

# REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

# TRUMPIT



JUNE 2024

Hi Everyone,

*Well winter is here already, so remember that good basic hygiene of hand washing and/or using hand sanitiser will help to keep everyone healthy. If you haven't had one yet, now is a good time to have a flu shot.*

*Thanks to all those who have kindly told me how much they appreciate our monthly Trumpit newsletter to hear of what is going on (and of course the jokes). If you have any items to include, I am always happy to hear from you.*

*Did you know that both the ABF and QBF have newsletters to which you can subscribe? QBF Bulletins are published monthly, and you can subscribe by email: [manager@qldbridge.com](mailto:manager@qldbridge.com)*

ABF Newsletters are published every two months. Log on to <https://www.abf.com.au/abf-mailing-list/> and click on the ABF Sign up Form.

*Good bridging and keep smiling!*



*Robina Cooper*

*Failing to prepare,  
is preparing to fail.*

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Marie Currell Novice Pairs competition has been completed, and there was a new winner this year. Congratulations to Neal Healey and Robyn Esdale. The results were very close, with the winners being in doubt until the last round. The club rounds for the GNOT are being played this month on Fridays. This is a gold point event, and so it's one of the few opportunities to earn some gold points without going to one of the major congresses. The list for entries is on the board. If you can't make a full team, then find a partner and put your names up. We'll try to fill in any gaps.

The most recent set of lessons has been completed. All beginners have now returned to supervised play, and we have about three tables of people who are trying to deal with the normal bridge hands from the Wednesday morning sessions. We have a number of volunteers who provide the guidance for these sessions. This means that they only have to come to a few sessions during the four months that these operate. We are always looking for any others who would be interested in helping out.

The competition fields on Mondays and Tuesdays are now at very healthy levels, with around thirteen tables. These are still our largest groups for play. Thursdays are becoming a little better attended. We are seeing a few new players at the club. If you have someone at your table who you don't recognise, then please make them feel welcome. Look out for people wearing a "New Player" badge and treat them gently. Remember how daunting your first attempts were.

Following some resignations from the committee last month, we have a couple of new people filling roles.

Jane Whelan is the new Secretary and is responsible for congress management. Colin Gorton has resumed the position of Treasurer.

We're setting up to run our first congress for the year in July. It's for Under 500 and Under 100 MP. The notice sheets for this congress have been sent round to other clubs, and there are copies at the front desk. Nomination is through the MyABF website. We've managed to organise a small change for next year, with the event being for Under 500 MP graded, so that those of you who have cracked the 100 MP but are not enthusiastic about competing against much stronger players can still have a comparable field to enter.

The Office of Fair Trading has sent a notification to all clubs and societies that they must have a compliant procedure for dealing with disagreements or personality clashes. It must be based on mediation and formal dispute resolution. If a club doesn't develop their own procedure, then the OFT default one will apply. We've been informed about an OFT discussion group on this subject to be held via the Zoom app this month, and any club members who are interested can apply to join in. It's recommended that at least one committee member should attend. If you want to participate, look for the printout on the notice board.

The Australian Tax Office has also given out an instruction that any Not For Profit entity must register and complete an online declaration. This has been a bureaucratic overkill for small clubs like ours, and we've only managed to fight through the complications thanks to the efforts of Colin Gorton.

It's cold and flu season now, and there are still some instances of Covid. If you have a virus and are unwell, then please be considerate enough to stay away from the rest of us.

**Nigel Cleminson – Club President**

## APRIL PROMOTIONS

Chris Niemand	Local
Neil Niemand	Local

## IMPROVING YOUR OPENING BIDS

Gary Brown



With each of the following hands you are in either first or second seat and it is your bid. Would you open the bidding and if so, what is your bid?

