



WEST
AUSTRALIAN
BRIDGE
CLUB

TRUMPS PLUS

March 2009

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ANOTHER
SUCCESSFUL
RON KLINGER
TOUR



RON KLINGER'S
LATEST ARTICLE:
INSIDE
(P. 12)



Editorial

WABC has had an amazing start in 2009, defying the gloom and doom of the global financial crisis. The club has enjoyed a remarkable surge in membership numbers which has created several challenges for the management committee.

In this issue of *Trumps Plus*, Peter Smith, our club professional, has written an excellent piece, "Welcome to New Members", which also contains comments directed towards our older members and more experienced players.

The "Message from the President" contains important information for both new and old members, and highlights the problems created by the rapid growth in playing numbers each day and some of the solutions being implemented and under consideration by the Management Committee.

As I have indicated in an earlier issue, there are many members in our club, apart from our dedicated and hard working staff, directors and management committee members, who assist in making everyone's work a little easier. There are many, many simple ways in which everyone can help to make each day's work a little easier; just ask a committee member, director or Sheenagh, our office manager.

One member has set us all a great example. Valerie Krantz, a member of the *Trumps Plus* editorial team, has worked very hard in the past two months in the club library, rearranging and cataloguing a substantial collection of books and journals in our library, identifying missing books and setting up a card system for keeping track of borrowed books.

I would also like to reiterate our president's message about the bar. The Management committee takes very seriously its obligations to comply with the Liquor Licensing laws and would encourage as many members as possible to do the bar attendant's course. This can be completed in your own time, at home on your PC, and the club will meet all expenses associated with this.



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**All Contributions are welcome.
Deadline for the June issue is the
20th May.**

President's Report

The West Australian Bridge Club has enjoyed an unprecedented upsurge in membership over the first two months of this year, following the closure of Rosendorff's Bridge club. The Management Committee has admitted a record 87 members, many of whom have played regularly at Nigel and Dani's popular social club. We welcome you as experienced players and hope you appreciate the differences in our club.

WABC is affiliated with BAWA and ABF, the state and national bodies, and capitation fees charged by these entities make up a percentage of your dues. As such, we are a competitive club and offer our members a variety of events, including two long weekend congresses, during the year, all of which are listed in your handbook. If you seek more information ask at the office or approach a committee member. We also host several BAWA and ABF events each year. Your Tournament Committee has entered our club in the annual BAWA Interclub Teams competition. Three different grades of play, determined by your master points are available to interested players: one open, two intermediate and two restricted teams, all commencing shortly. We hope that all our new members will eventually avail themselves of all these varied playing opportunities.

This enormous growth in membership has created its own set of problems. We are currently addressing the surge in table numbers and the crowding at the coffee stations during the break periods.

We will now offer an extra session on Monday mornings commencing on the second Monday in March. This, we hope will reduce the Monday afternoon numbers and be convenient for mothers of school age children.

We are employing helpers to restock the coffee stations between sessions and assist Sheenagh with office duties. By now, you should all have found our new water cooler which has been installed in the playing area. Prue Sheldrick is busy obtaining quotes for establishing an extra coffee station on the east side of the playing area.

I would also emphasise that we are a 'not for profit' body and rely tremendously on volunteer help from club members. We are in urgent need of more bar attendants and ask you to consider taking the very easy bar course. Our Liquor Licensing is very strict and only permits qualified bar personnel to serve alcohol. Our bar is a fun part of post session discussions and a good time to socialise and meet other players.

As this message is, in principle, addressed to new members I would like to welcome you and trust that you enjoy the facilities we have to offer. I will make an effort to meet you at the playing tables. Enjoy your bridge.

Alison Rigg

**OUR NEW SESSION
AT A NEW
CONVENIENT TIME**

***MONDAY
MORNING***

9.15AM - 12 NOON

Club Name Badges are available for \$15. Please order through Sheenagh Young in the office. We have over 885 members now and they make learning new names a whole lot easier.



WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS

By Peter Smith

We have all been overwhelmed by the wonderful influx of new members since we moved to Swanbourne. We have also enjoyed a more recent surge due to the closure of Rosendorff's late last year. As I have told many of you, I am personally sad about this closure as I am sure that especially over time, bridge in WA will be the poorer for it. However, despite the circumstances, we are of course very pleased to welcome all ex-Rosendorff's players to our club. I have been very impressed by the way you all approach your bridge – with great keenness and a lot of enjoyment. I think this is a huge credit to Nigel and Dani and will be a lasting legacy.

It's natural though that any rapid changes will always test existing systems and challenge the status quo in many ways. It's at this level that I'd particularly like to communicate with our existing members, especially the long standing and experienced ones.

At a time like this I believe it is essential that we remind ourselves how it feels to move to and settle into a new environment. Procedures which are the norm at one place may not be the same elsewhere so it can take some time to familiarise and adjust. Therefore don't expect that every new player should already know everything that you may know about procedures such as scoring, bidding boxes, alerts, systems, conventions etc – or just plain bridge! It's all quite a minefield these days.

I think it's appropriate for the more experienced players to be the most accommodating and tolerant towards the newer people. I have found from many years' experience teaching bridge that the reason people seem to be "ignorant" is pretty obvious: because they don't know! So rather than viewing any lack of knowledge as troublesome let's make it our job to be helpful, understanding and kind to our newest members and forgive any

current shortcomings. After all if the positions were reversed we would be wishing to be treated kindly by those who are in the best position to help us.

Our directors will certainly be monitoring this to make sure that the transition phase is as smooth and enjoyable as possible for everybody, enabling many future benefits for all of us.

So we offer all our new members an unconditional, warm welcome.

LESSONS AT WABC – TERM 2 2009 With Peter Smith

BEGINNERS – Ideal for completely new players. Tuesday evening 7.30 – 9.30 or Thursday morning 10.00 - 12.00. From 5 May or 7 May.

DEADLY DEFENCE – What to lead, how to signal and much more. Tuesday morning 10.00 – 12.00. From 5 May.

INTERMEDIATE BIDDING - The finer points of Acol clearly explained. Wednesday early evening 5.15 – 7.15. From 6 May.

Contact Peter on 9381 5270 or email lessons@wabridge.com.au for bookings or more information.



THE NEW LOOK WABC LIBRARY

BORROW A BOOK TODAY

Honorary Librarian—Val Krantz

Want to improve your bridge? Borrow a book from our bridge library and enjoy a leisurely learning session in your own time from some of the great writers and teachers of contract bridge.

Not the best known of the Club's facilities, the Library has a wealth of information available in its 300 odd books. Some are classics by old bridge masters like Victor Mollo, Terence Reese, Charles Goren, even Ely Culbertson, who still have lessons to teach us. Edie Kantar's earliest books go back to the 1960s but he's still writing cutting edge titles. Then there are the modern teachers like Ron Klinger, Paul Marston, Mike Lawrence.

While the Web can be a great source of bridge information books are tools to inform and savour. Our small collection is listed at wabridge-club.com.au. and there is a printout on the bookshelves. Books are arranged alphabetically by author.

Here are a few authors you might like to investigate on specific areas of the game:

SYSTEMS: Terence Reese, B. Cohen (Acol), Charles Goren, C. Wei (Precision), Garozza and Yallouse (Blue Club)

BIDDING: P. Marston, K. McNeil, A. Moorehead

OVERCALLS/ HAND EVALUATION: M. Lawrence

CONVENTIONS: A. Kears

LOSING TRICK COUNT: R. Klinger

DEFENSIVE BRIDGE: E. Kantar, H. Kelsey, M. Lawrence, T. Reese, V. Mollo

CARD PLAY: V. Mollo T. Reese, N. Squire, H. Kelsey, E. Kaplan, P. Marston

ELIMINATION PLAY: T. Reese

SIGNALLING: K. Woolsey,

SQUEEZES: C. Love

LEADS: B. Cohen

PAIRS: D. Greenwood, H. Kelsey, M. Hoffman

TEAMS: J. Flint

BRIDGE PROBLEMS/QUIZZES: V. Mollo, C. Goren, D. Priest, T. Reese, H. Kelsey, R. Klinger, K. McNeil

IMPROVING THE LIBRARY

We'd like to keep up to date by adding new books. We'd also like to add new subs to bridge magazines if they are popular. Are there books you'd like to add? Magazines you'd like to read regularly? Have your say in the suggestion book about this.

And is anyone willing to devote a few hours to help make our library work? To paraphrase President Kennedy 'Ask not what your club can do for you.... Etc etc'

WHERE IS IT: In the Boardroom/Library

WHEN IS IT AVAILABLE: Whenever the club is open.

HOW TO BORROW: Books have cards to fill in and leave in the box provided. For magazines, put your name in the borrowers book. Reverse the process when you return the book.

Val Krantz



Novice Teams Canberra

By Richard Fox

Team Aquino (maybe should have been called Team Fox-Hunt!) was able to reassemble for the National Novice Teams event in Canberra. The team comprised Clive and Inga Hunt, John Aquino and myself and we were lucky enough to have another chance to fly over East after our GNOT exploits last year.

The Novice Teams was a very close-run thing, with the winning Skarbek team on 153 VPs, and ourselves and team Breden tied for second on 151 VPs.

A couple of hands that stuck in my memory:

Part Score Doubling

West dealt at nil vul and passed. I held S 4; H void; D A Q 10 8 5 3 2 and C 10 9 8 7 5. I didn't like to pre-empt in diamonds in case the hand belonged in clubs, and we don't have the 2NT unusual opening in our system, so I passed. LHO opened 1H, partner overcalled 1S, 2H from RHO. This was looking like a misfit, so I passed as did LHO. John pushed with 2S and the opposition went on to 3H, which John doubled.

John is a great believer in "Rule 1: Don't double part scores at IMPs, Rule 2: If in doubt, see Rule 1" so I was startled by his action on this hand. However, he obviously held a good collection of trumps, and I had a helpful ace, so I didn't attempt to pull the double.

The full deal:

Dealer W Nil Vul	S 4 H D A Q 10 8 5 3 2 C 10 9 8 7 5	
S J 10 5 2 H Q 6 5 D J 9 7 C A K 3		S Q 8 7 H A 9 8 3 2 D K 6 C Q 4 2
	S A K 9 6 3 H K J 10 7 4 D 4 C J 6	

Sure enough, declarer had a nasty surprise. John was delighted to see my ace appear on his singleton diamond, and I sent a small one back for him to ruff out the king. He got off lead in clubs each time he won a trump trick, and the unfortunate declarer finished 3 down, +500 when we only had a part score in our direction.

