

# ROCUS

**WA Bridge** 

Volume 24 Issue 1 January 2024

# South Perth Congress—Sunday 7th January

















3rd:
Geoff Holman
and Don Allen



# President's Report

By Ian Clark

The new bridge year is already underway with an excellent one-day Congress at South Perth. The event was fully booked well ahead of time. This was the first official event operating under the BAWA Code of Conduct and player behaviour was excellent. All clubs and players will be hoping that every event held this year will be the same, very well attended and with everyone having a great time!

Entries to all club Congresses, BAWA State and Gold point events are now also under the one system - MyABF.

Whilst most of us having been having a relaxing break over the holiday season, Cynthia Belonogoff has been working hard to update the BAWA website. Changes to the home page have been completed, allowing everyone to see the latest news, coming events and results. The Clubs section has now also been updated. Work will continue over the next few weeks to streamline other important information. We aim to provide players with up-to-date information that meets their needs.

The State Open, Women's and Seniors' State and ANC Restricted Butler selection trials will be running between February and April. These events are a great opportunity to play against your peers and, if you elect to be contending players, vie for a spot in the teams that will represent WA at ANC later this year in Orange.

The ABF have advised that there will be some significant changes to the GNOT this year. Information will be provided as soon as the new event details are available. We are expecting to have more team representation from our Country areas in 2024. I encourage all clubs outside the metropolitan area to start thinking about how they would like to participate in this important national event, that seeks to provide an opportunity for players from all around Australia to compete together.



### What's new for 2024?

I'm glad you asked, as we are kicking off the year with two new features. Each edition the editor will interview a current WA player and a current WA director. Hopefully, you will find it interesting to find out a little bit more about our wonderful bridge community here in WA.

### **CONTENTS**

- 3 Around the Clubs by Helen Rogoysky
- Heridge Basics by Di Brooks
- Tis better to give than to receive:
  This does not apply to good bridge scores. By Ron Klinger
- 16 'Undercroft R6 B22 by David Schokman
- 18 Who's Who in WA Bridge by Helen Rogoysky
- 19 Director Please!
  By Helen Rogoysky
- They haven't got what they said they did—will the director help us?

### **EDITOR:**



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# **Around the Clubs**

By: Helen Rogoysky

## Mandurah Bridge Club

By: Ian Jones

Congratulations to Alan Rattenbury who was awarded the Alan Crevald trophy for the most improved player in 2023, pictured with Sandra Hardie, Tournament Manager.



The following pairs were the winners of the Festive Red Point sessions held in December. Merry Monday: Roz Trend and Alan Dundas Tinsel Tuesday: Helen Rogoysky and Alan Dundas

<u>Wassail Wednesday:</u> Kimberley Zhao and Nigel Dutton

<u>Three Kings Thursday:</u> Jan Ovens and Ann Kelley

<u>Festive Friday:</u> Roz Trend and Alan Dundas <u>Santa Saturday:</u> Kimberley Zhao and Alan Cransberg







Our Christmas party was a great success, with over 100 guests enjoying the festivities, food and entertainment. Such an event like this requires an enormous amount of planning and execution. Special thanks must go to Penny and Russel Thomas who planned and organised the event, coordinators Robina McConnell and John Hunt, together with the whole team of people who worked hard before, during and afterwards to ensure everything ran to plan.



2023 Christmas Party. Robina McConnell was the MC and our President Phil Baker gave a speech.











## Willetton Bridge Club

By: Richard Harris

Members wound up 2023 with a sausage sizzle at the club. It was a lot of fun, with members dressed in party mode. One girl, Alexis, demonstrated some dance moves, which were well received. Noel Daniel provided this picture montage.



A sad moment came with the peaceful passing of Johanna Thwaites' husband David, but the club offered her good support, and several members went to Leeming Waters to attend a celebration of his life. David had a PhD in Chemistry from

Nottingham University, where Johanna (Yoka) completed the final year of her arts degree. David was born in Whitley Bay, Northumberland, and Yoka was born in Holland, one of 12 children. She made a career in teaching English as a second language. David learnt Dutch and went on to have a great career with a Dutch petroleum company. They came to Australia in retirement. David's ashes have been placed under a blackbutt tree in a state forest south of Perth.

Yoka soldiered on with her bridge and, with her partner Marilyn West, came 9th (50.52%) in the December red point event, making her the last of the red point winners on the day.

The other red points were awarded:

1st	66.11%	Noel Daniel and Leon Ref
2nd	62.26%	Geoff Rycroft and Charles Westcott
3rd	58.33%	Carmel O'Neill and Jane Walters
4th	55.53%	Terry Owen and Fay Calvert
5th	55.29%	Jean Marks and Alan Byrne
6th	55.21%	David Lobo and Daphne Lobo
7th	54.57%	Dorothy Cahill and Patricia Martell
8th	53.12%	John Peck and Nick Taylor
9th	50.52%	Yoka Thwaites and Marilyn West

Overall, we had a good year, and we are all still speaking to each other.

# **Bunbury Bridge Club**

**Bv: Io Saunders** 

Once again, the Bunbury Bridge Club certainly celebrated the Festive Season in style. We had two separate year-end parties: the Wednesday End-of-Year Party and our ever-popular Christmas Function.

The Wednesday End-of-Year Party was once again another fun evening of dinner followed by the usual Wednesday evening bridge session. A big thank you to Colin Bell and Dennis Evans along with their merry helpers who made the evening such a success. Some of you may (or may not) be aware that Colin and Dennis also organise a "Handicap Competition" that runs over 51 weeks of the year. This years' winners were: 1st: Bev Hopley (\$40), 2nd: Joy Gibson (\$25) and 3rd Jan Macpherson (\$15).

Our Christmas Function was well attended, having around 90 RVSPs to the event. A huge vote

of thanks to Bev Garrett, Cheryl Caley and their team for organizing this year's Christmas function. Everyone enjoyed the food, the atmosphere, the entertainment and the companionship. What a fitting way to end the year.