1. ♠KJ4 ♥AKJ ♦73 ♣KJ752
2. ♠KJ ♥KJ54 ♦AQ42 ♣A432
3. ♠632 ♥54 ♦AQJ7 ♣AK82
4. ♠98 ♥AKQJ ♦98754 ♣K2
5. ♠KJ ♥109843 ♦AKQ65 ♣7
6. ♠KJ76 ♥A765 ♦AJ6 ♣42

1. 1NT - Okay with one doubleton rag and 5-card minor.
2. 1NT - Downgrade flawed 18 count. The spot cards are ugly, and the ♠KJ doubleton is suspect.
3. 1♦ - 4-4 in minors... Prepared to bid 2♣ if necessary...
4. 1♦ - Bid length - not strength....
5. 1♥ - Two 5-card suits bid the higher suit first....
6. 1♦ - Only time to ever open 1♦ with a 3-card suit.

### A Factor to consider When Evaluating Your Hand in First & Second Seat

#### The Rule of 20

Your hand: ♠AJ765 ♥3 ♦AJ765 ♣32

With only 10 HCP plus 2 length points for the fifth spade and fifth diamond, it still only adds up to a total point value of 12. Yet there is an excellent guide which allows you to open this hand.

It is the 'Rule of 20'. It works like this:

Add your High Card Points to the length of your two longest suits. If they total 20 or more, then go ahead and open the bidding! With the above hand, you have 10 HCP + 5 (spades) + 5 (diamonds) = 20.

What the Rule of 20 does, is that it takes into account not just high card points, but distribution as well.

## 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 RBC Bridge Play By-Laws*

## COMPETITION RESULTS

### Marie Currell Novice Pairs

Twenty-two (22) pairs competed for honours in our annual competition which is for our novice players. It proved to be a very exciting finish with a very close result.

Congratulations to the winning pair of **Robyn Esdale and Neal Healy**. Second place went to **Sammy and Wilmy Ziada**, and **Turgut Manli and Ronny Tollemache** third. Well done to everyone who helped to make this an exciting competition.



Robyn Esdale & Neal Healy

## WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

**\*\* Sunday, 2 June – Sunday Bridge\*\***

**Monday, 3 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points**

**Tuesday, 4 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points**

**Wednesday, 5 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points**

**Thursday, 6 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points**

**Friday, 7 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points**

**Saturday, 8 June – Winter Eclectic – Red Points**

**Friday, 14 June – GNOT Qual. Round 1 – Gold Points**

**Friday, 21 June – GNOT Qual. Round 2 – Gold Points**

**Friday, 28 June – GNOT Qual. Round 3 – Gold Points**

### Coming Up Next Month:

**Sunday, 7 July – Redland Novice and under 500**

**Pairs Congress – Red Points**

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

## SPECIAL 80<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY



*Congratulations to  
Wendy Tollemache*

## **DIRECTORS' CORNER - Chris Snook**

That's not right, is it? After discussion at a recent Directors Forum, we found the following comments are enough to make any Tournament Director cringe.

**1. "I'm declarer so I can just pick that up".** If declarer has played a card from their hand, then Law 45C.2 says it has been played "if it is held face up, touching or nearly touching the table; or maintained in such a position to indicate that it has been played". There is no "takesey-backsey" by declarer. The Director might apply Law 47 and require the card to be retracted to correct an irregularity or following a change of play by opponent or the play was based on a mistaken explanation. Otherwise, the card has been played.

**2. "The rest are ours".** Claiming is quite reasonable for declarer or either defender (the definition of a claim starts with "Any statement by declarer or either defender ..."). Dummy must not engage in play and should not say "the rest are ours" or make any similar statement about the tricks still in play. Such comment or gesture by dummy creates unauthorized information (Law 16B.1). It is possible that declarer might have misplayed the hand, until dummy interfered when they shouldn't have. It would be horrible if Director had to rule against you (via Law 16B.2 or 16B.3) because your dummy found an illegal voice and restricted your later card play choices. The term dummy came about because the hand opposite declarer is played by a dummy (an imaginary extra player) under declarers instruction. Dummy must keep quiet.

