

Novice News – April 2022 by Stephen Bennett

Last Sunday **Redlands Bridge Club** put on a wonderful **Novice Teams** event. Congratulations to the QCBC team of **Carolyn North, Sandra Aring, Louise Purdie and Peter Fredericks** who won the event. It was particularly impressive considering Peter and Louise had not played together before!!!

Earlier in the month **Toowong Bridge Club** had a **Novice Pairs** event. A great performance by **Chris Green & Graeme King** saw them come 2nd closely followed by **Stephen & Louise Bennett** in 3rd spot.

Rewarding wonderful behaviour

The last President's report spoke of misbehaviour by certain members at the club. I must say I feel the behaviour at the club is really good, perhaps we should highlight some of the members who are wonderful.

And so, I am introducing the **QCBC Wonderful Person award**. Winners should be the type of person that you enjoy going to their table each week, or someone who is kind and helpful to others and helpful around the club. I can think of a number of worthy winners, but only one person can win the award this month.

So, drum roll please, the first winner of the **QCBC Wonderful Person award** goes to **Alan McKenna**. He plays North and will always welcome you to the table and remembers your name. He is always thoughtful with his comments and often hands out the bridge mates at the beginning of play.

If you can think of any nominations for this prestigious award, please let me know.

Brilliant Bidding

How many HCPs do you need to bid 7NT? We are taught you need 37+ HCPs to bid a grand slam in NTs. **Richard Ward & Theresa Tully** managed to bid and make 7NT with only 28 HCPs between them!!!

So, lets have a look at the board.

BOARD 14		
BD: 14	♠Q9763	Dlr: E
	♥K875	Vul: None
	♦J2	
	♣T8	
♠A5		♠J4
♥A9		♥J62
♦AQT7653		♦K8
♣Q7		♣AK9653
	♠KT82	
	♥QT43	
	♦94	
	♣J42	

Their first 3 bids are fairly straightforward, at least I hope so. 1C / 1D / 2C. Now comes one of the brilliant bids. I think most of us would bid diamonds again, hopefully 3D, showing some extra points. The problem with this bid is what does East then bid? Some would pass which means you end up playing in a part score!!!!

In this situation, where you both have a long minor, you want to try and find out whether 3NT is the best spot. So west bid 2H. This shows a stopper in hearts and is forcing for 1 round. Now, East does not have a stopper in spades and so bids 3C, nothing more to say partner. And here is the second brilliant bid, instead of just bidding 3NT, west decides to bid 4NT. The last bid suit is clubs and so East, using Roman keycard bids 5H, 2 keycards without the Q.

So, west knows they have 6 club tricks and 1 in each of the majors. But if East had the KD, all 13 tricks could be theirs. But how do you find that out? By bidding 5NT asking East have they got any K's? It is best to respond with the specific K you have. If you have 2 or more just bid up the line. By using Roman Keycard you have already mentioned your KC. So East responds 6D, showing the KD. And West bids 7NT which makes when the clubs split 3,2.

Wow that was truly brilliant bidding, something to aspire to.

Additions to the library.

Seeing how well their Novice players went at the Gold Coast Congress, QCBC were only too pleased to purchase some more books for the excellent library. Here they are;

Bridge at the top by Samantha Punch

Bridge Card Play: An Easy Guide by Bird & Smith

1. **Finessing**
2. **Ruffing losers**
3. **Discarding Losers**
4. **Drawing Trumps**
5. **Establishing Long Suits**
6. **Holding Up a Stopper**
7. **No-Trump Contracts**
8. **Suit Contracts**
9. **Entries**
10. **Play Safely**

This is a series of 10 books. Each book is about 50 pages long, nice and thin. There are 6 chapters per book with a quiz at the end of each chapter. They are great and well worth a read. If you don't know how to take a ruffing finesse or even what it is, I suggest you read the book on Finessing.

Planning the Defence. The Next Level by Seagram & Bird

There are two books on Planning the Play and two on defence. The first book on **Planning the Play** is fantastic if you are a bit unsure as to what you should be doing when playing a hand and dummy comes down. It forces you to make a plan, which is so important.

Opening Leads by Mike Lawrence

Guide to better card play by Ron Klinger

Beginner's Bidding

One of the most difficult aspects of bidding is knowing when partner has made a forcing bid, you have to bid, and when you can pass.

The question I ask is "Do I know how many points partner has?"

There are basically 2 types of bid that give you this information, either a NT bid or repeating a suit already bid.

BOARD 17					
BD: 17		♠KQJ9		Dir: N Vul: None	
		♥K98			
		♦A42			
		♣JT2			
♠4				♠A87653	
♥T6543				♥QJ2	
♦J7				♦98	
♣AK753				♣84	
		♠T2			
		♥A7			
		♦KQT653			
		♣Q96			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	2	-	1	3
S	-	2	-	1	3
E	-	-	2	-	-
W	-	-	2	-	-

	14	
8		7
	11	

The bidding begins with North, with 3,3 in the minors and no 5 card major, you open 1C. Let's assume East West pass throughout. South with 11HCPs and a good 6 card diamond suit bids 1D, this is a forcing bid. All North knows is partner has 6+ HCPs and 4+ diamonds. At this point North does not know how many points partner has and so is forced to bid on. North now bids 1NT which shows a balanced hand and 12-14 HCPs. South now knows his partners point range, but is still unsure on the best contract to be in. So, he should continue to describe his hand by bidding 3D. This shows 5+ diamonds, some play this shows 6+, and 11+HCPs. Now, North has enough information from South to bid 3NT. North has a 4,3,3,3 hand which is the best hand for playing in NT and knows that they have 25+ HCPs between them, which is enough for 3NT.

Below is a link to the Larry Cohen bridge website. He has some quizzes on Forcing and Non-Forcing bids, with explanations after you have had a try.

<https://www.larryco.com/bridge-quiz/bidding>

Upcoming events

17th April – BBC Easter Congress Graded Matchpoint Pairs

18th April – BBC Easter Congress Graded Teams

25th April – ANZAC Day Teams at QCBC

1st May – QLD Novice Matchpoint Pairs - Sunnybank

This is really good event, well worth entering. There are prizes for lots of different categories including an encouragement award for the pair with the fewest MPs.

QBA BULLETIN

[QBAApr22.pdf \(qldbbridge.com.au\)](#)

ABF NEWSLETTER APRIL

[April2022.pdf \(abfevents.com.au\)](#)

Promotions as at 31 March

Strong, Terry	Gold Grand
Ranke, Lex	Grand
Lee, Greg	Grand
Woollons, Andrew	Silver Life
Males, Kathy	Life
Males, Warren	Bronze National
Gearing, Michael	National
Hall, Sally	National
Cuthbert, Wendy	Bronze State
Gissing, Joyanne	State
Thompson, Jenny	State
Bennett, Stephen	State

De Jong, Chris	Regional
Rivers, John	Silver Local
Bennett, Louise	Silver Local
Macdonald, Kate	Local
Baghaei, Aflatoon	Local
Green, Sue	Local
Moran, Elizabeth	Club
Lock, Ian	Club
Ellerby, Peter	Club
Pohle, Chris	Club
Collings, George	Graduate
Harris, Gwynne	Graduate
Barakin, Valeri	Graduate
Foreman, Elizabeth	Graduate