January will see our recommencement of our 12-week Sunday Social Bridge trial, beginning on 7<sup>th</sup> January. This trial has been approved by the ABF to encourage non-members of the club to start familiarising themselves with our club rooms in the hope they will ultimately become members. Further details about these sessions can be found on the Bunbury Bridge Club website or by contacting Mike Van Wyk on 0497 257 787.

The Bunbury Bridge Club will be running a bridge course for absolute beginners in February, commencing on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Full details about the course can be obtained from the Bunbury Bridge Club website.

# Maccabi Bridge Club

By: Luba Klein

The club celebrated the end of the year with a get together – catered for by the members.

Award winners:



Luba Klein and Marilyn Atkins with President Denise Sharbanee



Debbie Frankel and Debbie Majteles



Judy Havas and Leona Leedman



Cynthia Adler



Tournament Director Louis Klein with Denise receiving his appreciation gift.





Barbara Gold and Deb Frankel with their raffle

# **South Perth Bridge Club**

By: Gabrielle Bastow

Our annual Christmas Party was held on Sunday, 10 December. The doors opened at 12:45 pm for welcome drinks. A fun afternoon of bridge followed at 1:30, where members of all levels of expertise joined in together in the spirit of the occasion, and lucky winners of spot prizes received chocolates from Neville, our director on the day. The festivities continued into the supper room from 5 -7 pm, where people mingled together to enjoy a celebratory drink or two and savour the tasty canapes. We also welcomed the Mayor of the City of South Perth, Greg Milner, and his family, who joined us for the occasion. It was

a very pleasant way to wind up the year. Many thanks go to our House Manager, Rachel McRae, for organising the catering and creating the fabulous hampers that were raffled on the day.



### Fremantle Bridge Club

By: Jenny Langridge

December was a very busy and happy time for Fremantle Bridge Club with both the Christmas Pairs and the annual Christmas Party being held on the same day.

Happy Winners of the Xmas Pairs Red Point event were:



1st Rohan and Aruni Bandarage



2<sup>nd</sup> Cheryl Harding & Do Dean



3rd Kaye Egan & Rosalie Raine

President Alexi Keynes announced the winners of the annual ENCOURAGEMENT award:



L-R Jorgen Fugl, Alexis Keynes &Helen Sugars Duff

# **Rockingham Bridge Club**

By: Pat Ditchfield

Just as her Ugandan project winds down, Wendy has started a new project to raise funds for the Cancer Council. For years, Wendy has raised money for an orphanage in Uganda.

Wendy and her daughter Terry are going to drive in a sponsored car rally from Bendigo (Vic) to Townsville (Qld) via the back roads of NSW and Queensland. This will be in September.

When I asked her Why? The answer I got was:

"We see it as a great way to raise funds for the Cancer Council as well as a fun way to celebrate overcoming the many challenges in the past 7 years on our own Stage 4 cancer journey. We are hoping to inspire other cancer survivors to step outside their comfort zone and live life to the fullest!"

Their team's name for this adventure is **Angels With Attitude**. Quite fitting don't you think?

What's so special? For this rally your car must be worth less than \$1500. Hence the vernacular name The Shitbox Rally. More than 200 cars will take part and each team has to raise at least

\$5000 for the Cancer Council.

Talk to her if you want to know more!!



## **Bayswater Bridge Club**

By: Sandy Sutton-Mattocks

### The Winners of the Sutton-Mattocks Handicap Pairs Trophy 2023

The Sutton-Mattocks Handicap Pairs Trophy was a hard-fought contest on November 29<sup>th</sup> with four pairs vying for the lead. Jo Ward and Margaret Bateman claimed victory with a creditable score. Well done, Jo and Margaret and thank you to Director, David Burn.

1 <sup>st</sup>	63.47%	Jo Ward and Margaret Bateman	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	62.44%	David Amson and Peter Jackson	
3rd	60.28%	Kate Sayer and Jennifer Pitney	
4 <sup>th</sup>	60.19%	Murray Sutherland and Carolyn Reed	

### Patron's Trophy 2023

Each year the Bayswater Bridge Club awards a special trophy donated by the Club Patron, Alexandra (Sandra) Russell who helped us to develop our club into the thriving friendly and joyful club it is today.

Sandra's trophy is given annually to a member who has shown teamwork; who has put in a tremendous effort to support the club, and who has shown themselves to be a great club member.

The 2023 winner is Bob Hawkins, our club Secretary, who has well and truly earned this award. He has led the meetings with precision, helped the various committee members especially the President, Kevin Outred, in many ventures putting in time and thought to ensure the correct outcome on many occasions, and has a knack of galvanising ideas and helping others.

Pam Hawkins too was a great committee member helping with the House Management and we thank them both for being such great Bayswater members and ambassadors for our club and for bridge in general.





# West Coast Bridge Club

By: Hilary Heptinstall

### **Christmas Party and Awards Presentation**

There was a good turnout for our Christmas Party on Wednesday December 6. We had a break for a delicious lunch contributed by members and the day concluded with refreshments and award presentations by our President, Sue Vincent.

The Elizabeth Constable Trophy, sponsored by Ocean Gardens Retirement Village, was presented to village manager, Alison Rogers. to Marlene Medhat and Ray Wood. They were also awarded the Morris and Shirley Bloch Trophy and the Anton Barowski Trophy.

**The Wilma Piller/Jim O'Brien Trophy** for the player who earned most Green Master Points at West Coast Bridge Club during the year was once again awarded to Marleen Medhat.

The Summer Teams and Spring Teams competitions were won by Marlene Medhat, Ray Wood, Wence Vahala and Anton Pol.

**The Club Championship Teams competition** was won by Marlene Medhat, Ray Wood, Maura Rhodes and Rick Rhodes



Lessons are held at the Club Room at: 33 Templetonia Avenue, City Beach.

email: wcbc@iinet.net.au

### **Beginners Lessons:**

Monday 10-12 noon

Coordinator: Patsy Davey Phone: 0414324558 You may come without a partner.

