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GEELONG BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 5

October 2022

From the President

Welcome one and all to a new Bridge year. It's good to see some of the prior Covid regulars starting to return to play. I also wish to welcome a number of new and regular players on a Tuesday. While talking of Tuesdays, it's good to see Tuesday becoming an increasingly recognised part of the club.

In recent weeks a number of members have asked about the details of Club structures. I will try to explain.

Firstly, the Committee consists of twelve members, all of whom are elected (NB an actual election at GBC is a rare event). The four executive members are re-elected on a yearly basis. The other eight members are elected for terms of three years.

Secondly, we have several sub-committees. To join a sub-committee you are generally invited to re-nominate if currently on one, or you may express an interest in serving the Club in a particular area of interest. Some sub-committees are easily filled with volunteers while others may struggle to find the required personnel. The make up of sub-committees is endorsed by the Committee.

The roles of two committees are at times misinterpreted by members. They are the Committee and the Match Committee. In simple terms the Committee decides on policy and administrative matters, while the Match Committee is a sub-committee that implements the policy in terms of what events are played and how they are played. Both committees generally work together. I've never seen a stand-off between the two, but if it was to occur the Committee has the final say.

Recently it was very pleasing to see emails that were very positive and constructive in terms of our updated policy on Etiquette and Conduct. I ask all members to read and familiarise themselves with this document. Sadly some of us slip into bad habits without realising what impact our actions are having on others. The role of the Directors in implementing this policy will be vital.

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The Club is currently facing challenging times, that is, the low attendances on some playing days which in turn affects the viability of tournaments. We are aware of the effects of Covid and the ageing population of members, however we do need to be creative and constructive in our thinking and planning. We need to look forward and not backwards. All constructive ideas are welcome. Please discuss your ideas with any of our Committee members or myself.

Yours sincerely

John Walsh



Rank Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received new Masterpoint rankings.

Graduate	L Smith
	V Robertson
Club	H Walsgott
Local	P Donohue
Bronze Local	J Horan
	G Barfoot
	M Peck
Silver Local	J Blyton
Life	G Temple
	A Feiner

NEW MEMBERS

The Geelong Bridge Club welcomes the following new and re-joining members:

Cheryl Merritt (Affiliate)

Linda Erving (Affiliate)



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Club Results

Team of 4 Combo Friday 12, 19, 26 August

1st	A Robbins, D Newlands, G Bailey, K Bailey
2nd	C Dodgshun, M Glover B Pace, M Ilic
3rd	J Johnstone, D Peacock, S Duff, S Robinson

Western Region Friendly Pairs (Ballarat) Sunday 14 August

1st	J Campbell, T Ni (Ballarat)
2nd	J Sarena, L Picone (Warrnambool)
3rd	M Scambler, P Scambler (Geelong)

Patti Roydhouse Teams Monday 12 September

1st	A Robbins, D Newlands, D, Newland, P Jain.
2nd	P Jones, B Jones, S Duff, G Temple
3rd	D Clarke, M Clarke, S Irwin, J Prowse

Restricted Teams Thursday 15, 22 September

1st	A Blackburn, K Thomas, S Taylor, L Lee
2nd	R Gude, L Johnston, G Barfoot, P Carland, P Donohue
3rd	J McGonigal, J Munro, L Bennetto, M Doyle

HIGH SCORES

Aug	A Robbins, D Newlands	73%
Sep	P Jones, B Jones	73.9%

Joan Wilson Trophy Winners

Aug	J Blyton
Sep	P Jain

Congratulations to the twenty members from Geelong Bridge Club who participated in the McManamny teams event against other clubs on Sunday 2 October. We won! This is another good opportunity for players to see how Teams works. Some comments:

My participation in the McManamny Cup was my first experience of Teams play and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Tiring it may have been, but it still gave me an overview of lots of different bridge styles. I'm now looking for the next opportunity to participate in such an event. A lot of fun! Thanks for the experience - I really enjoyed the day.

Well done to Roger Gillard, Mike Stokie, Philip Scambler, John Prowse, Arthur Robbins, Douglas Newlands, Jennifer Blyton, Linda Lee, Shannon Irwin, Richard Lawrie, Marion Scambler, Alison Neunhoffer, Margaret Glover, Barbara Callan, Mark Doyle, Maureen Peck, Jenny Johnstone, Dot Peacock, Wendy Dennis and Catherine Bowman. Special thanks to John Prowse and Mike Stokie for their organisation.

