be paid back at 1% above the interest rate at the time, and within 7-10 years.

When it was nearly time to commence building, the target amount was short by \$100,000. **Marie Currell** loaned this amount to the Club. All loans were fully repaid before Marie's death in 2009.

A proposal was put at the AGM 2009, for an Honour Board event to be scheduled annually in her honour. This was to be restricted to Novice players, as this is what her husband John, believed Marie would have wanted. We are very grateful to the person in whose memory the trophy was named.

## MARCH PROMOTIONS

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Ole Mosegaard    | Graduate     |
| John Bullion     | Club         |
| Pete Flanagan    | Local        |
| Sandra Devine    | Bronze Local |
| Bruce Donaldson  | Regional     |
| Turgut Manli     | Regional     |
| Janet Wilkie     | Regional     |
| Ada Krawczyk     | State        |
| Deborah Thomas   | Bronze State |
| Wendy Tollemache | Bronze State |
| Greg Nolan       | National     |
| Carmel Denaro    | Life         |
| Nigel Cleminson  | Bronze Life  |

*A winner listens to his partner's point of view; a loser just wants to express his own*



## **WHAT ANNOYS PLAYERS:**

*Peter Busch, QBA*

### ***Dummy perfection:***

Some dummies are overly fussy about neatness. When laying out dummy, they first place the four suits in four neat piles, so you can only see the top one of each, then they neatly move each card down, repositioning any cards on the way that are more than a micron out of line. Once done, they will fuss and move any column that is not completely square or equidistant from the others. During all this, the opponents are unable to make their assessment of dummy and have to wait for the show to finish. On the other hand, I guess I'm at the other extreme when it comes to laying out dummy. I'm sure my partners despair when my 13 cards hit the deck in a very "casual" layout. Maybe this infuriates opponents who fall into the "fussy dummy" category.

### ***Dummy playing without instructions from declarer:***

Dummy is just that – dummy. They cannot take any part in the play of the hand and can only do what declarer tells them to do. This means they shouldn't pick up a card and play it until declarer calls for it, and this even applies if there's a singleton on the table, or if Dummy thinks declarer's play is obvious e.g., ruffing or playing low under the ace. If the Director finds that Dummy suggested a play that wasn't what Declarer was going to do, they can award an adjusted score. I've seen occasions where dummy reaches for a trump expecting this to be Declarer's plan when Declarer may have thought the card they led was a winner, or worse, Dummy hovers over a discard when they know that Declarer has led a winner, but Declarer may not have realised their lead was a winner and was planning to trump.

### ***General rudeness and impoliteness:***

This is something close to the hearts of many players. People complain how rude it is when pairs continue their post-mortems of the previous hand and completely disregard the incoming players as they take their seats. People have also complained about general impoliteness they've encountered at the table – general discourtesies, not helping to pass boards, not clearing rubbish from the table at the end of the session etc. Opponents arguing with their partner is something else people hate, and this can be unpleasant for others at the table.

### ***Hogging the Bridgemate:***

In my opinion, the correct way for the EW player to accept a result is to leave the Bridgemate on the table as they press the Accept button. That way, all four players can see the following screen showing the other results. Some EW players hold the Bridgemate up in such a way that no-one else can see the screen as they press Accept and leave it there as they look at the other results before placing it back on the table. People have also mentioned to me that they don't like it when that player reads all the results out. As well as creating problems when it's overheard at the next table, there are times when the opponents know they got a bad result and don't want to know the gory details. My advice – look at the result if you want but say nothing – if the others want to know, they can look too.

### ***Congratulating partner:***

The bridge etiquette books tell us it's polite to say "Well played, partner" after your partner makes a contract as declarer. I don't agree - silence is a wonderful thing. There's been times when I know my partner or I have mis-defended and it's only because of this that the contract makes.

It's twisting the knife somewhat when an opponent congratulates their partner for their brilliant declarer play when it was not their good play but our bad play that let the contract make. I admit it can be difficult for newer players to notice when mis-defence has occurred – that's why I maintain that the best thing is to stay silent.

### ***Matters of impropriety:***

Things like hesitating before playing a singleton; hesitating when playing in second seat to make declarer think you've got a missing honour; asking questions or making comments to mislead the opponents; making comments or doing other things to suggest something to partner; prolonging play unnecessarily (e.g. failing to claim when the outcome is obvious); asking questions for your partner's benefit – these all fall under Laws 73 and 74, and infractions can be subject to procedural penalties. These laws also deal with etiquette, so the Director has the power to penalise general rudeness and impoliteness by a score adjustment if they feel it is appropriate.



### General handling of cards:

At least one opponent must be present before cards are removed from the board. Touching another player's cards is also a no-no (except that Declarer can touch the cards in dummy). Both these requirements are regularly flaunted.

### Detaching a card before it's your turn to play:

This is a specific item mentioned in Law 74 and seems to irk a lot of people. Its poor form because you are telling your partner that whatever they or the next hand does, this is the card you are playing. It is specifically listed as an infraction in Law 74B3, and also constitutes Unauthorised Information under Law 16. It also falls under the category of Deception if your aim is to suggest to the opponent that you only have one card that can be played at that turn and in fact you don't.

