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SESSION TABLES AS AT END OF THURSDAY 7058

ITS NAME IS MUD FOR A REASON…

Barry Rigal

Your editing staff is as prejudiced, rationally or irrationally, as the next man, maybe more so. But top of my personal hit list is playing MUD from three cards, whatever the strain you are defending. Top or bottom are the only sensible options - typically bottom unless you are leading a suit of partner's that you have raised.

Therefore it gives me extreme pleasure to find a deal where playing MUD might lead to a catastrophic result; anyone who can find a way to avoid an accident here is welcome to suggest it to me (answers will be consigned directly to the poubelle kept for that purpose in the office).

Dealer: East Vul: E-W Brd 6	♠ Q 7 3 2 ♥ Q 5 3 ♦ 10 4 2 ♣ J 6 3	
♠ K 4 ♥ A K 10 8 7 4 ♦ J 3 ♣ 10 8 7		♠ A 10 9 5 ♥ J 9 6 2 ♦ 7 6 ♣ A K 9
	♠ J 8 6 ♥ ♦ A K Q 9 8 5 ♣ Q 5 4 2	

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
1♥	Pass	2♦	3♦
Double[1]	Pass	4♥	All Pass

[1] Game Try

Makeable Contracts				
-	1	-	1	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
3	-	3	-	♥
-	2	-	2	♦
-	-	1	-	♣

60 of our 200 pairs played a contract other than 4♥ - defending, or playing partscore, or climbing to 5♥. Of the 140 pairs playing 4♥ in the open event almost exactly 100 of them made 4♥ here, so only 40 defeated it. Where North led the ♦2 - third and lowest in partner's suit, South cashed the queen and ace. North now has the chance to signal suit preference between spades and clubs; it may not be obvious at first glance, but it is clear to signal with the smaller diamond the four, to call for a club. Why? Because if partner has the club queen he should play a club, if he doesn't the play won't cost.

The problem with playing MUD here is that when you lead the ♦4 you have to commit yourself on the second round. If you follow with the two partner will play you for a doubleton, and continue with a third diamond to give your opponents a ruff-sluff. If you play your ten, won't partner read that as suit preference (or at best a forced card thus no message)?

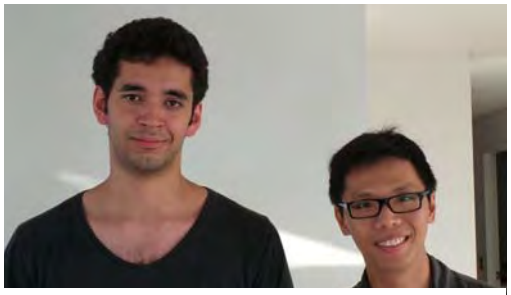
Now of course you could argue that South should shift to a club if his partner doesn't signal - but that will be very stupid when declarer guesses to fly with his ♣J. If you DO shift to spades one could make a case for playing the jack - in case declarer has the ♠Kx or ♠Kxx, when he might play you to have false-carded from a QJ combination.

And finally: put yourself in declarer's position. After two rounds of diamonds South (known to be an expert) plays a low club, after much thought, to the jack and dummy's king. How should you play? I submit that a case could be made for crossing to hand with the ♠K and leading a LOW heart from hand at trick four! The point is that if South had a heart he would surely have shifted to it now. So he doesn't. If North works out to rise with the queen, good luck to him!

TEAMS QUALIFYING ROUND TEN

Barry Rigal

On what was generally an unexciting set, I watched Andy Hung and Adam Edgtton take on Wang Xiaojing and He Zhenyi, while at the next table Tony Burke and Peter Gill were playing against the Brown team, in the persons of Sue Ingham and Michael Courtney.



Adam Edgtton and Andy Hung

♠ K 7 6 5 4 ♥ A J 6 3 ♦ A 9 6 ♣ 10

Brown broke in front when Gill held this hand and balanced over 1♠ with 1NT. That got his opponents to a making spot of 3♣ while 1♠ would have been tough to play, and was defeated at the other table.

Then Courtney had to decide with the West cards on board 17 how to advance after the auction started as follows:

Dealer: North	♠ K Q J 6 5	Teams Qual R10	West	North	East	South
Vul: None	♥ K 7 2		Courtney		Ingham	
Brd 17	♦ A 8 5			1♠	2♥	2♠
	♣ 10 2		Double	Pass	3♥	All Pass
♠ 9 8 4 2		♠ A				
♥ 10 3		♥ A Q J 9 6 5 4				
♦ K 7 2		♦ Q J	Makeable Contracts			
♣ A Q J 4		♣ 9 8 3	5	-	5	- NT
	♠ 10 7 3		-	-	-	- ♠
	♥ 8		6	-	6	- ♥
	♦ 10 9 6 4 3		1	-	-	- ♦
	♣ K 7 6 5		3	-	3	- ♣

He doubled, and passed his partner's rebid of 3♥. Yes, he might have done more, and yes, Ingham should have jumped to 4♥. 6 imps back to Burke.

Dealer: East	♠ 10 8 2	Teams Qual R10				
Vul: N-S	♥ K Q 9 8 7					
Brd 18	♦ 2					
	♣ Q 9 8 7					
♠ 9 6		♠ A Q 5 3				
♥ J 6 5		♥ A 4 3				
♦ K J 10 5		♦ Q 9 8 7	Makeable Contracts			
♣ 10 5 4 3		♣ A K	1	-	1	- NT
	♠ K J 7 4		-	-	-	- ♠
	♥ 10 2		-	1	-	1 ♥
	♦ A 6 4 3		2	-	2	- ♦
	♣ J 6 2		-	1	-	1 ♣

The next board saw an opportunity at virtually every table. All four E/W pairs got seriously overboard - none more so than Michael Courtney, who declared 4♥(!) as West on an auction where the defenders let him out undoubled for down 100; cheap at the price. Michael wouldn't tell me because then as he said, "I'd have to kill you".

The other three tables all played 2NT or 3NT, with just about any lead from North defeating the hand trivially, except a low heart, Naturally all the three Norths in question led a low heart. Declarer wins cheaply and knocks out the diamond ace, and wins the heart return. Does he have any legitimate chance? In simple terms the answer is no, but Ashley Bach conjured up a ninth trick while all the other tables settled for eight. He won the opening heart lead in hand and led a low diamond to the queen and ace. He ducked the next heart and North played a third heart, on which South made the mistake of discarding a spade. Now Bach could build an extra spade trick while keeping North off play. It was 9-1 for Milne, 8-5 for Burke.

Dealer: South	♠ J 7 6 5 4	Teams Qual R10				
Vul: E-W	♥ 4 2					
Brd 19	♦ 10 9 4					
	♣ 4 3 2					
♠ K Q 9		♠ A 10 8 2				
♥ K 3		♥ Q 10 9 8 6 5				
♦ K Q J 5 2		♦ 8	Makeable Contracts			
♣ A 8 5		♣ 10 7	1	-	1	- NT
	♠ 3		3	-	3	- ♠
	♥ A J 7		4	-	4	- ♥
	♦ A 7 6 3		1	-	1	- ♦
	♣ K Q J 9 6		-	-	-	- ♣

Again the four tables were all over the place. Courtney was allowed to make 3♦ as West after Ingham had passed a forcing bid, when Burke selected a spectacularly unfortunate opening lead of the ♦4, while Beauchamp misguessed the ♥J in 4♥. 5 not unfortunate IMPs to Brown, now leading 11-8. Meanwhile He misguessed the ♥J in four hearts, while Bach made 3NT as West when North found the an unlucky spade

lead. Bach won the ♠10 in dummy, ran the ♥10 and led a heart to the king. When Bach ran the spades South discarded a diamond. End of Story!!! A not unfortunate 12 imps for Milne leading 21-1.

Dealer: West	♠	Teams Qual R10
Vul: Both	♥ Q 9 7 4 2	
Brd 20	♦ 7 6 4 2	
	♣ Q 9 7 6	
♠ K Q 10 8 3		♠ J
♥ A 8 5 3		♥ J 10 6
♦ A 9 8		♦ J 5
♣ 3		♣ A K 10 8 5 4 2
	♠ A 9 7 6 5 4 2	
	♥ K	
	♦ K Q 10 3	
	♣ J	

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
1	-	1	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
3	-	3	-	♣

Burke recaptured the lead when Courtney as West was manoeuvred into playing 4♥ and though he took two more tricks than he should have done (again) down one was still 5 imps to Burke against 3♣ in the other room. All the other tables merely invited game with the East cards, and West knew enough to put the dummy down, for +110 in 3♣.

