



New South Wales Bridge Association

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♠ ♥ Bulletin ♦ ♣

Editor: Peter Jamieson

Chairman's Corner

The lifeblood of any organisation is recruiting new members, and the NSWBA is exploring a variety of ways of reaching out to potential players.

Recently the NSWBA followed an initiative of Helen Sharwood of Bridge Inner West, and ran a stall at the Surry Hills Festival, a lively local event in inner Sydney in mid April, promoting bridge and inviting people to contact their local club and take lessons.

This was a significant effort and huge thanks are due to Liz Fanos, George Finikiotis and all the others who helped beforehand and on the day. They did a fantastic job!

As well as the obvious issues of having a well presented stall and good fulfilment material, they had to cope with the vagaries of wind and showers. Heroic stuff.



NSWBA members Michael Waring and Frieda Zlamal playing bridge at the stall thus helping to attract the interest of passers by.

Any clubs who are interested in setting up a stall in their area can get very useful guidance from Liz at the NSWBA.

It will be interesting to see how effective this form of promotion is in generating enquiries and new players. We are also exploring other media such as radio advertising.

Bruce Neill, Chairman

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

2009 Interstate Teams Championship

NSWBA recently held the qualifying rounds of the State team selection trials. The bridge is always tough in the latter stages of the trials when the players are getting tired. Many of the competitors rate these trials as amongst the best tournaments of the year.

The members of the NSW teams for the 2009 Australian National Championships (subject to council ratification) are:

Open:

Andrew Peake & Kieran Dyke
 Michael Hughes & Bruce Neill
 Pauline Gumby & Warren Lazer

Women:

Judy Mott & Avril Zets
 Helen Lowry & Berri Folkard
 Inez Glanger & Marcia Scudder

Seniors:

Frank Budai & Paul Lavings
 Steven Bock & Neville Moses
 Richard Douglas & Ross Stuart

(The Youth team selection trials will be held May 9)

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

LEAD PROBLEM FOR SOUTH

West dealer: North-South vulnerable
The opponents are playing a variation of Precision Club and after West opens 1♣ (strong) and East responds 1♦ they arrive in **6♦ by East**, after numerous relay bids by West.

You hold as South:


♠ J 7 6 3
♥ Q J 7 4
♦ 5
♣ J 7 4 2

You ask about the bidding and are told East showed a 5-2-4-2 distribution with 6 honour points (A=3, K=2, Q=1) with an top honour in spades and no honour in diamonds.

What is your lead. . .and why ? Answer page 3

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

DECLARER PLAY TESTER FOR SOUTH

Dealer W	North
E/W Vul	♠ A Q 7 4
	♥ 7 5
	♦ 10 9 5 4 2
	♣ Q 7
	
	South
	♠ 6 5
	♥ K 8 4 2
	♦ A Q J 6
	♣ K 5 4

West opens 1♥ and after two passes you decide to balance with 1NT(11-14 flat). That gets passed out and West leads ♣3 (they play 4th highest leads from length). You call for ♣Q which holds the trick as East plays ♠6 (natural count suggesting four clubs originally).

What next and. . .why ? Answer page 4

TWO BOOK REVIEWS

North of the Master Solver's Club – the bridge writings of Frank Vine

This is a collection of bridge columns by leading Canadian player/writer. It contains a mixture of writing styles including commentary, satire (send ups of Bidding Forums) as well as fiction (eg the adventures of Cornelius Coldbottom). Frank Vine (1927-1987) was a lawyer by profession and was also a bridge expert, Vine wrote articles in the 1970/s and 1980's for Bridge World and other magazines.

The book ends with a brilliant article titled Rashomon. As many people know, Rashomon was famous Japanese movie wherein an event occurs which is reported by four witnesses – and each report is different. Vine's article presents a bridge hand with reports on what happened and why by West, East, North and South. Many people consider this to be Frank Vine's best piece of bridge writing. RRP \$29.95

Improve Your Bidding Judgement

By Neil Kimelman

This is the first bridge book by 54 year old Canadian expert, Neil Kimelman. In chapters 1-12 (122 pages) he progressively introduces 26 bidding tips with example hands drawn from his own tournament experiences in Canada and USA but also from World Championships. Where available he gives you the names of the top players under his spotlight and discusses how they could have done better especially in competitive bidding situations (mostly IMPs scoring). He writes well and presents his thoughts most cogently.


The bidding system most often displayed is 5 card majors, 15-17 NT and 2/1 game force and many modern bidding treatments are encountered. The final section of the book (pp125-194) contains a variety of bidding problems (63 in total) followed by the solutions –some with full hands.

