

## President's Message

A growing club is a healthy club and it is my hope that together, we can create an environment amongst our members that is the envy of all of clubs in Australia.

In order to achieve it, we all need to be on the same bus.

There are 5 key performance indicators (KPI's) in measurement of a healthy club:

- (1) Are the club finances in good order;
- (2) Does the existing membership properly welcome and consider the concerns and needs of new members, particularly those who are just learning the game (it can be very daunting!);
- (3) Does the club have a well funded and planned education section;
- (4) Does the club have a budgeted marketing plan; and
- (5) Is the membership growing.

In order to keep growing our membership, the Club (meaning all of us) must be proactive in how and where we gain new members and then how welcome we make them feel when they come to Club.

The only two areas from which we source new members are from (a) bridge players changing state or club and (b) from those who want to learn how to play the beautiful game. Thus, the positive feel of the Club when a new person walks in our doors, is obviously a critical building block of our growth, particularly for category (b) above. Once play commences, it is then time for our director of play to shine.

It is the board's responsibility to look after numbers 1, 3 and 4 of the KPI's and all of our members' responsibility to look after KPI number 2 above. If we do that, all we have to do is then track membership numbers (currently 380) to see if we are all doing our job.

I wish to remind all members, again, that Cecily and Lynley have arranged for Andy Hung to come to our club on Sundays the 15th and 22nd of July to give beginners lessons. At the end of June we shall have over 200 colour brochures available at the Club so every member can take two or more to have at home and to give to a friend or resident in their building. If we do nothing we will get nothing, but if we all do just a little bit, the difference will be dramatic.

Enjoy the beautiful game.

*Philip Roberts*





# Director's Corner

## *Have a Nicer Day*

Some suggestions that will hopefully make your bridge session more pleasant. Players are responsible for their own cards. Not only counting them at the start, but ensuring that all thirteen cards are returned to the board. It is all covered under Law 7.

Here is Law 7. *I have emphasised some parts with italics.*

### **LAW 7 - CONTROL OF BOARD AND CARDS**

#### **A. Placement of Board**

When a board is to be played it is placed in the centre of the table *where it shall remain, correctly oriented, until play is completed.*

#### **B. Removal of Cards from Board**

1. Each player takes a hand from the pocket corresponding to his compass position.

2. Each player *counts his cards face down to be sure he has exactly thirteen*; after that, and before making a call, he must inspect the faces of his cards.

3. During play each player retains possession of his own cards, not permitting them to be mixed with those of any other player. No player shall touch any cards other than his own (but declarer may play dummy's cards in accordance with Law 45) during or after play except by permission of an opponent or the Director.

#### **C. Returning Cards to Board**

*After play has finished, each player should shuffle his original thirteen cards, after which he restores them to the pocket corresponding to his compass position.* Thereafter no hand shall be removed from the board unless a member of each side, or the Director, is present.

#### **D. Responsibility for Procedures**

Any contestant remaining at a table throughout a session is primarily responsible for maintaining proper conditions of play at the table.

#### **Why do I want to discuss players responsibilities?**

Well there has been an increasing incidence in the club of errors in both the number of cards returned

to the board and cards returned to the correct pockets, eg to the North pocket by North.

Recently I have been called when players have had the wrong number of cards in their hand. That should not happen if, as required in Law 7 the cards are properly counted when first taken from the board. Sometimes cards fall from a pocket if not securely replaced, but that should be promptly discovered when the hands are counted. In one case the cards had been dropped when putting dummy down. A card fell into a handbag and was missed. So at the end, when discovered that dummy was short, unfortunately the chance of a revoke when the missing card is found is quite high.

I have checked and Dummy, and each player, is responsible for their own cards. If a card is dropped from dummy it is Dummy's fault. So is displaying the cards with one hidden under another. It is not up to Declarer or the Defenders to check the cards in Dummy are correctly displayed - but it would not hurt! Sadly the rectification may be costly if a revoke has occurred.