Dealer: North	♠ K 6	Teams Qual R10
Vul: N-S	♥ 8 5 3	
Brd 21	♦ K J 10	
	♣ K J 5 4 3	
♠ Q 3 2		♠ J 10 5 4
♥ K 4 2		♥ A 9 6
♦ 9 6 5 4		♦ A
♣ 10 9 8		♣ A Q 7 6 2
	♠ A 9 8 7	
	♥ Q J 10 7	
	♦ Q 8 7 3 2	
	♣ ---	

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	1	-	1	♥
-	2	-	2	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

Throughout the tournament I've been watching Hung and Edgtton declare partscores with the minority of trumps (I've been bribed sufficiently to keep the juicier stories from you) but here both tables for Milne attempted 2♣; never a particularly wise decision. After 1♣ from North and 1NT by East Hung tried 2♣ for the majors, and had the joy of putting his dummy down there. Both tables scored eight tricks as East-West but the vulnerable undertricks made it 5 imps to China Shenzhen, still trailing 21-6.

Dealer: East	♠ 6 5 2	Teams Qual R10
Vul: E-W	♥ 10 7 6 3	
Brd 22	♦ 8 4	
	♣ Q 10 5 4	
♠ 10 9 8 4 3		♠ Q
♥ A		♥ K J 9 5 2
♦ J 10 6 3		♦ A Q 9 7 2
♣ A J 9		♣ 8 3
	♠ A K J 7	
	♥ Q 8 4	
	♦ K 5	
	♣ K 7 6 2	

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
1	-	1	-	♥
4	-	4	-	♦
-	1	-	1	♣

Both Chinese teams enjoyed this deal. In our featured match Shi as South played 1NTx against Whibley-Bach on a top spade lead and brought home +180 to go with a diamond partscore making by his teammates for 7 IMPs. In the match between Skipper and China Nangang, Shen Jiaxing declared 5♦ as East. (1♥:Dbl-Rdbl-2♣-2♦-Pass-4♦-5♦. Wignall led a top spade, and now the club shift came too late. Shen won the ace, ruffed a spade, cashed the ♥A, ruffed a spade, pitched a club on the ♥K, then ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade, and led the ♥J. He would pitch a club loser if Wignall ruffed high or discarded. So South ruffed low, and declarer overruffed, and crossed to the ♦A. Had the ♦K not dropped, declarer would have led his fifth heart to pitch dummy's club and still made 11 tricks.

China Shenzhen climbed back to level when a wild preempt by Hung on a 6-6 pattern hit his partner with 1-2 in his suits and three defensive tricks in the other suits. With six boards to go, it was 22-21 for Shenzhen, 13-13 in Burke-Brown.

After a quiet game contract at all four tables Burke gained 10 IMPs when Courtney-Ingham missed a game that depended on finding the trump jack, while Shenzhen gained 13 IMPs when they found it and their opponents did not. Brown virtually levelled the match on the next deal when they judged a partscore better. The match finished 25-22 to Burke.

But Shenzhen had one more swing left in them.

Dealer: South Vul: None Brd 27	♠ A 8 4 ♥ K J 5 ♦ J 4 ♣ 10 9 7 6 2	
♠ K J 5 3 ♥ 10 6 3 2 ♦ 10 9 8 7 ♣ 4		♠ Q 10 9 2 ♥ A 7 ♦ Q 6 5 2 ♣ Q J 8
	♠ 7 6 ♥ Q 9 8 4 ♦ A K 3 ♣ A K 5 3	

Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	2	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	3	-	3	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	4	-	4	♣

Whereas all four tables had bid to 3NT, making nine tricks on the lead of the ♦10, with North continuing the suit when in with the ♣J, Wang Xiaojing led a low heart after an auction where dummy rated not to have a four-card major. Who am I to argue with success, but if I was going to lead a major I'd surely lead a spade. My instincts are that covering in dummy might encourage East to win and continue the suit; but there again a third heart trick might come in very useful? Hung ducked in dummy, and He took his ace and shifted to the ♠9, (0/2 higher) after which declarer was doomed. The match finished 45-22 to Shenzhen, a 15.85-4.15 victory that left the two Chinese teams at the top of the table.

Argentinian International Player Pablo Lambardi entertaining his audience with his views on Responses to Minor Openings in Competition

CANADIAN 3NT

Neville Francis

This deal was played in round four of the Open Teams qualifying. I was playing with Magnus Moren.

Dealer: South Vul: E-W Brd 19	♠ A K 9 7 2 ♥ 5 4 ♦ J 8 7 ♣ A 9 5	Teams Qual R4	
♠ 6 5 4 ♥ A K Q J 10 9 2 ♦ ♣ K J 10		♠ ♥ 8 7 6 3 ♦ A K Q 10 9 5 ♣ 8 4 3	
	♠ Q J 10 8 3 ♥ --- ♦ 6 4 3 2 ♣ Q 7 6 2		

West	North Moren	East	South Francis
			Pass
2♣	2♠	3♦	4♦
5♥	Pass	7♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Redble	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
-	2	-	3	♠
6	-	6	-	♥
4	-	5	-	♦
-	-	-	-	♣

Partner led the ♣A for one down and plus 400 to us. We were feeling very good about this result, because even if our teammates got to only 4♥, plus 680 and plus 400 means 14 IMPs to our side. If they got to 6♥, we gain 17 IMPs.

Little did we know that our teammates had a gadget and West did not miss his opportunity to unleash it on the poor opponents. The bid was 3NT to show a solid major suit. If you have a weak stomach, stop reading now.

Here's what happened at the other table.

West	North Moren	East	South Francis
			Pass
3NT[1]	Pass	4♠[2]	Double
Pass[3]	Pass	Pass	

1 Long Solid Major
2 East believed 4♠ was pass or correct
3 East could have bid 4♣ to ask about opener's major so 4♠ had to be natural

West thought that if East wanted to know about his major he would have bid 4♣, so 4♠ must have been natural. Presumably East thought 4♠ was pass or correct!

As dummy was tracked, East was last seen heading towards the toilet.

The result was minus 1700. Instead of a big plus, we lost 16 IMPs. Well, I warned you.

By the way, Team 17 is the place to come to meet two wonderful Canadians, and if you ask nicely, they might give you the notes on this convention as they are not using them now.

TEAMS QUALIFYING ROUND EIGHT

Barry Rigal

This was a hugely frustrating set for the N/S pairs. Other than a deal where the opponents rated to go down in a game or partscore, N/S could make 3NT on deal 27 and had no other board where they were 'due' to go plus. At the two tables I was keeping an eye on there were very few significant swings as relatively accurate bridge was the order of the day.

So let's see some of the swings from the set achieved round the room

Dealer: West Vul: None Brd 24	♠ K Q J 10 8 ♥ K 5 ♦ 5 ♣ Q 10 9 6 3	Teams Qual R8	
♠ A 9 7 ♥ A Q 8 ♦ Q 10 9 4 ♣ J 8 7		♠ 5 ♥ J 10 9 ♦ A K 8 6 3 2 ♣ A K 4	
	♠ 6 4 3 2 ♥ 7 6 4 3 2 ♦ J 7 ♣ 5 2		

West	North	East	South
1♦	2NT	6♦	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
5	-	5	-	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
3	-	3	-	♥
6	-	6	-	♦
2	-	1	-	♣

In the match between Del'Monte and Askew, Klinger and Mullamphy bid to 6♦ after North had shown a two-suiter. Since slam is considerably better than the heart finesse (a friendly lead or the doubleton ♣Q) they might

have considered themselves unlucky to go down. Stephanie Jacob (playing with Susan Humphreys) found the winning play with very little information to go on.

After the auction shown above, North led a top spade. Jacob ruffed, ruffed a spade to dummy on which North played the ♠Q, then drew trumps and ruffed her last spade and played a third trump, on which South pitched a low heart. The combination of what Stephanie saw as a suit preference signal from North and discouragement from South persuaded declarer to play ace and another heart. North could win his ♥K and be end-played or follow the macho approach ("No one is going to endplay ME!") and unblock his ♥K, which he did. Well played -- about ten pairs made slam here. All but one played it as West - the declarer who was East got the ♥7 lead and had a stronger inference about the location of the ♥K.