Dummy Reversal

This hand was one where East-West found a promising 6H that nobody else had bid, although in fact 6C

would be easier. Anyway, West played 6H on a spade lead, and planned a dummy reversal, using dummy's hearts to ruff 3 spades. Declarer was budgeting for 3 top hearts, 3 ruffs, 5 clubs and the AD, not even needing the diamond finesse.

Dealer S Vul EW	S 10 9 8 6 5 3 2 H 7 3 D K 8 3 C Q	
S Q J 4 H A K 9 D A Q C K J 4 3 2		S H Q J 6 5 4 D 7 5 4 2 C A 9 8 6
	S A K 7 H 10 8 2 D J 10 9 6 C 10 7 5	

After ruffing the first spade, declarer took a top trump in dummy and crossed to the AH for a second spade ruff. Now back to the KC (which dropped the queen) for a third spade ruff. All looking good now: 3 top hearts, 3 spade ruffs, 5 clubs and the AD. Back to the AD to draw the last trump, ready to run the clubs...

Dealer S Vul EW	S 9 8 H D K 8 3 C	
S H D Q C J 4 3 2		S H D 7 5 C A 9 8
	S A K 7 H 10 8 2 D J 10 9 6 C 10 7	

What a pity! The clubs in dummy were too high and there was no way back to the last little one in hand. If you cash the jack first, then the ace, or vice versa, the 8 or 9 blocks the suit. It can be a cruel game sometimes.

One way out of this predicament is to cross to hand a second time in clubs. You hope the clubs are 3-1 with North unable to ruff, or if they can ruff there's still the diamond finesse. So, instead of playing AD you win the JC. You take out the last trump and the AD is still available to get back to hand after cashing dummy's clubs. Not easy, even seeing all four hands!



FOUNDATION DAY CONGRESS 2009

To be held at the
WABC CLUB ROOMS

7 Odern Crescent SWANBOURNE

FRIDAY MAY 29TH to MONDAY JUNE 1ST

CONVENOR

DIRECTOR BILL KEMP

ENTRIES via BAWA WEBSITE

EMAIL bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au

PHONE 9284 4144

ENTRY FEE \$12 per person Pairs session
\$25 per person Teams/Swiss Pairs
½ price entry for Youth players

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY CONGRESS PAIRS 1.00pm
SATURDAY CONGRESS PAIRS 12.30pm
SUNDAY CONGRESS TEAMS 10.00am & 2.00pm
SUNDAY PRESIDENT'S PAIRS 1.30pm
MONDAY SWISS PAIRS 10.00am & 2.00pm

CASH PRIZES & RED POINTS

PRIZE GIVING & REFRESHMENTS AFTER PLAY MONDAY

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Get in early to borrow one of these new books hot on the library shelves

- David Bird and Tim Bourke, *Safety plays* from a series Test your Bridge Technique,
- David Bird and Marc Smith, *Planning in suit contracts* (another in the Bridge Technique series)
- David Bird, *52 great bridge tips* - back on the shelves after a break
- Fred Gitelman, *Masterclass*
- Ian McCance, *The setting trick: practical problems in bridge defense*
- Dan Romm, *Things your bridge teacher won't tell you*
- Barbara Seagram and David Bird, *Bridge: 25 ways to take more tricks as declarer*

Books are in alphabetical order of the first author's surname. Go and have a look at the library – first door to the left from the front door.

JUST ORDINARY EVERY DAY HANDS

Since we've been using computer-dealt hands there seem to be more and more strange combinations testing our bidding skills. I've been told that it is all just random and that such results are because the computer shuffles perfectly every time.

This hand came up at a Friday afternoon game in December. The dealer was E and NS were vulnerable. Projections for the hand were: NS can make 3 diamonds; EW, 5 clubs, 4 hearts or 1 spade. Our table came up with entirely different results.

The bidding went :

N	E	S	W
	2♠*	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

* Benjamin two, 6-10 points and 6 spades

And these were the hands:

East considered the options and led the 10 of

♠K10863

♥AQ4

♦654

♣Q8

♠Q

♥KJ1096

♦ -

♣AK76432

♠AJ9752

♥75

♦1072

♣109

♠4

♥832

♦AKQJ983

♣J5

Clubs. We all needed a lot of discards as W rolled

out 7 C tricks then played the SQ, to the K and A followed by the SJ. Five down vulnerable made a top for EW but it could so easily have been different – if E hadn't opened, if W had entered the bidding, if E hadn't led a club.... How would you have bid as EW as NS?

When Deep Finesse tells us that 5C or 4H can be made, remember that she looks at all the hands and is the quintessential result merchant. On this hand spades break 1/6/5/1 but hearts break 5/3/2/3. Swap those breaks and Deep Uncool would be telling us that E-W can make 3S but only 2C or 2H. On a more mundane level swap the C2 and the H2 between West and South and no-one would remember the hand because 3NT makes routinely – although West may regret such heroic silence with an extreme two suiter. As you may gather, I think the North South bidding is reasonable, unremarkable and their luck is more suited to Black Friday than a Friday in December.

However, East and West are another matter! 2S just scrapes in as reasonable, I guess, and certainly this vulnerability is an incentive to disruption. In the long term, I think not peeping even once with 7510 hands with working high cards is a losing policy (imagine if East had AT9754 /Q / T72 /985 – 75+% to make 6C). What to bid is more difficult, but (ordered by my preference) 4C, X [takeout], 4D and 3H are all possible bids. The star turn, however is East's decision to lead a club. What a genius! Now I know who I should call when I have to lead.

P.S. I now call on my internal pedant, Deepa Ankool: Albert Benjamin of Scotland introduced the use of weak two bids in the majors combined with two strong bids, which is why that deservedly popular systemic arrangement is known as Benjamin Twos. The individual openings are not Benjamin Twos, however:, they are the unspecified Game force, the unspecified Acoll 2, the weak two in hearts and the weak two in spades. If an opponent enquires about the 2S bid, it should be described as 6 card spade suit and 6-10 high card points (or 5-9 if that is the partnership agreement); and not as a Benjamin Two or Weak Two.

And another tricky hand from Wednesday evening 4th February 2009:

The bidding, both sides vulnerable, went:

N	E	S	W
			1♣
3♣*	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

*Showed 5/5 in the extremes (5D and 5S) and asked partner to chose. Usually weak in HCP, strong in distribution.

♠A8753 ♥4 ♦KQ875 ♣62 ♠Q1094 ♥ – ♦943 ♣KQJ1043	♠KJ6 ♥87532 ♦J106 ♣A7 ♠2 ♥AKQJ1096 ♦A2 ♣985
--	--

The all-knowing computer showed that NS could make 4H. Aggressive bidding by EW combined with very weak bidding from me as South (why do I always see the problems in a situation like this instead of the possibilities?) led us to a very bad board. Would you have opened with the W hand, on 8 HCP and 6 losers? Would you as E have responded 3H with such rubbish? Would you have come in as South regardless of the vulnerability and the information given by the bidding? On the 4H lead, EW can make 3 Clubs so a good save. On the much less likely lead of AS (given the above bidding), W would have a lot more trouble. How would you have handled this one?

Bridge on Wednesday evenings is certainly exciting, isn't it? Opening 1C on the West hand is unsound, because 6 losers do not an opening bid make. Enough high card strength to support partner in notrumps, should that be the final

contract, and two (or more) defensive tricks, so that partner can double for penalties with confidence, are considered to be the other necessary requirements.

East's bid is a little adventurous, but if partner has an opening bid then how else is 4H to be reached? West might well have S 95 HAK4 DA43 CKJT64 for instance. There is no other obvious way to show hearts, since a double of 3C is usually and sensibly played as seeking a penalty in North's suits – indeed East might well have done so with this hand. East's hand has two positive features: the Ace of partner's suit and the well-placed spade honour. [Is this the same East as on the previous board? What timing to steal the opponent's solid suit!]

Once South passes 3H, there is no way back. It is unreasonable to expect partner to work out your hand if you bid 4H over 4C. No, there is only one way to get to the par contract: double 3H - that is eight (8!!) defensive tricks in your own hand, after all. Now when West removes to 4C, South can bid 4H and expect partner to pass. Or should 3Hx become the final contract [why not – look at the bidding so far], 7 hearts plus 5 diamonds plus Spade Ace =2600. Perhaps West might redouble for rescue?

Now, what's that I hear you say? Double is negative/takeout? No way, Jose! Partner has described their distribution and you cannot be better placed to make a choice of contracts than you are already. Using double of 3H as asking for a choice by partner is otiose and redundant. When the right hands appear, a penalty double of 3H will be most profitable. This is similar to the auction where an opponent intervenes over 1NT. Because the definition of 1NT is sufficiently narrow, responder can either choose a contract or double for penalties with glee, according to what is held.

If you were East facing an opening bid would you jump on the table to double 4H? That is when West's sins, venial though they be, would come home to roost.



BEYOND THE BASICS *with Peter Smith*

FOURTH SUIT FORCING

USES OF FOURTH SUIT FORCING

We probably all know that in general, any new suit bid by the responder is forcing. In particular, a bid of the fourth suit (the last unbid suit) in an uncontested auction is **GAME FORCING** and is not necessarily natural. There are 3 main uses for fourth suit forcing.

To search for a stopper in that suit. After 3 suits have already been bid, whenever you have a stopper in the last suit you will mostly now just bid no trumps yourself. For example:

♠ AJ83
♥ 54
♦ AK93
♣ Q83

Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

Bid 3NT, the contract you want to be in. You know enough not to bother bidding diamonds at this stage, even though you have them, so just place the contract in the right number of no trumps.

However, lacking a stopper in the fourth suit, bid that suit – to see if partner has a stopper. For example:

♠ AKJ6
♥ Q7
♦ 10 86
♣ K74

Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

Bid 2♦. With a diamond stopper you wouldn't bid that suit, you'd just bid the appropriate number of no trumps, as above. However, here the best contract is still in doubt. 3NT is possible, but only if partner has a diamond stopper. Therefore bid 2♦, Fourth Suit Forcing, and find out more.