### **Supervised Play:**

Wednesday 10-12 noon

Teacher: Betty Anderson Phone: 0402814175

You may come without a partner.

# **Nedlands Bridge Club**

By: Linda Bedford-Brown

Congratulations to Tim Wright and Vinod Nasta in placing 8<sup>th</sup> at the GNOT Swiss Pairs. 90 pairs competed in the event.



Christmas Awards - Club Champions Mixed Pairs: Robyn Giraldo and Jairo Giraldo



Saturday Open Pairs: Gill Gavshon and Chris Cullen



Wednesday Open Pairs: Bruce Fraser and Chris Ingham



Novice Pairs: Mario Rossi and Yoko Kobayashi

### **Jackpot Winners**



Monday: Mei Zhao and Linda Bedford-Brown



Tuesday: Graham Williams and Margaret Williams

Wednesday: Vinod Nasta and Tim Wright



Thursday: Tom Wheatley and Ken Todd



Saturday: Deidre Greenfeld and Deborah Frankel

### Sessional Masterpoint Winners

Monday - Tom Wheatley.

Tuesday - Robyn Todd and Ken Todd.

Tuesday Supervised - Mario Rossi.

Wednesday - Vinod Nasta.

Thursday - Chris Cullen.

Friday - Frank O'Connor.

Saturday: Jairo Giraldo



Overall winner - Tom Wheatley accepting his award from President Alan Harrop

The Blennerhassett Pairs



N/S Winners Nigel Dutton and Marie-France Merven with Sponsor Sue Blennerhassett and Maddy Blennerhassett

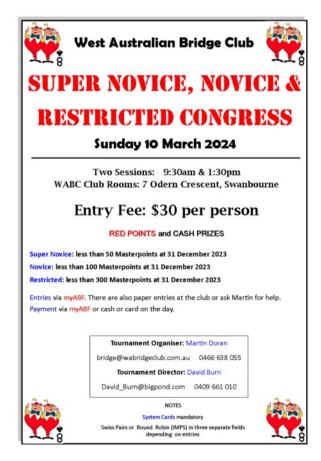


E/W Winners Deb Majteles and Leona Leedman



The club welcomes back our two migratory members! Paul Royle and Lesley Forman from the IJK.

**Australia Day Bridge** is at 9.30am – a morning session only – this is also a jackpot day.



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### West Australian Bridge Club

By Martin Doran

### **Looking back**

Good bye 2023 and hello 2024. The end of year saw the running of the three-day WABC Christmas Congress closely followed by the Christmas Party and annual prize giving and then Christmas itself. A hectic period but it's been a lot quieter at the club over the festive season with many out buying presents, food, and contemplating their New Year resolutions. Lose weight, get fitter, and be nicer to opponents are probably three resolutions that should spring to mind for most of us.

One of my early learnings in bridge as an impetuous youth annoying the older more established club members was that it actually pays to be the person that everyone likes to see winning if they can't. You get to be this person by being polite, helping when asked, smiling when annoyed, and making everyone feel welcome. Be that person!

Looking back over 2023, **Jonathan Free** was our Club Champion with the most Masterpoints earned in all competitions but also including at least 5 green points at WABC. This latter requirement is actually quite challenging for some of the better players who don't play many club sessions.



The most improved club player was **Hamish McCracken** who seems to be playing everywhere.

The 2023 prize giving was also the first year that the **Annabel Booth Memorial Trophy** was awarded. This New Player Encouragement Award, won by **Judi Ley**, was for the player earning the most Masterpoints at WABC session who started the year as a Nil Master. Annabel Booth was a champion bridge player, winning

numerous titles in prestigious competitions at both national and state levels over many years, but back at the club, Annabel was instrumental in fostering new players and directed supervised bridge for many years.



Annabel Booth Memorial Prize

You can check out our other prize and congress winners on the club website in the News Section. The party was also a good time to thank everyone at the club who makes it run smoothly, the volunteers, committee members, directors, and all the players.

### **Looking forward**

WABC has a new one-day congress event at the end of February. It's a Mixed Pairs Swiss on a Sunday so it's cheaper than normal. Grab your favourite player of the opposite sex and come along. The bigger the field the better, and being a Swiss, most of your opponents will be of a similar standard.

And don't forget if you know someone who wants to learn to play bridge then most clubs have lessons starting towards the end of January. At WABC its Andy Hung passing on his knowledge but if another club is closer then check out what's available. It's never too late or too early to learn.

### **Upcoming events**

Andy Hung's 2024 First Term Lessons; WABC Birthday Congress & Anniversary Pairs on Saturday 3- February; WABC Mixed Pairs Congress on Sunday 25 February; and the WABC Super Novice, Novice & Restricted Congress on Sunday 10 March.

Happy New Year from everyone at WABC and we look forward to seeing everyone playing, having fun, and socialising.

# City of Melville Bridge Club

From Ken Bownes

### Arthur Finley Rookie Championship

Our annual Arthur Finley rookie event for members with less than 25 masterpoints was held in early November. Ten pairs battled it out in an enjoyable afternoon of bridge. Prizes were awarded for the overall winner and runner up and the top pairs with 0-5MP and 5-15MP.





### Songerwala Swiss Pairs Championship

Played over 2 Wednesdays in late November was our annual Songerwala Swiss Pairs championship. Eighteen pairs participated in an enjoyable and well-run event directed by Eugene Wichems. Congratulations to the winners and runners up.





### **Coming Events**

We invite you to the following events which are open to all players.

**Australia Day open red point walk-in pairs**: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January. Sausage sizzle at 11.45am and play starts at 12.30pm.

**First Sunday of the month walk-in pairs**: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm.

**Beginners Lessons**: Commencing Thursday 8th February at 9.30am, running for 8 weeks. Advance booking required.

**First Sunday of the month walk-in pairs**: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 1pm.

City of Melville Bridge Club Congress: Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March (Super-novice pairs <50MP 9.30am, Novice pairs <150MP 1.30pm) and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March (Swiss Pairs 9.30am).