**3. "Having none".** Law 61 tells us that declarer may ask a defender who has failed to follow suit whether he has a card of the suit led. Dummy may ask declarer. Dummy may not ask a defender (otherwise they are trying to play the hand again). Defenders may ask declarer and one another (at the risk of creating unauthorized information). Nowhere does it say that you can triumphantly tell your partner "Having none". If you are a defender against 4 hearts, and partner leads a winning spade so you throw away a losing diamond hoping that partner will lead spades again so you can trump in – then this is good luck when it works. You're blurting out "having none" could be a wakeup call to partner to continue the suit so you can trump in – and this is not fair, so don't make the comment. It also is off-putting to

many declarers who are trying to concentrate on their hand.

**4. "Just pick it up".** A defender has played out of turn, attempted to revoke or otherwise managed to expose a card, and declarer (or even worse, dummy) tells them to pick it up. The Director should be summoned at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity. Saying "pick it up" is obviously drawing attention to the problem so any player (including dummy) should summon the Director. Law 10 continues "The Director alone has the right to determine rectifications when applicable. Players do not have the right to determine or waive rectifications on their own initiative. The Director may allow or cancel any enforcement or waiver of a rectification made by the players without his instructions." Law 81C.5 allows the Director to waive rectification, for cause, upon the request of the non-offending side. It is in the Laws but is rare.

**5. "If you don't do XXX, I'll call the Director".** Calling for the Director to give a ruling is a natural part of the game. You don't call the Director "on someone", you ask for help to correct an error in procedure and the Director will apply the appropriate law and judgement as required. You should always call the Director, not just when you are not getting your own way (probably by illegally making your own decisions at the table).

6. This last example is more seeing than hearing. Once the Director has given their ruling it is best to move away from the table so that you can focus on the rest of the room and if you are a playing Director that you can get back to your own hand. If you hover watching, what will you do if you see an infraction such as a revoke? You will recall the consequences of correcting a revoke are different if it is not established, if it is established, if it is on trick 12 or if attention was first drawn to the revoke after the round has ended or after a member of the non-offending side has made a call on the subsequent deal. If you see a problem then you must deal with it, but in this case, it is better to come back and visit the table a bit later, so you are into Law 64B territory (no automatic trick adjustment but still need to redress damage).



# BRIDGE BOOK REVIEW

by Cathy Mathieson



## How To Read Your Opponents Cards.

### The Bridge Experts' Way to Locate Missing High Cards

by Mike Lawrence

With this excellent book, World champion Mike Lawrence teaches you the critical skill of card location in contract bridge: how to determine which cards your opponents are holding based on what they did or didn't bid and what they've led or haven't led. Applying Mike's expert logic, you will be pointed to the likely location of the remaining un-played cards. Mike Lawrence teaches this essential skill by teaching you beneficial habits and patterns of thought:

Habits:	Patterns:
Don't play too fast at trick one	The player with a nondescript opening lead won't have A-K, or K-Q.
Analyse the Opening Lead	The opener, leading a small card, doesn't have the ace.
Count your winners	An over-caller will have 5 cards in that suit.
Count your losers	A pre-emptor has less than 10 high card points.
Review the auction	Remembering the point ranges of the opponents' bids.

Each chapter explains a principle and gives examples. All chapters but the last, which is about reading subtle tells and signs from your opponents, have a quiz section to help you practice techniques. If you follow his tips and concentrate on counting, distribution and applying deductive reasoning, your bridge game will greatly improve. A quote from a happy customer, "After reading this book (repeatedly, gaining added benefit each time), my opponents began to think we were playing bridge with glass cards".

Mike Lawrence became a World Bridge Champion at the age of 30. This was his first book. He has since written over 83 bridge books. This book is one of his most popular.

## Bits and Pieces

**Supervised Play** recommenced on Wednesday, 22nd May from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm, and will continue until advised.

### Wednesday Night Bridge

Anyone seeking a partner for Wednesday evening is advised to contact Graham Applegate before 2.00pm on the day.

If he's already taken, then go along anyway because the club has organised another fill-in player for odd numbers.

### Sunday Bridge

The session held on Sunday 5th May was a fun and social afternoon with a wonderful afternoon tea provided by players. We would have had 5 table but for 2 partners who became ill, and being considerate of everyone's welfare couldn't come.