Dealer: West Vul: N-S Brd 28	♠ K Q 7 6 ♥ --- ♦ K 10 2 ♣ A 10 9 8 5 4	Teams Qual R8
♠ J 10 5 3 ♥ 7 3 ♦ 9 8 6 4 3 ♣ K 6		♠ A 2 ♥ A Q J 10 6 4 2 ♦ A Q ♣ Q J
	♠ 9 8 4 ♥ K 9 8 5 ♦ J 7 5 ♣ 7 3 2	

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	-	-	♠
4	-	4	-	♥
2	-	1	-	♦
-	3	-	3	♣

This was the board that separated the sheep from the goats. Two thirds of the field reached 4♥ as East by overcalling 4♥ or doubling then jumping to game. Yes, with such square distribution in the side suits a slower approach might be right, but that's what happened.

At the tables I was watching GeO Tislevoll as North doubled 4♥, and that ended the auction. 4♥ undoubled was the more common contract here. Let's look at the play if South leads a club. Declarer plays low from dummy and North cannot allow declarer to get to dummy, so plays low. East wins, and depending on the opponent's auction has two plausible approaches. He can cash the ♥A and exit in clubs, forcing North to win and play a top spade, whereupon East takes the ace and returns the suit. This wins when North is short in hearts with the three missing honours in the pointed suits.

Or he can play a club up at once - this wins when North has the guarded heart king and all the missing honours in spades and diamonds. I think the former approach is better - and that is surely right if North doubled 4♥ for takeout.

Note that if the defenders err by winning the first club and returning the suit, you should use your entry to finesse diamonds, keeping your subsidiary chance of the ♥K being singleton if the diamond finesse loses.

Sartaj Hans played four hearts redoubled on a club lead to his jack. He played ace then queen of hearts, and the defenders wisely pressed on with clubs. Hans ruffed and ran his trumps to reduce to this ending:

	♠ K Q 7 ♥ --- ♦ K 10 ♣ ---	
♠ J 10 5 ♥ --- ♦ 9 8 ♣ ---		♠ A 2 ♥ 2 ♦ A Q ♣ ---
	♠ 9 8 ♥ --- ♦ J 7 5 ♣ ---	

On the last trump South threw a spade, dummy a diamond, and North had to unguard diamonds or spades. He chose to bare his ♦K and when the spade ace did not drop an honour (it would have done North no good to false-card here since then dummy would take a spade in the ending) Hans dropped North's ♦K and claimed +880.

THE MISSING CHICKEN

Barbara Hospers – Cleveland Bay Bridge Club

More on the missing cider side of things. While unpacking our shopping at the GCC we noticed that the hot chicken we had just purchased was missing in action. Straws were drawn and the loser had to go back to Woolworths and the loser went back to try and recoup the missing chook.

Armed with the complimentary replacement chicken provided by Woolworths she trundled back to the apartment, called for the lift (a different one to the one she had just gone down in) and lo and behold on the floor was the missing chicken. *Ed: Ah….bridge players – have to love em!*

HAVE YOU DISCUSSED

Brent Manley

At a tournament, South opened 1NT. West overcalled 2♥. "Alert!" said East. "Explain," said North. East replied, "DOPI Brozel – hearts and an unspecified major."

East, of course, is a bit mixed up, perhaps from not discussing the convention thoroughly with his partner. The theme of this series, as you may have noted, is "have you discussed?" If you and partner are not on the same page with the methods you have agreed to play, bad boards and discouragement will result.

Articles in this series have dealt with responses to takeout doubles, what to do when an opponent redoubles and other competitive situations. So, do you and your partner have firm agreements on how to compete when the opponents double for takeout? Do your agreements take into account whether partner's opener was in a minor or a major? Is there a difference? Must you redouble when you have 10 or more high-card points no matter what?

There's a lot to consider, so start with any bid you might make. What is your agreement about forcing versus non-forcing bids? Most experienced players consider one-level bids to be forcing. If partner is an unpassed hand, he must bid again if you make a one-level response, for example: 1♣ – Dbl – 1♠. You might have this hand:

♠ A K J 10 7
♥ A J 6
♦ 5 4
♣ Q 10 9.

You know you are going to play game at some level, but the denomination is not clear at this point. Go slowly. It's unlikely your left-hand opponent has enough high-card strength to bid, and partner's response – perhaps even a raise of spades – will tell you a lot about where you should play this contract.

It won't be as easy if you have to jump to show strength.

Two-level bids, including raises of partner's suit, are not forcing, as in 1♥ – Dbl– 2♥ or even 1♥ – Dbl – 2♦. For your 2♦ bid in this sequence, you might have something like

♠ J 7 4
♥ 3 2
♦ K Q J 6 5
♣ J 3.

There are two reasons to make this bid: It's a good lead-director for partner in case he ends up on lead against their contract – and you might have a fit in diamonds that allows you to compete more vigorously. Because you have redouble to indicate 10 or more high-card points (more on that later), partner will not expect you to have a big hand and will pass with a minimum opener unless he has extra length in his suit and really hates yours.

So, what if you have support for your partner's suit and enough to respond? Have you and partner discussed what to do in such cases? Suppose you are dealt

♠ 5
♥ Q J 10 9
♦ 10 9 8 3
♣ Q 10 4 3.

Partner opens 1♥ and the next player doubles. There is a strong likelihood that the opponents have a good spade fit. Don't make it easy for them to find it. Jump to 3♥. Note that if you are playing that 1♥ – Pass – 3♥ as a limit raise, 3♥ when they double for takeout has a different meaning: weak hand, good trump support.

Apart from using up their bidding space, you also convey to partner that you have good trump support, which will help her compete with the right hand. If the vulnerability is in your favour, partner's knowing about the good trump fit might result in a profitable save.

So what do you do when you have a good raise? Suppose the bidding goes 1♠ – Dbl and you hold

♠ K 10 9 6
♥ A Q 4
♦ J 10 9 8
♣ 5 2 What is your call?

You could redouble to show your 10 HCP, but that doesn't tell the story you really want to tell – that you have excellent trump support and at least a limit raise for partner's suit. Okay, you say – what should I do if I can't raise to three because it shows a weak hand?

Most experienced players use the bid of 2NT to show at least limit-raise values and four or more trumps when partner has opened with 1♥ or 1♠. In other words, the example hand above. A bid of 2NT is not offering to play in that denomination, so it must be Alerted.

The good thing about this agreement is that it also takes care of the hands that are good enough to raise partner to game.

Tomorrow: More on competing when they double for takeout.

IMPROVING YOUR GAME

Barry Rigal

Dealer: East
Vul: Nil

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

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

These days, players are taught to make jump shifts only on hands with very good suits, or with support for partner, and not with two-suiters. So North's actions of jumping and then following up with 4♥ is a cue-bid agreeing his partner's spades, not a second suit. South has such good controls, albeit in a minimum hand, that he must cue-bid 5♣, and now North drives to a slam, even over South's sign-off.

On the lead of the ♣K against 6♠, prospects are bleak. Without that lead South would have been able to test the diamonds, but now even the 3-3 diamond split does not seem to help any more - or does it? South can take advantage of a 3-3 split (which is a better shot than the double finesse, a 25% play) if he times the play carefully. He ducks the ♣A, wins the second round, and then draws two rounds of trump ending in hand. If trumps do not behave, he would need to rely on the double finesse in diamonds, but when the spades split 3-2 he has a better shot. The next move is to cash the three top hearts, throwing a diamond from hand, and play three rounds of diamonds, ruffing in hand. When the suit splits 3-3, South can go back over to dummy's queen of trumps, and play the thirteenth diamond, to get rid of his last club loser.

Although the slam was no better than the diamonds being 3-3, a 36% shot, you must play for your best chance, however unlikely it may be, and not give up prematurely.

DESPERATE MEASURES

Brent Manley

In round eight of the Intermediate Teams qualifying, Ian Lisle sensed that his foursome was behind in the match against the squad captained by Margie Knox. Turned out he was right, and the action he took made the difference between winning and losing. Lisle was playing with his wife, Vicky. This was the key deal.

