



WEST
AUSTRALIAN
BRIDGE
CLUB

TRUMPS PLUS

Autumn 2019 VOLUME 12 Issue 1
Published Quarterly

HAPPY RETIREMENT PETER

On 23rd January over
200 club members
turned up at Peter



Smith's
retirement
function.
A lot of
tears, cheers
and a
presentation
gift. Thank
you Peter
for all that
you have
done for the club.



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Editor:
Chris Bagley



Publisher
Lynne Errington



Printing
and Records
Sheenagh Young

7 Odern Crescent, Swanbourne
PO Box 591 Cottesloe WA 6911
(08) 9284 4144
bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au
www.wabridgeclub.com.au



Editorial

And so we head into Autumn: gorgeous bridge days, sun in the courtyard,, fine skies etc, the Handicap Pairs Championship and the Red Point Charity Day coming up in the next several weeks. But there's more. The day after the Charity Day is the opening day of the GNOT Heat. I can't recall how many teams we had in last year's event, but I am sure my memory is correct in that it wasn't many. In recent years the Club has had quite a poor representation in this competition, particularly compared with other clubs. Undercroft, for example, had twelve teams in its heat a few days ago. So let me adopt my hortatorical voice here and encourage you strongly to get a team together. The Competition provides a rare opportunity to win gold points, and with the swiss nature of the event almost everyone wins gold points. Go for it. And don't forget to go for red points as well, particularly Jackpot points. Apart from the normal red point competitions, such as championships and congresses, the Club runs an ongoing competition called Jackpots. If you are relatively new to the club you may not have noticed these, but each playing day of the week has a Jackpot day once a month, and winners of each session/movement on those days are eligible to play in the Jackpot Final held in November, just before the Christmas Party. You can see the details in the Club Handbook. Now for a matter of perhaps somewhat obscure interest. You might have noticed a few weeks ago a news item where a bridge player, a world ranking bridge player, was disqualified from a competition through failing a drug test. A Drug Test! In Bridge! But yes, there are such tests at the very senior levels, and Geir

Helgemo, who has been ranked number one in the world of bridge, failed a test in a competition last September. Apparently the test showed the presence of synthetic testosterone, a hormone which is banned as a performance enhancing drug. Now testosterone can help increase physical strength, explosiveness, and speed, which as an article in *Forbes* put it aren't exactly the first three things that you may associate with bridge, but it is banned so if you are competing in a competition at this level it may pay to check the fine print.

Finally, let me encourage you once again to think about supporting this eminent journal with your thoughts and writings. In particular, we are looking for someone or some people, to interview long standing members and members

with matters of interest. If you think you could help with this, please contact me. Or, for that matter, if you would like to participate in the production of *Trumps Plus*, perhaps with a view to becoming the editor or production chief, Lynne and I would welcome your contribution. Actually, I was thinking of putting "welcome" in 48 point font with sparklies but I refrained. Perhaps a bit excessive. But, if there is anything at all that you would like to offer please give me a call, preferably on my mobile 0422 381 253, or you can email me at bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au, or on chrisbagley1@bigpond.com, if anything comes to mind.

Chris Bagley

President's Report



It is difficult to realise that Autumn is now upon us and so much has happened at the West Australian Bridge Club since the last edition of *Trumps Plus*.

Perhaps the most memorable event has been the retirement of Peter Smith our club teacher of thirty-five years. The gathering of in excess of two hundred members to farewell Peter was certainly indicative of the respect and admiration he earned over that time. In many ways it was a sad day for us all but we are happy in that he assures us he is looking forward to his retirement and to the pursuit of other interests, including joining us now as a playing member.

Not surprisingly Peter has been most

supportive of the arrival of his successor, Andy Hung and has done his utmost to assist in providing a smooth handover. Fortunately this seems to have taken place without a hitch. Andy has had a good response and enrolment in his initial lessons and has already endeared himself to many members with his skilful teaching systems, his friendly approach and his very enjoyable sense of humour. We have certainly been fortunate to be associated with these two talented men.

Our membership currently stands at 1069. Our new members for the past year numbered 69 of which 28 attended the New Members party. This was a pleasant day giving those new members the opportunity to meet and mingle with some of the committee members and other longstanding members. We hope we achieved our aim of making them feel welcome and more confident in their new surroundings.

On the 'housekeeping' side of things we

are delighted that at long last the solar panels have been installed. This has proven to be rather a long drawn out process involving quotes, seeking advice from experienced consultants, Council approval etc, but eventually took place with very little inconvenience to our members. It is estimated that the initial cost of installation will be recouped within approximately four years.

On February 9th we celebrated the eleventh anniversary of moving into our custom built building. As outlined in my email recently, many of you will appreciate there comes a time when buildings, residential and commercial alike, require some serious maintenance and ours is no exception. This has to be expected considering that we have over a thousand people coming and going at different times over the course of most days of the week. As a consequence we are now in the throes of organising and instigating the replacement of cracked toilet bowls, plumbing repairs and renewal of the floor covering in the bar/kitchen area. These are essential repairs, not cosmetic, as in the terms of our lease we must conform to the health and safety requirements of the Nedlands Council. We recently passed with flying colours an inspection by the Council of our food handling area and processes. We cannot afford to compromise the renewal of our lease by neglecting issues of working areas and members' safety. We do ask for your tolerance should any inconvenience or interruptions occur during the course of this work. Our sympathies of course go to our Treasurer who I am sure is sprouting a few more grey hairs over all this!

As always, many thanks to our Administrator, Committees, Directors and all volunteers for their ongoing support. Happy bridging to you all.