The book is rated Intermediate/Advanced by the publisher and would not be suitable for beginners. RRP \$29.95

Available through the usual bridge product retailers including:

♦ The Bridge Shop ☎02 9967 0644
♦ Post Free Bridge Books ☎02 9388 8861
(These reviews by Peter Jamieson)

ANSWER : LEAD PROBLEM FOR SOUTH

Board 12	♠T7	
Dealer W	♥KT86	
Vul N-S	♦K3	
	♣QT983	
♠K9		♠AQ842
♥A53		♥92
♦AQJT86		♦9742
♣A6		♣K5
	♠J653	
	♥QJ74	
	♦5	
	♣J742	

Hoi-Ming Chan was West, Leigh Matheson was East and Declarer. The only lead to defeat 6♦ is a heart. John Scudder as South found this lead on February 23 at NSWBA (session 4 stage 1 ITS). His thoughts:

- “A diamond lead would take out partner’s likely entry prematurely
- A spade lead was suicidal given that there were five in declarer’s hand
- If declarer held ♣A and ♠K a club lead could pick up partner’s ♠K, If declarer held ♠A and ♣K then I could pick up partner’s ♣Q and expose my ♣J.
- So hearts were left. I led ♥4 as I needed partner to hold only a short ten for it not to cost- dummy’s distribution was unknown (but probably 5+ ♦’s) and must be short in spades so could hold four or more hearts.
- Also if ♥A10 x came down in dummy and declarer has the ♥ K x, declarer is unlikely to insert the ten whereas, if I lead the ♥Q, I have blown the suit (If declarer has K9 and dummy A 10 x then I have just given him the contract by giving him a pitch of a losing club.”

Ed- the heart lead would be rated as an attacking lead –as recommended by bridge legend Benito Garozzo in his Bol’s bridge Tip - see <http://www.haroldschogger.com/garozzo.htm>

NB A few other pairs bid to 6♦ and were favoured with non heart leads and went down! Careful play will produce 12 tricks *via* cash ♦A then play 3 rounds of spades (pitch a ♥), now ruff a spade and West’s last ♥ goes away on the boss spade.



Manzoni Accessories are a sponsor of NSWBA

Principal items sold are fashion handbags, luggage, wallets, and jewelry. Their products are widely available in retail stores. You can view the product range in their catalogue at their web site (PDF format).

Go to www.manzoni.com.au

Central Coast Super Congress 28-29 March Swiss Pairs

- 1 Elizabeth Adams – Tony Nunn
- 2 Janet Clarke – Peter Johnman
- 3 Wayne Smith – Julie Gleeson

Teams

- 1 Kim Morrison, Marilyn Chadwick, Stephan Winkler, Ross Stuart
- 2 Neville Nott, Wayne Zhu, Ranjit Limaye, Henk Sluyter
- 3 Jennifer Rothwell, George Bilski, Marlene Watts, Edward Chadwick

Hawksbury Congress 18-19 April-Pairs

- 1 Pauline Gumby – Warren Lazer
- 2 Dick Deveridge – Peter Lameks
- 3 Michael Wilkinson – Jeannette Reitzer

Teams

- 1 Helena Dawson , Jamie Ebery, Kevin Davies, Steven Bock
- 2 John Briggs, Sarah Rutherford, Shirley Arnold, Patricia Grigson
- 3 Ranjit Limaye, Henk Sluyter, Wayne Zhu, Neville Nott

North Shore B C – Anzac Swiss Pairs

- 1 Maurits Van der Vlugt & Stephan Winkler
- 2 Greg Quittner & Heather Lane
- 3 Lidia Punturiero & Ian Plummer

– Anzac Teams

- 1 Maurits Van der Vlugt & Stephan Winkler, Nye Griffiths, Sartaj Hans
- 2 Julian Foster, Kim Morrison, Tony Nunn, Nick Rodwell
- 3 Chris Dibley, Julie Gleeson, Warren Dobes, Wayne Smith

ANSWER: DECLARER PLAY TESTER

The bidding tells you several things:

East passed the 1♥ opening bid and so has less than 6 HCP. Their system employs 5 card majors so West has five hearts (with six West might have bid 2♥). West appears to have four clubs given the lead and signals. The corollary of this analysis is that East has four or five spades. The person with the spade length is more likely to have any specific card so if you 'give' East the ♠K then all other big cards are with West.

Backing your analysis you should play a diamond to your ace and continue with ♦Q if ♦K does not appear. Should East turn up with ♦K then you still have a good chance to make 1NT as you can still take the spade finesse.