Dealer: West Vul: None Brd 24	♠ K Q J 10 8 ♥ K 5 ♦ 5 ♣ Q 10 9 6 3	Teams Qual R8
♠ A 9 7 ♥ A Q 8 ♦ Q 10 9 4 ♣ J 8 7		♠ 5 ♥ J 10 9 ♦ A K 8 6 3 2 ♣ A K 4
	♠ 6 4 3 2 ♥ 7 6 4 3 2 ♦ J 7 ♣ 5 2	

West	North	East	South	
V Lisle		I Lisle		
1NT	2♠	Double	Pass	
3♣	Double	3♦	Pass	
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass	
5♠	Pass	6♦	All Pass	
Makeable Contracts				
5	-	5	-	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
3	-	3	-	♥
6	-	6	-	♦
2	-	1	-	♣

The 1NT opening showed 12-14 high-card points. East's double was a relay to 3♣, obviously as a prelude to a forcing action, 3♦ in this case. When Vicky supported her partner's suit, Blackwood was next. Vicky admitted to holding two key cards plus the trump queen, so Ian bid the slam. All he had to do then was make it.

He took the opening spade lead with dummy's ace and ruffed a spade. He played a diamond to dummy's queen and ruffed another spade. He cashed two more trumps, leaving dummy with one.

The contract makes with a successful heart finesse, but Lisle didn't think that would work. There were only 11 high-card points out and North was likely to have most of them for the 2♠ overcall and the double of 3♣.

Lisle thought a better plan was to forget about the heart finesse and hope that North held a singleton or doubleton ♥K. Accordingly, at trick seven, Lisle played a heart to the ace and followed with the ♥Q.

North won the ♥K and had two bad options: lead away from the ♣Q or give declarer a ruff-sluff. North chose to play a club, which Lisle ducked to dummy's jack. Slam made for plus 920.

It was a well-played deal and necessary for Lisle's team to win. As it happened, his team was trailing by 5 IMPs at that point. The 11-IMP pickup (the contract was 5♦, making six, at the other table) gave his team the win by 6 IMPs.

LONG JOURNEY TO FUN

Brent Manley

Not many people would travel nearly 1,400 miles to play bridge for two days, but the distance didn't bother Wendy McEntegart and Nicolette Bartoli.

The two players from Auckland, New Zealand, showed up at the convention centre on Thursday to play in the Rookie Pairs, and they couldn't wait to get started.

In their first Rookie Pairs session, they were close to average, with one outstanding board – 3NT, making five for 100% of the matchpoints.

The two met taking lessons at the Auckland Bridge Club. Said McEntegart, "We were the keenest ones in the class."

That's right, said Bartoli: "We were the only ones willing to play with the 'grown-ups.'"

They have been playing since the summer of 2011 and enjoying all the new experiences.

"I love cards," said Bartoli, "and it's a great way to meet people."

McEntegart is a retired nurse, Bartoli a stay-at-home mom.

They said their friends at the bridge club back home were supportive and excited for them in anticipation of their tournament adventure.

They knew it was going to be fun. Said Bartoli: "I have a lovely partner." Added McEntegart: "So do I."

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR - WHEN IS A CARD PLAYED?

Laurie Kelso

This can be very confusing, as it is different depending on whether you are a defender, a declarer playing your own cards, or a declarer calling for a card from dummy (this last category will be covered in a later article).

If, as a defender, you detach a card from your hand and hold it in a way that it is "possible" for your partner to see the face of the card, then you are deemed to have played it! This does not mean that your partner did actually see it, only that your partner could have seen it! (Law 45C1)

Sometimes the director will ask you to repeat the movement that you made with the card in your hand. What the director is trying to determine is whether, in their opinion, the card was held in such a position that your partner could have seen it. When these re-enactments take place, the opposition can be asked to comment on whether the movement of the card has been accurately reproduced.

Now if you are declarer and playing from your own hand, then you must play any card that you have "held face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played." (Law 45C2) This is fairly straight-forward but does lead to a number of director calls, usually when there are many individual ways of holding and playing cards from hand.

Players have a variety of habits in regard to how they actually manipulate their cards. Some just pull a card from their hand and place it directly on the table, while others hold the card upright on the edge of the table before letting it fall over to be revealed. Still others pull out a card and hold it in mid-air, sometimes waving it around. Some will even do this several times until they have made up their mind about which card to contribute. We are sure you have seen a variety of other methods yourself. Directors need to keep these variations in mind when deciding how to rule over a disputed play of a card by declarer.

If you find yourself in a position at the table where you see an opponent's card, you are fully entitled to use the information, however it is not a good idea to tell everyone at the table what the card is. If you think it might qualify as a 'played card', the best approach is simply to call the director.

Being allowed to see one of declarer's unplayed cards is an advantage anyway, but if you name that card and the director ultimately rules it as 'not played', then all you have done is severely disadvantage your partner (there are now unauthorised information restrictions).

Similarly, just because a defender's card was visible to declarer does not necessarily mean that it was also visible to the other defender. Prematurely broadcasting the identity of a defender's card when you are the declarer can only ever help the opposition since it legitimately informs an opponent as to what his partner holds (and now there are no unauthorized information restrictions).

Finally, if you are dummy in any of these situations, all you need to remember is to remain silent throughout the play of the hand!

Thursday Rookie Pairs

North-South				East-West			
Place		%	MPs	Place		%	MPs
1	Beverley NORTHEY - Dianne THATCHER	60.35	0.62	1	Jane HILLS - Jennifer MONTAGUE	59.69	0.62
2	Daria WILLIAMS - Ian CAMERON	59.80	0.43	2	Judy FITZGERALD - Patricia ADAM	59.37	0.43
3	Ken MACDOUGALL - Elizabeth HANDLEY	58.17	0.31	3	Kay SNOWDEN - Jeanette MARVELL	59.26	0.31
4	Robert OLANDER - William WEBSTER	57.08	0.21	4	Jan FLANIGAN - Bevley D'AQUINO	58.17	0.21
5	Julie HEIB - Diann YOUNG	55.99	0.16	5	Amanda ADAMS - Patrick EATHER	56.75	0.16
6	Marguerite BETTINGTON - Jan DEAVILLE	55.34	0.12	6	Mary SIMON - Isabel GRIINKE	54.25	0.12
7	Janet WARBY - Susie THOMSON	53.70	0.10	7	Rena INDERMAUR - Annie SINCLAIR	54.14	0.10
8	Rhonda PEACHEY - Elizabeth BASILE	52.40	0.09	8	Karen SWEEP - Rhonda HENRY	50.11	0.09
9	Robyn SEET - Ivy MONTEIRO	51.53	0.08	9	John BURNS - Judy DWYER	50.00	0.08
10	Diane ARNOLD - John ROUGHLEY	51.09	0.07	10	Heather TODD - John TODD	48.91	0.07
11	Drew CAMPI - Joan CADE	50.44		11	Geoffrey DAVIS - Anthony DONKERSLOOT	48.58	
12	June HAGAR - Maureen LUBINSKY	49.24		12	Nili WOOD - Laurence WOOD	47.71	
12	Debbie NEVIN - Lynn BROWN	49.24		13	Wendy CROMBIE - Julie STOCKLEY	47.49	
14	John BURT - John LEGGO	48.37		14	Kristine ROSSITER - Anita BOYLE	46.30	
15	Nicolette BARTOLI - Wendy MCENTEGART	47.71		15	Margaret HETHERINGTON - Nita QUINN	46.19	
16	Wendy CASEY - Barbara MONI	42.37		16	Ming Shu YANG - Brett MIDDELBERG	44.99	
17	Sue CLARE - Lesley HENDERSON	41.72		17	Joan PUTLAND - Lorraine TYNAN	44.66	
18	Clare GLEESON - Gillian KINSELLA	40.74		18	Mike SCOTT - Bev SCOTT	44.44	
19	Margaret MARSHALL - Margaret GAGEN	40.20		19	Irma PAAL - Jill MCPHERSON	39.98	
20	Louise NOWLAND - Faye HOOIVELD	34.53		20	Cherie ORCHARD - Penelope WAGSTAFF	39.00	

