
June 2022

From The President



What a great job Kathleen did on her first newsletter and a nice tribute to Joan Jenkins the ex-newsletter editor.

Kim and I have just returned from Biloela where we were refuelled with love from the Grandkids. The 9-month-old Keahla is so desperate to be with her 2 and 3 year old sisters, she has learnt how to walk. Our daughter has her hands full as you can imagine.

At our last meeting, the board unanimously agreed that QCBC will maintain bidding boxes for use in club sessions at QCBC. We will use written bidding at our Congresses. For those players wishing to purchase their own bidding box, please discuss with Toni. These bidding boxes will not be given to other players to use when you are not there.

We also agreed that all players regardless of their vax status would be welcome into the club. The QBA lifted their mandate as of 10th June so QCBC Congress events will not have the mandate of only allowing vaxed people. As I write this the QCBC Graded Teams is being held on Sunday. Thank you to Julie Jeffries who jumped in to do the directing when Alan Gibson fell ill and had to cancel. Thank you to all the people who make these events happen from Cheryl Stone who does the entries to Jenny Williams who collects the

monies and of course Toni who does absolutely everything else.

You would have seen quite a few changes around the club – more timers, removal of equipment and furniture and a general clean up. Thank you to the sub-committee headed by Robyn Clark for all these jobs being completed. Hand Record presentation was different for a while and after some complaints we are reverting to the old format.

We have some big events at our Club coming up

June 25th – QBA Club Directors Exam – QCBC need any player who would like to direct. You do not have to sit for the exam however strongly recommended.

July 3rd - Zephyr Charity Day - QBA – to be held at QCBC – teams' event. All monies go to Zephyr – entry form on website.

August 27/28 - GNOT Finals - Brisbane Zone – 50+ tables will be expected and closer to the time we will advise about the Saturday Afternoon session as we will know exact numbers. You must have qualified already to play in this event.

September 3rd – Qld Graded Pairs – all welcome – the more tables we have, the more sections we have.

October 9-10 Qld Festival of Bridge – 3 sessions of teams/3 sessions of pairs – entry via myABF. Saturday afternoon session cancelled on this day.

October 22nd – QCBC AGM

November 12th – QBA Club Directors Exam – if you missed out in June – second chance.

November 25-28 ABF GNOT Final – you must have qualified to play. Club is closed on the Friday and Saturday for sessions. Open Monday as the event will only be using the side room.

December 3rd – QCBC Xmas Party – watch this space for more information

Any more information on any of the above I can answer, so please contact me.

Ray Ellaway

What's my name?

Please help us select a new name for this newsletter 😊

“QCBC Newsletter” is accurate but with little flair. We would like some suggestions on what to call the newsletter. As an example, Arana Bridge Club call their newsletter “**Trump It**”. What can you think of? First prize: A Cup of Coffee and a free game!

Editorial Team

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Contributions should be by email (preferred)

From the Archives

Colin Peardon gave us a copy of the newsletter from **August 2004!** Here are 2 items from it:

A Lawyer's Story

A lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, then insured them against, among other things, fire. Within a month, having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars and without yet having made even his first premium payment on the policy, the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company. In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost ‘in a series of small fires’. The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason, that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion.

The lawyer sued – and WON! Delivering the ruling, the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The judge stated nevertheless that the lawyer held a policy from the company, which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is an ‘unacceptable fire’ and was obligated to pay the claim!

Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the cigars lost in the ‘fires’.

NOW, FOR THE BEST PART - after the lawyer cashed the cheque, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON! With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer

was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000 fine. **ONLY IN AMERICA!**

A Truth about Life known to little children:

No matter how hard you try, you cannot baptize cats

IT Committee Report

The new **Clock PC** has been installed at the back of the room. The monitor (TV) for this laptop has been installed on a stand on the wall so everyone can see the new clock/bridge timer. Many thanks to **Lou Stanley** for her great work in getting the TV and stand attached to some pretty hard brickwork!

The new **Dealing PC** is now in production. With help from **Colin Peardon**, **Gary Ypinazar** and **Toni Bardon** we have designed a new system to make dealing much easier and user friendly. Dealing is often a thankless task, so anything that makes it easier for our brave team of dealers is worthwhile! We tried a new form of Hand Record print out for a while, but we have now reverted to the old format as requested by some members.

The new **Director PC** has been installed in the office but is not yet in production.

I hope that all PC users enjoy using the newer and faster laptops!

