

THE TRUMP

City of Melville Bridge Club Newsletter
December 2016

From the President

Hello Members

It has been a busy start to the second half of the year and we have hit the ground running. The last few months have zipped by and it will soon be Christmas!

Your Club has been busy having meaningful discussions with the City of Melville council. Things are humming along. Both our Building Committee and Management Committee are working hard. When more concrete details are available to share with Members rest assured we will do so.

Our subscription to Pianola is working well and we are finding it a great tool to keep our members informed on many fronts. We hope our Members too are finding it easy to use and interact with.

In October, we had the Teams of 12 with South Perth hosted by our Club. It was well directed and our guests South Perth beat us by a narrow margin. Congratulations to South Perth. This will fire up our teams to do much better next year and South Perth will host the event.

We also had the Club Novice Pairs Championship which was predictably won by Peggy and Tom Stacey for the 2nd time in a row. Congratulations to them.

Our Guys and Dolls (Men's Pair and Women's Pairs) was won by Mary Johnston / Hilda Remedios and Gordon Dunlop / John Clarke. Our congratulations to them all. One thing

that stood out for our Tournament Committee to look into from this event was to how to get more Men involved in the event.

Come on you Males out there, please look to participate in this event next year!

November was a stylish one for the Club as we hosted the Melbourne Cup Event. We had near full capacity attendance of 23 tables. All members had a great time but some even greater with winnings from the Sweep organized by our able Sweepster Lyndie! The winners' Patsy and John McDonald had an exceptionally good day as they won with a high percentage of 63.4%! Well done Patsy and John.

December saw our Christmas Party eventuate. Our distinguished guests the Honourable Dean Nalder MLA and his lovely wife Colette joined us along with the Presidents of South Perth and Fremantle Bridge Club and their wives to bring in Christmas cheer and participated in singing of Carols. An enjoyable time was had by all. As always in these types of functions a lot of helpers come forward to lend a hand in getting our Clubhouse spruced up to look attractive and festive. My sincere thanks to all of them as there are too many to mention. But I will spotlight Kathleen, Lyndie and Di whose organizational skills came to the fore to produce a very attractive Clubroom. Thank you all.

At our Christmas Party, we always present 2 special awards and this year it was no different. The MOST IMPROVED award was ably won by Terri and Rob Antrobus. In a very short time they have come forward by leaps and bounds. Well done both. We look forward to seeing you both in the open sessions soon.

The other important award was the MOST MASTERPOINTS during the last 12 months. This year it was won by none other than Merwyn Menezes, again! Well done Merwyn.

The year is quickly coming to a close. The Club is looking forward to exciting times ahead in 2017.

On behalf of the Management Committee and myself I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy and Happy New Year 2017.

*Happy Bridging.
Salim*

From the Tournament Manager

As we look forward to 2017 I thought I should report on the activities and plans of the Tournament Committee of the City of Melville Bridge Club.

In a previous Trump I outlined that under the constitution of the CMBC the Tournament Committee (TC) is: *a standing sub-committee of the Management Committee delegated with the responsibility to regulate and administer all aspects of bridge play in Club events in accordance with the Australian Laws of Duplicate Bridge*

The TC approves the nature of all club bridge sessions and appoints a schedule of Directors to manage them.

This year we have documented the guidelines for the all Red Point Events at the Club. These are available for all members to view. Under ABF guidelines we are required to ensure board security for red point events and to appoint a 'convenor' to work with the Director to manage the event. With a membership of around 400 the Committee has decided it is only fair that jobs should be shared amongst the membership. Therefore many people are being asked to be the convenor for various events. Please say 'yes!' for your club.

For those who don't know, the Club gets allocated a number of Red Point events by the ABF based on the number of green points

awarded in the previous year. If you win a Red point event you get more points than a regular club session with the same number of players. This is why these events attract people who often play at other clubs (but are still members at Melville).

The Committee has specially provided a number of Red point events to encourage our members to get experience in these more competitive events. We urge all members to take advantage of this. Our senior players and Directors are only too happy to help members get involved in these events. We will be continuing to promote Red Point events for people with few Masterpoints.

In accordance with the results of a survey conducted earlier this year, for the 2017 program we have converted three of our 2 day competitions into 2 session one day events. We will monitor the outcomes of this decision.

I would like to thank the efforts of all our directors and committee members and may all your finesses work in 2017.

I leave you with an interesting hand from the Bridge in the Menagerie series where the Rueful Rabbit has landed in 6 Clubs doubled and redoubled with 4 trumps between partner and him.

We've all been in similar situations – this is an example in not giving up:

H.H.
 ♠ 43
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ AQ98742
 ♣ A7



R.R.
 ♠ AKJ7
 ♥ AKJ72
 ♦ 53
 ♣ K10

South	West	North	East
2♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
Rdbl	All Pass	6♣	Dble

As you might have guessed the Rueful Rabbit RR (South) thought the opening bid was 1NT and bid Stayman!