Open Teams End of Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	9	China Nangang - Zhang Bankxiang - Shen Jiaxing - Gan Xinli - Wang Ru - Li Xin	176.64
2	4	Burke - Anthony Burke - Peter Gill - Sartaj Hans - David Beauchamp	169.62
3	21	Fischer - Stephen Fischer - David Morgan - Marianne Bookallil - Jodi Tutty	163.93
4	16	Haffer - Joachim Haffer - Laura Ginnan - Mike Doecke - William Jenner-O'Shea - Pieter Vanderpoel	160.19
5	14	Gue - Phil Gue - Bill Hirst - David Weston - Julian Foster	158.06
6	2	McGann - Hugh McGann - Matthew Thomson - Fiona Brown - Tony Nunn - Michael Ware	156.45
7	1	Del'Monte - Ishmael Del'Monte - Ron Klinger - Matthew Mullamphy - Tom Jacob - Justin Howard	155.52
8	3	Milne - Liam Milne - Nye Griffiths - Michael Whibley - Ashley Bach - Andy Hung	155.31
9	12	Brown - Terry Brown - Paul Wyer - Sue Ingham - Michael Courtney	154.89
10	8	China Shenzhen - Chen Shenghong - Shi Xuao - Wang Xiaojing - He Zhenyi - He Liqiang	154.84
11	10	Bourke - Margaret Bourke - Neil Ewart - Felicity Beale - Robbie Van Riel	151.87
12	60	Smith - Wayne Smith - Chris Dibley - Normand Maclaurin - Ken Berry	151.66
13	20	Wilkinson - Michael Wilkinson - Susan Crompton - Michael Prescott - Marlene Watts	151.20
14	44	Clarke - Garry Clarke - Sally Clarke - Lynette Vincent - Anita Curtis	150.55
15	5	Travis - Barbara Travis - Howard Melbourne - David Appleton - Peter Reynolds	150.51
16	24	Li - Eileen Li - Watson Zhou - Charlie Lu - Chuan Qin	149.57
17	30	Jones - Barry Jones - Jenny Millington - Steve Boughey - Carol Richardson	147.15
18	37	Newman - John Newman - Dominic Kwok - Nick Jacob - Glen Coutts	146.69
19	28	Parker - Ralph Parker - Arran Hodkinson - Peter Hainsworth - Sanmugaras Kamalarasa	146.00
20	7	Krochmalik - Robert Krochmalik - Paul Lavings - Kim Morrison - Simon Hinge	143.87

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
21	77	Frazer	143.58	109	135	Andersson	117.06
22	19	Gosney	143.52	110	132	Osmund	116.91
23	18	Konig	143.42	111	119	Moffat	116.89
24	13	Skipper	143.17	112	83	Waldvogel	116.17
25	41	Chadwick	141.64	113	174	Perl	115.97
26	6	De Livera	141.23	114	66	Simes	115.88
27	15	Carter	141.09	115	42	Alexander	115.84
28	11	Brayshaw	140.57	116	88	Walters	115.45
29	68	Sheridan	140.36	117	175	Mills	114.78
30	55	Mundell	139.74	118	93	Luck	114.73
31	76	Lowry	138.97	119	82	Rhodes	114.54
32	43	Badley	138.85	120	147	Waterhouse	114.53
33	97	Maltz	138.59	121	110	Halford	114.49
34	26	Harley	138.53	122	140	Blackham	114.38
35	80	Weaver	138.47	123	178	Littler	114.36
36	74	Schokman	138.19	124	104	Howard	113.72
37	33	Kalmin	137.72	125	190	Christian	113.67
38	27	Arber	137.42	126	136	Foster	113.26
39	84	Green	137.24	127	161	Sharp	113.18
40	53	McLeod	137.03	128	62	Van Vucht	113.08
41	38	Faranda	136.95	129	187	Orsborn	113.04
42	177	Smith	136.78	130	103	Hadfield	112.82
43	39	Kiss	136.37	131	155	Roughley	112.75
44	32	Askew	136.02	132	165	Rose	112.45
45	78	Lindsay	135.46	133	114	Motteram	112.29
46	17	Moren	135.30	134	123	Andrew	112.27
47	73	Bedi	135.28	135	181	Leach	111.63
48	71	Steinwedel	134.49	136	100	Norden	111.46
49	48	Korenhof	134.25	137	180	Bennett	111.38
50	34	Jacob	133.45	138	138	Jeffery	110.95
51	46	Brumer	133.26	139	70	Porter	110.52
52	58	Palmer	133.07	140	128	Trend	110.34
53	75	Ashwell	132.33	141	158	Fraser	109.11
54	96	Martin	131.81	142	87	Morris	108.54
55	85	Lachman	131.60	143	151	Shaw	108.53
56	65	Gray	130.72	144	139	Taylor	107.57
57	64	McKinnon	130.13	145	79	Doddridge	107.12
58	59	Woodhall	129.91	146	167	Brandt	107.03
59	164	Carroll	129.83	147	105	Jeffery	106.83
60	69	Morgan-King	129.73	148	162	Hill	106.70
61	50	Mayo	129.62	149	98	Bourke	105.77
62	25	Sawicki	129.40	150	156	Eastman	105.55
63	54	Finikiotis	127.88	151	149	Marker	105.39

Place	No.	Team Members					Score
64	89	Fleischer	127.85	152	129	Rooney	105.37
64	143	Rutter	127.85	153	189	Brown	105.16
66	23	Grosvenor	127.38	154	113	Jewell	105.09
67	36	Butts	127.36	155	146	Watson	105.00
68	63	Afflick	127.17	156	159	Krosch	104.36
69	47	Scott	127.00	157	163	Leach	103.75
70	57	Curry	126.62	158	61	Tant	103.60
71	67	Grenside	125.96	159	106	McDonald	103.52
72	56	Hall	125.95	160	150	Whiddon	103.05
73	102	Williams	125.73	161	192	Matskows	102.73
75	120	Grahame	125.65	162	166	Barrett	101.97
74	94	Kudelka	125.67	163	172	Ashman	101.41
76	95	Kefford	125.21	164	193	Muller	100.92
77	153	Kenyon	125.18	165	92	Schoen	100.88
78	51	Ferguson	125.04	166	86	Treloar	100.37
79	31	Livesey	124.71	167	137	White	100.34
80	170	Fraser	124.08	168	116	Darley	99.26
81	115	Banks	123.65	169	134	Mickevics	99.14
82	142	Goodwin	123.55	170	194	Healy	98.92
83	22	Giura	123.15	171	157	Clift	98.07
84	122	Flanders	122.84	172	81	Daly	96.88
85	35	Boughey	122.68	173	191	Diamond	96.34
86	52	Moritz	122.63	174	133	Rusher	95.57
87	131	Bugeia	122.50	175	72	Spiro	95.53
88	108	Kahn	122.25	176	169	Andrews	94.66
89	111	Valentine	121.57	177	196	Inglis	94.13
90	29	Hoffman	121.51	178	141	Johnson	94.05
91	152	Scerri	121.24	179	171	Gold	92.21
92	40	Mott	120.92	180	109	Allgood	90.65
93	99	Mangos	120.89	181	121	Anlezark	90.51
94	130	Tunks	120.65	182	183	Herbert	90.49
95	184	McAlister	120.50	183	188	Barda	90.33
96	49	Sykes	119.97	184	117	Priestley	89.46
97	107	Swanson	119.82	185	160	Dawson	88.74
98	144	Crisp	119.54	186	168	Kelly	86.34
99	91	Obenchain	118.83	187	125	Reid	85.37
100	127	Gilfoyle	118.61	188	126	Lewis	85.01
101	186	Anagnostou	118.45	189	145	Neels	84.95
102	173	Irvine	118.27	190	179	Hutton	84.88
103	101	Allen	118.17	191	124	Eastment	84.69
104	182	Lawson	118.07	192	148	Redlich	83.05
105	154	Senior	117.65	193	90	Fitzgerald	82.72
106	118	Meldrum	117.47	194	112	Nash	82.63
107	195	Spencer	117.17	195	185	McMahon	79.11
108	176	Allan	117.07	196	45	Randhawa	56.98