Dee Sinton

ANNIVERSARY PAIRS 2019



WINNERS:

Barbara Riddle and Susan Evans



Patron: Helen George with Dee Sinton
cutting the Anniversary Cake



WABC 2019 WINTER SUPER CONGRESS

Thursday May 30th - Monday June 3rd

MORE RED POINTS AVAILABLE FOR MAJOR EVENTS

ESTIMATED PRIZE POOL of \$10,000

THURSDAY ONE DAY SWISS PAIRS 9:30am

THURSDAY RESTRICTED (as at 1/1/19) PAIRS 1:30pm

THE JOAN DADOUR FRIDAY MORNING PAIRS: 9:30am

THE SIMON WILLIAMS FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm

BELOW 150 MPs (as at 1/1/19) SATURDAY MORNING PAIRS: 9:30am

SAT & SUN 2 DAY SWISS PAIRS 9.30am each day

Winning pair of the 2 Day Swiss Pairs is guaranteed \$1,000 prize money

THE DEREK POCOCK SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm

THE JOAN SANDOVER SUNDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm

THE PAT HOULISTON MONDAY MORNING PAIRS: 9:30am

MONDAY ONE DAY SWISS TEAMS : 9.30am

Winning team is guaranteed \$700 prize money

THE JOAN CARTER MONDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm

2 Session events: \$35 per person

4 Session events: \$70 per person

Afternoon events: \$18 per person

Morning events: \$15 per person

Lunch orders available Sat, Sun & Mon

Chief Tournament Director: Matt McManus

Assistant Director: David Burn 0409 661 010

Tournament Organiser: Sheenagh Young 0409 381 439

ENTRIES VIA BAWA WEBSITE: www.bawa.asn.au

Venue: 7 Odern Crescent Swanbourne WA

Phone: Tournament Organiser

Email: bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



Richard Basham

Ross Harper

NOVICE PAIRS CONGRESS

50 - 150 MP FINAL

This Congress was inaugurated by Bill and Helen Kemp and was the first Congress my partner, Ursula Maitland, and I played in upon joining WABC in 2008. We have fond memories of that cold mid-winter day and the beautiful home made soups club members had provided for lunch. Such a lovely welcome.

The Congress was designed to introduce "rookies" to this form of competition and allow newer players to gain experience in a less intimidating environment. It has always been enjoyed and over the years attendance has grown to the point where we can now divide the field into two groups: <50MP and 50-150MP. I note that this year several other clubs are now running similar Congresses such is the popularity of this format.

Bill has now stepped down from Directing this event and on your behalf I would like to thank him (and Helen) for the 11 years that he ran things so smoothly.

WABC fielded 34 tables this year and we were able to run a Qualifying Session in the morning for each section.

The top 14 pairs in each section played a Final Round whilst the rest played in the Plate.

After the game we were treated to a wonderful spread organised by our catering queen Robin Paterson who was ably assisted by Kate Nadebaum and Jan McNab who womanned the bar. Thank you ladies and a big thankyou also to our Director David Burn and his Assistant Director Peter Hicks.

Kitty George



FIRST PLACE:

Paul Rideout and Joanna Ellison



SECOND PLACE:

Rajeeve Gunawardena and Rohan Bandarage

NOVICE PAIRS CONGRESS

50 – 150 MP PLATE



FIRST PLACE:
Andrea and Michael Gaff



SECOND PLACE:
Jenny Tedeschi and Catherine Gabites

ALL RESULTS

QUALIFYING SESSION

SUPER NOVICE

Katrina Will and Peter Malanr

NOVICE

Sheila Bishop and Jenny Walkden

SUPER NOVICE FINAL

Deidre Doepel and Jenny Sharpe

Eve Clarkson and Sandy Veling

Mavis Koay and Aruni Bandarage

SUPER NOVICE PLATE

Rob Breen and Laura Breen

Leith Taylor and Addy Carroll

Jan Malcolm and Margaret Brown

NOVICE FINAL

Joanna Ellison and Paul Rideout

Rohan Bandarage and Rajeeve Gunawardena

Marilyn Van Heemst and Ted Van Heemst

NOVICE PLATE

Michael Gaff and Andrea Gaff

Catherine Gabites and Jenny Tedeschi

Chris England and Julie Crewe

NOVICE PAIRS CONGRESS

SUPER NOVICE FINAL



WINNERS

Jenny Sharpe and Deidre Doepel



SECOND

Sandy Veling and Eve Clarkson



THIRD: Aruni Bandarage & Mavis Koay

NOVICE PAIRS CONGRESS

SUPER NOVICE PLATE



WINNERS

Rob Breen and Laura Breen



SECOND

Leith Taylor and Addy Carroll



THIRD: Margaret Brown and Jan Malcolm

Some simple...very simple..

Statistics in Bridge

Lies, damned lies and statistics is a well known quote. Like all such quotes, who actually first said it is obscure, but that doesn't matter to us because in bridge while there are lies and damned lies (generally evidenced in partner's bidding), statistics don't lie. But what they are can be obscure, and it takes a little while to become comfortable with them and to use them.

Let's take a very common situation. Say that through dint of excellent bidding we end up with a Spade trump fit with five Spades in hand and three in dummy. Unfortunately, that means that while we have eight trumps, they have five out there in the other two hands, and just where they are can be a problem. They might have five in one hand and none in the other (dire), four in one, one in the other, or three: two. The statisticians tell us that the probability of the first situation is around 4% (3.91%) meaning that this will only occur in roughly one in twenty five hands, so while we need to be aware that this can occur, we can generally survive the autopsy when it does, even if our contract can't. The other situations are of course more probable, and, in particular, the three two split occurs roughly two out of every three hands (67.83%). That is with one caveat: the probabilities are what is called *a priori*, which for those of us who have let our Latin slip means *from the earlier* and in this case mean without other information, such as information gained from the bidding. To illustrate, let us take a particular example where there is a 5:3 fit, and a potential finesse:

North
♠K J 8 5 3
♥K J 6
♦A 7 2
♣K 4

South
♠A 7 2
♥Q 4
♦Q 9
♣A Q 9 7 6 3

In this case, although there is a spade fit North and South have preferred to play in a small slam in Clubs, played by South. West considerably leads the A of Hearts and continues with a small Heart, won in hand. How does South plan the play.