The winning Club—Geelong (below)

Marion Scambler



(Above) Waverly 3 — The winning team



(Yes, I know, scoring is not high on your list of priorities. The computer takes care of that, right? Yes it does, but a different scoring system may require a different strategy when bidding and playing a game. Understanding the various ways that contracts are scored can improve your results. Editor)

There was a bit of discontent recently, when players heard it was a Cross-Imp (X-Imp) event. We have one of these scheduled each month, so I felt the need to explain this method of scoring to the members, and I will do so via examples:

5 tables, all Non Vulnerable (NV)

Pair	Contract	Tricks	Score	X-Imps	Butler Nett	Butler Imps
A	4H N	11	450	3.75	120	3
B	4H N	11	450	3.75	120	3
C	4H N	10	420	2.5	90	3
D	3H N	10	170	-5	-160	-4
E	3H N	10	170	-5	-160	-4

To calculate pair A's X-Imps, compare their score with each of the others.

Pair A to Pair B: net 0, 0 imp; **Pair A to Pair C:** net 30, 1 imp; **Pair A to Pair D:** net 280, 7 imps; **Pair A to Pair E:** net 280, 7 imps.

Av: $15/4 = 3.75$.

Pair B—same as Pair A.

Pair C to Pairs A and B: net -30, -1 imp; **Pair C to Pairs D and E:** net 250, 6 imps.

Av: $10/4 = 2.5$.

Pair D to Pairs A and B: net -280, -7 imps; **Pair D to Pair C:** net -250, -6 imps.

Av: $-20/4 = -5$.

For the Butler, the average score is $1660/5 = 330$ (rounded). This is compared with each score.

As you can see, X-Imps rewards the better scores, and penalises the poorer scores.

Now look at a larger field with more scores: 7 Tables, all Vulnerable (Vul).

Pair	Contract	Tricks	Score	X-Imps	Butler Nett	Butler Imps
A	6N N	12	1440	12.0	680	12
B	6C S	12	1370	10.3	610	12
C	3N N	12	680	-0.7	-80	-2
D	3N N	11	650	-1.3	-110	-3
E	5C S	12	620	-2.3	-140	-4
F	4SX E	8	500	-4.5	-260	-6
G	6C S	11	-100	-13.8	-360	-8

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Cross-Imps vs Butler Scoring continued from previous page

Pair A to Pair B: net 60, 2 imps, **Pair A to Pair C:** net 760, 13 imps, **Pair A to Pair D:** net 790, 13 imps, **Pair A to Pair E:** net 820, 13 imps, **Pair A to Pair F:** net 940, 14 imps, **Pair A to Pair G:** net 1540, 17 imps. $Av=(2+13+13+13+14+17)/6=72/6=12$

Pair B to Pair A: -60, -2 imps, **Pair B to Pair C:** 690, 12 imps, **Pair B to Pair D:** 720, 12 imps, **Pair B to Pair E:** 750, 13 imps, **Pair B to Pair F:** 870, 13 imps, **Pair B to Pair G:** 1470, 16 imps. $Av=62/6= 10.3$

Pair C -A: -760, -13 imps, **Pair C-B:** -690, -12 imps, **Pair C-D:** 30, 1 imp, **Pair C-E:** 60, 2 imps, **Pair C-F:** 180, 5 imps, **Pair C-G:** 780, 13 imps. $Av=-4/6= -0.7$

Pair D-A: -13, **D-B:** -12, **D-C:** -1, **D-E:** 1, **D-F:** 4, **D-G:** 13. $Av=-8/6=-1.3$

Pair E-D: -13, **E-B:** -13, **E-C:** -2, **E-D:** -1, **E-F:** 3, **E-G:** 12. $Av=-14/6=-2.3$

Pair F-A: -14, **F-B:** -13, **F-C:** -5, **F-D:** -4, **F-E:** -3, **F-G:** 12. $Av=-27/6=-4.5$

Pair G-A: -17, **G-B:** -16, **G-C:** -13, **G-D:** -13, **G-E:** -12, **G-F:** -12. $Av=-83/6=-13.8$

For larger fields in a Butler, it is usual to cut out extreme values, as the idea is to get a middle or average value. Sometimes it is the top and bottom scores, sometimes it is the two top and the two bottom scores, etc, depending on the size of the field. In the above, I will take out the top and the bottom scores. This will give me an average of $3820/5=760$, and apply it to the above scores.