To initiate a force, prior to rebidding your own suit. Simply repeating your original suit (rather than bidding a new suit) is not forcing i.e. partner may pass. For example:

♠ AKJ642
♥ 87
♦ 10 6
♣ Q74

Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

Bid 3♠. Even though it's a jump, 3♠ is non-forcing as it's not a **new** suit. It shows a 6 card suit, 10-12 points and is invitational. (A bid of 2♠ here would also be non-forcing, showing 6-9 points.)

Therefore with a stronger single suited hand it is necessary to set up a force first by bidding the Fourth Suit, Game Forcing, then repeat your suit. Note that the Fourth Suit bidder may even have a stopper in the fourth suit yet is simply setting up a forcing auction. For example:

♠ KQJ642
♥ 87
♦ K6
♣ A74

Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

Bid 2♦. This sets up a game force, allowing you to rebid spades next round - forcing. This will help lead to the best contract – it could be spades, no trumps or even hearts or clubs but you need to find out more. Fourth Suit buys you time to work it out.

To initiate a force, prior to showing support for a suit of partner's. In general, immediate support for one of partner's suits on the second round, even if a jump bid, is non-forcing. For example:

FOURTH SUIT FORCING



♠KQ42
♥Q87
♦962
♣A42

Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

Bid 3♥? Even though a jump, 3♥ is simply invitational, like the strength of a 3♥ bid on the first round: 10-12 points.

Therefore with a much stronger hand that can't be otherwise described adequately, initiate a force by employing Fourth Suit. This can be essential in many slam auctions. Again, the Fourth Suit bidder may even have a stopper in the fourth suit yet is simply setting up a forcing auction. For example:

♠AKQ52
♥Q87
♦A2
♣J52

Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

Bid 2♦. Any immediate bid showing heart support wouldn't do justice to this hand – not even 4♥, which is limited to 13-15 points. Therefore push the Fourth Suit button first, and show heart support next to show an even better hand. This could be vital in finding slam.

BIDDING AFTER PARTNER'S FOURTH SUIT FORCING BID

A bid of the fourth suit is asking for clarification and help. Therefore in response:

- * Bid no trumps with a stopper in the fourth suit.
- * Show preference for partner's first suit with 3 card support.
- * Otherwise describe your hand further e.g. repeat the first suit with 6 or 7, repeat the second suit with 5-5 or better.

QUIZ

1. Partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now?

♠AQ764	♠KQ9743	♠KQJ42	♠AKJ76
♥K7	♥K6	♥J3	♥Q95
♦10 86	♦764	♦87	♦52
♣KQ4	♣AJ	♣AK64	♣KQ7

a) _____ b) _____ c) _____ d) _____

2. You open 1♠, partner responds 2♦, you rebid 2♥ and partner now bids 3♣. What do you say next?

♠Q10 742	♠AJ765	♠KQ10 74	♠AJ10 64
♥AQ87	♥AJ82	♥AQ10 62	♥KQJ7
♦72	♦K83	♦9	♦9
♣AQ	♣7	♣Q6	♣K82

a) _____ b) _____ c) _____ d) _____

SOLUTIONS TO QUIZZES on Page 32



5-Card Major Stayman

[courtesy of www.ronklingerbridge.com]

FOR STANDARD AMERICAN PLAYERS (and Acol pointers)

Introduction

Should you open 1NT with the right strength if the hand contains a 5-card major? Many players find this a vexed question, with different players at their club giving them different answers.

Some years back the answer would have been an emphatic 'No'. Today the approach has changed and with good reason. Take a look at the records of the world championships for any of the past ten years and you will find that the vast majority of top players prefer to open 1NT rather than 1♥ or 1♠ when they hold a balanced hand which includes a 5-card major. This has long been the style for the 2NT opening, but is also becoming dominant for a 1NT opening.

Why top players open 1NT even when holding a five-card major

Bidding styles change . . . invariably for the better, as players judge the outcome of the decisions they make. Chances are that when you were learning bridge, the dominant approach was to open 1NT only with a balanced hand, one with a hand pattern of 4-3-3-3 or 4-4-3-2, or 5-3-3-2 as long as the 5-card suit was a minor. With a 5-3-3-2 pattern, a 5-card major and the right strength for 1NT, opening the major was advocated because major suit games usually have a greater chance of success than 3NT when there is at least an 8-card trump fit. This did not apply to minor suits since making nine tricks in no-trumps is easier than eleven with a minor suit as trumps when the hands are relatively balanced.

This is especially important for duplicate pairs. If you can make ten tricks in a major suit and score 420/620, you outscore those in 3NT who make 400/600. If an overtrick is available in no-trumps it is usually also available in the suit contract

(but exceptions exist). On the other hand, if you can make eleven tricks in a minor suit game you are likely to make ten tricks in no-trumps, with 430/630 outscoring 400/600.

That was the argument in favour of choosing the major suit opening. What has happened since is that players realise they can have their cake and eat it, too. To open 1NT with a 5-card major need not impede your investigation for a major suit game. In addition many benefits flow from choosing 1NT rather than the 1-major opening.

The assumption is that your partnership is using a 1NT opening in the 15-17 point range. If your no-trump range is different, you can simply adjust the examples by switching a king or a queen or a jack from one hand to the other.

The benefits of opening 1NT if 5-3-3-2 with a 5-card major

If no major suit fit exists, what value is there in opening the major? In that case, opening 1NT has significant advantages and virtually no drawback.

1. Opening 1NT can keep the bidding lower. With these hands.....

WEST	
♠	K Q 4
♥	A 9 7 3 2
♦	A K
♣	J 6 3
EAST	
♠	A 7 3
♥	6 4
♦	Q 6 4 2
♣	8 7 5 2

Do you prefer:

WEST	EAST	OR	WEST	EAST
1♥	1NT		1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass			

There is no difficulty producing seven tricks, but finding the eighth trick is not easy. Of course, if 2NT does yield eight tricks, you can do the same in 1NT.



5-Card Major Stayman

[courtesy of www.ronklingerbridge.com]

2. Opening 1NT gives less information to the opponents.

Whatever contract you reach, the less you tell the opponents the better your prospects of success. If you open 1♥ or 1♠ and end in no-trumps they will certainly not lead your suit. After an auction like 1NT : 3NT a major suit lead is frequently chosen. If you open 1NT and your 5-card major suit is not revealed, you will sometimes be the beneficiary of a friendly lead into your 5-card suit. Witness this deal from the 2003 world championships:

Dealer North : NORTH		NORTH	
Both vulnerable		♠10 3	
		♥J 8 6	
		♦K 10 8 6	
		♣A J 9 2	
WEST		EAST	
♠ Q 9 8		♠ 7 5 2	
♥ A 9 2		♥ 10 7 5 3	
♦ 9 7 4 2		♦ A J	
♣ K 8 7		♣ Q 10 5 3	
		SOUTH	
		♠A K J 6 4	
		♥K Q 4	
		♦Q 5 3	
		♣6 4	

At

one table the bidding proceeded:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All pass	

As indicated by the bidding, East led a low club and in the fullness of time declarer was two down for -200. At the other table it went:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All pass	

With no helpful bidding from North-South, West tried a spade lead. Here declarer made ten tricks,

+630. Some difference.

This deal arose in the China vs Japan quarter-final of the 2004 World Open Teams Olympiad:

Dealer West		NORTH	
Both Vulnerable		♠ Q 3	
		♥ 9 8	
		♦ K J 10 5 4	
		♣ K 9 7 3	
WEST		EAST	
♠ K 9 7 2		♠ A 6 5 4	
♥ Q 7 5 4		♥ 3 2	
♦ A 6		♦ 7 3 2	
♣ 10 2		♣ Q 8 6 5	
		SOUTH	
		♠ J 10 8	
		♥ A K J 10 6	
		♦ Q 9 8	
		♣ A 4	

At one table South opened 1♥ after three passes, North bid a forcing 1NT and South rebid 2♦. North made an artificial game try and South jumped to 3NT. As the bidding indicated South had 5 hearts, 3+ diamonds and a 3-5-3-2 pattern if the hand was balanced, East hit on the low club lead. The defence scored two clubs, two spades, one heart and one diamond for two down and +200 to East-West.

At the other table South opened 1NT in fourth seat. North raised to 3NT and West led a low spade. East won, returned the suit and West played a third spade. South simply knocked out the ♦A and had nine tricks for +600. Note that declarer also has an easy time if West leads a heart. The lesson is that the less you tell the opposition the better your chances.

3. If you open with your major and no major fit exists, partner will often respond 1NT. Opening 1NT allows the strong hand to be declarer if you end up in no-trumps.

After 1-major : 1NT, the weaker hand will be the declarer if the contract is no-trumps. There might



5-Card Major Stayman

[courtesy of www.ronklingerbridge.com]

be no difference, but it can be preferable to have the stronger hand concealed. That makes it harder for the defenders to place the missing high cards. Having the opening lead come into the strong hand can also be beneficial, as the strong hand is likely to have more tenace-like holdings, such as A-Q, K-J-x or K-x, to protect from the lead.

WEST	EAST
♠ A Q J 7 5	♠ 8 2
♥ K 8	♥ J 3
♦ K 9 8	♦ A 6 3 2
♣ K 3 2	♣ A 9 7 5 4

<i>Do you prefer:</i>		<i>Or this:</i>	
W	E	W	E
1♠	1NT	1NT	3NT
2NT	3NT	Pass	
Pass			

Played by East, 3NT may fail quickly on a heart lead. 3NT by West is a far better chance. On a heart lead East has an awkward guess, but West has a heart trick without guesswork.

4. Opening 1NT allows responder to make a transfer bid.

If you open 1♥ or 1♠, partner is expected to pass with a very weak hand. If you open 1NT, partner is permitted, indeed encouraged to bid with a weak hand and a long suit.

WEST	EAST
♠ A J 7 4 3	♠ 6
♥ A 9	♥ 10 8 6 4 3 2
♦ A J 5	♦ Q 8 4
♣ K 9 5	♣ 7 4 3

<i>Do you prefer:</i>		<i>Or this:</i>	
W	E	W	E
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♦
		2♥	Pass

In 1♠, West cannot reach dummy and might make between four and seven tricks. Played by West, 2♥ has more chance of success than 1♠. Even if 2♥ fails the loss is likely to be less than the loss in 1♠.