Our opponents were silent during the bidding so all that we know is that West had the ♥A. We have no information on distributions. South can see 11 tricks (6 club, one diamond, two heart and two spade) and with one trick lost cannot afford to lose any more. At first sight the contract seems to depend on the Spade finesse. Make that and the room erupts in applause. But, that's only a 50% chance. Which means that there is also a 50% chance of losing. No applause. Is there a better line?

As it happens there is. Remember that a 5:3 fit will lead to a 3:2 distribution in the other hands 68% of the time. If, after clearing trumps, South drops a Spade on the Heart continuation and clears Spades then there is a 68% chance of ruffing the Spades good. 68% is a lot better than 50%. So, clear the Clubs, cash the Spade A, then cross to dummy with the Spade K, resisting the temptation to take the finesse, and continue with the K of Hearts dropping the small spade still in hand. The opposition follows on the two rounds of Spades, showing that they did have a 3:2 distribution consistent with the 68% chance. Now a third Spade, ruffed in hand clears

the last Spade, and the remaining Spades, accessed through the ♦A clears that pesky Diamond in hand and the small slam makes.

A 68% chance was indeed better than a 50% chance.

The 68% chance for a 3:2 split is one of the statistics that a bridge player should remember. It comes up all the time. What are some others? Well, the 5:4 distribution is also a common situation and the question here is: where are those outstanding four cards. Are they split 2:2, or 3:1, or 4:0. This is a particularly sensitive question when one of the outstanding cards is the Q. An oft quoted mantra is 8 ever, 9 never, meaning that with 8 cards between hand and dummy always finesse for the Q but with 9 cards, never. In other, colloquial, words, with a 5:4 distribution always go for the drop. Here the odds are somewhat slimmer. The chance of a 4:0 distribution is roughly 10%, and that of a 3:1 distribution is 49.74%. If there is the chance of a finesse for the Q, best play is to play the high card not involved in the finesse in case there is a 4:0 split which would mandate the finesse (and which also deals with the small chance of a stiff Q), and then play for the drop as there is a slightly, very slightly, better chance of dropping the Q than taking the finesse.

Another often discussed situation is where declarer has ten cards in the suit, missing the K. Here there is a 78% chance of a 2:1 split, with the consequently small, roughly $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ chance of a stiff K. Of course the bidding and distribution of the other suits may suggest the presence of a singleton king, but the finesse gives the best chance of getting approval from partner.

And a very rare situation has declarer missing two cards with one of them the K. Here there is slightly better chance of the play of the A dropping the singleton K.

Finally, a common observation is that where an odd number of cards are held by the opposition, then a relatively even distribution is likely, and where an even number of cards are held, a relatively uneven distribution is likely. So with 5:3 held and with 5 out, a relatively even distribution, 3:2, is likely. We say it is even because there is no distribution which is more even, given there are an odd number of cards out. And with 5:2 held, 6 cards out, 4:2 is more likely than 3:3 (48% to 36%). The hopefully unlikely situation of 7 cards out is most likely to have a distribution of 4:3 (62%) rather than 5:2 (31%).

Remember that all of the above probabilities are based on the observer, usually declarer, having no knowledge of the other hands. However, very often the bidding and play will give some indication of the position of outstanding cards, improving, in particular, the odds for finessing success, placing doubletons, etc. There are many approaches for dealing with these, and one important one is that of *Vacant Places*. Peter Smith gave us an excellent introduction to this concept in his column in the September 2013 edition of *Trumps Plus*: I commend it to you. Another method of improving the odds is that of *Restricted Choices*, but I don't have the space to deal with that here so you will need to consult the texts in our library.

In the above discussion I have used two books. Firstly, *Probabilities & Alternatives in Bridge* by Antonio Vivaldi and Gianni Barracho, and secondly, *Never a Dull Deal: Faith, Hope and Probability in Bridge* by Robert F. MacKinnon. However, our library also holds *The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge* by Henry Francis, *Bridge odds for practical players* by Kelsey, H & Glauert, M, and *Bridge, Probability & Information* by Robert F. MacKinnon, all worth reading.

Chris Bagley,

with **Peter Smith's** expert advice

RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS 2019

Forty two (42) pairs competed in the WABC Restricted Swiss Pairs on Sunday 24th March. Lynne Milne was the Convenor (and sometime caddy), standing in for Kitty George, and David Burn stood in for Dave Parham as the Chief Tournament Director (and caddy!). Robin Paterson's culinary delights, including delicate Palmiers for afternoon tea, and a sumptuous supper, were enjoyed by all. Six rounds of eight boards were played. At the end of round five the top of the field was very tight, but Kate North and Vaanessa Starcevich, who were the only pair to win all six rounds, kept their lead and were clear winners. Well done to all place getters.



WINNERS: Kate North and Vanessa Starcevich with convenor Lynne Milne



SECOND: Sam Craig and Peter Sumner



**THIRD:
Colin Payne (John McMullan)**



**FOURTH: Ziggy Morawiec
and Sylvia Bray**



FIFTH Shelley Allen and Sue Evans



**SIXTH: Kimberley Zhao
and Alan Cransberg**



**And a magnificent supper
courtesy of caterer
Robin Paterson**

Team Indian Pacific says: *Thank You*

Around October/November last year, Bernard Yates approached Kerry Barnes and myself to see if we'd be interested in participating in the Novice Teams event at the 2019 Gold Coast congress. After much consideration (about a minute), we agreed. Our fourth team member was Bernard's long time friend from Sydney, Nick Hullah. We'd met Nick briefly in 2017 when Kerry and I were last at the congress.

of bridge, with a very rewarding and entirely unexpected outcome. After the excitement of realising we'd won, we very soon began receiving text messages and emails from club members congratulating us on our achievement. We were totally unaware that in the meantime, while play was underway, David Burn had been keeping members informed of our progress, and we certainly had no idea that members back at the



WINNERS: Kerry Barnes, Nick Hullah, Sylvia Bray, Bernard Yates

The event was approached with fairly cautious enthusiasm, and no expectations of any success, maybe a midway result would be pleasing. After 168 boards, and three days of intense bridge, imagine our amazement when we found ourselves playing off in the final. Kerry and I had never played in a teams event, but Peter Smith's good advice just briefly before our departure, stood us in good stead - "bid hard and bid often". Kerry in particular, took this on with a vengeance. Reaching the "finals" entailed another full day of bridge – entirely unexpected – and meant that Bernard needed to hastily rearrange his return flight. The final consisted of another 48 boards, all in all, an exhausting end to a full week

club would be taking an interest.