Seniors Teams End of Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	5	Martin Bloom - Nigel Rosendorff - Steven Bock - Les Grewcock	167.88
2	1	Richard Brightling - David Hoffman - Peter Chan - Roger Januszke	159.06
3	6	Stephen Mendick - Andrew Creet - Peter Grant - Tony Marinos	148.56
4	3	Elizabeth Havas - Gordon Schmidt - Alan Walsh - Barbara McDonald	146.03
5	8	Wally Malaczynski - Andrzej Adamczewski - Andrzej Gorzynski - Miroslaw Milaszewski - Kendall Early	145.67
6	18	Mike Robson - Betty Lee - Alan Smith - Robyn Clayton	140.45
7	13	Bruce Marr - Merle Marr - Ian Clayton - Cynthia Clayton	139.63
8	10	Peter Kahler - Jeannette Collins - Janet Kahler - Bill Tutty	135.66
9	11	Elly Urbach - John Scudder - Marcia Scudder - Inez Glanger	135.55
10	2	Arthur Robbins - Gary Ridgway - David Happell - Douglas Newlands	135.03

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
11	9	Freeman-Greene	134.87	29	19	Brockwell	113.94
12	20	Braithwaite	132.42	30	28	Reid	113.24
13	12	De Luca	131.98	31	26	Harman	113.17
14	16	Strasser	131.81	32	46	Lee	112.82
15	17	Smee	130.65	33	34	Hurwitz	111.49
16	14	Goodman	130.28	34	37	Boyd	108.94
17	22	Evennett	130.22	35	23	Ascione	107.74

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
18	7	Manley	130.12	36	42	Schoutrop	107.67
19	31	Currie	128.07	37	35	Kovacs	107.10
20	41	Glasson	125.42	38	27	Mottram	103.72
21	40	Young	122.38	39	32	Coats	101.45
22	21	Lyons	122.18	40	43	Knaggs	99.58
23	45	Long	121.34	41	30	Nightingale	98.27
24	25	Lynn	121.05	42	39	Mill	96.52
25	4	Klofa	118.33	43	38	Thompson	92.65
26	36	Biro	117.54	44	44	Lockwood	87.04
27	29	Lawrence	116.82	45	24	Knight	71.71
28	15	Milward	114.37	46	33	Anderson	65.14

Intermediate Teams End of Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	2	Craig Francis - Nikolas Moore - Tim Runting - Murray Perrin	173.25
2	13	Bastian Bolt - Geoffrey Roberts - Kevin Dean - Bob Hunt	156.95
3	8	John Kelly - Mike Fox - Alison Dawson - Elizabeth Zeller	148.32
4	11	Margie Knox - Barry O'Donohue - Susie Stevens - Peter Gordon	148.17
5	22	Paul Roberts - Bruce Carroll - David Lehmann - John Nibbs	145.33
6	1	Michael Stoneman - Val Roland - Patrick Bugler - Yolanda Carter	144.84
7	5	Andrew Webb - Nola McMillan - Sidney Reynolds - Antoinette Rees - Anne Morris - Noreen Grant	144.03
8	77	Chris Stead - Eric Baker - Terrence Sheedy - Keith Blinco	142.75
9	23	Larry Attwood - Kathryn Attwood - Bert Romeijn - Chris Fernando	142.68
10	54	Robert Hurst - Rowan Corbett - Rhonda Thorpe - Robin Erskine	141.84

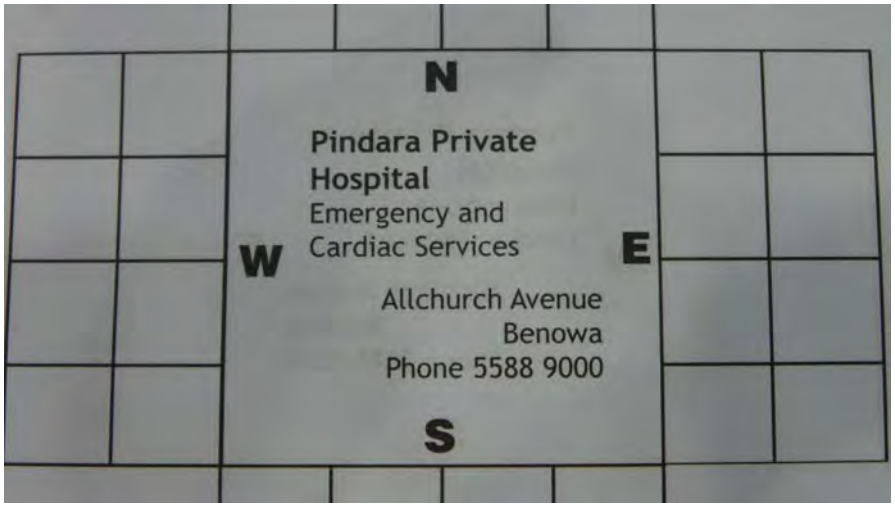
Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
11	7	Allen	141.29	48	80	Black	116.79
12	26	Potts	141.00	49	76	Gardiner	116.50
13	84	Kennealy	140.97	50	14	Keating	115.65
14	62	Mander	138.74	51	50	Schmalkuche	115.63
15	48	Edwards	138.55	52	17	Brown	115.11
16	35	Pincus	138.28	53	33	Sear	114.94
17	81	Starr-Nolan	137.95	54	10	Thatcher	114.83
18	79	Armstrong	137.38	55	70	Farrall	113.53
19	16	Thompson	136.78	56	56	Dellaca	112.66
20	18	Grant	136.58	57	55	Heywood	112.29
21	36	Cockbill	136.02	58	73	Whittle	110.56
22	41	De Palo	135.27	59	34	Collier	110.35
23	61	Eldridge	133.99	60	74	O'Neill	109.14
24	30	Rohde	133.88	61	43	Brewer	108.17
25	4	Sykes	131.97	62	64	Land	107.05
26	68	Barnes	129.93	63	66	Scott	107.04
27	28	Bailey	129.34	64	47	Jury	106.79
28	21	Isle	128.78	65	58	Kite	106.71
29	6	Lisle	128.17	66	37	Britten	106.14
30	20	Nilsson	127.79	67	45	Lloyd	105.71
31	71	Wilson	127.59	68	24	Hollingworth	104.98
32	46	Hughes	126.27	69	38	Rozier	104.76
33	40	Mitchell	124.56	70	57	Quigley	103.05
34	31	Chesser	124.51	71	12	Gray	102.59
35	3	Garrick	124.49	72	32	Beckett	102.36
36	9	Wylie	123.54	73	72	Look	95.62
37	39	Sharp	123.52	74	25	De Mestre	94.52
38	44	Peak	122.25	75	15	Francis	94.51
39	69	Coroneo	122.00	76	82	White	94.37
40	63	Hoole	121.94	77	51	Eastman	92.53
41	42	Leckie	121.52	78	49	Binsted	92.43
42	75	Jones	121.42	79	60	Argent	91.94
43	67	Bayliss	121.36	80	19	Collins	87.06
44	65	McNee	120.11	81	52	Bright	86.62
45	53	Tuckey	119.99	82	27	Moschner	86.27
46	29	Boyce	119.24	83	59	Reilly	85.02
47	83	Slutzkin	118.60	84	78	Warner	67.70

Restricted Teams End of Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	4	Denis Ward - Laurie Skeate - Denis Moody - Monty Dale	164.41
2	58	David Gardiner - Pam Hancox - Jennette Rosetta - Margaret Carr	154.14
3	2	Margaret Rogers - John Rogers - Bill Forbes - Lydia Adams	151.49
4	5	Genevieve Page - Sally Luke - Diana McKenzie - Heather Reynolds	149.29
5	1	Hope Tomlinson - Barry Foster - Jenny Buckley - Martin Johnson	146.33
6	62	Jann Macintosh - Helen Acton - Peter Wilson - Sue Wilson	145.97
7	44	Cherry Trengove - Margaret Rex - Susan Hunt - Janet Grieve	145.80
8	20	Michael Ward - Chris Nettle - Sue Ormsby - Jill Byrne	142.57
9	8	Neil Strutton - Helen Chamberlin - Robyn Clark - Brigid Marland	142.24
10	10	Chris Duggin - Faye Carnovale - Leslie Treasure - Yvonne Perkins	139.88