We are all looking forward to the 2nd June session and hope you come and join us. It starts at 1.00 pm (but try to arrive by 12.30 pm please), and finishes approx. 4.15 pm.

If you need a partner, contact me and I will do my best to find one for you. ***Aвра Bowler*** Ph: 0407 207 732

***Congratulations*** to **Barbara Mackay and Barry Koster** who along with their teammates played in the ***Qld Graded Teams*** and achieved a **First Place in the B Grade**.

After winning the first round the Williams team lead the whole day until the 2nd to last round where they incurred a small loss which dropped them to 4th. However, on the last round both pairs thought they were invincible and bid or doubled for penalties where they could. Three boards made all the difference. Board 13 Barbara and Barry defended 5♦X while Daria and Peter in 3NT. A score of 900 to the "good guys" as 5♦X went down to the tune of 500 and 3NT made for 400. With 2 more boards showing large wins the team won the round by 63 to 7. Afterwards one of the opposition came and thanked them for a "close game". Each team member was presented with a pen inscribed with "QBA State Title Holder", which was a very exciting time for them....

*...but will Barbara be brave enough to remove the pen from the box to use it? .....*

## **SOME QUOTES FROM THE WONDERFUL BOB HOPE**

*A tribute to a man who DID make a difference.*

### ON TURNING 70

'I still chase women, but only downhill.'

### ON TURNING 80

'That's the time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing.'

### ON TURNING 90

'You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.'

### ON TURNING 100

'I don't feel old. In fact, I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.'

### ON GIVING UP HIS EARLY CAREER, BOXING

'I ruined my hands in the ring. The referee kept stepping on them.'

### ON NEVER WINNING AN OSCAR

'Welcome to the Academy Awards, or as it's called at my home, 'Passover.'

### ON GOLF

'Golf is my profession. Show business is just to pay the green fees.'

### ON PRESIDENTS

'I have performed for 12 presidents but entertained only six.'

### ON WHY HE CHOSE SHOWBIZ FOR HIS CAREER

'When I was born, the doctor said to my mother, Congratulations, you have an eight-pound ham.'

### ON RECEIVING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

'I feel very humble, but I think I have the strength of character to fight it.'

### ON HIS FAMILY'S EARLY POVERTY

'Four of us slept in the one bed. When it got cold, mother threw on another brother.'

### ON HIS SIX BROTHERS

'That's how I learned to dance. Waiting for the bathroom.'

### ON HIS EARLY FAILURES

'I would not have had anything to eat if it wasn't for the stuff the audience threw at me'

### ON GOING TO HEAVEN

'I've done benefits for ALL religions.

'I'd hate to blow the hereafter on a technicality.'

*One day a father, on his way home from work suddenly remembers that it's his daughter's birthday.*



*He stops at a toy store and goes in and asks the salesperson, "How much for one of those Barbies in the display window?"*

*The salesperson answers, "Which one do you mean, Sir? We have: Work Out*

*Barbie for \$19.95, Shopping Barbie for \$19.95, beach Barbie for \$19.95, Disco Barbie for \$19.95, Astronaut Barbie for \$19.95, Skater Barbie for \$19.95 and Divorced Barbie for \$265.95."*

*The amazed father asks: "It's what? Why is the Divorced Barbie \$265.95 and the others only \$19.95?"*

*The slightly miffed salesgirl rolls her eyes, sighs, and answers: "Sir, Divorced Barbie comes with: Ken's Truck, Ken's House, Ken's Fishing Boat, Ken's Furniture, Ken's Dog, and Ken's Computer."*

*Shortness is in the eye of the beholder.*



- Why did the Mexican take anti-anxiety medication? For Hispanic attacks.
- I asked the surgeon if I could administer my own anesthetic. He said, "Sure. Knock yourself out!"
- I got into a fight today with 1,3,5,7 and 9. The odds were really against me.
- In Britain it's called a lift, but Americans call it an elevator. I guess we were just raised differently.
- The Almighty said to John, "Come forth and ye shall receive eternal life." But John came fifth and got a toaster instead.