When there is a half table the pair at the table often check the boards to fill in time. While not in accordance with the Laws everyone does it. Not a problem if the cards are correctly returned to the boards. That is all thirteen cards for each hand into the correct pockets.

Surprisingly, the recent cases of hand switching have come from playing tables. The problem is that, somehow, cards are returned by all four players to the wrong pockets, ie N to E, E to S, S to W and W to N, or the reverse. The director discovers it when score checking via anomalies. Usually a 3NT contract can not be made by both NS and EW, especially when the point count is low for one pair. The issue is switching of the hands. How this can happen is not easy to understand but I assure you it happens too often each month for any one playing day.

Please take care when returning cards to the board.

Happy bridging.

John Glennie, Tournament Committee

# LOOSE LIPS, SINKS SHIPS . . .

This was a saying from World War 2 which Roger Weathered suggests applies to the action taken by South in this auction during Board 8, Match 11 of the 2018 Gold Coast Congress Teams Qualifying in February. Roger, sitting West, was the dealer with nil vulnerable.

<p>West</p> <p>♠ AKQ965</p> <p>♥ KJ</p> <p>♦ K72</p> <p>♣ K2</p>	<p>North</p> <p>♠ 2</p> <p>♥ QT9873</p> <p>♦ 985</p> <p>♣ Q86</p>
<p>South</p> <p>♠ 73</p> <p>♥ A6542</p> <p>D 4</p> <p>♣ J9763</p>	<p>East</p> <p>♠ JT84</p> <p>♥ void</p> <p>♦ AQJT63</p> <p>♣ AT4</p>

The auction proceeded as follows:

W	N	E	S
1S	P	3C*	P
4NT**	P	5H***	X

(Loose Lips says lead a Heart)

6S P 7S (Lou Tillotson,

sitting East, says I can fix that HA)  
Three passes completed the auction.

[ 3C\*, modified Bergen raise; 4NT\*\*, Roman KCB; 5H\*\*\*, 2 Aces, no SQ.]

The contract makes on any lead, but probably may have stayed in 6S without that tell-tale double.

This hand is good example for readers to see another way to reach the final grand slam auction without needing the tell-tale double. Matchpoint Precision as invented by C.C. Wei would do this. Assuming that North does not bid and South chooses to double or not for the HA at any point in the auction, here is how West and East 'precision talk' to each other.

West: 1C, I have 16+ HCP's

East: 2D, I have 8+ HCP's with 5+ Diamonds including at least two of A, K or Q.

West: 2S,(Alpha question) I have at least 5 Spades and want you to tell me about your Spades.

East: 3H,(4 step reply) Qxx or xxxx or better in Spades and 4+ controls where each Ace is 2 and each King is 1.

West: (Thinks) We now have a Spade fit and partner has at least xxxx since I have the A,K and Q in Spades, so there are no losers in Spades even with a 3-0 defence split. We also have a Diamond fit and at least three tricks in Diamonds since I have the King, but probably more unless there is a 4-1 or 5-0 defence split which are both highly unlikely. So we now have nine sure tricks in Spades and Diamonds. Partner also has either 2 Aces (4 control points) or 3 Aces (6 control points) since I have all the Kings and one Ace. Let me find out!

(Bids) 4C (Epsilon question) What do you have in Clubs?

East: 4NT (4step reply) I have first round control (Ace or void).

West: 5C (confirming question) Is it an Ace or a void?

East: 5H (2 step reply) An Ace.

West: (Thinks) Partner has the DA and CA. If partner has three Aces we can make 7NT, but if partner has a void in Hearts we can only make 7S.

(Bids) 6H. What do you have in Hearts?

East: 7D (4 step reply) I have an Ace or a void.

West: 7H. Is it an Ace or a void?

East: 7S ( 1 step reply) I have a void.

West: Pass

Did you count 13 bids by West/East to reach the best contract? Such is the strength of Matchpoint Precision.

*Roger Weathered plus Tie Rod (for the Precision part)*

## The Proof of the Pudding is in the eating we are told

How often have you heard that doubling a freely bid high level contract may spook your quarry into running to a making alternative?