So depending on the actual scores, there is not too much difference between X-Imps and Butler (akin to Swiss Pairs), though a bad result can get punished heavily.

Hopefully, this explanation will help members understand the difference.

Arthur Robbins

(X-imp scoring was introduced to Geelong Bridge Club at the beginning of 2022. In preparation for this change, the Match Committee asked that an article on X-Imp scoring be included in the October 2021 GBC Newsletter. A year later, Arthur's analysis here is a timely reminder to all of us. Between the two of these articles you should get a basic understanding of how X-Imp scoring works. If you no longer have access to the October 2021 article let me know and I will have both of these uploaded to the GBC web page.

In essence, in matches scored using X-imps, you should try to maximise the chance of making your contract. Overtricks are relatively unimportant, so you can use safety plays. When defending you should try to beat the contract. Holding declarer to fewer overtricks is not as important.

Be wary of sacrificing unless you are reasonably sure the field will bid the game or slam you are sacrificing against. It is often better to just try to beat the contract they have bid especially if they have been bidding aggressively in the auction.

All small plus scores are similar, so the opponents going off in a part score (say 2H-2 -100 for them and +100 for you) is essentially the same score as you making a part score (say 3C= for +110). It is not like Pairs where that extra 10 can make a real difference. Editor)

This is often a comment that is heard at the bridge table. I am not sure that the implications are in the spirit of the game. The wdp (well done partner) and wpp (well played partner) comments have similar inclinations & interpretations and are often seen in on-line bridge at the end of a hand. Almost as a ritual.

This is ok if you recognise some particularly good strategy or fine end-play or a squeeze play, to make the contract. It is not good and probably appalling if it just a gratuitous comment that actually highlights some poor defence from the defenders or simply a friendly lead. In other words, other than standard play, the declarer did nothing extraordinary. These comments should be avoided, unless there was a special play, otherwise it is simply a put down to the defending side Entirely inappropriate. The corollary to this is the gratuitous comments from defenders saying “they should have bid game” or “they had 3NT on”. Conversely a pair sacrificing and giving up some 100’s in scoring up, then saying “they had game on”, or “they had slam on” is inappropriate. It is a put down to opponents and boastful gloating.

These discussions are for afterwards when analysing the hands & results more fully. It is important to maintain decorum and sensitivity when at the table to ensure that untoward & unnecessary comments do not upset, intimidate or diminish others at the table. This, of course, includes treating partner with respect and not pointing out mistakes or poor decision making. As a game of intellect & ego, it is vital to treat these issues seriously and play tough but kindly.

Gavin Bailey

Western Region Novice Pairs, Torquay

This event was hosted by Torquay Bridge Club on Saturday October 15th. Twenty pairs entered, very ably directed by Stephen Lester.

The winners

Section A (<100 masterpoints) **Brig Fitzpatrick and Valerie Sercombe (Geelong)**

Section B (<50 masterpoints) **Leah Kruger and Michael Kinahan (Geelong/Ocean Grove)**

Congratulations to them all. Once the plaque is engraved it will be shared by the two clubs. A huge thank you to our hosts for all their efforts in organising the day - it was worth going even if only for the superb catering! And Stephen, another great job! Thanks also to all our players. WRBA greatly appreciates your support. Without you it cannot be done.



Jenny Johnstone and Dot Peacock



What do the best players play?

I had a look at 35 system cards from the recent Bermuda Bowl held in Salsamaggiore, Italy. In case you didn't know, the winners of the various events were –

Bermuda Bowl (open) : Switzerland

Venice Cup (ladies) : Sweden

D'Orsi Trophy (seniors) : Poland

Wuhan Cup (mixed) : France.

Bidding and Play conventions in the World Championship

I looked at the system cards from some of the better teams in the Bermuda Bowl (USA, Australia, Denmark, Canada, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Italy, NZ, Switzerland and Israel). Natural systems (28) far outnumbered Precision (6) and Polish (1). All of the pairs across all systems used five card majors except one and even they used 5 card spades and 4 cards everything else.