Even when the partnership has the values for game, opening 1NT can improve your chance for success:

WEST	EAST
♠ A Q 8 3 2	♠ K
♥ 9 6	♥ A K 7 5 4 2
♦ A K 2	♦ J 10 3
♣ K 7 2	♣ 9 5 4

<i>Do you prefer:</i>		<i>Or this:</i>	
W	E	W	E
1♠	2♥	1NT	2♦*
2NT	3♥	2♥	4♥
4♥	Pass	Pass	
		*Transfer to ♠s	

Played by East 4♥ could suffer three club losers at once and game would be defeated. A diamond lead is helpful, but it would be even more useful if West were declarer.

Played by West 4♥ has excellent chances for an overtrick. On a club lead, a club and a diamond can be discarded on the ♠A-Q and the result will be eleven tricks on normal breaks. If West receives a diamond lead against 4♥ and dummy wins the trick, it would be possible to make twelve tricks with a bit of luck and normal breaks in the major suits.

This is not being fanciful. Players in the world championships would have benefited from this approach here:

Dealer East Vul: NS	NORTH ♠ Q ♥ A Q 9 7 6 ♦ J 10 8 6 ♣ K 8 4	
WEST ♠ 5 2 ♥ J 10 4 ♦ A Q 5 2 ♣ A 10 7 5		EAST ♠ J 10 9 7 4 ♥ 8 2 ♦ 7 3 ♣ J 9 6 2
	SOUTH ♠ A K 8 6 3 ♥ K 5 3 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ Q 3	

3NT by North or South is unbeatable, but it would be normal to reach 4H. A 'standard' natural auction might go:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All pass			

In the semi-finals of the 2002 McConnell Cup (World Women's Teams), three pairs played 4♥ by North. Two perished on the ♦7 lead. A similar fate awaited North in 4♥ in the quarter-finals of the Power Rosenblum (World Open Teams). If South is declarer, 4♥ cannot be beaten.

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
All pass	*Transfer to hearts		

5. By opening 1NT you reveal your strength and may reach a game that is missed when a major suit opening is chosen.

This deal arose in a major teams event in Australia in 2005:

	NORTH ♠QJ6 ♥4 ♦632 ♣KQ1064	
WEST ♠1098754 ♥A72 ♦Q5 ♣J52		EAST ♠2 ♥KQJ ♦KJ10984 ♣87
	SOUTH ♠AK3 ♥109653 ♦A7 ♣A93	

West	North	East	South
			1NT (15-17)
Pass	2NT	3♦	3♥
Pass	3NT	All pass	

With clubs friendly, declarer was not tested. The other table:

West	North	East	South
			1♥(5-card)
Pass	1NT	2♦	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	

All pass
3♦ was one down for -50, but +8 Imps. North-South here did not know that they had the values for game.

6. Opening 1NT eliminates opener's rebid problems and simplifies your bidding system.

The 1H : 1S, 2NT auction in Standard American is not only awkward but also unsatisfactory.

You hold as opener:

- ♠A 9 6 5 4
- ♥A 3
- ♦K Q 3
- ♣K 7 6

Suppose you open 1♠ and partner responds 1NT. What now? If you pass you might miss 3NT. If you raise to 2NT, you could be too high. If you open 1NT, you do not have a problem. Partner will pass with a balanced hand up to 7 points, will try for game with 8-9 and will bid game or higher with 10+ points.

Playing 1NT as 15-17, the 1♣ : 1♥, 2NT sequence shows 18-19 points (or 19-20 if you play a 15-18 or a 16-18 1NT). So does 1♣ : 1♠, 2NT, 1♦ : 1♥, 2NT or 1♣ : 1♠, 2NT. However, after 1♥ : 1♠, the 2NT rebid shows a 16-18-point hand if you open 1♥ or 1♠ with 15-18 points balanced. By opening 1NT with the 5-major hand, the 1♥ : 1♠, 2NT sequence carries the same meaning as 1♣ : / 1♠ : 1-suit, 2NT auction. This simplifies your system and makes the jump-rebid to 2NT game-forcing, no matter which suit was opened.

What is the strength for 1♦ : 2♣, 2NT or 1♥ : 2♣, 2NT or 1♠ : 2♦, 2NT? It is more attractive if opener's rebid in each case carries the same message, whether the suit opened is a minor or a major, than if 2NT is minimum after a 1 opening and 15+ after a major-suit opening.



5-Card Major Stayman

[courtesy of www.ronklingerbridge.com]

7. Even if a major suit fit does exist, opening 1NT can keep you at a lower level.

WEST	EAST
♠A J 10 3 2	♠K Q 5 4
♥K Q 3	♥9 4 2
♦9 7 5	♦J 8 3 2
♣A K	♣6 5

Do you prefer:

W	E
1♠	2♣
3♠	Pass

Or this:

W	E
1NT	Pass

If the bidding starts 1♥ : 2♥ or 1♠: 2♣ and you have the same values as a strong 1NT, you are going to invite game. That will take you to the three-level and if responder is minimum, you may be too high. You need the ♥A onside to make 3♠ while 1NT is a sure thing and could produce an overtrick or two. Why risk a negative score by playing at the three-level when you can play in 1NT and accept overtricks when they are there? From a match-point perspective you are as likely to make nine tricks in no-trumps as nine in spades. While 4♣ has no real hope, 3NT does have genuine prospects.

Another factor to consider is that opponents are able to compete more easily after a suit opening than after 1NT. If you open with 1♥ or 1♠, second player can make a 2♣ overcall easily enough. After a 1NT opening, 2♣ and often 2♠ have a conventional meaning. The 1NT opening thus tends to inhibit a simple overcall in a minor suit.

8. If you do have enough for a strong 1NT opening, but you choose to open with 1♥ or 1♠, even if a major suit fit exists, you will rarely be allowed to play in 2-major.

WEST	EAST
♠A 8	♠5 3 2
♥A K J 3 2	♥Q 7 5 4
♦K 8 3	♦A 4 2
♣9 7 2	♣J 6 5

Suppose opener passed a simple raise here:

W	N	E	S
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	?		

When your side bids and raises a suit to the two-level and stops there, competent opponents will not allow you to enjoy such a comfortable resting place. They will compete to try to push you higher. After the above start, most Norths will compete, commonly with a delayed double. If North-South now reach 2♠, that will make easily. If you bid on to 3♥ that should fail. If West chooses a 1NT opening, the chances are much better that you will play there undisturbed and not only record a plus score, but also make an overtrick.

What can go wrong if you open 1NT with a 5-card major? If the opponents compete and win the auction, partner has less information for the opening lead. Still, the opponents do not often win the bidding after a strong 1NT.

Responder might have support, 6-9 points and a shortage. A miracle fit could then allow you to make a major suit game, while responder with such values might pass 1NT.

WEST	EAST
♠A 9 4	♠2
♥A Q J 3 2	♥K 8 5
♦8 6	♦Q 7 4 3 2
♣A Q 5	♣6 3 2

W	N	E	S
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	4♥	
All pass			

*Long suit trial bid

There are good chances to make 4♥ on any lead, while responder figures to pass a 1NT opening. If you decide to permit a 1NT opener to have a 5-card major, you will have to allow others to have their occasional triumphs, while you will enjoy your victories regularly.

9. Even when a major suit fit exists, it can be safer to play in 3NT than 4-major by averting the risk of a ruff.

This deal arose in the 2003 world championships:

NORTH
 ♠Q96
 ♥8653
 ♦82
 ♣AKJ3

WEST
 ♠103
 ♥K742
 ♦J1074
 ♣942

EAST
 ♠K54
 ♥A10
 ♦Q653
 ♣10876

SOUTH
 ♠AJ872
 ♥QJ9
 ♦AK9
 ♣Q5

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	4♠

All pass

*Maximum pass and spade support

West led the ♦J and, to minimise the risk of a heart ruff, declarer played ♦A and another spade. This did not work as the cards lay and East shifted to ♥A and another heart for one down. At the other table South opened 1NT after three passes and ended in 3NT. Here the lead was a low diamond and declarer also played ♠A and another spade. That produced ten tricks for +630.

EXPERIENCE TEAMS BRIDGE

- Teams of 4 are run monthly from February to November between participating metropolitan WA Clubs alternating on a home and away basis during normal club sessions. There are three levels of competition, Open, Intermediate and Restricted. The Restricted is for players of Regional Master ranking and below. Intermediate is for players of National Master and below, both as at 1st January 2009
- There is no cost involved to the player other than petrol, for away matches, and providing a light supper for home matches. The club pays all entry fees, provides the venue and the Director. Members do not have to play every match as we prefer to give everyone interested the opportunity to play for their club.
- This is a Red Point competition and we encourage all members to take part.

The Bridge Players' Soliloquy

To bid, or not to bid: that is the question:
 Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
 The calls and passes of outrageous partner,
 Or to make bids against a sea of doubles
 And, by revoking, lose them? To bid, to play:
 No more; and by our calls to know we show
 Our best suits from the thousand natural shapes
 That hands are heir to – many's the combination
 Devoutly to be wish'd. To bid, to play:
 To play: perchance to win a good fat Rub.
 For from that lead of King, what tricks may come,
 When we have shuffled up this brand new pack,
 Must give us pause: there's the finesse
 That makes calamity of our long suit.
 And who would bear the Yarboroughs and misfits
 Opponent's wrong and partner's contumely,
 The pangs of trumped Ace, declarer's scorn,
 Kibitzer's nasty sneers, and all the tricks
 Palooka partner to the unworthy gives
 When he himself might the whole contract break
 With his bare ten-spot? Who would part-scores
 call
 To grunt and sweat over the dreary cards,
 But that the fear of cutting afterwards
 The Acol-spoiling learner from whose mouth
 No right bid ever comes, puzzles the will,
 And makes us rather bear the one we have
 Than risk the others that we know not of.
 Thus Contract doth make cowards of us all,
 And thus the simplest points of Acoll bidding
 Are sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,
 And slam hands of great strength and moment
 With this regard declarer plays awry,
 To chuck both game and auction.

with apologies to Will Shakespeare
 and acknowledgement to Rhoda Lederer.