An extreme example of the wisdom of that advice cropped up at the local club the other day:

You hold

♠ AKJ3, ♥ J52, ♦ AJ9, ♣ QJ10

and at nil vulnerable. LHO opens 2D weak to which RHO enquires with 2NT.

Some may choose to double at this point in case RHO is woozling, but whether you double or pass LHO describes a weak two and RHO ponders a moment and leaps to 6C!!

I have given this to five friends of varying standards including a winner of this year's GNOT and not a soul thought twice before doubling with gusto. Indeed most looked at me as though this wasn't a real problem at all.

Anyway after your double whistles around to RHO, he rescues himself at high speed to 6H into which, of course, you also embed your cleaver to the hilt.

The error was in assuming your opponent to be a fool. He has heard his partner describe their hand in some detail yet thinks he can make at the 6 level.

Six hearts is cold and scores -1210 while 6C is one off for + 50 had you let him play there unmolested.

He held ♠ Q, ♥ AKQ73, ♦ void, ♣ AK98763. Dummy was ♠ 9854, ♥ 104, ♦ KQ10865, ♣ 4 One club ruff with trumps 3-3 was 'all' that was needed. Your double tipped off the slam bidder that his big club suit had sprung a leak.

Yes it is a horrible weak 2 containing the four spades but declarer expected that the opener held at least 4 cards in his two suits.

Disclosure: There but for the Grace of God go !!

*Fred Whitaker*

## From one of Cecily Critchley's bridge students

*I have been following the passing of our Cecily remotely but wish to share with you the profound effect Cecily left on me.*

*I attended the two Sunday training sessions with Cecily and Lynley in February 2015 and immediately found the intellectual challenge of bridge to be exciting and within my reach through Cecily's down to earth sessions. Cecily was quite blasé in telling us to enter the Gold Coast Congress with only ten hours bridge lessons and she has continued to be encouraging in all my endeavours. She has been a wonderful inspiration as she has enlightened me about the increasingly complex challenges bridge presents.*

*Until her last few days she has encouraged me and supported me. I am humbled with her generosity in time given the increasing challenges she faced so courageously.*

*Her revamping of the GCBC borrowing library has seen new and exciting authors being accessible to new, intermediate and advanced players and her depth of knowledge in this field has provided us with a Library we can be proud of.*

*The Gold Coast Bridge Club has been so lucky to have had the dual package of Cecily and Lynley and I join in celebrating Cecily's wonderful legacy to our Bridge Club.*

*Lesley Sutherland*



# Memories and Life of Cecily Critchley



When Cecily joined the club in 2006 she was unknown to the newer members of the club. However senior members knew her through playing in congresses in South East Queensland. Cecily was a Grand Master and had represented Queensland at the ANC, and together with Lynley Jenkins they has also won several honour board events at our club.

Cecily was a psychologist and worked in that field in the 70s & 80s. In 1985 in partnership with Lynley they became dealers in decorative antiques and arts and opened a shop in Paddington, Brisbane.

Cecily was involved in teaching at the Brisbane Bridge Centre in the 90s and began helping with supervised play at the GCBC in 2013. During this time Cecily knew that she wanted to become a bridge teacher and together with Lynley they obtained ABF accreditation as bridge teachers and took over the role as the teachers for our club in 2014. Since then Cecily and Lynley dedicated their lives to teaching bridge at our club and their very strong following of restricted players is a testament to the popularity and success they achieved as teachers and mentors to the newer members of the club.

Cecily qualified as a club director and together with Lynley they were awarded life membership of the club in 2016.

Members of the club have followed Cecily's journey in her battle with the ravishes of cancer and she was admired for her stoicism and the positive spin she displayed during this battle.

Cecily you will forever be in the hearts and minds of the members of the Gold Coast Bridge Club and remembered for your dedication and devotion as a teacher and mentor to your many friends and followers at the club.

Cecily rest in peace knowing that you have impacted on the lives of so many members of the Gold Coast Bridge Club.

