



New South Wales Bridge Association

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♠ ♥ Bulletin ♦ ♣

Editor: Peter Jamieson

Chairman's Corner

Bridge administration can be something of an unrecognised task ... unless something goes wrong! Occasionally we should acknowledge the contribution of our volunteer administrators.

In that spirit, I extend my thanks to the four councillors who retired at the NSWBA Annual General Meeting: Marilyn Chadwick, John Brownie, Ted Chadwick, and especially Kim Neale who has been on council for four years as well as convening the Spring Festival of Bridge.

Following the AGM, we have a new Secretary, Nye Griffiths, and two new councillors, John Scudder and Michael Wilkinson. I am confident all three will be great assets to Council. John Scudder in particular brings a wealth of experience in bridge administration, not least as a past convener of the ABF Summer Festival of Bridge.

The one gap in our line-up is that we have no representatives for affiliated clubs in metropolitan Sydney, or in Southern/Western NSW. A focus for 2010 will be to improve our contact with and support for all clubs, especially those outside Sydney.

All the best for the holiday season and for 2010.

Bruce Neill
Chairman



Annual General Meeting

About 20 people attended this year's AGM.

Minutes of AGM December 2008 were confirmed. There was no business arising or

correspondence. The 2009 Annual report was accepted. The operating profit was \$48,832 (down from \$58,053 the previous year). The 36 page Annual Report is available at our web site in PDF format. At our home page select Member Services, then select Annual General Meeting, then select Dec 16 2009 and you will see the PDF Icon for the Report.

The NSWBA Council for 2009 – 2010 is shown in the table below (together with assigned portfolios).

Name	Portfolio
Bruce Neill	Chairman, Promotion & Marketing
Nye Griffiths	Secretary, Youth
Julian Foster	Treasurer
Kim Morrison	Rules & Ethics
Leigh Matheson	Teaching
Michael Wilkinson	Directors & Appeals
John Scudder	Spring Festival
Warren Lazer	Chairman Tournament Committee
Louis Koolen	Outer Sydney Metropolitan, Web & Technology
Trish Carter	Northern Country
Vacant	Metropolitan
Vacant	Southern/Western

GOOD ADVICE FOR SERIOUS TOURNAMENT BRIDGE PLAYERS

Mark Horton is a top UK bridge player. In 2007 the American Contract Bridge Bulletin published his article *Boy Scout Bridge – Be Prepared*.

“Having watched the last day of the Masters in Augusta, I have often thought how the scoring in golf reflects that in bridge. Why is it that a player can shoot 65 one day and 75 the next? How can you score 67% one day and 47% the next? If only a player could bring his best game to the course or table every time it was needed.

Well there are ways to give you a much better chance of getting your best game to the table. Next time you are due to play, try following this game plan.

- Don't eat a big meal before the game and don't drink! In his book, *At the Table* Bob Hamman describes how the Aces lost a match where they had a big lead because they wined and dined between sessions.
- Never arrive at the bridge table in a rush. Always allow yourself plenty of time, especially if any degree of travelling is involved.
- If you can, walk to the venue – the fresh air will clear your mind.
- Well before play is due to begin, take a look at your system, just to remind yourself about the key points. You will feel more comfortable, especially if you need to employ any relatively rare agreements. You don't think this is necessary? In a recent national teams final, the Rabbi (Leonard Helman) and I missed a slam because of a mix-up over the responses to Roman Keycard Blackwood- I couldn't remember if we were playing 1430 or 0314 !
- Arrive at the table a few minutes before game time and settle down. Check your bidding box to make sure you have all your bids. The idea is to get into a cocoon of concentration.