<p>Dealer W E/W Vul</p>	<p>North ♠ A Q 7 4 ♥ 7 5 ♦ 10 9 5 4 2 ♣ Q 7</p>	<p>East ♠ K 10 9 3 ♥ J 10 ♦ 8 7 3 ♣ J 9 6 2</p>
<p>West ♠ J 8 2 ♥ A Q 9 6 3 ♦ K ♣ A 10 8 3</p>	<p>South ♠ 6 5 ♥ K 8 4 2 ♦ A Q J 6 ♣ K 5 4</p>	

This was board 5 (rotated) from the last session (Round 3) of the Gold Coast Pairs 2009 finals. At the table in one section Declarer lazily (and too quickly) played a diamond to the queen and the defence switched to spades and in due course defeated 1NT

If you are curious to see what happened at all 154 tables, that information is available at the ABF Gold Coast Congress web site. By the way, Deep Finesse says E/W can make 2♠ or 3♣ and N/S can make 3♦. Making 1NT gets you between 70 and 80% in most sections.

Notice to Clubs - Red master points

Bridge for Brains and Stroke Awareness Charity fundraisers are B4s events which don't have to be used out of the club's allocation





Barrier Reef Congress

Cairns June 5-8, 2009

\$10,000 Prizes

An ABF Gold Point Event

Swiss Pairs (Open and Restricted)
Swiss Teams (Open and Restricted)

Bridgemate

Venue:	The Sebel Cairns
Chief Director:	Sean Mullanphy
Convenor:	Andrew Hooper 07 4059 2907
Congress Secretary:	David McConachie 07 4055 3448
Web Site:	www.qldbridge.com/brc
E-Mail:	brc@cairnsbridgeclub.org.au

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

NSWBA Bridge Lessons

The next set of beginners lessons will be run in August 2009 by Ed Barnes from the following dates:

Tuesday Mornings 10.00am-1.00pm
from August 11

Tuesday Evenings 7.00-10.00 pm
from August 11

10 lessons at a cost of \$140. No need to pay until the second lesson.

Phone NSWBA office on 02 92648111 to enquire further or book in or send email office@nswba.com.au

MINIBRIDGE

This is a re-print of an article from New York Times August 13,2008 by Phillip Alder, their Bridge columnist.

“Do not be alarmed by the bidding diagram. All will be revealed.

North

♠ A 6 3
♥ Q J 10
♦ K J 5 2
♣ 10 5 3

West

♠ K J 8 7 4
♥ 2
♦ 9 6
♣ K J 8 7 4

East

♠ 10 2
♥ 9 8 7 5 4
♦ 8 7 4 3
♣ A 6

South

♠ Q 9 5
♥ A K 6 3
♦ A Q 10
♣ Q 9 2

South	West	North	East
17	8	11	4
3NT			

West led the ...what ?

Late in 2005, Warren E. Buffett and Bill Gates put up \$1 million to try to get bridge teaching started in schools. The program enjoyed success and helped lead to the inaugural Youth North American Championships in Atlanta last month. But the reins have been handed to the School Bridge League (schoolbridgeleague.com). It is under the umbrella of the League (leagueworldwide.org), which is a school and Web-based system that combines service, learning and friendly “co-opetition” with live interactive events for the young.

The best way to start playing is with Minibridge, originally devised in the Netherlands. Minibridge allows beginners to get to sensible contracts without knowing anything about bidding.

Starting with the dealer, each player announces his high-card point count. The pair with the greater number is assumed to have won the auction. (If there is a 20-20 tie, the deck is reshuffled.) And the partner with the higher count becomes the declarer. Then the dummy is laid face up on the table so that declarer may select his final contract.

The teacher begins by explaining that with 40 points in the deck and 13 tricks to be played, each trick is worth three points. So, on the first day of class, declarer divides the combined point count by three and contracts for that number of tricks in his best

eight-card-or-better trump fit. If he has no eight-card fit, he plays in no-trump. This will often result in underbidding, but beginners underplay too.

The next lesson includes counting shortage points when there is a good trump fit. This both gets the contract to the proper level and allows the players to appreciate the value of short suits when they have lots of trumps. They also learn about game bidding and the reason for leaning toward three no-trump in preference to five of a minor.

After the contract has been selected, the opening lead is made. This might be more effective than usual because the leader has already seen the dummy and knows his partner's point count, but he has not heard an auction.

Take the diagrammed deal, for example.

South becomes the declarer with his 17-point hand. Adding partner's 11 and dividing by 3 gives 9. And since the partnership has no eight-card fit, South selects three no-trump as his contract.