May I say, how delighted we were to learn of everyone's generous enthusiasm - that was (almost) better than winning! And since our return, more of the same. Just to cap it off though, and to bring us swiftly back to earth, Kerry and my first venture back at the club resulted in a "bottom". The cruelty of bridge! Bernard, Kerry and I (and Nick), would like to thank David, and all club members who congratulated us so openly and warmly. We might even bring ourselves to participate again next year. Happy bridging everyone.

Sylvia Bray.


Passive Suit Preference

with thanks to Richard Pavlicek

So you think you know suit preference?

All experienced players are familiar with the suit-preference signal. Commonly this occurs when giving partner a ruff, or when a continuation of the suit led is pointless (such as with a singleton in dummy at a suit contract), or to indicate your side entry in notrump, or to show which suit you have strength in — and various other scenarios, such that a complete list would be tedious.

Most suit-preference situations could be described as “active,” because you want partner to *lead something*, usually right away. For example, if you give partner a ruff, you want him to return the indicated suit; or if the continuation of a suit is pointless, you want an immediate shift. Even in cases where you show a side entry in notrump, the message to partner is to *lead that suit* to reach you if he gets in.

3 NT South	♠ J 2 ♥ 7 6 5 ♦ J 8 6 5 ♣ A K J 3	Both Vul			
			West	North	East
♠ K 6 ♥ 8 4 2 ♦ A 10 7 4 3 ♣ 9 6 4		♠ Q 10 9 3 ♥ Q J 10 3 ♦ Q 9 ♣ 8 5 2	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Lead: ♦ 4	♠ A 8 7 5 4 ♥ A K 9 ♦ K 2 ♣ Q 10 7		Pass		South 1 NT Pass

On West’s diamond lead, East plays the nine, and South wins the king. Declarer runs the club suit, West playing the four (count) then the *nine*, suit preference to indicate his side entry is in spades as opposed to hearts.*

*Those who use the Smith echo may treat this situation differently. I deliberately do *not* play Smith, because my defense is count-oriented (followed by suit preference) and the two methods do not mesh.

On the fourth club, East has an awkward discard, but guided by West’s suit preference he lets go a spade. Alas, declarer is now able to establish his

spade suit to make the contract — with an overtrick, no less. What went wrong? The answer is that West was applying active suit preference in a passive situation. The concern here is not what East should lead, but what he should *discard* on the last club. Holding three hearts (with three in dummy) West knows that East can safely pitch a heart from four, so he should show suit preference for *hearts*. East then knows he must keep spades, and the contract is defeated.

Below is another example from a deal that occurred last year. In this case only an overtrick was at stake, but imagine the cruciality if a *grand slam* were bid.

6 NT South

♠ A 4 3
♥ 5 3
♦ K Q J 10 2
♣ Q 8 6

None Vul

♠ K Q 10
♥ J 9 4
♦ 9 7 6 3
♣ 5 4 3



♠ 8 7 6 5
♥ 10 7 6 2
♦ 5
♣ J 10 9 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	6 NT	Pass	2 NT
Pass			Pass

♠ J 9 2
♥ A K Q 8
♦ A 8 4
♣ A K 7

Lead: ♠ K

With 12 top tricks, declarer grabs the ♠ A and proceeds to run diamonds. How should West signal? My method is to play the ♦ 7 first as count, then 6-3 would be suit preference for hearts, and 3-6 would be suit preference for clubs. So which should West show?

Holding ♥ J-9-4 versus ♣ 5-4-3 it might seem logical to show preference for hearts, but that is active thinking in a passive situation. East needs to know what to *discard*, not what to lead. With six clubs in view, West knows that East can safely part with a club from four, so he should show suit preference for *clubs*, playing ♦ 7-3-6. This warns East to keep hearts, holding declarer to 12 tricks.

The Bottom Line

In order to distinguish cases for active versus passive suit preference, ask yourself whether partner will have to lead or discard first. If the answer is to *discard*, your suit-preference goal is to help him get it right.

Source

This article was taken from Richard Pavlicek's site - <http://www.rpbridge.net/rpar.htm>. Richard's site has an excellent collection of articles and I recommend it to you. In addition to these articles he also provides a very useful collection of bridge tools at <http://www.rpbridge.net/index.htm>

Fourth in Womens Pairs: Ann Youngs and Kate Pinniger



Women's Pairs Championship 2019



**2019 CHAMPIONS:
Sue Gammon
and Deana Wilson**

The Women's Pairs Championship is arguably the premier event in the Club calendar. This year we had 26 pairs enter, which generated a strong field for all contenders to compete against. After three Tuesdays of tough competition Deana Wilson and Sue Gammon emerged winners, narrowly pipping last year's winners Robin Paterson and Marie Musitano.

Third:

Mimi Packer and Virginia Seward

Fourth:

Ann Youngs and Kate Pinniger

Fifth:

Marcey Spilsbury and Angela Roberts



**Second Place: Marie Musitano
and Robin Paterson**



**Third: Mimi Packer
and Virginia Seward**

Happy Easter!



GOOD FRIDAY 19th April

Regular morning session & Supervised session.

Afternoon Red point session—
BAR CLOSED



EASTER SATURDAY 20th April

Regular session

EASTER MONDAY 22nd April

Regular morning session.