- When you are dummy-relax ! Apart from making sure partner does not commit a mechanical error, this is the chance to take a breather and get ready for the next deal.
- Never discuss a deal with partner or the opponents until the session is completed. Even if you want to discuss a bidding situation, the best time to do it is at the end of the session. Don't even think about a discussion during the hospitality break.
- As soon as a deal has been completed, erase it from your memory. There is nothing you can do to change the result, and the most important thing is the new deal that you are about to play. In a team game, there is always the chance that your other pair will cover for you. I recall an occasion when my partner and I bid to the worst of three possible grand slams and conceded minus 50. When we scored up the deal, our team mates announced 'Plus fifty'. “Oh were they one down in seven diamonds as well?” No they were one down in two spades.” (Ask me next time you see me!)
- In a pairs game, assume that during the session you will have four terrible boards-either because of your own mistakes or through the skill (and sometimes luck) of your opponents. That way you won't get upset about a bad result - you have already allowed for it. I once had a session when the first four boards were zeros. With those out of the way the rest was a breeze!

Mark Horton, born 1950 is British author, journalist and expert on bridge as well as a former lawyer and chess champion. He has been the editor of *Bridge Magazine* since 1995.

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Three New Paperback Books from Masterpoint Press

The Complete Book of Overcalls

by Mike Lawrence

Originally published in 1980, this book quickly became recognized as a 'must-read' for any would-be bridge expert, and has never been out of print. Now, almost 30 years later, the author has revised, updated and expanded it to take into account modern developments in the theory and practice of competitive bidding. Every problem and comment in the book has been reviewed and revised if necessary, to take into account the ways that doubles and cue bids are used today.

Chapter 17 titled Modern Methods is where you will find bids like jump cue bids or bidding 2NT in 4th seat as suit raise of partner's overcall when 3rd chair raises opener to 2 level. It makes sense for your regular partners to get a copy of the book. Assuming you both agree with all the methods recommended by Lawrence, then your partnership will be able to avoid silly accidents.

Anyone who is at all serious about improving their game needs to own a copy of this book. Mike Lawrence has won three world titles and eighteen national titles. Several of his bridge books are considered classics.

(**Rated : Intermediate / Advanced , \$32.95**).

Take all Your Chances at Bridge

by Eddie Kantar

Selecting the best line of play as declarer on a bridge hand is not easy. Many non experts know something about basic odds and percentages, and can often find a line of declarer play that offers a reasonable chance of success. However, the expert player will skillfully combine options, so as to take advantage of more than one possibility.

Rather than putting all his eggs in one basket, he will 'stay alive', squeezing out every extra chance. In this book of intermediate problems, Kantar shows the reader how to do this – there is always a line of play that will allow you to take all your chances, and bring home your contract. The deals are constructed and some are taken from Kantar's earlier writings. Solving these problems requires some knowledge of percentages.

Do you know what the chances are of a 2-2 break or a 3-1 break holding nine cards between your hand and dummy? Kantar gives you the most common

percentages in appendix 2 and you should refresh your memory before tackling the problems.

Eddie Kantar is a world champion and one of the world's most popular writers and teachers.

(**Rated Intermediate - Price: \$28.95**).

It's Your Call

by Marshall Miles

For about 25 years, Marshall Miles was the moderator of a monthly all-star bidding panel for a California bridge publication. This book is a compilation of his favourite problems from those years, together with the panel's views and the author's own trenchant comments. As ever, he goes his own way; he refuses, for example, to assign scores to various bids on the grounds that he wasn't going to give himself 20/100 when he knew his answer was right, even if no-one on the panel agreed with him! A bonus section includes Miles' latest thoughts and recommendations on a number of cutting-edge bidding ideas.

Marshall Miles, though now in his eighties, is still regarded as one of the world's leading bidding theorists. His long and successful playing career includes a World Senior Teams Championship, and his 1957 book (How to Win at Duplicate Bridge) is regarded as being among the all-time classics on the game. The author's introduction to that book gives you a good feel for his style : "This is a book for those who take bridge seriously. If you do not care particularly whether you win or lose so long as you have fun, I envy you. What an excellent attitude to take toward recreation! But this book is not for you. It is for greedy players who want to win far more than their fair share of the time. It is for players who are dissatisfied with coming in second when they should have come in first."