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
11	3	Fulton	137.53	40	33	Erlandson	118.12
12	32	Tyler	137.14	41	64	Finger	117.94
13	65	Mabin	135.90	42	26	Wippell	114.35
14	25	Graham	134.93	43	41	McConvill	112.62
15	12	Bristow	134.90	44	57	Gault	112.32
16	30	Sinclair	133.52	45	52	Nice	112.10
17	14	Rosengren	132.02	46	29	Anderson	112.01
18	15	Cullen	130.88	47	39	Howe	111.55
19	43	Hooper	130.17	48	59	Lenton	110.70
20	31	Boyd	129.72	49	16	Pike	109.18
21	34	Earnshaw	128.69	50	61	Crowe	108.57
22	6	Webber	128.54	51	38	Steward	108.13
23	42	Brake	128.15	52	60	Morris	106.28
24	13	McNaughton	128.12	53	54	Howard	105.70
25	47	Jones	125.81	54	35	Gladders	105.60
26	28	Williams	125.23	55	21	Benes	105.37
27	22	McMaster	124.78	56	56	Kommeren	105.14
28	7	Morgan	124.67	57	51	Devlin	101.91
29	36	Perry	123.82	58	49	Chapman	101.73
30	63	Jacobs	123.54	59	48	Simmons	100.33
31	50	Meakin	122.91	60	67	Crommelin	98.74
32	45	Jenkins	122.43	61	46	Pearce	98.34
33	9	Clift	122.16	62	18	Balkin	95.28
34	11	Griffith	122.02	63	37	Fraser	93.79
35	66	Ryan	121.89	64	27	Cook	93.75
36	19	Clifford	120.26	65	24	Crothers	92.88
37	23	Treloar	119.94	66	55	Corney	89.73
38	40	Paul	119.35	67	53	Knight	82.77
39	17	Rossiter-Nuttall	118.79	68	68	Frost	65.14

Eddie Mullin - Dianne Mullin
Winners 2nd Holiday Walk-In Pairs Event



Now I can imagine advertising drinks on a bidding slip. I can imagine advertising a fast food outlet on a bidding slip. I can imagine advertising a bank on a bidding slip.

BUT ADVERTISING EMERGENCY CARDIAC CARE PUHLEASE!!!

Novice Teams End of Qualifying							
Place	No.	Team Members					Score
1	2	Linda Norman - Kay Roberts - Joan Jenkins - Carmel Wikman					169.50
2	16	Maureen Gibney - Susan Lipton - Godfrey Baillon-Bending - Michael McAuliffe					168.08
3	11	Jo Neary - Dennis Sullivan - Val Courtis - Louise Tucker					166.06
4	8	Floyd Wilson - Majella Wilson - Glennis Cowell - Nancy Geiger					147.17
5	19	Sonia Brodman - Jackie Yung - John Fox - Jenny Fox					133.27
6	20	Georgina Howitt - Ann Carter - Leslie Decker - Rosemary McCallum					132.69
7	1	Roxane Brayshaw - Gaynor Rogers - Dianne Carlton-Smith - Pamela Brown					130.15
8	9	Ross Shardlow - Gary Ypinazar - Beverley O'Hara - Susan Kennard					129.25
9	14	Gabrielle Elich - John Elich - Christophe Wlodarczyk - Justine Wlodarczyk					127.56
10	7	Prunella Adams - Malcolm Adams - Denise Cranfield - Dianne Musgrave					126.45
Place	**No.**	**Team**	**Score**	**Place**	**No.**	**Team**	**Score**
11	15	Parker	124.72	22	21	Ledger	115.67
12	10	Egan	123.46	23	27	Yap-Giles	114.02
13	17	Hoschke	122.73	24	30	Hughes	113.32
14	6	Powley	122.21	25	13	Du Temple	112.33
15	5	Gibson	121.97	26	32	Wang	110.02
16	29	Young	119.82	27	23	Bryant	107.81
17	28	Gilfillan	119.18	28	25	Newman	106.23
18	12	Trevisanello	118.79	29	31	Kempe	98.42
19	18	Webb	116.91	30	22	Clark	77.45
20	3	Lane	116.51	31	24	Mathews	69.88
21	4	Jones	115.97	32	26	Bowen	62.40

BRIDGE FOR THE IMPROVER

Ron Klinger

Problem 1

North (Dummy)
♣ A Q 7 2

East
♣ K 9 6 5

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South wins the opening lead and plays the ♣4 to dummy's ♣A, followed by the ♣2 from dummy. Should East play low or the king?

Solution: If South had two clubs, South would play a low club to the queen, a normal finesse. There was nothing in the bidding to suggest that East had the ♣K. South is very likely to have a singleton. If so and you play the ♣K, South will ruff and dummy's ♣Q is now high. You should play low.

Problem 2

North (Dummy)
♣ Q 10 5

West
♣ J 2

Defending a suit contract, you find the desperation lead of the jack: low from dummy, low from partner, ace from South. Who has the king?

Solution: If the layout looked anything like this:

North (Dummy)
♣ Q 10 5

West
♣ J 2

East
♣ K 9 6 4

South
♣ A 8 7 3

Declarer would have covered the jack with the queen. You should place the king with declarer. The only other time declarer would not cover with the king would be if declarer had the ace singleton. You would need to judge whether that is feasible on the bidding.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS…

Pietro Campanile

"Those were the days my friends.." sang Mary Hopkin in the 1960s, perpetuating the dream that everything was better in the old days: the people were nicer, the food was tastier, the weather was sunnier and so on. I must admit that as a gullible young soul I also started to believe in this "myth", trusting the reminiscences of my elders until one day I had to study through a weighty tome containing excerpts from important texts from the Renaissance.

To my amazement I found there some letters by Niccolo' Machiavelli to his patron, Francesco Vettori, written towards the end of the 16th century, in which the Florentine historian rues the times they live in as, you guessed it, "in the old days" the people used to be nicer, the wine better and on and on.

Some readers may well believe that the same myth applies to bridge and that legendary players like Jacoby, Blackwood, Culbertson, Lightner who dominated the early decades of the game would still sweep the field in today's international events.

I have another opinion: without appearing to belittle their talent, it is a fact that while the technical side of the game may not have advanced a lot in the last decades, the depth of understandings and agreements of modern expert pairs in bidding and in defence has progressed immensely.

To match any team, however strong, from the 1930's and 1940's against a good team from, say, the top six places in the European Championships, would be like having a mounted Hussar from the Light Brigade charging a fully equipped Marine: the outcome will be bloody, swift and one-sided. To better appreciate my point let us have a look at a few boards played by the Maestros of the 30's.

In 1933 bridge fans on both sides of the Atlantic were struck by "match fever" as one of the strongest American teams of the time, headed by Ely Culbertson, had crossed the ocean to contest the "Schwab Trophy" against the Beasley team, which included the best English players of the time. It was to be the bridge equivalent of "High Noon" with the English inventors and self-appointed custodians of the game trying to fight off the challenge of the American upstarts, who wished to popularize their new "approach forcing" system and to introduce all sorts of new conventions into the game.

"The most amazing bridge match ever played", as the "Daily Express" headlined it, was won by the Americans but, despite the hype, a modern kibitzer would review the proceedings in a much sterner light and be amazed by the amount of "horrors" perpetrated by both sides.

Let us look at a couple of boards showing off some typical "1930" style bridge:

Dealer: North
Vul: All

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

West	North	East	South
Room 1			
Culbertson	Beasley	Lightner	Domville
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass??	Pass	
Room 2			
Morris	Mrs C'tson	Tabbush	Gottlieb
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

The auctions at the two tables were sharply different however both have one remarkable thing in common: the same suit was trumps!

In the second room the bidding proceeded along reasonable lines, given the fact that Blackwood and the idea of a game forcing bid were not yet part of the bridge vocabulary of the time, and East-West reached the contract of 6♥. In the other room Sir Guy Domville took a stab at becoming the inventor of the cue-bid to show a forcing raise of partner's overcall, and bid 2♥. Unfortunately for him, his genial idea was too far in advance of the times and his partner, albeit hesitantly, passed leaving him to negotiate 2♥ in a 2-1 fit. Not too bad you might say, since slam in hearts is cold the other way. Well, that might have been true if the scoring of the time did not punish overmuch undertricks in vulnerable contracts: declarer managed to make only one trick in 2♥ and seven down vulnerable came up to the incredible score of -1750, a poor comparison for the 980 made at the other table.