Of the natural systems, a 1club opening showed 3 cards for 10 of them and showed 2 cards for 18 of them. Interestingly, all the USA pairs used better minor i.e. a 3+ card club suit but the rest of the world seems to favour 2+card club suits.

The natural bidders used 1NT openings of

Variable ranges : 2 pairs

14-16 : 2 pairs

14-17 : 10 pairs

15-17 : 14 pairs

15-18 : none.

Most of the pairs annotate 14-17 as 14+ to 17 or, if you like, a good 14 to 17.

Most pairs seem to suggest 14 with a 5 card suit is a good 14 for the purpose of opening 1NT. Similarly, those who write 15-17 note that they will upgrade those same 14 counts.

In terms of 2 level openings (other than 2C), we see the following frequencies

Multi 2D : 9 pairs (this is a 6 card M or strong hand of some type)

2D is 18-19 flat : 4 pairs (this is a way of dealing with flat 18-19 rebid)

2M is 5/4+ : 5 pairs (this is usually 5-4 NV and 5-5 if V)

Most pairs clearly play weak 2s but they allow a 5 card suit to increase the frequency. Some play constructive weak 2s and put the poor weak 2s in the Multi 2D.

What does this imply for system choice?

Natural systems with 5 card majors and strong 1NT are heavily preferred relative to strong 1C systems. The preferred 1NT range is about 14.5 to 17, i.e. some 14 counts are upgraded. Opening 1C to promise only 2 cards is strongly preferred, presumably this is because this means 1D shows 5+ cards (with the only exception being 4=4=4=1 precisely). Having 5 cards means that competitive auctions after a 1D opening are easier since this is the same reason for preferring 5 card majors.

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What do the best players play? *Continued from previous page*

Carding systems

Since carding is independent of the bidding system, I can include the 7 pairs who use a strong 1C now. Surprisingly, most vary their carding method with trick 1 being different from subsequent tricks.

Leads

At trick 1, everyone overleads touching honours and nobody underleads (i.e. Roman or Rusinow) but there is a common treatment of ace and king. This treatment from AK is that Ace asks for Attitude (about the Q or about a continuation) and King asks for Count. If the contract is at the 5 level, or higher, this becomes standard with Ace asking whether the King is held and the King asking for count from AK or KQ.

When leading a small card against a suit contract, a few (5) lead 2/4 i.e. 4th best from an honour and 2nd top from a collection of spot cards but the rest lead 3rd and 5th or 3rd and lowest at trick 1. (3rd and lowest leads are third best from any even number of cards and the lowest from any odd number of cards. Third and fifth leads lead the 5th best if possible and 3rd best otherwise.) One pair uses a complex method called Slawinski Leads (don't ask!). With only 2 cards, lead the top card.

Third+lowest is good at giving count but doesn't express anything about whether or not an honour is held (3rd and 5th is very similar). It is usually supplemented by using Smith Echo to clarify the honour holding in a subsequent trick in another suit!

Almost without exception, against a NT contract, they lead 2nd+4th to locate honours rather than 3rd+5th or 3rd+lowest which tries to sort out suit lengths.

Lastly, almost without exception, everyone switches to 2nd+4th in all holdings for all subsequent tricks.

Signals

Attitude is natural for 13 pairs and reverse for 22 pairs. Count is natural for 11 pairs and reverse for 24 pairs.

An encouraging discard is high for 5 pairs, low for 24 pairs and odd for 3 pairs (the other 3 use McKenny presumably to avoid signalling with a card from the suit they want led).

Signalling is quite different from a club profile where few use reverse carding. Although there is a 2 to 1 majority for this, it is not as unanimous as the bidding methods.

If you don't signal regularly (or partner doesn't look) then the choice of signalling method is more open!

Douglas Newlands

2022 Annual General Meeting

The Geelong Bridge Club (GBC) Annual General Meeting for 2022 was held at the Club on Wednesday 7 September. This was the first face to face Annual General Meeting (AGM) since 2019 and it was gratifying to see so many members attending and staying for a game of Bridge afterwards. The President's Trophy was awarded to Ali Neunhoffer.