Miles' new book has similar flavour. A stimulating and often amusing read.

(**Rated : Advanced, Price: \$29.95**)

Available through the usual bridge product retailers including:

- The Bridge Shop (02) 9967 0644 or via Bronwyn McLeod in Brisbane (0417 602 812)
- Post Free Bridge Books (02) 9388 8861
- JW & S Hardy (07) 3398 8898

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Defence Problem #1 for West

After two passes South opens 1NT (15-17). You decide to pass (though some players would enter the auction with their anti 1 NT gadget) and North bids 2♥ (transfer). South bids 2♠ – alerted (failure to break the transfer denies “super accept” values) and now North jumps to 4♠

Suspecting heart shortage in dummy you decide to lead your singleton. Partner wins and returns ♦6 which you ruff. What now? Answer page 5

<p>Dealer: N Vul: Nil IMPs</p>	<p>North</p> <p>♠ K J 10 4 3 ♥ 3 ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ A 10 5 4</p>
<p>West</p> <p>♠ Q 9 7 ♥ A K 8 6 5 ♦ J ♣ J 9 3 2</p>	<div style="background-color: black; width: 40px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 40px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 40px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 40px; height: 15px;"></div>

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Defence Problem #2 for West

<p>Dealer: W Vul: Nil IMPs</p>	<p>North</p> <p>♠ J 8 ♥ J 9 2 ♦ A K 10 8 6 2 ♣ J 2</p>
<p>West</p> <p>♠ A 10 7 ♥ K 10 8 7 6 5 4 ♦ 3 ♣ A 9</p>	<div style="background-color: black; width: 40px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 40px; height: 15px;"></div>

You open 1H, North bids 2D, East passes and South bids 3NT which is passed out.

You lead a normal low heart and it goes ♥2, ♥3. ♥Q.

At trick two declarer plays ♠6 and the spotlight is on you – what do you do and why ? Answer page 5

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LOOKING TO LEARN BRIDGE IN NSW ?

Visit our web site and select the **Lessons** page to find details of lessons at the NSWBA and other clubs in NSW.

Bridge Lessons at the NSWBA

Beginners lessons will be run in February 2010 by Ed Barnes from the following dates:

Tuesday Mornings 10am-1pm from February 2
 Tuesday Evenings 7-10pm from February 2

The 10 lessons, cost \$140. No need to pay till the second lesson

NSW 2010 Team Trials

The Open Trials Stage 1 begins Monday evening February 1 and continues the next three Monday nights. This is considered by many to be the ‘best’ event on the NSWBA calendar. The Interstate Championships are being held in Hobart next year.

Some pairs are eliminated and Stage 2 begins Wednesday evening March 10. The Women’s Team trials commence Wednesday evening March 10.

The finals of both events are over three full days - April 24, 25 (Anzac Day) and Monday 26 (NSW Public Holiday for Anzac Day).

The Youth and Seniors Team Trials are held in May. Visit our web site for more details.

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Manzoni Accessories are one of NSWBA's sponsors.

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 (in PDF format).

Go to: www.manzoni.com.au

Answer Defence Problem #1 for West

♠ K J 10 4 3
♥ 3
♦ 10 8 2
♣ A 10 5 4

West

♠ Q 9 7
♥ A K 8 6 5
♦ J
♣ J 9 3 2

East

♠ 8 6 2
♥ Q 10 9 2
♦ A 6 5 3
♣ 8 6

South

♠ A 5
♥ J 7 4
♦ K Q 9 7 4
♣ K Q 7

The solution is simple. There is no room for partner to have another ace or king card. You began with 11 points. Dummy has 8 points. Partner has shown up with ♦A.....and South opened a 15-17 1NT. But there is just room for partner to hold ♥Q. The only way to beat this 4♠ contract is to lead a low heart to partner's queen for a second ♦ ruff. Yum!