TABLE MANNERS

by Maura Rhodes



***"The home where table etiquette is ignored
rears the ill-bred child"
.... from "Correct Social Usage" 1903***

My mother was a stickler for manners. She taught us that manners were very important, not just because the lack of them would make people think that we were badly brought up (heaven forbid!), but also that manners are a sign of consideration for others. My sister and I were taught to say please and thank you at all times, always to reply promptly and politely to invitations, letters and phone calls and above all to consider other people's feelings above our own. Table manners were very important in our house: we all had to be seated promptly at the dinner table and to use our cutlery correctly. Even reading at the table was forbidden and to this day I am incapable of reading a book whilst eating!

What may you ask has all this to do with Bridge? Quite a lot, I say. Table manners at Bridge are also important and are not really stressed enough. It always amazes me how some people who are quite polite, kind people away from the table seem to think that the normal code of social behaviour no longer applies at the Bridge table. Wouldn't the game of Bridge be a more pleasant experience if all players were well-mannered and courteous at all times to their partners and to their opponents? Is it really too much to ask? My pet hates are:

1. Gloaters- these are people who, when they do well out of you, will say to their partners, "That was a top board for us", thus delivering the message that it was a bottom board for my unfortunate partner and myself. Have you noticed that the top players never do this? They will just score up and say nothing.
2. People who arrive at the table totally ignoring your greetings, in deep discussion with their partners about the last hand. Of course, we all want to talk about the interesting or challenging hands, but there is a time and place for such discussion and it is not when you change table and are about to play the next board. You should arrive at each table with a courteous greeting to the opponents and then get on with playing the next boards.
3. Some inconsiderate people, when they have finished play, talk loudly at the table, totally forgetting that half the room is still playing. These offenders usually discuss the hand they have just played in extremely loud voices!
4. Latecomers who arrive late at the table thus putting us under time pressure for the next boards.
5. The people who call the Director in an aggressive manner, without informing the other people at the table first. Of course, the director must be called when an infringement of the rules occur, but there is no need to do so rudely, which can be very intimidating for newer players. When I call the Director, I always preface it by saying to the other players, "I am going to ask the Director for a ruling on this".

There are more, many more, but I shall leave this now asking you to reflect on the motto of Winchester College, Oxford, "Manners maketh man. "

Table Talk: 'Cheat sheets'

Recently this comment was made to refer to a player displaying their system card on the table so maybe it is therefore worthwhile correcting any misunderstanding as to what system cards are actually for.

Firstly though if you and your partner each fill in a system card (available from the office free of charge (either the 2 sided simple or the 4 sided more comprehensive) it is an excellent way of finding out what each of you mean in all the given circumstances of an auction and then, hopefully, agreeing on an acceptable meaning between you. Then comes the real purpose for a system card which is:

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE OPPONENTS TO CONSULT YOUR CARD WHENEVER THEY WISH.

It is prohibited for you or your partner to consult your card at all during the auction and the play of the hand. Even if you have just agreed on what systems etc you are playing today and written it on your score sheet (or even the back of an envelope!!) it is a 'system card' to which the absolute prohibition applies. By this regulation your opponents can discover the meaning of your bidding without asking a specific or leading question which could potentially be giving information to your partner.

It is for this reason too that the partner of the first to lead at trick one should not ask a question before the lead is made so as not to influence what partner might lead.

Similarly it is good ethics and also sensible to not ask the meaning of a bid or a sequence of bids if you are not going to bid or it does not influence your bid in any way. Also you should not ask for an explanation of one particular bid that the opponent has made but request politely for a review and meaning of the complete bidding.

Happy bridging and one cannot emphasise too strongly the advantages to you to have a system card filled out.

Table Talk: ..and ..hesitations

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM???



Why are bridge players so concerned about hesitations? What is the problem? Well the laws of bridge don't have a problem with you taking a bit more or a bit less time to make one call than another provided that it's not done on purpose to try to unsettle the opponents. A hesitation that is a problem is generally unmistakable and noticed by all at the table. The problem is not yours but your partner's. The hesitation generally shows that you have a problem and don't know what to do. Perhaps you have enough points to bid but no clear action. The problem is compounded if you pass.

Partner has gained information from the hesitation and is not allowed to use it. Now partner should not bid on if the hesitation could suggest some additional values or shape unless (s)he has a hand that would bid opposite a hand without additional values.

I have found that a useful exchange with partner after a tempo problem is:

Hesitator: Why did you pass?

Partner: Why did you hesitate?

Bill Kemp

Trumps Plus
is also available in full colour
on our website:

<http://www.wabridgeclub.com.au/>

LEADS OUT OF TURN

Have you suffered as badly as this?

Deal one:

Dealer South; neither vulnerable

	North	
	10 6	
	K9654	
	Q5	
	10974	
West		East
J3		97
J82		Q107
AK864		732
AJ3		Q8652
	South	
	AKQ8542	
	A3	
	A109	
	K	

	North	East		South
				2S
	pass	2NT	pass	3S
	pass	4S	all pass	

When it comes to gifts at bridge, few come bigger than these deals. Both were a result of artificial bids that cajoled leads out of turn. Deal one comes from a match between Britain and Italy in 1954.

Nothing much happened at the first table. In the auction above, Terence Reese arrived in four spades as South after opening with an Acol two. He made without any trouble. The fun and games were at the other table.

Here Michele Giovine Mario Franco were North-South for Italy playing the highly artificial Marmic system. Giovine opened the South hand with one diamond, an artificial bid that simply showed a strong hand of some sort. Franco responded one spade on the North hand to show a king and some additional values. It said nothing about spades. Then South drove to six spades, a contract that should fail. Declarer can do nothing to avoid losing a diamond and a club. But that

changed when West led the jack of spades. Declarer won the spade and played the ace, king and a third heart, trumping in hand to set up the two remaining hearts. He then made his contract by playing a spade to the 10, which drew the last two trumps and gave him access to the two winning hearts.

It is true that a diamond lead from West also would concede the contract but the point is that West was not on lead. North was the first to bid spades so East was on lead. Any lead from East will beat the slam. The trouble is that the one spade bid did not sound like a spade bid because it didn't show spades. That was a bid gift from West but it comes from the bargain bin compared with deal two, featuring the Australian junior team in 1992

Deal two:

Dealer North; North-South vulnerable

	North	
	43	
	93	
	AKQ108765	
	3	
West		East
Q52		109876
Q1084		J76
J932		4
65		J1098
	South	
	AKJ	
	AK52	
	--	
	AKQ742	

	West	North	East	South
	-	3NT	pass	4NT
	pass	5S	pass	7NT
	all pass			

LEADS OUT OF TURN (cont..)

North's three no-trumps opening showed a solid minor suit. If North is true to his word, South's proper bid is seven diamonds. Indeed, only the 4-1 diamond break defeats this contract, as they unluckily discovered at the other table. But South was haunted by the thought that the diamonds would not run. So he mucked around with a key-card ask before alighting in 7NT. The idea was to make an each-way bet: perhaps the clubs would get him home if the diamonds did not deliver. However, this completely over-looked the vital question of entry to dummy. With no way of reaching the diamonds, he was booked to go about three down for a small loss until West came to the rescue in spectacular fashion. Thinking that dummy's solid suit was clubs, West led a diamond. Fair enough, but he was not on lead. North now had the right to insist that East lead a diamond so he took this action. The enforced diamond lead from East finessed West out of his jack and presented declarer with access to his eight isolated winners, allowing him to make his grand slam.

*From The Weekend Australian 20-21 December 2008
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If you have any hands which are unusual and might be of interest to club members, please feel free to contribute a short or long article.

UNUSUAL LINES OF PLAY



Would you have done the same? by Tim Seres

Another article to tease your brain cells from **Play Cards with Tim Seres**, courtesy of Michael Courtney

North
KQ953
A952
AQ6
5

South
A6
KQJ74
J4
Q1083

Contract 6H

Lead Club K

West	North	East	South
3C	3D	Pass	5H
pass	6H	All pass	

West cashes the club king, East following with the six. West shifts to the 3D.

This deal was played in the late sixties and East-West are vulnerable. It is more than likely that West has a seven card suit to justify his pre-empt. How do you play to make six hearts?

3D was, of course, 'lower minor' for take-out.

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THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Or

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE ABF MEMBERSHIP DEFINITIONS

By Sheenagh Young

Being a member of a bridge club in Australia is a lot like marriage. Yep, you argue with your partner, you gloat over the neighbours when they can't keep up and you need to get a D.I.V.O.R.C.E when you are no longer in love with your home club.

It's easy when you begin flirting with bridge. A game here, a lesson there, a bit of light reading. You try new partners. You try new clubs. It's a free and easy relationship. Just keeping it casual with no ties. One day everything clicks and before you can say "7nt", you are in love. Love will, inevitably, turn to commitment which in turn becomes obsession. But I digress.

When you first make the decision to join a club you are issued with an Australian Bridge Federation number. This number stays with you for life and is the record by which your masterpoints are assigned. The first club you join will be your home club. This is where all your ranking certificates, ABF card and other information will be sent. It is also the club that pays your capitation fees to the ABF and the Bridge Association Of WA, which is the state governing body.

You can belong to as many clubs as you wish, most bridge players are members at two or more, but only one is your home club. At subsequent clubs you would be an "alternate" member. It is important for you to understand that if you are not a financial member of your home club you will not be awarded masterpoints .

For example:

If you joined Fremantle, Melville And WABC in that order then Fremantle would be your home club and you would be an alternate member at the other two. If you then decided you only wanted to be a member at WABC you would need to transfer to WABC even though you are an existing member. If you do not transfer then the Fremantle club will drop you off their list with the

ABF and you become what they term "inactive". Membership Secretary or Office Manager is the person to see regarding these matters. I might add that it is courteous to inform the club you are leaving via letter or email. No text messages please Shane.

Just like a marriage we would prefer to know why we are being dumped rather than make copious clingy phone calls or send irate/begging emails. We will, however, still sit around the club getting drunk, missing you and wondering where it all went wrong!