North thought RR had bid a club suit. The potential disaster proceeded from there.

The opening lead was 10♠ from West.

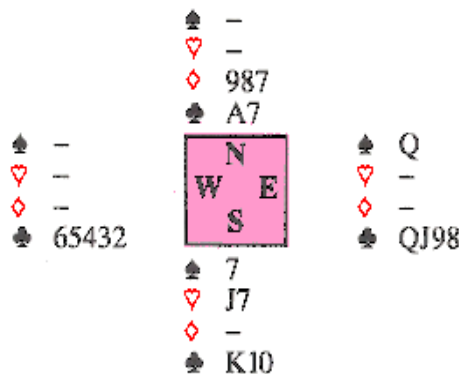
If you work through the play of the hand **without touching trumps**: you win AQ♦, AKJ♠ and finally QA and the K♥. The Q♠ is out and most likely with the East hand because West led the 10, then played 8, 9 of ♠.

I will tell you that West held 5 Clubs to the 6 and East held the rest.

Challenge : make 6C**!

Editor: The solution is printed upsidedown below

So here is the scenario with 5 cards to play.
 Before you look down below can you see what to do?



Play 7 Spades overruff West's 6 with the 7. Play 9 Diamonds and overruff whatever East plays. Now play J Hearts and overruff with the Ace and play another diamond. If East trumps high discard a heart otherwise overruff with the 10. You have made 12 tricks!

Unauthorized Information

The concept of unauthorized information is a tough chestnut. Most of us have not played Bridge using screens so partner's

idiosyncrasies and mannerisms are on display. Your lead or bid may not be appealing to partner and often consciously or unconsciously we are made aware of this by the body language of our partner. The trick here is not to act on this

information. We all need to try to develop a 'poker face' that gives nothing away.

Also we can be put in an untenable situation if partner asks about an artificial bid and then passes. Sometimes this is seen as 'a lead-directing question'. The remedy of course is for partner to make a lead-directing double and now you can safely lead that suit either when on lead or mid defence. I was fortunate to have a good friend and partner who resolved this issue with another of her partners by not leading the suit until she had exhausted the 3 remaining suits.

Hopefully her partner received the message and stopped the bad habit of 'asking and passing'.

Sometimes it is not even necessary for partner to ask. Once again body language may indicate that your partner holds that suit.

Also it is very important that one not speak unless required. Commenting on your hand whether it is a good or bad one is not appropriate. Also saying that you are not sure what to do is certainly not acceptable table talk.

When playing at home these things are tolerated but when playing in an accredited session we are bound by the Laws of Bridge.

Occasionally when you are receiving boards from the next table you may

overhear a discussion of the results. It is very important that you call the Director immediately so he can warn the players to avoid loud discussions.

If you have unauthorized information such as 7H makes you need to discuss this with the Director away from the table. The

Director will adjudicate accordingly and you will not be disadvantaged. It is wrong to take inference from an overheard discussion and also silly as the contract may or may not be correct.

Looking in hands is something that is obviously wrong. If you accidentally see the opponent's cards that is one thing but outright attempts to have a preview is tantamount to cheating. If the person tends to hold their cards in such a manner that they can be seen then advise them in a gentle manner.

Also, should you be waiting for a slow pair, stand well back to avoid seeing a hand that you have yet to play. Similarly if you are waiting for a board you should not go to the table for it as you may see the other board being played.

Also when defending ensure that you don't re-sort your hand. This may be noticeable to your partner and they may deduce that you now have a shortage.

If anything occurs which looks as if the opponents may be exchanging unauthorized information, whether it be by body language, mannerisms, variations in tempo or inappropriate questions then call or see the director. Some of these situations can be quite tricky but it is best to attempt to try to sort them out to ensure that the fairness of the game is preserved. The player or players in question may not be aware of their bad habits and once it is pointed out to them hopefully they will rectify their ways.

Endeavour to operate only from the 13 cards you hold and the auction. Anything else gives you an unfair advantage.

Suzanne Goodall

Birthday wishes

Viv Goldsmith

Below is a photograph taken by Lindie of Viv celebrating his 95th birthday at the club. Congratulations



Jeremy McClure

In the last issue we featured the Paralympian son of members Ken and Sally. He is now attempting to become the first blind person to swim the 40km to Rottnest Island and back. This will have been held on December 17 or 18. Amazing stuff!

Notes from the Editor

First an apology. In the last edition, I misnamed the House Manager, who is, of course Kathleen Thomson.

Second, I would like to encourage members to write bridge related pieces for our newsletter.

Third, a piece of trivia. Andrew Robson, in his piece in the *Australian*, syndicated from the London *Times* wrote a piece on a hand from the Arun League in Sussex. The match was between Bognor and Chichester. I was brought up in Bognor and went to high school in Chichester.

Best wishes for Christmas,

Keith Norris.