### Quitting a trick then re-facing it in order to ask others to re-face their cards played:

The laws allow a player to ask to see all cards played to the last trick until they have turned their card over. However, once they've turned their card over, they can't turn it back and ask others to show their cards. If this happens to you, you are within your rights to politely refuse.

### Semi-forcing natural 1C opening:

Some players play a short club as part of an otherwise natural system, but partner may respond to 1C no matter what their point count is, admitting when challenged "I couldn't leave opener in 1C – they might only have 2 clubs". If this is your agreement then partner needs to alert the response, explaining if asked that it may be as weak as zero points.

*Peter Busch, QBA*

**For those who don't want Alexa listening in on your conversations, they're making a male version.....it doesn't listen to anything.**

### Bits & Pieces

- Don't forget, our website has changed to: <https://redlands.bridgeaustralia.org/> (no www).
- **New Time for Saturday Bridge –**  
Please note: Commencing **Saturday, 6 May** the play session will commence at **12.00 noon**.
- **Good Housekeeping** – At the end of play for the day, please remember that it is the responsibility of *everyone* to leave the table neat and tidy. This includes east/west to empty the bins, north/south to return boards and bridgemates to their correct location, and for everyone to push their chairs in. If you have eaten at the table, please ensure that you have not dropped any food on the floor.
- **Name Badges** – As we welcome our new members and encourage them to play in the sessions, we get to know them with the help of their name badges. It is helpful for the new members if we also show them the same courtesy by always wearing our own 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.
- **Anzac Day** – Thanks to Di Elliott who organised Anzac biscuits for morning tea. These were thoroughly enjoyed by members on Tuesday (& Wednesday).

*A man with a wooden leg wanted to buy fire insurance for his leg. The first actuary quoted an annual premium of \$500, estimating that the leg would burn once in 20 years and the value of the leg is \$5,000. The second actuary quoted an annual premium of \$50. When the second actuary was asked how he arrived at such a small figure, he replied, "This situation is right here in the fire schedule rating table. The object is a wooden structure with an upper sprinkler, isn't it?"*

At a girl's college hostel, dates were permitted only on Saturday nights. One young man showed up on a Tuesday evening, explaining to an older woman in the lobby of the dorm that it was imperative he see a certain young lady immediately.

"I want to surprise her. You see, I'm her brother."

"Oh, she'll be surprised all right," said the woman. But think of how surprised I am! I'm her mother!"



An elderly man while reversing his car, hits the car of the guy behind him in an expensive Ferrari sports car. Enraged, the guy and his bodyguard hop out of the car and confront the old man.

"Look what you did to my car." he yells, "You're going to give me \$10,000 right now or my bodyguard is going to beat you to a pulp!"

"Oh my," says the petrified old man, "I don't have that kind of money. Let me call my son, he trains dolphins and he'll definitely know what to do."

"Dolphins?" the other driver shouts, while rolling his eyes and his sleeves up.

The old man pulls out his mobile phone and dials, and just as the son answers, the irate man snatches the phone away from the old man.

"So, you're a dolphin trainer, huh? Well, your old man here just rear-ended my Ferrari and I want ten grand right now or me and my bodyguard will beat your old man and even you to a pulp."

"I'll be there in ten minutes," says the voice calmly on the other end.

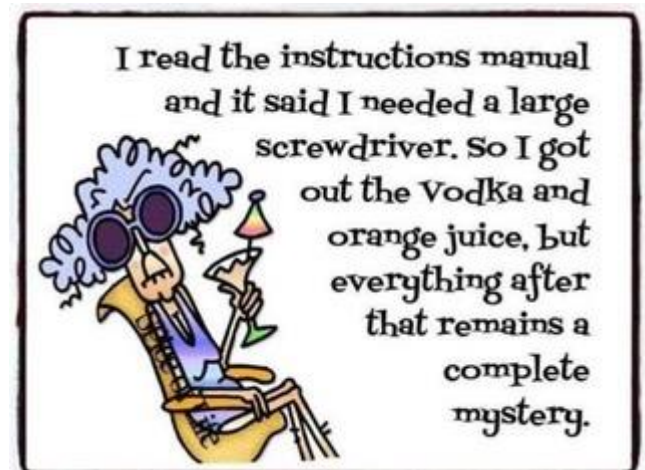
Exactly ten minutes later a jeep pulls up and a guy hops out and proceeds to single-handedly beat the living daylights of both the bully and his bodyguard, leaving them in a heap on the side of the road.

When he's finished, he walks over to his father and says: "For the last time Dad, I'm telling you that I train Seals, *Navy Seals*, not dolphins."



**The woodpecker might have to go.**

Whilst addressing a bunch of sleepy faces, the professor told his early morning class, "I've found that the best way to start the day is to exercise for five minutes, take a deep breath of fresh air, and then have a bowl of delicious cereal with raisins and almonds, a cup of green tea and finish with a cold shower ... then I feel rosy all over." A sleepy voice from the back of the room said, "Tell us more about Rosie."



"I'm home...What a terrible day...I took your ladyshaver to work instead of my taser!"