The agenda for the AGM was :

1. Approve the minutes of the 2021 AGM. **Approved**
2. Receive the President's and Treasurer's Reports. **Received**
3. Receive Committee Reports. **Received**
4. Receive and Consider the financial statements as described in section 44 of the constitution. **Received**
5. Elect committee members for all the vacant positions. **The Committee for the upcoming year will be:**

Executive

President: John Walsh

Vice President: Heather Comisel

Secretary: Marion Scambler

Treasurer: Anthea Duthie

Ordinary Members

Kath Adams Gary Barfoot Jennifer Blyton Peter Carland Marg Crosby

Paula Donohue Alison Neunhoffer David Strong

6. Award prizes to the prize winners. See list on next page.

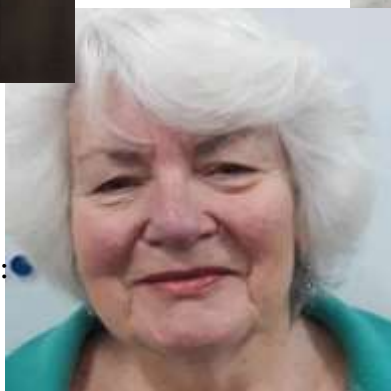
7. Award of President's Trophy. **Alison Neunhoffer**



(Left) President: John Walsh



(Left) Secretary:
Marion Scambler



(Right) Vice President:
Heather Comisel



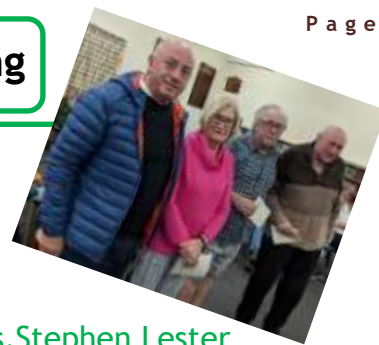
(Right) Treasurer:
Anthea Duthie

2022 Annual General Meeting

List of prizes presented at the AGM

Swiss Teams (Pairs Entry) Friday 28 January 2022

1 Chris Dodgshun, Margaret Glover, Trish Frost, Sue Duff



Open Teams Championship 2022

1 Arthur Robbins, Gary Ridgway, Denny Newland, Douglas Newlands, Stephen Lester

Heweston Matinee Pairs 2022

1 Arthur Robbins, Douglas Newlands

Swiss Pairs Championship 2022

1 Gary Ridgway, Arthur Robbins



Helen Drinnan Matinee Teams 2022

1 Gary Ridgway, Arthur Robbins, Douglas Newlands, Denny Newland

Mixed Pairs Championship 2022

1 Terry Johnston, Vi Temple, Anne Gunst

Restricted Pairs Championship 2022

1 Alison Neunhoffer, Jennifer Blyton

Teams of 4 Combo 2022

1 Arthur Robbins, Douglas Newlands, Kirsten Bailey, Gavin Bailey

Heidenfeld Teams 2022

1 Arthur Robbins, Douglas Newlands, Kirsten Bailey, Gavin Bailey

Intermediate Teams Championship 2022

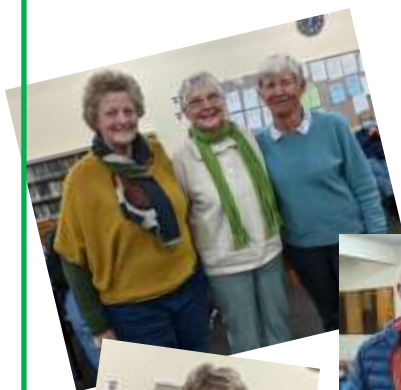
1 Vi Temple, Geoff Temple, Margaret Barrett, John Walsh, Alison Neunhoffer

Teams of Three 2022

1 Roger Gillard, Dot Peacock, Jenny Johnstone, Dot Read

Swiss Teams (Pairs entry) Thursday 31 March 2022

1 Mark Doyle, Liz Bennetto, Peter Horan, Jenny Horan



To answer or not to answer

(with apologies to W. Shakespeare and G. Bailey)

In the July 2022 GBC Newsletter, Gavin Bailey wrote about when and what you can ask without impropriety (**To Ask or Not to Ask...What is the Question?**). I am going to write about the answers you should give and also how answers should precede questions!

The rules about alerting are found at <https://abfevents.com.au/events/tournregs/ABFAlertRegs2017.pdf>. The key thing about Bridge is it is supposed to be a game of full information and players should not be keeping secrets from their opponents. Whatever you know about an auction, the opponents should know as well.

The giving of information comes in three parts.