# **Busselton Bridge Club**

By Robyn Clifton

The 2024 committee was elected at the November AGM with Jenny Shaw (President), Maggie West (Vice President), Brian Appleyard (Secretary) Rosa Mc Gillivray (Treasurer) Glenda Barter (Tournament Director) and Olga Sheppard, Barbara Averill, Pat Leavy and Robyn Clifton.

The retiring committee members are Linda Clayton, Ruth Willers and Kate Dawson.

The Busselton Bridge Club held its annual Christmas party combined with a "Jackpot Final" day where players have been qualifying during this past year. It was a very festive occasion and we had a record number of 19 tables participating (not all Jackpot players).



# Kalamunda Bridge Club

From: Di Van Santen

Our club Christmas party started with presentati on of awards for the year:

Individual Championship: Elizabeth McMillan Helen Wolyniec Trophy: Steve Taylor Susan Collinson Plate: Ken and Meg Bowness Gerry Riley Vase Trophy: Robin Ward and

Helen Ottoson

**Rex Mizen Cup:** Nick Moniodis and Peter Clarke **Mike Hopper Shield:** Tom and Kit Lemann **Constance McCullough Cup:** Wendy Harman and Madge Myburgh

Knockout Pairs: Tom and Kit Lemann

Elfrida MacLean Trophy: Tom and Kit Lemann Mercia O'Meara Trophy: Tom and Kit Lemann Daytime Pairs <300MP: Alan Puckey and

Gudrun Kemmer

Vera Kenworthy Memorial Trophy: Steve

Thyer and Guy Gaudet

**Daytime Teams** <300MP: Ross Pringle, Alan Puckey, Jenny Tedeschi, Gudrun Kemmer

**Doris Broad Plate:** Steve Thyer and Peter Clarke **Open Teams:** Tom Lemann, Kit Lemann, Carmen

Jackson and Steve Thyer

**Venture Cup:** Steve Thyer and Madge Myburgh **Mike Nestor Cup:** Tom and Kit Lemann



### **Christmas Party**

After the presentations of annual awards and trophies, members served up the scrumptious lunch, sweeps, raffles and champagne. The amazing desserts came during the afternoon break. Much fun was had by all before and during the afternoon bridge session.



### Vale Jane Pike

Jane died on Tuesday 14th November surrounded by her husband, Glade, and their children. We extend our sincere sympathies to all the members of the

family.

Jane started playing bridge at KDBC some years ago, and as well as club bridge she played social bridge regularly with a group of good friends. Her bouncy good spirits were always in evidence.



# **Geraldton Bridge Club**

By: Debra Wann

Photos of our Christmas Party and Awards Ceremony.







# **Upcoming Events**



### Rockingham Bridge Club Inc

Corner Watts & McLarty Roads, Shoalwater WA 6169

### Congress 2024

10th and 11th February

\$40.00 per player each day (includes lunch)

Pay at the table on the day – cash or card is acceptable

### **Entries**

Via BAWA Website - www.bawa.asn.au

### Programme

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> (9.30am start) – Congress Pairs (Qualifying, Final and Plate)
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> (10.00am start) – Congress Teams

#### 20 TABLES

Prizes 60% of entry fees after expenses

Convenor: Mike Fulwood Ph: 0417 179 093 email: mike.fulwood@lca.org.au Tournament Director: Neville Walker Ph: 0418 944 077

#### Rockingham Bridge Club

Telephone: 9591 3444 email: rockbrig@bigpond.com Webpage: www.rockinghambridgeclub.com

### **EDITING OF MATERIAL**

Contributors should note that the right to modify submitted material is retained by the Editor.

# Albany Bridge Club

# **Annual Congress**

# Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd March 2024

Club Premises: 12 Mill Street, Albany

Prizes Various Categories (Awarded Upon Completion Each Event)

### Limit 32 Tables

Entries: via myABF - Closing 25/2/24

Payment: Direct Deposit: Albany Bridge Club BSB: 016510 A/C: 336267796 or Upon Arrival, or via myABF Credits

Director: Brian Wade

Mob. 0427 133 747 Email: hwade@bigpond.com

Friday 1st: Welcome Pairs \$20/Player

<u>Seating</u> 12.45pm (Single Session)

Saturday 2nd: Matchpoint Pairs \$40/Player

<u>Seating</u> 9.45am (2 Sessions)

Sunday 3rd: Swiss Teams \$40/Player

Seating 9.45am (6 x 9 Board)

BYO Lunch

**BYO Lunch** 

Snacks & refreshments all sessions + Bar at daily closing

> Convenor: Murray Webber Mob. 0407 389 535

Email: mjwebber@westnet.com.au



# Bridge Basics, with Standard American

By: Di Brooks

This article is directed to all the people who have enrolled into any Basic Bridge classes. Take Heart. You have made the best decision you could ever make. Learning to play bridge enriches your lifestyle. You meet new and interesting people. You will also give your brain a great workout. All people have their own set of skills and are confident in their own field. Toddlers learn at their own speed so don't be disheartened if you are a slow starter. My last homily: You will get out of classes what you put in! Read, practice and play..... and last of all: Enjoy.

### **Bridge Basics**

Cards are placed into suits. Points are added up. Dealer opens the bidding or not. Every bid conveys the meaning of points and shape. Some people don't know when to stop. !!!!!

Opener's bid of 1 of a suit shows 12 points plus. Range from 12 to maximum of? (This depends on what system you are learning).

A Trump Fit is 8 cards. If opener shows a 5-card suit and you have 3 cards in their suit, you have a

Needed: 25-26 points in the partnership for GAME....

Responder: Here is your range.

 $\underline{\text{O-5 PASS}}$  (Usually) Take on board, there is always an exception. (Just like the staircases in Harry

Potter. Things change)

If you have 5 points and 4 or 5 cards in opener's suit, you respond 2 of his suit.

<u>6-9 points</u>, either bid a major at the 1 level and watch out for opener's rebid.. or second bid. or Bid 2 of Opener's suit, with a Fit..... What we call 'A 1, 2, That will Do.