Defence Problem #2 for West

Dealer: W
Vul: Nil
IMPs

North

♠ J 8
♥ J 9 2
♦ A K 10 8 6 2
♣ J 2

West

♠ A 10 7
♥ K 10 8 7 6 5 4
♦ 3
♣ A 9

East

♠ 9 5 4 3
♥ 3
♦ 9 7
♣ K Q 7 5 4 3

South

♠ K Q 6 2
♥ A Q
♦ Q J 5 4
♣ 10 8 6

This is easy provided you are in the habit of counting, Counting tricks that is - - -

You know South has ♥A and is certain to have some sort of fit in diamonds. Two heart tricks plus six diamond tricks = 8. If you play a low spade you will be writing down -400 on your score sheet.

The only hope is that declarer has punted 3NT with no club stopper. So jump up with ♠A and switch to ♣A and another club thus holding declarer to six tricks. In one match in the recent State Teams finals series the bidding and play were as above and both West's failed to grab their Ace of spades. Flat board.

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Book Review

Right Through the Pack Again

by Ron Klinger

In 1948 *Right Through the Pack* by Robert Darvas and Norman De V. Hart was published. Each card of each suit tells a story about its role in a bridge deal. The dialogue was chatty and often amusing and of course some of the deals were difficult.

Ron Klinger's book *Right Through the Pack Again* was first published in UK in late 2008 and has won 2009 International Bridge Press Association Book of the Year. The book pays homage to the original and the focus each time is on **The Old Master** who is usually sitting South as declarer but sometimes sits West as defender. Each tale in the original book had a clever title (eg *The Dog In The Night Again* for ♦J's story) and Klinger has come up with his own batch of succinct and descriptive titles such as '*The taming of the shrewd*' for his ♦Q story.

Most of the hands Klinger uses are from actual play though some deals are constructed (appendix 2 gives source of each deal). Klinger's text accompanying each hand is often quite brief - compared to the original book in which the text was often much too long winded. In Klinger's book some cards get to tell a second story allowing Klinger to present 64 hands.

In fact the book contains even more clever deals in Appendix 1 which is titled '*Prequel, The Old Master, The Early Days*'. The deals presented appeared in The Bridge World in past decades and were all written by Ron Klinger.

In his foreword Klinger mentions that Julian Pottage's 2006 book '*Back Through the Pack*' was in essence the second version of *Right Through the Pack* to appear. Thus Klinger's book can be viewed as the third version.

Right Through the Pack Again can be ordered from Modern Bridge (02) 9958 5589 PO Box 140 Northbridge NSW 1560 or email suzie@ronklingerbridge.com
Price \$35 + post \$2.75

Alternatively contact your usual bridge book outlet who will be able to supply the book.

Review by Peter Jamieson

Answer your own prayers

This bridge article courtesy of www.ronklingerbridge.com

Problem 1

West ♠ Q 7 2 ♥ A 8 7 5 3 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ 8 7	■■■	East ♠ A K 5 ♥ K J 9 6 4 ♦ 9 7 3 ♣ A K
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West opens 1H and ends in 6H. North leads the CQ. Plan the play.

Problem 2

West ♠ A J 7 6 4 ♥ K 6 3 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ A K	■■■	East ♠ K Q 9 8 ♥ A Q 5 4 ♦ 6 5 3 ♣ Q 6
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After West bids 2NT : East 3C, West 3S (five spades), the bidding ends in 6S and North leads the C10. Plan the play. Trumps are 2-2.

Solution to Problem 1

West ♠ Q 7 2 ♥ A 8 7 5 3 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ 8 7	North ♠ J 8 6 ♥ Q 10 2 ♦ K J 2 ♣ Q J 10 9	East ♠ A K 5 ♥ K J 9 6 4 ♦ 9 7 3 ♣ A K	South ♠ 10 9 4 3 ♥ — ♦ 8 6 5 4 ♣ 6 5 4 3 2
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In 6H, West took the club lead and played a low heart to the ace to cater for North holding all three trumps. He drew the missing trumps, ending in dummy, and continued with a low diamond to the ten. North won with the DJ and exited with the SJ. Declarer took this in dummy and, praying silently, ('Please, please let the DK be onside') he played a diamond to the queen and the slam was one down.