What should West lead?

In real bridge, after an auction of one no-trump/three no-trump, West would pick his fourth-highest spade. In this situation you lead a major, not a minor, because North did not try to find a major-suit fit.

Looking at the North hand, though, West would probably select a low club. East would win with his ace and return his second club, giving the defenders the first five tricks.

Start your children with Minibridge.”

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Ed – Richard and Sue Grenside told me that they taught Minibridge last year on a cruise in 2008 and received very positive feedback from the participants.

If you GOOGLE Minibridge you will find numerous web sites to visit to find out more.

If you live in an area without access to a local bridge teacher then Minibridge would be a good way to show friends the card play side of contract bridge without having to explain the complexities of bidding. If they enjoy Minibridge then you can explain the basics of bidding and point them in the right direction viz bridge lessons or lend them a bridge book aimed at beginners.

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

Training your Brain – with Bridge!

Worried about your memory? It's good to know that there are things you can do.

Alzheimer's Australia's Mind your Mind® program has identified some specific healthy lifestyle factors that may help to reduce the risk, or delay the onset of dementia. One of these factors is brain activity, such as playing games including crosswords, chess, sudoku and, of course, bridge!

By playing bridge, you are keeping the brain active which is thought to build reserves of brain cells and enhance their connections, helping to keep you mentally sharp. But as bridge players, I'm sure you already know this! What you might not know is that there is a strong connection between a healthy brain and a healthy heart.

This year, Alzheimer's Australia NSW was able to let us know about an amazing 'good news' story. After a decade of clinical and scientific research, Dr Michael Valenzuela, a Research Fellow at the School of Psychiatry, University of NSW has discovered a significant medical link between heart health and brain health.

What he found was that treating blood pressure decreases the incidence of dementia. "After 100 years of research into risk reduction measures for dementia, we finally seem to have found an effective medical weapon – that of blood pressure tablets," Dr Valenzuela stated.

Dr Michael Valenzuela has brought together information from global clinical research, population studies, experimental evidence and biological theory, to argue that there are direct links between heart disease risk factors and developing dementia. "So the number one thing a person can do to help prevent dementia is to have your blood pressure checked regularly and if it is high take the right measures to bring it under control," suggests Dr Michael Valenzuela.

Currently about 70% of Australians over the age of 65 have high blood pressure, but more than half are not treating it. Medical treatments are available for high blood pressure, and quite often, it can be controlled through diet and exercise.

About 230,000 people across Australia already have dementia and this number is predicted to double by 2030. The findings from Dr Valenzuela's research bring enormous hope in the fight against the predicted dementia epidemic.

Alzheimer's Australia NSW urges anyone with high blood pressure, irrespective of their age, to



follow these recommendations:

- Get your blood pressure (BP) checked annually
- If your BP is too high, start with lifestyle changes (as detailed below) and then, if required, trial medication with your GP.
 - Ensure your weight range is within the healthy Body-to-Mass Index (BMI).
 - Exercise regularly (keep playing bowls!)
 - Quit smoking immediately
 - Maintain a healthy balanced diet, with plenty of brain and heart-friendly food.
 - Have your cholesterol checked
 - Have your blood sugar checked

*This information has been provided by **Alzheimer's Australia NSW**. Alzheimer's Australia NSW is the peak body for people with dementia and their families and carers. It provides advocacy, support services, education and information.*

If you or a loved one has any concerns about their memory, please call the National Dementia Helpline on 1800 100 500 or visit our website at <http://www.alzheimers.org.au>.

CONGRESS RESULTS:

North Shore Summer Teams 1 Feb

- 1 Jeanette Reitzer, Ted Chadwick
Marlene Watts, David Beauchamp
- 2 Claire Goodyer, Roslyn Howes,
Julianne Rocks, Margaret Foster
- 3 Marcia and John Scudder,
Tina Zines, Inez Glanger

North Shore Black Friday Pairs Feb 13

- 1 NS Helena and Tony Hutton
- 2 NS Colin and Marie Hucker
- 1 EW Bob Richman, Peter Gill,
- 2 EW Ted Chadwick, Jeannette Reitzer

Trumps Summer Teams 15 Feb

- 1 Bob Richman, Peter Gill, Sartaj
Hans, Tony Nunn
- 2 Sue Ingham, Terry Brown, Kieran
Dyke, Jane Douglass
- 3 Stephen Bock, Martin Bloom, John
Mottram, Liz Quittner