10-12 points Bid your own suit then bid something different

N S 1H 1S

1NT 2D A new suit shows 10 or more points

or 2NT invitation to go to Game (3NT)

But with support for opener...

1H 3H Invites to game, has a Trump Fit.

13 -16...points

0r

1H 1S, 2C or 2D (Waiting for opener's rebid)

Any bid that is lowest to bid Bid Game.

1H 1S

2S 3NT, 4H or 4S Game

Now look at this example:

N	Opener	S
AJ86		KQ42
K84		Q2
K953		106
86		AKJ107

 N
 E
 S
 W

 1D
 Pass
 1S
 Pass

 2S (Showing 12-14,15)
 Pass
 4S
 All Pass

10 tricks in spades are available.

Not at our table.....

South chose to show his club suit, denying his 4-card spade suit. The final contract was 2NT. Result Minus 1.

Diane has a bookcase full of idioms. One that covers this hand.....

Better to be a Major general, NoT a Trumped up Minor.

In other words, look for a Major contract first, then a No Trump. Lastly a Minor Contract.

Rome wasn't built in a day. Persevere. You have a great time ahead.

Happy Bridging,

Di Brooks



# Tis better to give than to receive: This does not apply to good bridge scores.

By: Ron Klinger www.RonKlingerbridge.com Improve Your Bridge Online

West dealer: Both vulnerable

West North East South

1H 5D ?

What would you do as East with:

♠ AKQ74

♥ AJ105

♦ VOID

**♣** AJ104

Solution page: 23

Want to improve your bridge results?
Then visit:

### The Real Deal Workout

with Ron Klinger
5 Bridge Questions
(bidding, leads, declarer play, defence)
and their solutions per week. By subscription
For details: please go to the
www.ronklingerbridge.com website.

### SATURDAY BRIDGE WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER

Nigel Dutton is writing a weekly column, it doesn't matter what level your game is this will be informative, educational and instructive and at times tongue in cheek!



# Undercroft R6 B22

### By David Schokman

Columnists often pose the question as to what the most important aspect of bridge is. Is it the bidding; the defence, or declarer play? A simple answer would be the defence, as you are defending twice as many times as you are declarer, and I think that I could be right in saying that is the part of our game which receives the least attention. Someone will be quick to tell me that we do defend twice as much as we are declarer, but we bid on every hand. I believe that knowing your system well, and that means bidding accurately, so bidding must be the most important aspect. What do you think? Most of us will have no bidding problem at all if there are no opponents to hinder the smooth flow of our "conversation", but that is not how it works. Bidding is often competitive, not just at the level of two and three but very often at game level. This is where you separate the men from the boys: the girls from the women and probably the Ze's from the Hirs! This deal from the Undercroft Swiss pairs, in November, was classic example of two types of bridge players. First the BOLD (and maybe the Beautiful) to the hesitant and cautious bidders. The thing is that we should not get scared when the bidding reaches the level of four or five. The important thing is to listen to the bidding, and then combine your cards with what your partner has to say. Then you decide whether you should compete, double or to PASS, which is often the best bid - but not today.

	North	East	South	West
♠	9764	Q65	AKJ1082	VOID
•	1065	J872	Q4	AK93
•	102	KQ9	AJ864	753
•	J1093	A62	VOID	KQ8754

### DEALER EAST. VUL: E/W.

It all looks very simple. Playing Acol East would open 1NT. Playing Precision the opening bid would be 1D, and 1C, if you were playing Standard. What would you do as South? There would be many who would overcall with 1S, but I believe that does not do the hand justice, and would prefer to use Michaels, or Blue Club, or whatever your preference is. At one table the bidding was 1C -1S -X by West, showing at least four hearts. Pass by North. 2H by East. 2S by South. 4H by West. 4S by North. East has to pass as there appears to be spade losers, and not enough is known about the West hand. P by South, and West now bids 5C. P. 5H by East. South was wise enough not to double.

A spade was led. Plan your play. At the table West ruffed and drew two rounds of trumps then played the king of clubs. South showed out. I believe that declarer is now in trouble and cannot make 5H. Please tell me that there is a way to make 11 tricks now.

West was quite unlucky to have chosen a high club honour from hand as there was only a 9.5% chance that the club suit would break 4-0 and the J1093 would always have produced a trick for the defence. So, allowing for 4 clubs with North, particularly if South has shown a two-suiter in spades and diamonds, a low club is recommended. Now when South shows out on the first round of clubs, you just give a club trick to north and remain in control. However, it is not the play of the hand that we are even looking at, it is the failure of many pairs to judge their holding in a competitive auction and decide that passing is a very poor decision.

Now, when South shows out on the first round of clubs, you just give a club trick to North and remain in control. However, it is not the play of the hand that we are even looking at, it is the failure of many pairs to judge their holding in a competitive auction and decide that passing is a very poor decision.

There is no doubt that west must certainly compete over the 4S bid, particularly holding six card support in partners opening bid. Yes, the 1C could only be a two-card suit, but East has also shown four hearts. Actually, a little thought might have shown that it was unlikely that East had a 4 -4 -3 – 2 hand, but this contention could well be shot down.

The results show that 5C was bid four time and doubled thrice, and allowed to make twice. The defence must have slipped up badly as there is no way that declarer can avoid two diamond losers and a trump. 4S was bid seven times and doubled on four occasions. Why, and on what basis? That spade queen not worth the cardboard that it is printed on. 5S was bid a number of times which was a wise decision. One pair stopped in 3S and E/W should have a look at their competitive bidding style. The only contract that can make at the five level is in hearts. 4H was bid twice, and with South bidding strongly North should have expected some heart shortage and competed in 4spades at the level of four. Only one pair bid to 5H and I believe that it should have been an easy decision as the 4-4 fit would certainly play well, with the long clubs being used for discards. I believe that we, in WA, are weak in competitive bidding situations and this is shown up whenever we play in the ANC, particularly in the last few years. Our teams need coaching and BAWA has put this plan into motion for 2024. The ANC is being played in Orange. Let's take some good teams there as WA has not tasted success for some years.