Where did West go wrong? The trump play was excellent, but after drawing trumps, West should cash the spade winners and then the CA (stripping the black suits) to create a void in each hand. Only then play a diamond to the ten. North wins with the DJ, but has no successful continuation. Another diamond goes into the A-Q, while either black suit gives West a ruff-and-discard. This line guarantees success regardless of the position of the DJ and DK.

Solution to Problem 2

West ♠ A J 7 6 4 ♥ K 6 3 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ A K	North ♠ 5 2 ♥ J 9 7 2 ♦ K 7 4 ♣ 10 9 8 7	East ♠ K Q 9 8 ♥ A Q 5 4 ♦ 6 5 3 ♣ Q 6	South ♠ 10 3 ♥ 10 8 ♦ J 10 9 8 ♣ J 5 4 3 2
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In 6S, West won the club lead and drew trumps. 'Please let the hearts be 3-3,' he prayed as he cashed the HK, HA, HQ. When the hearts were 4-2, declarer said a second prayer, 'Please let the DK be with South', as he played a diamond to the queen. North took the DK and as West could not avoid a second diamond loser the slam was one down.

After drawing trumps West might as well cash the other club winner and then tackle the hearts. Although the hearts were 4-2, they did break in a friendly way. When it turned out that North had the missing heart, West should play the fourth heart from dummy and discard the D2. North wins, but has no safe exit. A club gives declarer a ruff-and-discard (ruff in dummy and pitch the DQ), while a diamond return goes into the A-Q tenace. Either way the slam is home.

If it turns out that South began with 4+ hearts, you can ruff the fourth heart, return to dummy with a spade and then lead a diamond. If South plays low, play low also and hope North has to win the trick. If so, North is endplayed. If South wins the first diamond and plays another diamond, then you can finesse the DQ.

Never end a bridge hand with a prayer position

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New South Wales State Open Pairs Championship

- 1 Tom Snow - Tony Nunn
- 2 Les Varadi - Tom Goodyer
- 3 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby

NSWBA Swiss Pairs Congress

- 1 Frances Lyons - Heather Cusworth
- 2 Marlene Watts - Edward Chadwick
- 3 Sharon Mayo - Greg Mayo

Port Stephens Teams

- 1 Mike Parfait, Paul McGrath,
Christine Chandler, Robyn Fletcher
- 2 Colin Shore, Nancy Asquith,
Adriana Smith, Diane Nichols
- 3 Noel Crockett, Shirley Crockett,
Robin Vaughan, Ed Vaughan

Margaret Smith Memorial Teams

- 1 Peter Gill, Peter Livesey,
Martin Bloom, Tony Nunn
- 2 Toni Sharp, Ted Chadwick,
George Bilski, Jennifer Rothwell
- 3 Theo Antoff, Al Simpson,
Jamie Ebery, Nevena Djurovic

Central Coast Almost Summer Teams

- 1 Rosa Pang, David Boga, Witold
Chylewski (jun), Linda Aubusson
- 2 Marlene Watts, Ted Chadwick, Jamie
Ebery, Nevena Djurovic
- 3 Patricia Bowles, Marie Purkiss, Ruth
Stephens, Maoliosa Hawkes

North Shore Bridge Club Christmas Swiss Pairs

- 1 Garry Clarke - Sally Clarke
- 2 Marlene Watts - Ted Chadwick
- 3 George Finikiotis - Gary Lane

North Shore Bridge Club Christmas Teams

- 1 Peter Gill, Peter Livesey,
Martin Bloom, Tony Nunn
- 2 Sally Clark, Garry Clark,
Margaret Foster Rosalind Howes
- 3 Mischa Solar, George Bilski,
Marlene Watts, Ted Chadwick

PARRAMATTA BRIDGE CLUB CELEBRATES ITS 40TH BIRTHDAY.