1 Pre-alerting. You are not allowed to have some sneakily bizarre sequences which you spring upon the opponents and they have not got any defence arranged to it. The most obvious example of this is playing unanchored 2 bids such as RCO 2s (these show 5-5 hands such as 2H = majors or minors, 2S = reds or blacks, 2NT = pointed or rounded). For this kind of convention you must pre-alert them. This means it must be mentioned in the pre-alert section of your convention card. It is considered normal to verbally point such things out to the opponents before starting to play, just to make sure they know and you are not perceived as being sneaky and cheating. Yes, trying to get an unfair advantage is precisely what cheating is!

Other things you might point out in pre-alerts are opening 1C or 1D with 2 or less cards. Most people are unfussed by a short 1C but a very short 1D might catch them out and they need to have the opportunity to discuss whether their 2D overcall is both majors or natural diamonds. Anchored 2 methods like 2H = H and another, 2S = S and another, 2D = S and another, 2NT = both minors, do not need any pre-alert. The Multi 2D and the Precision 2D opening do need a pre-alert because they need defensive agreements. These bids will normally be alerted too, but the opponents need to be forewarned of non-natural stuff. This prevents difficult questions and awkward pauses during the auction.

2 Alerting. This takes place during the auction. Pre-alerting the bids does not remove the need to alert bids. When partner makes an alertable bid, you should alert it immediately. You have to get the alert in before your RHO bids, not before you bid! If your RHO bids in normal tempo and you alert after that bid, you are at fault. Alert before you think about your hand, not after you have a think and then you find RHO has bid. In this circumstance, RHO will usually be permitted by the Director (the Director does it since there has been an irregularity and you do not make your own rulings at the table) to change his call and both calls are authorised to LHO but not to you and your partner!

Failure to alert an alertable call and alerting a call which doesn't need to be alerted are **misinformation** to the opponents and may result in a ruling which favours the opponents. Learn your system and alert appropriately. If you cannot alert appropriately, the Director can insist that you play a simpler system! There should be no questions about unalerted bids as these questions, too often, carry unauthorised information (and consequences via Law 16). When there is an alerted call, you may have to field a question about it although all such questions are best left to the end of the auction.

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3 Post-alerts. When the auction finishes, you should explain it to the opponents immediately before they ask any questions. It is important that they know exactly as much about the auction as you do. It is especially important that you explain any self-alerting bids. It is not clever to not do this and hope the opponents don't grasp something about the auction to your own advantage. The rules of bridge are clear on this point. If you are keeping details of the auction to yourself, you are cheating!

When the auction has finished, both members of the declaring side should make sure the explanations are correct and complete. If an erroneous explanation was given during the auction, the declaring side corrects it at the end of the auction and **NOT** during the auction. If the defenders were asked a question and a wrong explanation was given, they cannot correct it until the end of play. If the defenders do try to correct an explanation during the auction or play, the Director should be called to rule on this illegal action. Lastly, if one side has asked a question of the other side and not got an answer, they can ask the Director to get the person who made the bid to explain it (Law 20F). The partner will usually be sent from the table while this happens.

Generalities

If you know what the bid means answer it completely. The defenders do not need to make inferences; the explanation should encompass inferences. For example, while knowing the opponents play 1NT opening as 15-17, you hear them bid 1H 1S 2NT 3NT. The opponents should offer the range of the 2NT rebid and, if they don't, you can reasonably ask since most play it as 18-19 but there are some who play it as 15-17.

Consider hearing 1N 2C 2D 2NT 3NT and being on lead. You actually need to know if 2C promises a 4 card major or whether it is the only way they can invite with 2NT and they may not have a 4 card major. Really, they should offer this information at the end of the auction but they often remain smugly reticent. You can reasonably ask this and they should clarify things.

When you are asked a question, answer about your agreements not what you think it means. If you don't have an agreement, say "no agreement", BUT don't get a reputation for saying "no agreement". People will just assume you are being evasive and cheating.

Also, avoid saying "I'm taking it as....". This is definitely cheating as you are telling partner illegally what you think they have shown. It's illegal because you are passing information other than by a legal call or play. Stick with "no agreement" but sort your agreements out immediately.

If your opponents' agreements are limited to Stayman and Blackwood, cut them some slack but if they have "multi" anything on their card it is reasonable to expect an accurate explanation. The Laws of Bridge require you to have two identical system cards at the table. You can comply with this Law by using the online system card generator at <https://www.abf.com.au/member-services/system-cards/>.