# Who's Who In WA Bridge!

# By Helen Rogoysky

I met up with Roz Trend and over a drink we had a lovely discussion about her foray into the world of bridge.

#### First home club:

Nedlands (only club whilst living in Perth). I moved to Albany in 2017 so Albany Bridge Club then became my home club.

#### Current home club:

Mandurah from 2022.

### What system do you use?

Standard American or 2/1

I first learnt Acol in 1990 at West Coast Bridge Club but I find Standard more logical.

#### What made you interested in learning bridge?

Sheila Rickards was teaching beginner lessons at West Coast Bridge Club. I only went because my sister Wendy was bored and wanted something to do. We went to classes on Wednesdays and practised on Fridays with another pair (Val and Carol) from the class. Soon, Wendy and Val decided they didn't want to play anymore, so Carol and I partnered up and went to the Saturday afternoon supervised sessions run by Nigel Rosendorff at Nedlands Bridge Club. We played every Saturday afternoon until he kicked us out sending us to play 'proper bridge' in the main session. We were shaking in our boots. After a while, Carol decided to stop playing and thus I ended up playing with Clem Davis, a rock-solid bridge player, who taught me a lot. I attribute all my good habits to him. In the early 1990s I met Alan Harrop. Alan had turned up at South Perth Bridge Club looking for a partner and a friend of mine who played there called and asked if I would play with him. When I first went to play with Alan, he asked if I played 2 over 1. I hadn't of course so he gave me a quick run through. It all seemed to make sense and we've been playing 2/1 together ever since. It didn't take very long to become addicted to bridge and I was playing multiple nights a week and Saturday afternoons. My life was work and bridge, oh and Sundays was for keeping house.

### What do you like most about bridge?

That's such a hard question – difficult to put your finger on it. It's the problem solving and the challenge of getting it right. Bridge is about probability - you don't know until the end of a hand whether you've got it right. You think you've worked out, but it doesn't always unfold as you expect. I also like the social aspect of it. I don't play online and probably never will. As much as I love bridge in itself, it's still recreation and thus I like the social aspect that face-to-face bridge brings.

If you're not playing bridge what else do you like to do with your time? I like to cook but I'm not a baker. Currently, I am experimenting with vegetarian food. I like to share my inventions with friends. I like to socialise (in

small groups), do jigsaws and puzzles and watch whodunnit shows.

#### Most memorable bridge moment?

I'm not a natural bridge player. I just think in an organised way and bridge is like that – it's organised and logical. If you don't see patterns and don't see things in a logical manner than bridge is harder to learner. In the very early days, I didn't really know what I was doing – it was mostly memorising system and then seeing how it worked in real life. I was playing against Nigel Dutton in a congress. My partner led and I won the trick. It looked like a ruff was possible, but I cashed my outside ace first before sending the led suit back. Nigel was very complimentary because if I hadn't cashed the ace, we weren't making it. It made me realise I was starting to get it right.

### Most faraway place you've played bridge?

Seattle, I went to visit Alan when he had returned to Vancouver and there was a regional bridge event in Seattle, and we went to play. It was a big event and such an experience to play in it. We played the pairs in B Flight played the teams in A Flight with very good results. It was very satisfying to play at this level.

### Memorable hand that you have had?

There have been so many fun hands that come up over the years but I'm not one of those people who remembers them with any great clarity. Last year I was playing in a congress against a very good pair. I held 7 spades to AKQ and RHO opened 1NT. I decided to stay quiet. Lo & behold LHO raised to 3NT. 7 spades tricks and a few raised eyebrows later RHO managed to get on lead.

### Best advice for new players?

Play the game on your own terms. If you want to get better,

get better but be patient – it takes time. Most bridge players I know love to talk bridge and share what they know so talk to them. Read, play with and against better players, get involved in the post mortem, but, if that's not your thing, play it for the fun of playing. That's the good thing about bridge you can play it at all sorts of levels.





# **Director Please!**

By: Helen Rogoysky

Directors are vital to our favourite game and if you have ever tried playing in a congress then more than likely you have come across Neville Walker, national level director.

# When did you start playing bridge? 2004

### What made you interested in learning bridge?

We had purchased a home on the canals in Mandurah in 2000 and when I decided to retire, we sold our home in Perth and made the move to Mandurah. We were friends with long-time members of Mandurah Bridge Club, Wendy & Terry Blakely, who suggested I give bridge a try.

### What is your favourite system?

2 over 1 – I like the knowledge that we are in a game force situation at the 2 level.

### When did you start directing?

I think it was early 2005 – Ann Shalders, who was the Bridge Convenor surprisingly asked me if I was interested in becoming a director. As a new player, I knew very little about the game but had showed some playing skills and decided to give it a go.

### What drew you to directing?

The challenges involved in getting to know the laws and regulations and how to plan and run tournaments.

### Most faraway place you have directed?

Canberra – where I spent several years as a Trainee Director at the Summer Festival of Bridge.

# What is your most common reason to be called to the table?

Insufficient bids – it often surprises me that the LH opponent does not take the option of accepting the bid to the advantage of their side.

#### Do you have a favourite law?

I would prefer to say what is my most **unfavourite** law. It is Law 68 dealing with claims. The law states that a claim **should** be accompanied by a clear statement of the line of play, but players often fail to do this properly or not at all. As director, I then must determine what might be the result of the various

lines of play that could be possible. I have made a recommendation to the WBF Laws committee to make it **mandatory** to state the line of when declaring.

#### Do you miss playing in congresses?

Sometimes, but because I get great satisfaction from running successful congresses this makes up for it.

### Most memorable moment directing?

This would have to be when I was assisting Bill Kemp for the first time at a Golden West Congress. Early in the second session, Bill tripped over the power cord connected to the scoring computer and Bridgemate server resulting in a loss of power to both. I spent the next hour frantically recovering the scores that had been lost so the tournament could continue without any interruption to play.