Gardening notes from Mike George



The rabbit invasion of the gardens has been largely stemmed with mulching. The losses from dryness have been halted with the installation of reticulation. The remaining plants are progressing well. What a difference some water makes !!! In particular, the three paperbark trees donated by club members look great

Plants flowering recently include the native bluebell (Sollya), the buttercup creeper (Hibbertia) and native rosemary (Westringia). The three Kurrajong trees on the northern edge are at last shooting some new growth, as is the tipuana tree in the courtyard.

Once the weather cools, replanting can take place in the bare patches and the asphodel weeds removed.

Thank you to the volunteer team who are watering the courtyard plants. Great work !!

Ron Klinger

[courtesy of www.ronklingerbridge.com]

THIS MONTH'S PROBLEM

South dealer : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

---	---	---	1C (1)
-----	-----	-----	--------

Pass	1D (2)	1H	2NT (3)
------	--------	----	---------

Pass	?		
------	---	--	--

(1) Artificial, forcing

(2) (2) Artificial, negative

(3) 21-22 balanced

What would you do as North with:

♠7652

♥10983

♦Q972

♣4

Solution Page 32

WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE?

See www.ronklingerbridge.com
for new material each day.

Bridge Holidays with Ron and Suzie Klinger in 2009

Lord Howe Island
June 20-27

Kangaroo Island
August 2-9

Murray River Cruise
August 9-14

Details for any of the above from:

Holiday Bridge
P.O. Box 140
Northbridge NSW 1560
Tel: (02) 9958-5589
email: suzie@ron-klinger.com.au

**Put these dates in your diary
and watch the Club notice board for
information on how to book a spot.**

NEW & REJOINING CLUB MEMBERS JANUARY MARCH 2009

TOTAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP

885

JANUARY

Robert Butler
Jean Moore
Catherine Keating
Joanne McDonnell
Jenny Bosich
Ildy Button
Valerie Keevil
Ann & Brent Felstead
Margaret Black
Kate Nadebaum
Cynthia Stanwyck
Pamela Parker(Rj)
Gillian Milne
Elizabeth Hardy
Hannah Goldstone
Andy Fairweather
Colin Martin
Marge White
Andrea Hennessy
Susan Dandridge
Beverly Hayes
Bernadette Fee
Jill Keshavjee
Judy Lonsdale
Jill Larritt
Elwyn Blakeman(Rj)
Susan Steele
Lesley Koenig
Georgina Myles
Linda & Roy Martin
Fran Brennan
Coral Wager
Sheila O'ryan
Val Savage
Dorothea Hansen
Neil & Jennifer Bardsley
Margaret Bishop

FEBRUARY

Dianne & John Snell
Mary Woodliff
Norma Curnow
Louise Dickson
Roberta Smith

Sandra Kiffin-Petersen
Hugh Slatyer
Anne Rae
Gillian Johnston
Patricia Rothery
Daphne Harris
Robert Black
Ernie Robinson
Laurel Low
John & Gillian Italiano
Marie Abbott
Colyn Henwood
Shirley Youngson
Jose Merven
Lesley Capelli
Margaret Petros
Pene Kailis
Patricia Wakeford
Frank O'connor
Jo Allison
Rosemary Van Toll
Robin Andersen
Erin Arundell
Rita Dickson
Susan Anderson
Sandy Browne
Yvonne Brooks
Ann Black
Susan Nash
Faye Agnello
Dorothy Jones
Hilary Mcwilliam
Philip Brunner
Jeanne Hohnen
Peter & Rosemarie Gray
Jessie Duffill
Terry Burridge
Janet Maxwell
Joan Hammond
Carol Martin
Susan James
Alison Garland
Sue & Bruce Benney
Jenny Owen
Pam Warren
Carolyn Collins

Ann Dannatt
Meg Hawkins
Terri Seward
Karen Moller
Elizabeth Morlet
Henk Meydam
Anne Howard
David Black
Jeanette Thompson
Marilyn Van Heemst
Jan Codde
Judy Bihary
Elizabeth Miller
Rob Kelly
Pauline Evans
Judith Silberstein
Robin Fordham
Judyth Williams
Helen Moffat
Christine Venables
Lynette Rea
Jane Ward
Jennifer Barr
Jacquie Broadhurst
Beryl Lyons
Debbie Lawrence
Janet Khaw
Josephine Ahern
Elke Burridge-Sandrock
Margaret Neilson
Jan & David Kelsall
Jay Birnbrauer

MARCH

Roslyn Miller
Hamish Smith
Diana Currie
Judy O'connor
Judy Bennecke
Nancy Paton
Anne Gidney
Dora Horn
June Narbey
Melissa Narbey
Lyle Barter
Barbara Ainley

Jan Sumerling
Terence Newton
Judy Morris
Christopher Wiggins
Gloria Davenport
Ian & Beverley Schupe-
lius
Anne Hillier
Marion Bogue.

REJOINING

Lyn Kaiser
Suzanne John

**CLUB MEMBERS
WE WILL
REMEMBER**

Norma Ledger

MEMBERS NEW AND OLD



David Burn and his 'harem': Kali Crosbie, Julia Lawson and Simone Pettorino

MEET MAURICE AND JENNY OWEN



Jenny Owen always enjoyed a game of bridge. To begin with it was bassinet and bridge stuff with the most important part of the session being the host's cake enjoyed over a cup of tea. Then Jenny decided to improve her play by taking lessons from Nigel Rosendorff at his club in Broadway Fair, Nedlands. While Nigel was a good teacher it all seemed a bit too high-powered and competitive. Being paired one day with the great but intimidating Hans Rosendorff didn't help and social bridge seemed a more relaxed way to enjoy the game.

Maurice in the meantime was happy to join in a bridge session at home. About 25 years ago he and three friends took some private lessons with

Peter Smith. Three of them had names beginning with D so to conform Maurice was re-christened Doris and the name stuck. Over the years the four played regularly once a month then every Monday night as the game started to intrigue them – as it can. Jenny joined him in regular duplicate games at the Weld Club and they've had sporadic lessons with both Peter and Nigel.

Towards the end of 2008 they felt it was time to give the world of duplicate bridge a real try and joined the WABC. Both find the architecture and the light bright club rooms welcoming and relaxing. At first the bidding boxes and time constraints were a bit intimidating but good directors and a friendly atmosphere eased the way. Jenny enjoys the low-key days and Maurice plays regularly on a Thursday afternoon. He says with humility that it was his partner Des Cain who won for them the New Member's Introduction meeting. But it takes two to play!

We hope to see lots of Jenny and Maurice around and welcome them both to the club.

Val Krantz

MEET JOHN ASHWORTH



John grasps the trophy for the Open National Championship after WA won it in 1992.

Who better known for his achievements at our club than John Ashworth? But perhaps he's just as well known for his impeccable table manners and for the contribution he has made to WABC over the years as President (1980-82); to Trumps Plus; in helping less experienced players and more recently, with Helen George, as Patron. In 1988 he was honoured with Life Membership.

Born in Malaysia and schooled mainly in England where he learned the rudiments of bridge from his parents, he later studied at UWA where he started to play competitively with Ian Baker. Ian's career took him away from WA but his wife Breffni still plays at our club.

John joined WABC in 1960 when it was known as the West Australian Bridge Association. He must surely now be close to the record of the player with the longest association with club bridge in WA. With long-time partner Dr Phil Firstenberg

he started collecting trophies at club, state and interstate level, travelling by train to participate. One has only to look at the club and state honour boards to see his name again and again with Phil, Peter Rogers and more recently Terry Piper and Fiske Warren. He has contributed to club bridge by regularly participating in interclub events and has captained numerous state teams. He is justly proud of having brought the first WA women's team to victory at an ANC (Australian National Congress) in 1988 and of having played in the first two WA open teams to win the ANC in 1992 and 1993. Adding depth to his resume he represented Australia in Beijing in 1984 and Bermuda in 2000. Notorious for his slow play over the years, John takes time at the first trick to consider adverse distribution and to recognize odds. His long pauses are usually justified by his fastidious card play and defence and for those who would like to improve their bridge he recommends reading:

S.J. Simon *Why you lose at bridge* (1945)

Terence Reese, *The Expert game* (1947)

Victor Mollo and Nico Gardiner, *Card play technique* (1955) – in library

Hugh Kelsey, *Killing defence at bridge* (1967) – in library.

John says 'Recently bridge has come to be properly recognised as a wonderful recreation for people of all ages. The set of rules and ethics teach the young and their elders to learn a lot about fair play. Senior bridge players believe the game keeps our minds sharper than they otherwise would be'. I'm sure he is right

Apart from bridge the game, John's other vice is bridge collecting. His frequent bridge travels have enabled him to squirrel around in book and opportunity shops to acquire a unique collection of new and antiquarian bridge books, trivia and ephemera. He now owns probably the second best collection in Australia. John's wife Lorraine would like to move to a bigger house so there's room for her to move around! John married Lorraine in 1959 and they have a son Vernon and daughter Stephanie, now well known for her musical prowess in 'Something for Kate'.