NO Supervised session. Afternoon Red Point session




Slam Opportunities Missed and Taken.

During planning for 2019, the Tournament Committee added a new event to the Club calendar, a three week Swiss Pairs Red Point event to take place on the last three Wednesdays of January.

Pleasingly, 36 pairs, 18 tables, about 75% more than the usual Wednesday evening session attendances, competed in the event.

Throughout the event there were many interesting hands, with abundant opportunities for astute bidding, careful declarer play and effective defence to impact each pair's results. My partner and I experienced this several times, both bidding and making games or slams, or failing to bid or defend games or slams scoring us swings, both for and against, throughout the nine rounds of competition. This trend continued into the last round where my partner and I both missed and took opportunities to bid and make slam.

The first board, 25, was an opportunity missed:

Board 25	♠ AT763	♠ 5
Dlr: N	♥ A92	♥ QJ84
Vul: E-W	♦ Q984	♦ 53
	♣ T	♣ KJ9852
		N: 4 ♦ 1 ♥ 6 ♠
♠ K2		4NT
♥ K653		S: 4 ♦ 1 ♥ 6 ♠
♦ JT62		4NT
♣ Q63		E: 1 ♣
10	♠ QJ984	W: 1 ♣
9	♥ T7	
14	♦ AK7	
	♣ A74	

Sitting South, after my partner and East passed, I opened 1♠. After West passed, my partner pondered for a moment before bidding 3NT, which I alerted. When asked what the alert was for I indicated that partner had support for my spades with a void or singleton in a suit. Not quite believing that, with a combined HCP count of less than 25, slam would be a possibility, and concerned about the flatness of my hand, I elected to bid 4♠, which my partner passed.

After I received the lead of the ♦10, I paused to consider my play. It looked like I would be able to win three tricks in diamonds, one in hearts, one in clubs and five in spades, if the ♠K finesse works. I would have to ruff my two club losers, and somehow discard my heart loser. There was the possibility that I might be able to win a fourth trick in diamonds, to discard the heart.

Remembering an early lesson, if you have to lose a trick, lose it early, I won the opening lead in hand, and lead the ♠Q. After West ducked, I called for the ♠3 from dummy and was delighted to see East follow with the ♠5. From then, it was relatively plain sailing, as I captured the ♠K, crossed to my ♣A, ruffed a ♣, crossed to my ♦K, ruffed another ♣, won the ♦Q, ruffed dummy's last ♦, and claimed, the ♥A, my 10th trick and my remaining spades as the 11th and 12th tricks, giving up the last trick to my losing ♥10.

The next opportunity, which my partner, determinedly, took, was on board 22:

Board 22	♠ KT97	
Dir: E	♥ KQT6	
Vul: E-W	♦ 7	
	♣ AT85	
	♠ Q52	♠ 84
	♥ 83	♥ J7542
	♦ J5432	♦ KT9
	♣ QJ6	♣ 972
12	♠ AJ63	N: 6 ♣ 4 ♦ 5 ♥ 7 ♠
6 4	♥ A9	6NT
18	♦ AQ86	S: 6 ♣ 4 ♦ 5 ♥ 7 ♠
	♣ K43	E:
		W:

Still sitting South, after East passed, I opened 1♦, planning to rebid 2NT, to show my balanced hand and 18-19 points. West passed; my partner bid 1♥. After I continued with my planned 2NT bid partner made things interesting by bidding 3♣, which I alerted, advising that my partner was asking about my holding in the majors. With only two hearts I showed my partner my spade suit by bidding 3♠. Here, my partner paused, together we had a fit in spades and now, with a singleton ♦ and 12 HCP he thought that we had enough combined points for slam. Unsure about how to progress and uncertain that I might pass any other bid than slam, he surprised me by placing the 6♠ bidding card on the table.

West led the ♣Q. It looked like I would need several things to work in my favour. Could I capture the ♠Q? Could I get rid of my diamond and club losers? Would a diamond finesse work? Given my holdings in the other suits it seemed appropriate to draw trumps and to try to find out information about the diamond holding later. Accordingly, I won the lead in hand, crossed to the ♠K and called for ♠7, unsuccessfully finessing the ♠Q when I played the ♠J.

Next, West played the ♥3, and noting that my ♥9 would win if East did not have the ♥J, I played low from dummy. East played the ♥J. As I covered with ♥A my odds of making 12 tricks improved. It looked like I could discard a club and two diamonds from my hand on the ♥K, ♥Q & ♥10.

Let's try to see where the ♦K is? West had already shown up with 4 HCP, and an implied fifth with the ♣J. It seemed likely that the East would have, in addition to the ♥J, the remaining three points; the ♦K. I drew the last trump, before ending in dummy and noted, both, that West had held three spades but, more significantly, East's discard of ♦9, which I was told encouraged in diamonds. It looked like the diamond finesse would work. No need to rush though, I played ♥K, ♥Q & ♥10 in that order, discarding a club and two diamonds from my hand. Then I called for the ♦7, tabled the ♦Q and, when that

held, claimed, indicating that, with no more trumps out, I would discard one of dummy's clubs on the $\heartsuit A$, cross to the $\spadesuit A$, before trumping dummy's last \clubsuit for the 12th trick.

Congratulations to winners Steve Pynt and John Aquino and other place getters. Thank you to David Burn for so smoothly running and directing the competition over the three weeks and to the committee for scheduling the event. Thank you to my partner, for both slam and game opportunities missed and taken.

I hope to see many of the pairs that competed in this event on a regular basis at the club on Wednesdays evenings throughout the year.

Peter Hicks

A VERY HAPPY PAIR OF
DIRECTORS
AFTER RUNNING A
VERY SUCCESSFUL
NOVICE PAIRS CON-
GRESS.

A good time was had by all!
Thanks to Peter
and David.



Because I Thought You Had It!