### What did you do for work?

I started out working in the Insurance industry and in my early twenties switched to the finance industry with the then Commercial Banking Company of Sydney's finance subsidiary. The CBC was merged with the National Australia Bank in the early 1980s and this led to my move to Western Australia as State Manager of Custom Credit Corporation. In the late 1980s I helped my daughter set up a business with her husband and went into semi-retirement following this. I then helped a friend set up a mortgage broking company and spent the last stages of my pre bridge life looking after the financial and computing sides of his business.

### Is there anything else you would like to share with

us?

I have found my time as a bridge player and director both challenging and rewarding and helping clubs adapt to new technology has been particularly pleasing.

We need more qualified directors, so I encourage all players to consider a directing career.





# They haven't got what they said they did – will the Director help us?

By: Matt McManus

One of the times you hear a plaintive cry for the director is when it turns out that the opponents don't have what the auction suggested they should have. It could be that a player only has four hearts when he should have five. They may have shown 15-17 high card points and they only have 12. They may have shown 6-10 points and they have 13. Or it may be the case that they have something absolutely different to what you expected them to hold.

So, how did your expectations arise? It may be because you read the opponents' system card. Or because you asked a question during the action and were told something that turns out to be wrong. Or there were no alerts at all and a player turns up with something totally unexpected.

If you get a bad score because they didn't have what you expected, will the director help? The answer to that is, it depends. In general, there are three different scenarios which the director might need to consider. I will look at each of these in turn in the next three articles (one per edition)–

- 1. The explanation which you received was according to the oppositions' agreements, but the player has deliberately chosen to deviate from the system.
- 2. The explanation which you received was according to the oppositions' agreements, but the player has accidentally deviated from the system.
- 3. The explanation which you received was different from the systemic agreement.

The Laws require that the opponents get a correct explanation of your systemic agreements. If this has been done, then, on the face of it, there is no infraction and so there is no room for the award of an adjusted score. So generally in Case 1 the answer the original question is "no". However, the Director does need to do a little more digging before leaving it at that....to be investigated further below.

### Case 1 - A deliberate deviation from the system.

This occurs when a player consciously chooses to depart from the agreed system. The most important factor connected with this is that his partner must be just as much "in the dark" as the opponents. Typically, although not always, this occurs when a player makes what is known as a psychic call or a "psyche". The Laws define a psyche as "a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or of suit length." Thus a call which just shades the expected

high cards by a couple of points would not be classified as a psyche.

The psychic call is part of the game of bridge and it is not permitted to make special regulations prohibiting the use of such bids. My experience at Congresses in NSW is that they are not that common and have never caused any real issues. I have however heard of some clubs where a particular pair or player delights in psyching, causing a fairly high level of disquiet amongst the other players. What follows is relevant for dealing with such players:

- i) The Laws permit that regulations be made which prevent the psyching of conventional bids. For instance, the ABF systems regulations outlaw the psyching of strong conventional calls. (So, for example, you can't psyche a strong 2C opening or Precision players cannot psyche 1C.)
- ii) A pattern of psyching in particular circumstances builds up what is known as an implied partnership understanding. This means that it is considered to be part of the partnership's system and therefore needs to be alerted. Furthermore, once there is deemed to be an implied partnership understanding it may also mean that the agreement falls outside of the allowed systems. For example, consider a player who opens the bidding with 6 points. Thus, although in the first instance, there is no immediate issue with such an action, once a pair does it a couple of times, it would now become illegal.
- iii) A player who randomises the results by the overuse of psyching is in breach of the laws. Thus, it would be possible for a club to make a regulation which, for instance, limits the number of psychic calls to a partnership to, say, two per session.

Advice to the director when a psyche/shaded call is drawn to his attention....

1. Enquire of the pair as to whether this has happened before in the same or similar circumstances. If the answer is "yes", then you need to tell them that they are now considered to have an implied partnership agreement which needs to be alerted. For example, "officially" the pair plays that a 1NT opening is 16-18. However, this player has opened with 14 points on this occasion and has done it before. Therefore the explanation which his partner must give AT ALL TIMES in the future is, "16-18 but it may be a couple of points less".

If the bid which has been made falls into a category of calls which would not normally be permitted under the systems regulations in place (e.g. opening at the one level with 6 HCP), then the director should advise the pair that if it happens again, then they will be awarded a maximum score of average minus on the board. Note that all this is contingent on the director establishing that there has been a pattern which would constitute an implied partnership understanding. Just because it has happened once is not grounds to make such proclamations.

2. Investigate the actions of the partner of the player who has psyched/shaded his call. Remember the principle that the partner must be just as much in the dark as the opponents. If the player has made any allowance for his partner not having his bid, then he is considered to have "fielded the psyche". This is a very serious infraction and should be met with the full punishment of the law. If the director determines that a player has taken some unusual action allowing for his partner not to have his bid, then he should consider awarding an adjusted score. To do this, he makes a judgement as to what would likely have happened in the auction if the psycher's partner had taken the normal action on his hand. If this would have resulted in a worse result for the pair than what was obtained at the table, the score is adjusted accordingly. (One caution – the player is allowed to take into account the actions of the opponents when judging whether or not his partner may have the expected holding for his call. For example - with North the dealer, the auction starts off Pass-Pass-1H. EW then bid all the way to 3NT. North holds 9 points, so it would seem that this is unlikely to make if partner has an opening hand and a double would not be unreasonable. However, the fact that EW have shown so much strength and also that South has opened in third seat – where it is not uncommon for a player to open light - is sufficient for South to judge that perhaps partner is not at full strength. This determination would not be considered "fielding".)

Advice to the players to protect yourselves from potential psychic/light calls...

1. Believe your partner! The auction goes (1D) – X – (2NT\*) – ?. You ask what 2NT means and are told that it shows 11+ points with diamond support. You are looking at 13 HCP in your hand. It doesn't compute: the opening bidder showed 11/12+, partner's double showed 11/12+, 2NT showed 11+, you have 13...that adds up to at least 45 if everyone is absolutely minimum. There are only 40 points in the deck – someone is telling a "porky". You need to bid game or at least extract the maximum penalty from them. If you fail to do so, you are unlikely to get any joy from the director even if it is one of them who has psyched. If it's your partner who has been lying, well that's something for you and him to have out after the

session.....