- Neil Raward



# Explaining the Handicap System

Your handicap changes regularly depending on your most recent scores. You will find your current handicap listed on the notice board to the left of the TV screen in the club house.

Your handicap is automatically calculated by a program within Compscore that is linked to the Bridgemates. Your most recent eight scores are considered irrespective of who was your partner. The highest and lowest scores are deleted and the remaining six are averaged to obtain your current handicap.

Next time you play a pairs' match at the club your handicap and your partner's are averaged to give your pair handicap for that day. If you

score better than this you will have a positive difference calculated. If you score worse you will have a negative difference. The pair with the greatest positive wins the handicap event.

This method spreads the winning tickets more evenly throughout the club. It is used throughout many clubs in Australia and was invented by a member of this club.

## JUNE DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM

North	
♠ Q32	
♥ A654	
♦ KQ3	
♣ AJ2	
West	East
♠ 76	♠ 854
♥ Q983	♥ KJT7
♦ T854	♦ J9
♣ T98	♣ 7654
South	
♠ AKJT9	
♥ 2	
♦ A762	
♣ KQ3	

South is in 7 Spades on the lead of the Club 10.

## MARCH DOUBLE DUMMY SOLUTION

North	
♠ 432	
♥ 543	
♦ 853	
♣ AK65	
West	East
♠ T98	♠ 76
♥ JT98	♥ Q6
♦ AKT2	♦ 9764
♣ 87	♣ QJT94
South	
♠ AKQJ5	
♥ AK72	
♦ QJ	
♣ 32	



Madam South is in 4 Spades and West leads the DA, followed by the DK and then the HJ. Declarer wins with the HK. She now plays two rounds of trumps leaving West with the ST. Next declarer loses a little Heart to the singleton HQ in East's hand and wins either the Diamond or Club return. She now wins the HA and ruffs a Heart with the S4. She plays Clubs until able to ruff high with SJ and then removes the ST with the SQ. She makes ten tricks losing only two Diamonds and a Heart.

# • RESULTS •

## **MARCH 2018**

### **ECLECTICS**

#### **Monday Evening**

- 1st Ruth Young
- 2nd Tom Strong
- Edda Strong

#### **Tuesday Open**

- 1st Dot Piddington
- 2nd Lance Workman
- 3rd Jennifer Hunt

#### **Tuesday Restricted**

- 1st Penny Grace
- 2nd Margaret Mellick
- 3rd Margaret Day

#### **Thursday Open**

- 1st Lance Wrkma
- 2nd Alan Jones
- 3rd Marie Orme
- Trish Miller

#### **Thursday Restricted**

- 1st Penny Grace
- Cheryl Miller
- 3rd Maureen Smith
- Lorraine Twyford

#### **Thursday Evening**

- 1st Peter Staines
- 2nd Sue Robinson
- 3rd KevinDean
- Tom Strong

#### **Friday**

- 1st Erin Waterhouse
- Ross Steinwedel
- 3rd Eva Berger
- Tony Berger

#### **Saturday Open**

- 1st Kerry Hiscock
- Trevor Fletcher
- 3rd Philip Roberts
- Di Hodges

#### **Saturday Restricted**

- 1st Cheryl Millar
- 2nd Kim McMaster
- 3rd Lorraine Twyford

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **AMP Advice Pairs**

- 1st Larraine de Nett
- Elaine Hennig
- 2nd Eva Berger

Tony Berger

- 3rd Cecily Critchley
- Lynley Jenkins

#### **GCBC Cup**

- 1st Krystyna Homig
- Sue Spurway
- 2nd Kathy Toth
- Roman Morawiecki
- 3rd Carolyn Miller
- Kevin Steffensen

#### **Ken Nicolson Pairs**

- Open
- 1st Alan Jones
- Dot Piddington
- 2nd Margaret Watson
- Naomi Ryan
- 3rd Pamela Hare
- Lance Workman

#### **Restricted**

- 1st Maureen Smith
- Lorraine Twyford
- 2nd Marilyn Bidey
- Margaret Day
- 3rd Val Gibney
- Sue Deaves