Alvin Roth a very ethical player is defending 7NT in a money rubber bridge game the declarer reduces to a three card ending. Dummy has the Axx of spades and declarer the KJ10. The lead is in declarer's hand and he leads the SJ. Second hand has xxx and Roth Qxx. Second hand goes into an act trying to make declarer think he has the queen and finally plays low. Declarer, taken in by the hesitation, also plays low. Roth, holding the queen, also plays low allowing the jack to take the trick and the declarer to make 7NT. When Roth's partner asks him why he didn't take the SQ, Roth says: "Because I thought you had it!"



DON'T PANIC IN 1NT

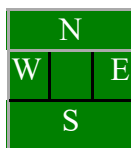
With Andrew Robson

Here is another lesson from Andrew's set of "If you remember just one thing" bridge examples. In this lesson he looks at making 1NT with an indifferent pair of hands. Andrew plays Acol as do many of us but Standard players should still gain from this discussion. In the first approach to this hand, declarer tries to use the third of three basic methods of card promotion (Force, Length and Position) to make his 1 NT contract. Oops.

South Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K 5
♥ Q 9 7 5
♦ K 9 6
♣ Q 10 7 2

♠ J 9 7 6
♥ J 2
♦ Q 5 4 2
♣ A 6 3



♠ Q 10 8 3
♥ 10 4
♦ A 10 8 7
♣ J 9 5

♠ A 4 2
♥ A K 8 6 3
♦ J 3
♣ K 8 4

What happened

Winning ♣ 2 (to East's ♣ J) with ♣ K, declarer led ♦ J. He was (misguidedly) trying to force out ♦ AK, and so promote ♦ Q. But there were no Force Winners on this deal; ♦ Q and ♦ J was an insufficient sequence between the two hands - ♦ 10 and ♦ 9 were needed too.

West won ♦ J with ♦ K and continued with ♣ Q. Winning ♣ A, declarer next ran ♥ J, another misguided effort (you cannot promote a card if you lead it). West won ♥ Q, cashed ♣ 107, and switched to ♦ 9. Declarer covered with dummy's ♦ Q (it didn't matter), and East took ♦ A then ♦ 108. Declarer had set up no extra tricks and, losing a further trick at the end, garnered just his five top tricks, ♠ A, ♥ AK, and ♣ AK. Down two.

What should have happened

You as declarer count five top tricks (♠ A, ♥ AK, and ♣ AK). Focussing on your five-card heart suit, you have the possibility of length winners. First, though, you must try to promote ♥ J via a finesse. This means, crucially, leading from the opposite hand to the card, not actually leading it.

Win Trick One with ♣ K, so that you can lead towards ♥ J. ♥ 3 lead (key play) stymies West. If he rises with ♥ Q, you play dummy's ♥ 2 and ♥ J is promoted. Say he plays low: you play ♥ J and your 50-50 finesse succeeds (with West holding ♥ Q). Now try for length winners, by returning to your ♥ AK.

East discards on the third heart, but nil desperandum. Give West the fourth heart with his ♥ Q, in order to promote ♥ 8 as a length winner. Win his ♣ Q return with dummy's ♣ A, cross to hand with ♠ A, and triumphantly cash ♥ 8. Seven tricks and 1 NT made.

If you remember just one thing...

Don't panic when left in 1 NT. Look for sequences of three or more touching high cards, and/or a fivecard suit.

(This article, and articles like it, can be found on Andrew Robson's Web Page andrewrobson.co.uk)



GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

SATURDAY 4 MAY (& 11 MAY if required)
@ 10.00 am

ONE MEMBER OF THE TEAM MUST BE A WABC MEMBER

GOLD POINTS AWARDED FOR EACH WIN

ENTRY FEE: \$60 per TEAM PLUS \$56 per TEAM per DAY

ENTRANTS ARE ADVISED

TO READ THE **2019** BAWA REGULATIONS
REGARDING THIS EVENT

WELCOME ANDY



As most of you know, Andy Hung has taken over the role as our bridge teacher here at the WABC. Whilst he may look young and naive (which he wishes he still was!), he has a great deal of experience as a professional bridge player, as well as a bridge teacher. He has been teaching bridge for about 8 years now (he was originally based in Brisbane) as he enjoys seeing people learn and improve. During his "time off" teaching, he plays competitively in tournaments in Australia, and around the world. In fact, he and his team won the recent Australian Open Team Trials, so he will be representing Australia in the Asia Pacific Bridge Championships (held in Singapore in June), and the World Bridge Team Championships (held in Wuhan, China, in late September). Having the experience as a competitive player, coupled with the characteristics of a knowledgeable and thoughtful bridge teacher, makes him a great asset to the WABC so be sure to take advantage of his lessons and tips! He will

be running different lessons each term, and he also gives private bridge lesson coaching too if anyone is interested.

But anyway, how did Andy get to where he is now? You can read about his biography below!

<https://andyhungbridge.com/about/>
<http://www.wabridgeclub.com.au/about-ah/>

Welcome Andy!



It was so nice of Peter to support Andy on his first Wednesday session: to my mind the nicest of the week.

I think I would be right in saying that I am the only member of the club to have been on a bridge holiday with Andy. In 2016 I had been in U.K and strung onto the end of my holiday 7 days in St Petersburg with Andy and his Russian local Alex. St Petersburg was on my bucket list. I was a single traveller but not the only one!. Andy and Alex both looked after us superbly: one in front of the group and one at the rear guarding us from pickpockets. The hotel, the Holiday Inn, was excellent: new, comfortable and reasonably priced. After a long day's sight seeing it was nice to have a lesson of bridge and a few hands—you can't walk all day! One of the city walks was 10 kms, measured by one of the guys who had a fitbit!. The local restaurants we went to were excellent authentic Russian. The metro an experience and my highlight was a visit to the St Petersburg ballet. So if one of Andy's bridge trips comes up I can recommend them, but perhaps we will keep him too busy at W.A.B.C.