Toby Manford

MEMBERS NEW AND OLD

AT RON KLINGER'S LECTURES AND THE CLUB INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP



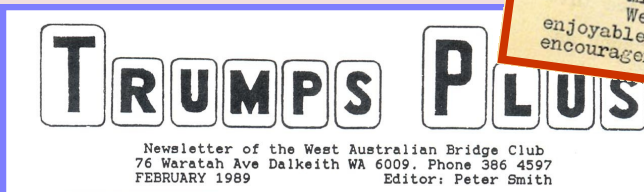
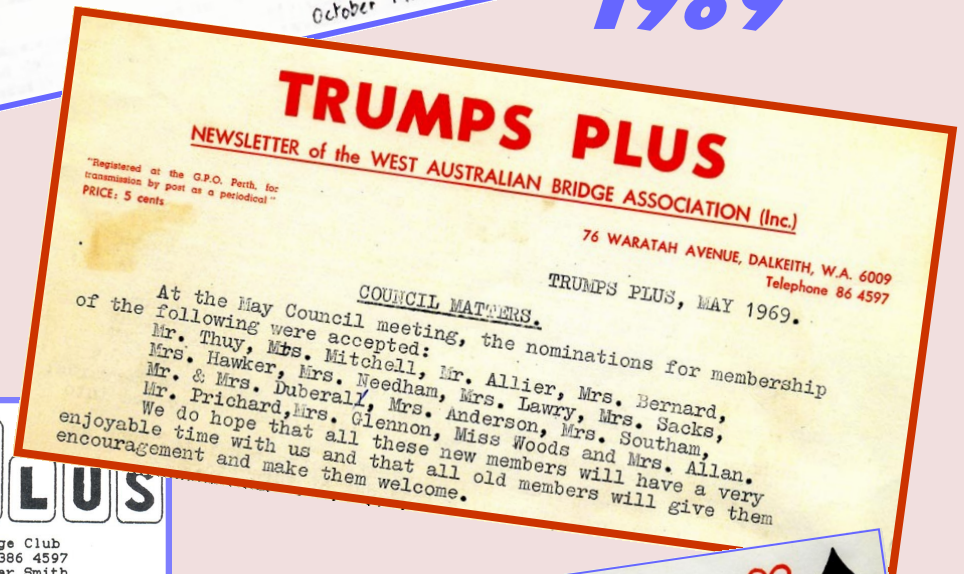
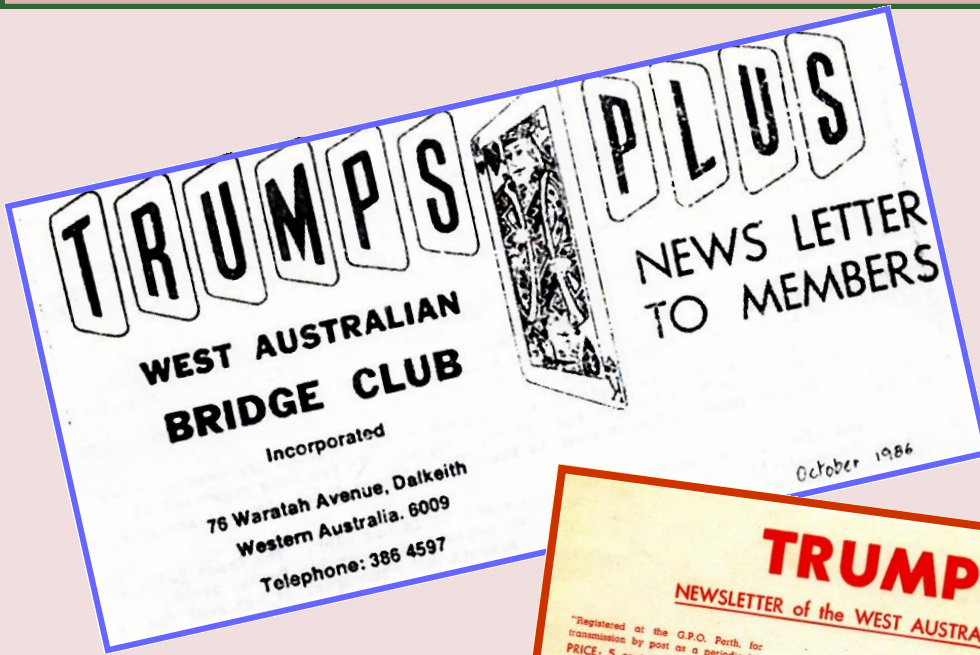
FROM THE ARCHIVES

1969

1984

1986

1989

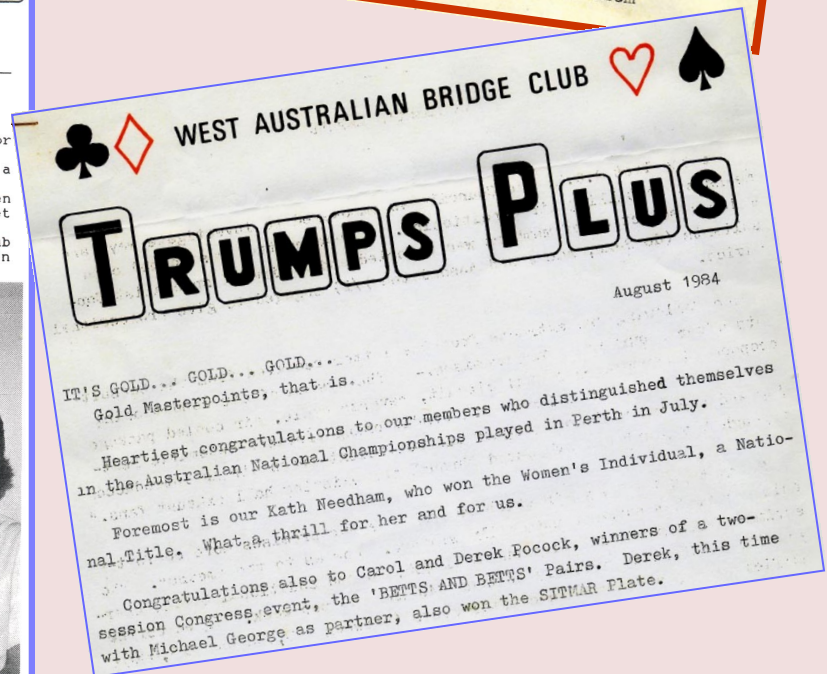


TEAM CHAMPS

Congratulations to our new Club Open Teams champions Trevor Fuller, Phil Tearne and Lauren and Leonie Shiels.
The team clinched the title for the first time with a comfortable win in their last round match.
Second place was a tie between the George team (Mike & Helen George and Carol & Derek Pocock) and Gay & Doreen Jones, Margaret Abrahams and Noelene Law.
The winners have made quite an impact since joining the club last year and we look forward to seeing more of their talents in the future.



Teams Winners (left to right): Lauren Shiels, Trevor Fuller, Phil Tearne and Leonie Shiels



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Do you realise what a bargain this Trumps Plus is? In the 1960s when the first issues came out they would have cost you 5 cents. These little publications didn't quite have the glamour of our 2009 productions but it did begin the process of keeping members in touch with what was happening at their Club.

The first issue of Trumps Plus appeared in February 1960. As ever, the editor took on the biggest workload, haranguing members to write articles then gathering and assembling them for the typist. A gestetner was used to print the finished product. Its operators had to know what they were about or pages were excessively inky or so pale they couldn't be read. Quite a few other assistants were roped in to help. The June 1983 issue for example acknowledges Maggie Sacks: Editor, Dorothy Kelly: Typist, Peter Wilson and Mike George: Gestetner Operators and Gerry Ruse: later Patron but for now Sorter, Stapler and General Handyman. This was a democratic process and no-one stood taller than any other in the pecking order.

In March 1982 the unnamed editor made a plea for change. 'It is archaic not to have a computer... They are cheap, easily operated and money savers. Council please note.' Eventually a computer was purchased but even with this time-saving tool there have been times when Trumps Plus went out of production altogether. From 1992-1997 it disappeared altogether. The President's Letter helped cover for its loss but members missed a regular newsletter giving results of competitions, discussing interesting hands, providing lessons from the experts, listing competitions and all the other bits and pieces a club magazine can provide.

Trumps Plus got going again in the late 1990s. There have still been hiccoughs but in the last year the old mag has had a new bright face and come out regularly. We're interested in collecting a complete set for the library. It's a great historical record of our club and bridge in WA and there's much to learn about the game from its pages. Have you any old issues you might be willing to part with? If so please let Sheenagh in the

Office or one of the Committee know and we'll go from there.

Val Krantz

Meet old club members: GUESS WHO?

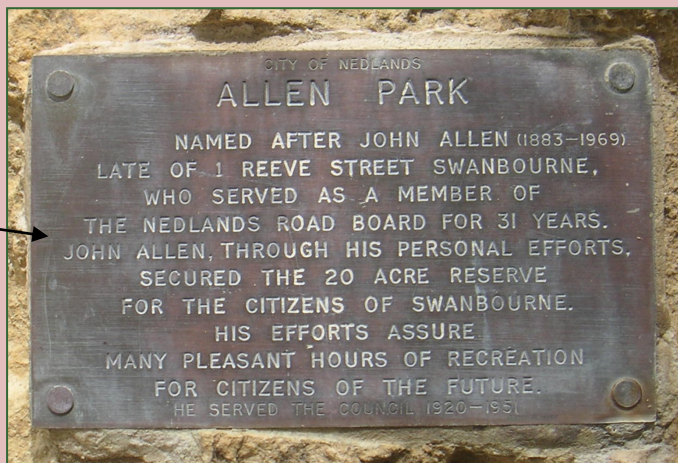
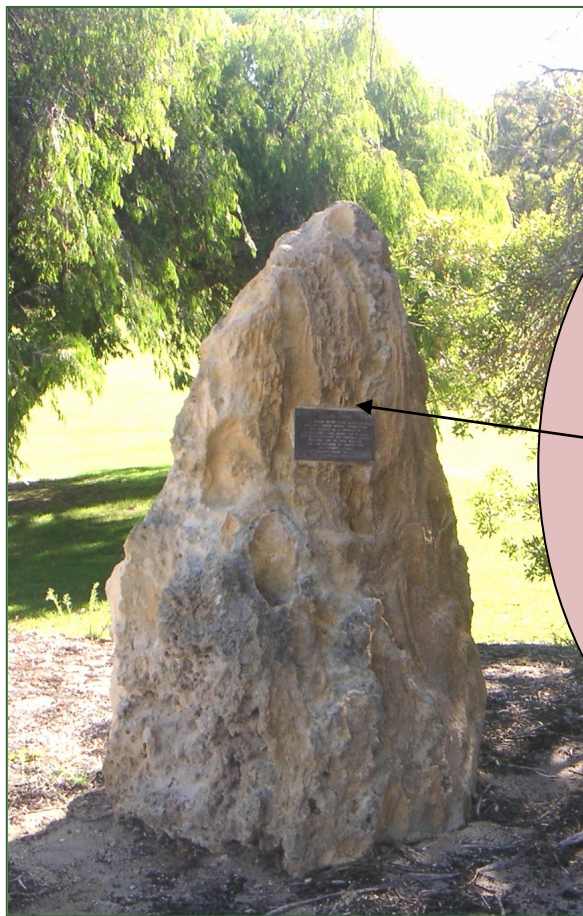


Last issue's GUESS WHO was Cynthia Forman who has just celebrated her 92nd birthday.

No one got it right! The prize now jack-pots!

Put your entry in the box outside the playing area. The first correct entry drawn out at the end of the first week will receive a "scratchie" for Easter. Good luck!