#### **MWE Pairs**

- Open
- 1st Margaret Watson
- Julie Heib
- 2nd Veena Chotai
- Raynor Loewenthal
- 3rd Shelly Moodie
- Jim Moodie
- Restricted
- 1st Maureen Smith
- Lorraine Twyford
- 2nd Marie McGarry
- Margaret Day
- 3rd Charles Dacey
- Barbara Huddy

## **APRIL 2018**

### **ECLECTICS**

#### **Monday**

- 1st Kathy Johnson
- Eva Berger
- 3rd Merle Bogatie
- Tony Berger

#### **Tuesday Open**

- 1st Cheryl Hensel
- 2nd Stuart Wismer
- 3rd Margaret Watson
- Naomi Ryan

#### **Tuesday Restricted**

- 1st Barbara Huddy
- 2nd Lorraine Twyford
- Maureen Smith

#### **Wednesday**

- 1st Merle Bogatie
- Tony Berger
- 3rd Kerry Hiscocks

#### **Thursday Open**

- 1st Cheryl Hensel
- 2nd Alan Jones
- 3rd Margaret Watson
- Julie Heib

#### **Thursday Restricted**

- 1st Lorraine Twyford
- 2nd Barbara Huddy
- 3rd Maureen Smith

#### **Friday**

- 1st Kathy Johnson
- Lois Steinwedel
- 3rd Erin Waterhouse
- Ross Steinwedel

#### **Saturday Open**

- 1st Eduardo Besprovan
- 2nd Kerry Hiscocks
- Trevor Fletcher

#### **Saturday Restricted**

- 1st Rose Corcoran
- Bill Corcoran
- 3rd Carolyn Waters

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Easter Teams**

- 1st Janice Tuxworth
- Anthony Tuxworth
- Margaret Cummins
- Nimal Weersinghe
- 2nd Carolyn Miller
- Erin Waterhouse
- Sue Spurway
- Frank Spurway
- 3rd Edda Strong
- Tom Strong
- Nevin Burica
- Yvonne Kilvert

# The Wonders of Deep Finesse

Sometimes, the number of tricks that Deep Finesse says that you can make seems almost unbelievable. Of course, it can see all the hands. However if you study some of these “almost impossible” hands, you may learn to improve your declarer play. Hand 6 at our club on Saturday 10 March is one of those. Here are the North/ South hands before seeing the East/West hands.

North: ♠ 42                      ♥ KT973                      ♦ QJ3                      ♣ JT3  
 South: ♠ KT5                      ♥ A842                      ♦ KT8                      ♣ K76

Now East opened 1 Club, South doubled and West bid 1 Spade, but North is eventual declarer in 4 Hearts. East will lead the SA and declarer takes stock of the situation. Only 20 HCP's in the N/S hands, one loser in Spades, one possible loser in Hearts if they break 3/1, one loser in Diamonds, one or most likely two losers in Clubs. Also East has about 13 HCP's while West has about 7. Most of us would have stayed in 3 Hearts, but Deep Finesse is braver.

West signals for a continuation of the Spades and dummy wins with the King. First of all, to test the trumps when missing the Q,J,6,5, declarer plays the HA and notes that the H6 and H5 fall. Now the H2 to the HK and the first hurdle is overcome as both the HQ and HJ fall. Also declarer is now in a good place to attack the Clubs, particularly as East opened one Club. The CJ is led and East plays the CQ declarer winning the CK. But a significant development has occurred. West dropped the C8. So declarer leads the C6 from dummy and West plays the C9, then declarer's C10 followed by East's CA. Magically the C7 has now become the eventual tenth trick since the defence only wins the SA, DA and CA.

Editor's Note: I have included this article to give readers further ideas of how they can contribute to the newsletter. If you have an interesting “Deep Finesse” hand please email me with your comments to [margnev2@bigpond.com](mailto:margnev2@bigpond.com)

The “Deep Finesse” full board is shown right.