Hilary McWilliam

2019 St. Petersburg Bridge Holiday October 4th - 13th



After the great successes of this holiday in 2016, 2017 and 2018, Andy once again invites you to enjoy a Bridge Holiday in St. Petersburg, also known as "Venice of the North". Excellent and outstanding is what everyone had to say about this holiday, as St. Petersburg is a city like no other - with its history, culture, the people, the food - everything! Just take a look at the photos on Andy's website to see how much everyone enjoyed this holiday. Actually, better yet, don't look at the photos as they are spoilers!



It's chilly in St Petersburg but don't let that put you off!

TERM 2 2019 LESSONS

BEGINNERS

Tuesday evening 7.00 – 9.00 pm. From 30 April. (The Book 2 continuation starts 21 May, finishes 4 June.)

For Rookies (Advanced Beginners): ADVANCING YOUR BRIDGE

Thursday morning 10.00 – 12.00 noon. From 2 May. (The Book 2 continuation starts 23 May, finishes 6 June.)

DEADLY DEFENCE

Tuesday morning 10.00 – 12.00 noon. From 30 April. (The Book 2 continuation starts 21 May, finishes 4 June.)

MODERN COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Wednesday early evening 4.45pm – 6.45pm. From 1 May. (The Book 2 continuation starts 22 May, finishes 5 June.)

For further information about lessons, or to book in, or to be included on a future mailing list please email lessons@wabridgeclub.com.au or use the contact form below.

For information about supervised playing sessions please see [Supervised](#).

Butler Pairs Scoring

Improve your bridge scores in these events

Day to day club bridge is scored using match points in the Duplicate method of scoring, but there are other methods of scoring and you will see these occur from time to time. In particular, you will often see competitions advertised as using Butler Pairs, particularly in BAWA competitions. But, you might ask, how are these competitions scored, and what are the differences with our normal competitions. To help our readers with these questions we have reprinted below an article from The New South Wales Bridge Association's eCongress March 2019 Newsletter

Understanding Scoring

Butler Pairs Scoring, by Mick McAuliffe

Butler Pairs is a hybrid between Teams and Duplicate Pairs. It is a Pairs competition with Teams scoring.

(A Guide to) How is Butler Scoring calculated?

Essentially, a "datum" or mean score is computed from the set of the scores after discarding the top and bottom 10% of scores and retaining the rest. Then the average of all of the retained scores is calculated, and rounded to the nearest 10 points.

For each pair (including those pairs whose scores were discarded from the datum calculation), the score for their board is taken and subtracted from the datum score to determine their net score.

This score, positive or negative, is converted to IMPs according to the IMP table. Each of the pairs then scores that number of IMPs for the board, one pair getting the positive score and the other the negative score.

This is done for every board, and each pair's total IMP score across all of the boards they play is computed.

The winner (E/W and N/S) is the pair with the overall highest total of IMPs (International Match Point scoring).

How is this different to Matchpoint (MP) Scoring?

In MPs, for each board, the pairs playing the board are given 2 MPs for every pair whose score they have beaten and 1 MP for every pair whose score they have equalled. This does mean that beating another pair's score by 10 points brings no greater benefit than beating that pair's score by 500 points. There is nothing wrong with the MP scoring method per se, but it does lead to an excessive need to take a risk of going down in a contract than can be made safely in an effort to obtain the maximum score. For example, you may decide to try 3NT to make 10 tricks rather than 4 Hearts or Spades (making 10), for the extra 10 points even though the Major may be the "safer" contract.

How should I best bid & play then in Butler Scoring vs Matchpoints (or, what tactics)?

Declarer's top priority is making the contract. Overtricks are worth a maximum of 1 IMP each, and may possibly not gain anything (depending on the datum level). It is tactically unsound to risk going down in a contract that can be made safely in an attempt to score an overtrick.

Play in the safest contract. The 10 point premium for playing in no trump is insignificant at IMP scoring. Playing in 4 of a major, scoring 420 points, will score the same as those playing in 3NT+1, scor-

ing 430 points.

Minor suit game contracts should be attempted whenever the 11 trick contract is safer than 3NT. You will tie with those making 9 tricks in 3NT (the same as when using MP scoring). The loss to those pairs making 10 tricks in 3NT will be small, unlike at MP scoring. On the other hand your gain, when the minor suit game makes and 3NT fails, will be huge.

Bid your games Pairs should be more prepared to bid close game contracts than they would be under MP scoring. You will come out ahead in the long run even if game succeeds less than 50% of the time.

Defenders' top priority is to defeat the contract rather than simply try and limit the overtricks.

Facts about the Butler Scoring Method

The overall total of IMPs for any competition must be zero, since every time a pair gains IMPs their opponents will have lost the same number of IMPs. In a two winner movement, the total IMPs for the NS pairs and the total IMPs for the EW pairs need not be zero. However, the total IMPs for all of the NS pairs will be equal but opposite to the total IMPs for all of the EW pairs.

Acknowledgements to Chris Burton
bridgeinfo.net & www.bridgewebs.com
Examples of calculating scoring can be found at various websites. Try searching "Butler Pairs Scoring in Bridge"

The New South Wales Bridge Association's home page is at <http://www.nswba.com.au/> and you can see there how to subscribe to their eCongress Newsletter.

EXTRA

EXTRA SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

Due to the change of venue for the Western Seniors Pairs there will be a Saturday Afternoon session at WABC on the

**18th of May, 2019
1.30 pm**



Usual Table Money System Card required

RED POINTS

**ALERT: PLEASE NOTE
CHANGE OF DATE:
SYSTEM CARD
WORKSHOP**

IS NOW 16TH MAY 2019

Australian Bridge

AUSTRALIA-WIDE NOVICE PAIRS
SATURDAY 25TH MAY @ 1:30pm

RESTRICTED TO CLUB MEMBERS WITH LESS THAN
100 MASTERPOINTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2019
* LIMITED TO 13 TABLES *

WHAT DO THE PLAYERS GET FOR THEIR ENTRY FEE?