2. Consider making adjustments to your system to deal with the opponents. Answer this question - what would a double of 1S mean in this sequence: (1H) - X - (1S) -? Perhaps you have an agreement that all doubles below 3S are for takeout. To play double here as takeout is dangerous. The sequence which starts off (1H) - X - (1S) is probably the most common psychic manoeuvre. There is a chance that the 1S bidder doesn't have spades at all. Instead they have a weak hand with hearts support and are trying to confuse you out of bidding game or to your best spot. When partner has already shown the suit which the opponents bid or if he has inferred that he has that suit (eg. by the takeout double of 1H) then your double should be for penalties. That is, you say to your partner, "I would have bid spades if he hadn't". Similarly any spade bids that you make should also be natural. If you feel the need for a cue-bid, use the opponents first suit (here, hearts), the one that partner has said he doesn't have. As well as dealing with any out and out psyches, you will also be able to cope with an honest spade bid by the opponent. For example, in the same auction, you have something like:

AJ1064 642 Q5 KQ8

When partner doubles, you probably think that 4S is the likely best contract for your side. Give partner a fairly normal takeout double like

> K952 J7 A84 A654

and 4S will be your best spot even if the spades are breaking 4-0.

There are a number of similar sequences where playing the double as penalty and bids of the opponent's suit as natural will greatly simplify your auctions. It would be advisable to have the discussion with your partner.

In the next article, I will look at the case where a player has accidentally departed from the system.

### March Deadline

February 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for inclusion in the March Focus.

# **Upcoming Events**

January		
Friday 26th—Sunday 28th	Mandurah Summer Congress	
	February	
Thursday 1st and 8th	BAWA Interstate Open Selection Qualifying	
Saturday 3rd	WABC Birthday Congress	
Sunday 4th	Nedlands Birthday Congress	
Monday 5th and 12th	BAWA Interstate Open Selection Qualifying	
Saturday 10th –Sunday 11th	Rockingham Congress	
Saturday 17th	Joondalup Congress	
Sunday 25th	WABC Novice/Super Novice Congress	
Thursday 29th	BAWA Online Pairs 1 of 2	
March		
Friday 1st—Sunday 3rd	Albany Congress	
Thursday 7th	BAWA Online Pairs 2 of 2	
Saturday 9th—Sunday 10th	BAWA Interstate Open Selection Final	
Sunday 10th	WABC Restricted Swiss Pairs Congress	
Saturday 16th—Sunday 17th	Kalamunda Congress	
Saturday 23rd—Sunday 24th	Melville Congress	
Friday 29th—Sunday31st	South Perth Easter Congress	

**Note**: Times and venues are subject to change: substitutes must be confirmed by the director: read conditions of entry for the event on the BAWA website.

# 70% Results—Random Search

Kalgoorlie BC		Bayswater BC	
82.50% Val Norman and Karen Evans		72.3% Ian Ferguson and Frances Crewe	
Rockingham BC		Joondalup BC	
76%	Jane Ophorst and Nicky O'Connell	73.70% David Cowell and Ann Hopfmueller	
75.7%	Steve Rogoysky and Ian Clark	73.06% Dermott Doherty and Dorota Doherty	
72.5%	Rota Hood and Lyn Bolton	71.37% Sheevaun Gallacher and Chris Hollingworth	
South I	Perth BC	71.31% Dirk Lapere and David Cowell	
	Gwyneira Brahma and Dave Munro Maggie Gillies and Pip Brady	West Coast BC 75% Peter McCann and Ann Patrick	
	Rosalinde Kearsley and Lesley Store	Dianella Bridge Club	
	Ron Cooper and Tom Lemann	71.5% Barbara Gold and Luba Klein	
70.4%	Sarita Singh and Sandra Noble	Kalamunda Bridge Club	
Gerald	ton BC	70.6% Tom and Kit Lemann	
72.1%	Maureen Knight and Graham Gavin	70.4% Doug Hegarty and Peter Cameron	

### 'Tis better to give than to receive: This does not apply to good bridge scores.

By: Ron Klinger

### **Solution:**

On this deal from Stage 2 of an Australian Seniors' Team Selection, every East-West pair bid the grand slam. The curious aspect is that there were five different actions by the North players.

Vul: All		Dealer: W
	North	
	<b>♦</b> 98	
	•	
	♦ KQJ1097542	
West	<b>•</b> 73	East
<b>≜</b> J65		♠ AKQ74
♥ KQ8642		♥ AJ105
♦ A6		•
<b>•</b> 95		♣ AJ104
	South	
	<b>♠</b> 1032	
	<b>♥</b> 973	
	<b>♦</b> 83	
	♣ KQ862	

This was a good auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1H	5D	5NT	Pass
7H	Pass	Pass	Pass

The 5NT bid asked partner to bid 7H with two of the top three honours in hearts. West obliged. It is vital that the partnership has discussed situations such as these, so that there is no doubt as to the meaning of responder's bid.

You want to bid 5D on the North cards to rob East -West of the maximum bidding space, but only one other North did so:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2D	5D	6D	Pass
6Н	Pass	7H	All Pass

The multi 2D opening showed a weak two in one of the majors. East's 6D asked which major.

One North, tried to muddy the waters:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1H	1NT	5NT	Pass
6D	7D	7H	All Pass

The 1NT bid was 'comic', 5NT asked for West's top honours in trumps and 6D showed two of the top three.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1H	4D	5NT	Pass
7C	Pass	7H	Pass

The 5NT trump ask was a popular idea, regardless of how many diamonds North bid: Here 7C showed two of the top three hearts in case East was planning to play in clubs rather than hearts.

Passing on the first round with the North cards was novel, but not successful:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2H	Pass	2NT	Pass
3C	4D	7H	All Pass

Giving the opponents room to exchange useful information is not usually a winning strategy.





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