Members and friends of the Parramatta Bridge Club enjoyed a weekend of bridge and partying to celebrate this event. A happy afternoon of bridge was held on Saturday October 31 with prizes for the winning pairs and many special prizes as well. Balloons, a birthday cake and afternoon tea added to the birthday atmosphere.

Parramatta Bridge Club was founded in 1969 by a group of enthusiastic players including Andrew Gollner, Nat Bull and Jim Hogg. The club has grown to be a very successful club which provides competitive and friendly sessions four times a week, including a supervised night attracting new players to this wonderful game.

Included in the membership are three people who have been members for 40 years and they are Nona Harvey, Kath McKenzie and Hank Sluyter who remain active members and who have supported the club in many ways over the years.

On Sunday the club's annual Foundation Day Congress was held. The winning team overall was the Mottram team consisting of John Mottram, Elizabeth Quittner, Les Grewcock and Steven Bock. The first placed Parramatta team was the Arnold team consisting of Shirley Arnold, Annette Marshall, Terry Bodycote and Peter Bendelstein. Once again a party atmosphere was enjoyed with never ending delicious eats provided by the committee and members. A gift of a specially engraved commemorative pen was given to all players at the congress.



Congress Winners - Les Grewcock, Steven Bock, Liz Quittner and John Mottram (with Club President Anne Ashmore second from left)

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.

Date	Club	Event	Contact	Phone
Sat Dec 26 to Sun Jan 3 —Trumps Bridge Festival This popular festival provides different forms of tournament bridge every day and some evenings. Visit the NSWBA web site and go to the Congress Calendar for details and the on-line entry facility. You can also see who has already entered on line. Look out also for the congress brochure in the usual places.			Derrick Browne	9969 9959
Jan 10	NSWBA	Summer Teams	NSWBA	9264 8111
Jan 31	North Shore Willoughby	Summer Teams No Frills	John McIlrath	0437 274 343
Feb 6-7	Inverell Delvyn	Congress Pairs	Sandra Mason	6722 4473
Feb 14	Ballina	Congress Pairs	L Graham	6686 8417
Feb 21	Trumps	Summer Teams	Derrick Browne	9969 5959
Feb 21-22	Great Lakes	Teams	Daphne Yarnold	6554 5692
March 7	Forbes	Swiss Pairs	Elizabeth Gelbart	6852 3347

2009 John Arkinstall NSW State Teams Championship

These eight teams gathered at 162 Goulburn St on the weekend of December 11-13. They had earned the right to play by their efforts in various qualifying events.

FOLKARD Berri Folkard, Pauline Evans, Nevena Djurovic, Jamie Ebery

JEFFERY Peter Jeffery, Henry Dyall, Peter Jamieson, Draw Axel Johannsson, Ben Chosid

GUMBY Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Andrew Peake, Bruce Neill

FADER # Chris Fader, Richard Bodell, Enid Booker, Alan Booker, Patricia Afflick, Richard Prickett

MCDONALD Barbara McDonald, Alan Walsh, Mike Hughes, Peter Buchen, Ed Barnes, Dave Wiltshire

COLLINS Terry Collins, Louise Collins, Witold Chylewski, Linda Aubusson

MAYO # # Greg Mayo, Sharon Mayo, Neil McLean, Michael Johnson

GRIFFITHS Nye Griffiths, David Stern, Robert Grynberg, Tom Moss, Paul Gosney, Nabil Edgton

Session scores can be viewed at the NSWBA web site –see under results. Following the round robin qualifying phase the GUMBY and MCDONALD teams contested the 56 board final on the Sunday with GUMBY winning comfortably. Details including full deal, contract and result can be viewed at our web site.

Representing Southern Country

Representing Northern Country