It has the huge advantage that you both have a written document specifying your system which you can refer to a moment before you start play. But you are not allowed to consult it while the cards are out of the board - no aide memoires!

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Defenders at Play

Defenders will signal to one another, and declarer can ask about their carding and expect specific answers and not either/or answers. The defenders will have fairly exact agreements about when they are giving an attitude signal, a count signal or a suit preference signal. If they know which signal it is, you are entitled to know which signal it is. They are not allowed to have undisclosed understandings.

Help, I'm a beginner!

Yes, we understand bridge is a difficult game and you will get some slack early on (for the first year say). However, not asking questions till the end of the auction and avoiding "I'm taking it as..." (and phrases to a similar effect) are not difficult concepts.

HINT: What you need to do is to learn your own system and not try to understand through the opponents bids and actions, to judge how strong partner is! If you haven't noticed already, some opponents overbid, some underbid and some tell outright porkies!'

Douglas Newlands

Coming Up

Men's and Women's Pairs

Fridays 4 and 11 November

Individual Championship

Mondays 14 and 21 November

Christmas Party

Wednesday 14 December

Christmas Closedown Friday 23 December 2022— Sunday 1 January 2023

2023 Program — Bridge commences on Monday 2 January 2023

Etiquette and Ethics of the Geelong Bridge Club

POLICY STATEMENT - ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT

Revised October 2022

Geelong Bridge Club Incorporated A0000870S

This is a supplement to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, being consistent with Laws 74-91

In order to foster correct etiquette during bridge playing sessions, the following procedures were agreed to by the Geelong Bridge Club Committee on 13th October 2022.

1. Directors may make announcements about etiquette at the start or during play. Directors do not need specific Committee approval to make such announcements.

2. All players i.e. members and visitors can report any matters that are of concern. These may be players not displaying a courteous attitude, causing annoyance or embarrassment or just interfering with other players' enjoyment of the game. If a member wishes to make an unofficial comment/report, this may be made to the Director or any member of the Committee.

More serious matters may be reported formally by the player to:

- (a) The Director of the day at either the time of the incident or after play
- (b) The Club Recorder
- (c) The Committee in writing.

Any of these 3 steps will normally be considered an official complaint.

NB All parties must be informed of any complaint, unofficial or official.

3. Directors can take immediate disciplinary action on complaints, such as awarding adjusted scores, giving a warning to the offenders or even suspending players in extreme situations.

On normal playing days the Directors' decisions are final and cannot be appealed against.

Refer to Laws 74-91 which outline offences and Directors' powers.

4. Formal disciplinary procedures for repeat offenders -

(a) 1st offence - the attention of the Director of the day or the Club Recorder needs to occur and then the Director/Recorder may then talk informally to the offender/s and explain the situation i.e. rules and expectations within the club.

(b) 2nd offence - the offenders are given an official warning by the President in consultation with the Recorder (if required).

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(c) 3rd offence - the offender/s (i.e. playing partners or opponents) will be officially suspended from playing as a pair for 1 to 3 months depending on the severity of the offence. This suspension would need to be approved by the Committee. It should be noted that in any partnership some degree of responsibility for an offence is shared between the partners. Any subsequent offences by the same people after a suspension would result in an additional longer suspension. This suspension does not mean the offenders are suspended from the club.

However, suspension from the club does remain a possibility for other very serious matters.

The disciplinary system will be managed by the President in consultation with the Recorder.

Some common areas where offences may occur are-

- Disputing the Directors' rulings during play
- Undue criticism of your partner or opponents at the table
- Slow play and ignoring the 3 minute warning bell
- Leaving the table before the end of a round without a genuine reason
- Excessive noise and/or comments during rounds
- The non greeting of opponents
- Deliberate non-playing in tempo aimed at unsettling opponents.

PIZZA SUNDAYS

The next Pizza Sunday is the

24 November at 4.00pm.

Please come along and join in the fun, but be sure to put your name on the list if you wish to attend.

A note from the editor

As the editor, I would like to encourage you all to pass on anything you think will be of interest to the members regarding the Bridge Club. Thanks again to those who contributed information and interesting articles for this edition. Contact the committee or me at jlbyton@gmail.com.

Jennifer Blyton