WHY ALLEN PARK?



At the corner of Clare Copse & Kirkwood Road there is a large boulder with a plaque on it:

John Allen was born in Birmingham, England in 1883 and migrated to Perth, W.A. in 1914, after serving in the army on the North West Frontier of India. He worked at Fairbridge Farm School initially and met his wife, Minnie there. They were married before he enlisted in the Australian Military Forces and was wounded at the first Gallipoli landing.

After being discharged from hospital in London with a permanently deformed leg, he returned to live with Minnie in Swanbourne. They had seven children: three girls & four boys.

John Allen worked for the Fremantle Harbour Trust. He was an active member of the Road Board from 1919-1950, and encouraged the purchase and development of the park that was named after him in 1931 – Allen Park. He was also involved in many community activities – tree planting in Allen Park and the establishment of

the Swanbourne – Nedlands Surf Life Saving Club to name but two. The State Housing commission commemorated him in the names of the roads they built north of the railway after World War 1. The initials of Jacaranda, Mimosa, Acacia, Lilac, Lantana, Erica & Nandina Streets spell J. [M.] ALLEN – the M is thought to refer to his wife, Minnie.

John Allen died on 13 March 1969 – just forty years ago – after a long life encouraging the healthy development of the Swanbourne community.

Carol Pcock

[Ref.: Nedlands from Campsite to City
by A.E. Williams
Pub. by The City of Nedlands, 1984]

JOGGING YOUR MEMORY

The following books are missing from the Club's Library. Could you check your bookshelves to see whether you've got one of them tucked away and forgotten it? We'd be glad to have the strays come home.

Bergen, M	Points schmoints!
Cohen, B & Barrow, R	The ABC of contract bridge (1964)
Cohen, L & Davis L	Bridge below the belt (1997)
Fourquet, P	Bridge with the Blue Team (1987)
Groner, A	Duplicate bridge direction: a complete handbook (1971)
Hughes, S	The art of coarse bridge (1970)
Jourdan, C	ABC of duplicate bridge direction (1967)
Kantar, E	A treasury of bridge tips (1992)
Kaplan, E	Duplicate bridge: how to play, how to win (1966)
Kelsey, H	Card play at contract bridge (1965)
Kelsey, H	How to improve your bridge (1973)
Kelsey, H	Instant guide to bridge (1975)
Kelsey, H	Test your communications (1982)
Klinger, R	Modern losing trick count (1989)
Klinger, R	100 winning bridge tips
Lawrence, M	The complete book on take-out doubles (1994)
Lawrence, M	Dynamic defence (1985)
Lawrence, M	Hand evaluation in contract bridge (1983)
Lawrence, M	Play bridge with Mike Lawrence (1983)
Marston, P	The language of bidding (1987)
Marston, P	The principles of card play (1986)
Mollo, V	Card play technique (1971)
Reese, T	Bridge tips by world masters (1980)
Reese, T	New ideas in defensive play (1976)
Reese, T	Play these hands with me (1976)
Reese & Dormer	The play of the cards (1967)
Reese & Pottage	Positive declarer's play (1986)
Reese & Pottage	Positive defence (1985)
Reese & Shapiro	Bridge card by card (1971) – two copies missing
Reese & Trezel	Elimination play in bridge (1977)
Reese & Trezel	The mistakes you make at bridge (1984)
Simon, S J	Why you lose at bridge (1945)
Wei, C	Bidding precisely Vol 1 (1974)
Wei, C	Bidding precisely Vol 2 (1976)



HEARD IT ON THE GRAPEVINE

Heard the story of the two Tournament Directors (who shall be nameless) who wondered what the game would be like when they reached "the other side". They agreed that whoever went first would get in touch with the other to describe the situation there. Well the first TD eventually died and about two weeks later the surviving TD was contacted by his mate.

"What's it like up there?" he asked.

"Well," said his mate, "There's good news and bad news."

"What's the good news?"

The deceased TD replied, "Well it really is great directing up here (note the 'UP") The players are so polite; they call the Director in a civil way and accept the rulings I give in good humour; they score the travelers tidily with no crossings out or mistakes. They turn up for game in good time and stop talking when I make announcements. They know where to pass the boards at the end of the round and where they have to go. It really is heaven for the director. Even the wages are good."

"So what's the bad news," asked his mate.

"Well, it's just that you are down to direct the next weekend congress."

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM POSED BY RON KLINGER FROM P. 23

The world of the optimist

South dealer : North-South vulnerable

North	
7652	
10983	
Q972	
4	
West	East
943	J8
---	KJ7642
AK63	854
AJ9732	85
South	
AKQ10	
AQ5	
J10	
KQ106	

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	1C (1)
Pass	1D (2)	1H	2NT (3)
Pass	?		

- (1) Artificial, forcing
- (2) Artificial, negative
- (3) 21-22 balanced

Without the intervention by East, North might have gambled with a 3C inquiry, hoping to find a major suit fit. That does not apply after East's heart bid. Because North has length in hearts, it is not attractive to look for a spade fit (danger of heart ruffs) and North does not have enough to raise to 3NT.

The contract just made for +120, but that was 10 Imps away. Two N-S pairs made 4S (one doubled), probably after a 2NT opening from South and an optimistic 3C by North. One N-S was in 4H, down four, and at the last table West played 3C, down two.

SOLUTION TO TIM SERES PLAY PROBLEM from P. 21

North		
KQ953		
A952		
AQ6		
5		
West		East
84		J1072
6		1083
10953		K872
AKJ972		64
South		
A6		
KQJ74		
J4		
Q1083		

Against 6H West cashed a top club, then shifted to a low diamond. It is most likely that East holds the diamond king. South might play for 6-2 clubs and 3-1 trumps. He would ruff one club with the 9H, cross in trumps, ruff another club high, then squeeze East in spades and diamonds.

Unwilling to assume 6-2 clubs Seres instead decided to prevail by deceit. He won the diamond ace, drew three rounds of trumps ending in dummy and called for the diamond six. East played low, +1430

Much bridge literature strives to give the impression that deception is a last refuge. "Having a legitimate chance declarer elected to try deceit, etc" Seres views deception as a far more common alternative than that. He frequently chooses a deceitful line rather than accept his legitimate best chance. You must rate the two propositions. Here Seres rated the chance of East ducking a low diamond off dummy as greater than the chance of clubs being 6-2 and the squeeze succeeding.

SOLUTION TO PETER SMITH'S CARD PLAY CHALLENGE from P.11

Set One:

- a) 2♦. A no trump game is possible but only if partner has a diamond stopper. It's also still possible that there's a spade fit so find out more by using Fourth Suit.
- b) 2♦. Fourth Suit is needed to set up a force prior to repeating the spades.
- c) 2♦. It may be precipitate to raise clubs (to 4?) as spade and no trump games are still possible. Again, find out more by starting with Fourth Suit.
- d) 2♦. With the honours fitting so well, this is not the time to bid just 4♥, which could easily lead to a missed slam. So set the force first then show heart support next.

Set Two

- a) 3NT. Could be exactly what partner wanted to know about – a stopper in clubs.
- b) 3♦. No stopper in clubs this time but secondary diamonds could be useful information.
- c) 3♥. Showing the fifth heart could be vital and will enhance the chances of reaching the best contract.
- d) 3NT. The club stopper could be all that's needed to reach the best game.

DIARY DATES

APRIL

1	Wednesday	7.30pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 1/3
2	Thursday	1.00pm	Club Handicap Pairs Championship1/2
8	Wednesday	7.30pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 2/3
9	Thursday	1.00pm	Club Handicap Pairs Championship2/2
10	Friday	1.00pm	Good Friday bridge
15	Wednesday	7.30pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 3/3
22	Wednesday	7.30pm	Open Red Point Wednesday Evening
27	Monday	12.30pm	Open Red Point Monday

MAY

7	Thursday	1.00pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 1/3
9	Saturday	TBA	GNOT heat
10	Sunday	TBA	GNOT heat
14	Thursday	1.00pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 2/3
21	Thursday	1.00pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 3/3
29	Friday	1.00pm	Foundation Day Congress Pairs
30	Saturday	1.30pm	Foundation Day Congress Saturday Pairs
31	Sunday	10.00am	Foundation Day Congress Teams
31	Sunday	1.30pm	Foundation Day Congress President's Pairs

JUNE

1	Monday	10.00am	Foundation Day Congress Swiss Pairs
6	Saturday	10.00am	Club Mixed Pairs Championship (2 Sessions)
8	Monday	12.30pm	Club Novice Pairs Championship1/2
13	Saturday	1.30pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 1/3
15	Monday	12.30pm	Club Novice Pairs Championship2/2
20	Saturday	1.30pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 2/3
27	Saturday	1.30pm	Grand National Restricted Pairs 3/3
28	Sunday	10.00am	WABC Novice Pairs Congress

WABC SESSION TIMES

TABLE MONEY \$5.00 Members \$7.00 visitors \$3.00 Youth players

SUPERVISED – BEGINNERS

DAYTIME:	Monday (P)	12.30 – 3.15 9.15 - 12 Noon	Except Public Holidays.
	Friday	10.00 – 12.40pm	
EVENING:	Wednesday (P)	7.30 – 10.30	Ideal for any novice player.

These sessions are supervised – you may ask for help during play.

INTERMEDIATE

DAYTIME:	Wednesday	11.30 – 3.00	
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Advice given, but only after the game, not during the session.

OTHER SESSIONS

DAYTIME:	Monday	12.30 – 3.30	Graduate to this from Supervised.
	Tuesday	1.00 – 4.30	The premier session.
	Thursday	1.00 – 4.30	Popular with newer players.
	Friday	1.00 – 4.30	Our most popular session.
	Saturday (P)	1.30 – 4.45	Relaxed and social.
EVENING:	Wednesday (P)	7.30 – 11.00	Very popular

**Sessions marked (P) indicate a duty partner is available*

- *If you need a partner for any other session phone Val Fleay (9272 1388)*
www.wabridgeclub.com.au

Well done to the following club members!

Women's Pairs Champions for 2009

Jan Blight and Doreen Jones

Runners Up

Susan Clements and Toby Manford

And Congratulations to:

Chris Bagley, Lynne Milne, John Rigg, Alison Rigg
for winning the teams event at the Kalamunda Congress.