Dealer: West Vul: All	♠ J 4 ♥ Q 8 7 4 ♦ A 4 3 ♣ J 6 3 2	
♠ 10 9 8 7 5 3 2 ♥ A K J ♦ K ♣ Q 5		♠ A Q 6 ♥ 6 5 ♦ Q J 7 2 ♣ K 10 8 7
	♠ K ♥ 10 9 4 2 ♦ 10 9 8 6 5 ♣ A 9 4	

West	North	East	South
Culbertson	Beasley	Lightner	Domville
Pass!!	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

It really defies belief that one of the world's leading players of the time could fail to open the West hand. When given another shot at it by his partner's 1♦ opening, Culbertson meekly replied 1♠, a bid which coming from a passed hand could be passed, and it duly was. Declarer made 11 tricks. At the other table the English pair got to 4Sx after a straightforward 1♠-3♠ (forcing in those days); 4♠.

The best is yet to come, here is Culbertson's analysis published in the book of the match and printed in record time (the match finished at 2am on Sunday and the book was on sale in London at 2pm on the following Monday!!):

"*Having started the ball going, Lightner should have kept it rolling*".

The Maestro's comments are enlightening and show that even in those early years (wrongly) blaming partner had already become a bridge player's most cherished habit. It is quite extraordinary to think that Lightner with his minimum opening should go on, just in case his partner had:

- forgot to open a 13 count with seven spades
- forgot to force with a jump to show his strength after having passed originally, as it was the custom at the time!

Suffice to say that while most modern experts might also pass with the East hand, you will be hard pressed to find even a novice who fails to open the West hand!

Those may well have been the days, but certainly not for great bridge, at least not as compared to nowadays!!

TWO SILVERSEA CRUISES WITH RON AND SUZIE KLINGER

SILVER WIND, DECEMBER 2014

Singapore to Hong Kong, December 1-12

Singapore, Ko Samui Thailand, Bangkok Thailand, Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam, Nha Trang Vietnam, Chan May (Hue/Da Nang) Vietnam and finishing in Hong Kong. Cruise only starting from $5,050* per person twin share or $6.313* single.

Hong Kong to Singapore, December 12-21

Hong Kong, Ha Long Bay Vietnam, Da Nang (Chan May) Vietnam, Nha Trang Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam fnishing in Singapore. Cruise only starting from $4,150* per person twin share or single $5,188*

Silver Wind is a luxury 6-star cruise ship with a maximum of 296 passengers. The fare is 'all-inclusive', with all suites ocean-view, butler service, open-seating dining, in-suite dining, complimentary beverages, plus gratuities and 24-hour room service.

Ron Klinger will conduct bridge workshops in the mornings and afternoons while the Silver Wind is at sea, plus afternoons by arrangement when in port. The Improve-Your-Bridge Group will proceed with 10 passengers or more in each group. To take part in the workshops it is vital to join the I-Y-B Group and make your booking through us. No one outside our Group will be entitled to participate in the workshops. For further details please contact Ron or Suzie (see below).

* If you have sailed with Silversea Cruises previously an additional savings may apply. Fares shown reflect the best available savings at time of going to print, are capacity controlled, do not guarantee suite availability and could rise as the sailing date approaches or be withdrawn at any time without notice. Fare is cruise only and does not include air travel. All fares, savings, single supplements and itineraries are subject to change without notice.

For more information: Telephone: 02-9958-5589 or 0411-229-705
Email: suzie@ronklingerbridge.com or contact Ron via www.ronklingerbridge.com

GOLD COAST CONGRESS 2014

	Friday 28th February		Saturday 1st March	
OPEN EVENTS				
	Q/F Teams	S/F Teams		
Open Teams	9:00am 2x12 Brds	2:00pm 4x10 Brds	9:00am Start 4x12 Brds Final	
Ivy Dahler Open Butler Swiss Pairs	09:30am 1/3	2:00pm 2/3	10:30am 3/3	
Friday Teams	09:30am 1/3	2:00pm 2/3		
SENIORS EVENTS				
Seniors Teams	10:00am Start 4x12 Brds Final		All Are Invited	Dinner Dance
INTERMEDIATE EVENTS				
Intermediate Teams	10:00am Start 4x12 Brds Final		7:30pm for 8:00pm	Bookings are Essential
RESTRICTED EVENTS				
Restricted Teams	10:00am Start 4x12 Brds Final			
Ivy Dahler Restricted Butler Swiss Pairs	09:30am 1/3	2:00pm 2/3	10:30am 3/3	
NOVICE EVENTS				
Novice Teams	10:00am Start 4x12 Brds Final			
Friday Novice Pairs	9:30am 1/2	2:00pm 2/2		
MIXED TEAMS				
Seres/McMahon Mixed Teams	09:30am 1/2	2:00pm 2/2		
WALK-IN PAIRS				
Holiday Walk-In Pairs - Play 1, 2 or 3 Sessions	09:30am 1/3	2:00pm 2/3	10:30am 3/3	
	Friday		**Saturday**	

IT'S CLOSE TO THAT TIME OF THE YEAR SO….

ROYAL LAKE CLUB KUALA LUMPUR

2014 BRIDGE CONGRESS

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

Venue: Banquet Hall Royal Lake Club Kuala Lumpur
Program: Saturday Morning Pairs; Saturday Afternoon and Sunday Morning and Afternoon Teams
Transport: Shuttle Buses Available from Hotels
Contact: ruthrandhawa@hotmail.com or sports@royallakeclub.org.my
+6016-345-2727 or +6012-292-5408

MORE CHOCOLATE FROG AWARDS

- Scott Ellaway: Being one of the best caddies I have seen. Walks around making sure everybody's boards are stacked in order and that all tables have boards – well done Scott!
- Geoff Roberts and Bastian Bolt: Honesty in stating that he had seen an opponent's card
- Cheryl Stone: Being a wonderful and most helpful opponent
- Barbara the Bus Driver: Nothing is too much trouble when assisting players on and off the bus. Always bright and cheery.
- 'Early' Kendall: being ethical. When asked if he could have seen his partner's card admitted not only could he see it but did see it.
- Lance Coffey: being ethical. Lance passed and immediately realised he should have bid. The director was called and stated that he could change his pass to a bid only if he never intended to pass. Lance admitted that this was not the case and his pass stood.
- Meg and John Sharp: being most courteous and polite couple and partners.
- Fifine Hutton: being so understanding towards partner after her partner made an obvious error.

DIFFICULT CALCUDOKU

6×		9+		6	1-	7-	0×
4-	0 :		2 :	2			
		2 :		12+	48×		
9+			0 :				1
4-		0 :		0 :	2-		2-
	168×		7			5×	
0×			2-	4	5		5+
	5-			0×		4	

DIFFICULT SUDOKU

	8		4					
	3				9			6
	2		8					3
8		3		2		9		
1				5		2		
9						5		
2		7					9	
					4		7	
		4	3		1			

YESTERDAY'S DIFFICULT CALCUDOKU

4 : 4	19+ 6	8	6- 3	9	84× 2	12+ 5	7	14+ 1
1	2 2	5	8 8	12+ 3	7	6	4	9
3 3	32+ 9	4	2 : 2	1	8	18+ 7	6	3- 5
5	7	18× 6	1	19+ 4	9 9	2	3	8
7	1 1	3	6	5	4	72× 8	9	2 : 2
14+ 8	2- 5	2	360× 9	1- 7	6	3 : 3	112× 1	4
6	11+ 3	9	4	2	10+ 5	1	8	7
9 9	8	7 7	5	48× 6	1	4	2	3 3
2 : 2	4	1	7 7	8	27× 3	9	30× 5	6

YESTERDAY'S DIFFICULT SUDOKU

9	4	1	5	3	7	2	8	6
3	2	8	9	6	4	1	7	5
7	5	6	1	8	2	4	9	3
4	3	9	2	7	6	5	1	8
6	8	5	4	1	9	3	2	7
1	7	2	3	5	8	6	4	9
5	6	7	8	2	1	9	3	4
8	1	4	6	9	3	7	5	2
2	9	3	7	4	5	8	6	1

Australian International and GCC Organiser Therese Tully Takes time out to help the Rookies Improve their game by discussing the hands that they have just played