Great Lakes Feb22

- 1 Garry Clarke, Sally Clarke
Shirley and Noel Crockett
- 2 Michael Wilkinson, Erin Tewes,
Ellena Moskovsky, Brad Cole
- 3 Greg and Sharon Mayo, Ken Wilks
and Eileen Pickles

Lismore Teams March 15

Final

- 1 Eric Hurley, Judith Peiti,
Janet Brown, Fiona Brown
- 2 Roger and Barbara Weathered,
Robert and Helen Milward

Plate

- 1 Pat Preston, Shirley Mazzer,
Marie Carter, Lesley Burford
- 2 Helen Hancock, Elizabeth Adams,
Robyn Gough, Frankie Crehan

Peninsula Teams March 22

- 1 Neville Nott, Wayne Zhu ,
Ranjit Limaye , Henk Sluyter
- 2 Marilyn Grass , Barbara Madeley
Peter Bendelstein , Terry Bodycote

Armidale Pairs March 21-22

Final

- 1 Ann Pettigrew & Adrienne Stephens
- 2 Justine Harkness & David Weston
- 3 Qin Li & Daoping Nie

Consolation

- 1 Greg & Sharon Mayo
- 2 Arthur Anlezark & Margaret Thorn
- 3 Tim & Jane Fenwicke

Bateman's Bay Congress March 15

Pairs

- 1 Janet Kahler and Alison Farthing
- 2 Mark Abraham and Michael Wilkinson
- 3 Ken Colbert and Eric Glass

Teams Final

- 1 Ellena Moskovsky*, Griff Ware,
Keiran Crowe-Mai, Christy Geromboux and
Sebastian Yuen
- 2 Norma Gowing, Edith Jones, Sue
Williamson, Lewis Seychell

* Ellena is in her last year of high school in Newcastle. In the pairs plate she and Matt Porter were equal first with Helena Canaris and Keiran Crowe-Mai

Maitland Congress April 4-5

Teams Final

- 1 Helena Dawson – Jamie Ebery
- 2 Alice Landy – Hugh Cone
- 3 Mike Parfait – Chris Dibley

Teams

- 1 Greg and Sharon Mayo, Garry and
Sally Clarke
- 2 Helena Dawson, Jamie Ebery,
Normand Maclaurin, Christine Williams
- 3 Michael Johnson, Catherine James,
Arthur Anzelark, Margaret Thorn

Trumps Good Friday Pairs

- 1 William Zhang and Mike Wu
- 2 Richard Potok and Michael Courtney
- 3= Nicky Strasser and Justin Howard
- 3= Janet Rowlatt and Bev Peters

Trumps Easter Teams

- 1 Dagmar Neumann, Helena Dawson,
Jamie Ebery, Mauritz Van Der Vlugt
- 2 Alex Yezerski, George Finikiotis,
Milan Durovic, Witold Chylewski
- 3 David Boga, Louise and Terry
Collins, Rosa Pang

DIARY OF UPCOMING CONGRESSES IN NSW

NOTE: visit NSWBA web site and select *Congresses in NSW*, to send email to the convenor or enter the Congress online or, where available, view PDF of advertising brochure.



May 16-17	Coffs Harbour	Teams	Robyn Bingham	6651 7845
May 17	Strathfield	Teams	Peter Douglas	0402 110932
May 23-25	Mudgee	Fri: Walk In Pairs Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Val Heferen	6372 3383
May 23-24	Leeton Soldiers	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Pam Lonnie	6959 2259
May 24	Trumps	Autumn Teams	Derrick Browne	9969 5959
May 24	Tweed	May Madness Butler Pairs	Mary Knight	5576 1570
May 31	NSWBA	Teams of Three	Office	9264 8111
June 13-14	Newcastle	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Janet Hill	4953 4708
June 13-14	Illawarra Master Builders	Sat: Open Pairs Sun: Open Teams	Chris Diment	4227 2799
June 14	Wollstonecraft	Teams	Bev Clarke	9436 2191
June 21	Tweed	Wintersun Teams	Mary Knight	5576 1570
June 21	NSWBA	Congress Swiss Pairs	Office	9264 8111
June 26,27,28	North Shore Super Congress	Friday: Swiss Teams Fri Evening: Pairs Sat: Swiss Pairs Sun: Swiss Teams	John McIlrath	0437 274 343
June 26-28	Orange	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Margaret Robinson	6362 8241
June 28	Ballina	Pairs	M Goodall	6681 5533
June 27-28	Tamworth	Swiss Pairs Teams	C Stevenson	6765 9498
July 19	Twin Towns	Teams	Ernie Scott	5536 1173
July 19	Trumps	Winter Teams	Derrick Browne	9969 5959