- * **Exclusive discounts** on a selection of popular products from our book store.
 - * **A discount of \$5** on a one-year subscription to Australian Bridge - Novice Edition.
 - * A souvenir booklet of the hands, with the recommended bidding and items of interest from the play.
 - * A second personalised booklet, available online after the event, with travelling scoreslips and suggestions of how you could have scored better.
 - * The top 100 players win prizes as listed below, with additional spot prizes for lower-ranked players.
- MORE THAN \$3,500 IN PRIZES**
- The top players from around the country are also in line to win book and magazine prizes totalling over \$3,500 in value:
- * The top 100 players (50 pairs) win a subscription to Australian Bridge (Novice Edition) valued at \$25.
 - * The top 20 players (10 pairs) also win a **\$50 book voucher** from the Australian Bridge Bookshop.
 - * The top 5 pairs overall, and some top pairs by location, also win beautiful personalised pens.
 - * Individual book prizes for specific pre-defined achievements during the event.



ENTRY FEE \$12 PER PLAYER
ENTER VIA THE WABC WEBSITE or
AT THE CLUB



Vale Joan Dadour

Joan was born on July 22, 1928. She grew up at number 15 Tyrell Street Nedlands and went to Nedlands primary school and then on to Perth Girls School. After leaving school Joan went on to become a triple certificate nursing sister.

Joan met and married Tom Dadour and together they had four children. Tom was in general practice in Subiaco and Joan worked in the surgery as well as bringing up the children. Joan loved to knit and cross-stitch and for a long time in the 1970s and 80s was an avid spinner and weaver. She also loved to cook and after being diagnosed with coeliac disease in the 1980s she became an expert on gluten free cooking. It was also around this time that she and Tom divorced and Joan went to work as a doctors receptionist. It was there that she met and became very good friends with Rhona Barton and Betty Huntley. All these three friends went on to play bridge. The bridge club was an important part of Joan's life and gave her a whole new group of friends who she loved and cherished.

I know there are a lot of people who will miss the sound of her distinctive and infectious laugh echoing through the club rooms. Joan is survived by her four children and eight grandchildren and was about to become a great grandmother for the first time in July. She will be sadly missed by her family and many friends.

Rest in Peace Joan



*Much loved member of
WABC for 21 years.*

NEW & REJOINING CLUB MEMBERS

December 2018
to March 2019

DECEMBER

David Allan
John Katz
Clive Trott
Beth Trott
Dianne Doust
Aruni Bandarage

JANUARY

Diana Humphrys
Wendy Greenway
Trish Brockis
Susan Elstone

FEBRUARY

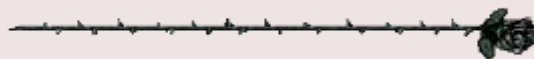
Jo Evans
Judy Packington
Stephanie Fryer-Smith
Christopher Black
Anne Williams
Simon Joel
Joann Theriault

MARCH

Margurite deBurgh
Sallie Manford
Nicole Martin
Linda Murphy
Angela Kennedy
Lesley Cuzens
Graham Smith
Gwenda Williams
Jack Harrison
Karina Barlow

Those we will remember

Margaret Macartney
Joan Dadour





**WEEKLY PLAYING SESSIONS
WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB
PO Box 591 Cottesloe 6911
7 Odern Cres, Swanbourne. Phone 9284 4144**

SUPERVISED – FOR BEGINNERS

Monday (P)	12.30 – 3.15	Andy Hung	Except Public Holidays.
Wednesday (P)	7.00 – 9.45	Virginia Seward	Ideal for the novice player.
Friday (P)	9.30 – 12.15	Carla Sullivan	Ideal for the novice player.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>These sessions are supervised – you may ask for help during play.</i> • <i>(P) You don't need to bring a partner, no need to book, just turn up in the teaching area.</i> 			

OTHER SESSIONS - UNSUPERVISED

Monday am	9.00 – 12.15	Peter Holloway	Not held on certain Public Holidays.
Monday pm	1.15 – 4.30	Dave Parham	Very popular. Graduate to this from Supervised.
Tuesday	1.00 – 4.30	Bill Kemp	The premier session.
Wednesday	11.30 – 3.00	Andy Hung	For the intermediate Player
Wednesday Eve	7.00 – 11.00	David Burn	Very popular, good atmosphere.
Thursday	1.00 – 4.30	John Beddow	Popular with newer players.
Friday am	9.00 – 12.15	David Burn	Not held on certain Public Holidays
Friday pm	1.15 – 4.45	Peter Holloway	Our most popular session.
Saturday (P)	1.30 – 5.00	David Burn	Relaxed and social.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All sessions marked (P) indicate you may attend without a partner.</i> • <i>If you need a partner for any other session phone Jan McNab 0409 109 022 8.30am – 8.30pm.</i> 			

**TABLE MONEY PER SESSION: \$7.00 Members, \$9.00 Visitors, \$3.00 Youth players
(SUPERVISED: \$8.00 Members, \$10.00 Visitors, \$4.00 Youth players)**

All results posted at www.wabridgeclub.com.au.

Licensed bar open after most sessions.

CLASS OF 2019



WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB MASTERS IN TEAMS OF THREE

Sunday 30th June @ 10.00am

Open to all bridge under-graduates with less than 100 Masterpoints as at 1 April 2019.

The idea is to form a 3 person team. The fourth member of your team will be a bridge master chosen by ballot before start of play. All team members will get the opportunity to play with the bridge master as their partner.

Entry Fee: \$35 per player

Lunch: Bring your own

Drinks, nibbles and prizes after play at approx. 5.00pm

Entries via: BAWA website www.bawa.asn.au
WABC 9284 4144

Tournament Organiser: Kitty George 0408 097 881

Masters Organiser: TBA

Tournament Director: TBA

**7 Odern Crescent, Swanbourne
PO Box 591 Cottesloe WA 6911
(08) 9284 4144
bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au
www.wabridgeclub.com.au**