Mike Le Voi

Information for PC Users

If you are a **Dealer, Teacher, Director, or Scorer** at QCBC, you can now find the new PC documentation on the **QCBC web site** on the **Documents** page:

<http://www.qcbc.org.au/documentspage.asp>

If you click this link, please scroll down to the “**Club Documents**” section. In this section, you will find the documentation on how to use the 3 new laptops. You can also read the documentation for dealing cards or using the Bridge Timer/Clock software.

The new laptops contain all the files that were on the old laptops. Procedures for using the existing scoring program or existing teaching programs are unchanged.

One major difference between the old and new PC environment is that when you have finished

with the PC, **do not shut it down!** Just walk away and leave it turned on. The PCs backup their data to the other PCs overnight and to the “Cloud” (OneDrive).

If anyone wants to discuss the documentation with me or meet me at the Club for further training, please phone or email me:

Mike Le Voi

mikelevoi@gmail.com (Phone: 0418-877-593)

Australia Wide Novice Pairs

Congratulations to club members:



Helen Kieve and Liz Moran – 5th out of top 10 of those with < 50 Master Points



Lilly Jia and Martin Wu won overall. Well done!

Maintenance Committee Report

We are currently working on the following matters:

- Members may have noticed that the club is looking less cluttered. That is because we have sold various unwanted items on Gumtree.
- The step and handrail painting has been completed and looks a million bucks.
- We are installing another handrail and weather hood over the walkway from the basement to the front steps.
- We are still working on our 'water' problems as a matter of a priority. This means that work in the basement and roof is ongoing. We are receiving great help from Ian's friend, Graham. Graham has a great background in dealing with trades persons, insurance etc: we are very lucky to have him on board.
- We are obtaining quotes for solar panels to go on the club roof.
- We have purchased a new teachers' whiteboard.
- We are still awaiting the outcome of the bathroom funding application; we will have to look at other options for funding bathroom upgrade if we get a 'no' to our application.
- We need people willing to deal boards. Using the updated software makes dealing fast and simple. Please volunteer to be a dealer if you have an hour to spare – often before or after bridge. Please contact Robyn or Toni directly to offer your time.
- We need volunteers for odd jobs. If you have an hour or so spare - either on a one-off, or on an ongoing basis, we will warmly welcome your contribution.
- Ian is off on an adventure for the next month or so. Jenny Williams is now back from holidays and is returning to her role on the maintenance committee – welcome back Jenny.

Robyn Clark

Masterpoint Changes

The following members have been promoted in April and May of 2022:

Graduate

Louise Dartnell

Camielle Moran

Zorica Sipka

Club

Marguerite Manifold

Bronze Local

Dennis Kruse

Silver Local

Debbie Carroll

Regional

Carol Findlay

State

Michael Le Voi

National

Peter Schmidt

Life

Christine Newbery

Bronze Life

Ian Bannister

Silver Grand

Georgi Belonogov

Well done to all!

Lex Ranke

Teacher's Corner

Opening Leads

With a strong sequence, lead the highest of the sequence. That tells partner you have at least the next one down, but not the one just above. King promises Queen, denies Ace, etc.

An extra detail is that when you are defending a suit contract you lead the top of two touching high cards, but against NT it's better to have a 3-card sequence or close to it. Examples:

AKx, KQ10, QJ9, J10x

Don't lead a 4th best when you have a strong sequence, partner will get confused!

Try It Out

Partner led the Queen against 3 NT. Declarer played 2 from Dummy, you followed (if you do high or low discouraging signals, you'd discourage). Declarer won with the King.

	♠ Q	
♠ K		♠ A 6 2
	♠ 8 7 5	

A couple of tricks later you're on lead. Seeing the Ace still there, should you play Spades or look for something else?

Answer

Persevere with the Partnership Suit! Don't be put off seeing the Ace still in Dummy, partner led a strong card, the Queen, because she has value in the suit, we expect at least Q J 10 or Q J 9. Your job is to help partner to flush out that Ace and make the rest of her suit good.

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

One of my early bridge mentors in WA was a lady who had played for years and years. She was a big believer in sticking to the partnership suit unless there's a cast-iron reason to change. It's still good advice, and this is a classic example. Just plug away at those Spades until partner's winners are set up.

Richard Fox

Learning to play at QCBC

If you're a new player keen to learn and improve, here are some of the options.

Start with:

Beginner Classes: 8 lessons to get you started with Annette on Monday night or Christine on Wednesday mornings

Small Group Short Introductions: If you have a group of 4 (or have friends who would like to try this) let the club know and arrange for 4 lessons as a taster. This is enough to see if it's the game for you, and once you're hooked, you'll be able to join in the other groups and progress onward and upward.

Next step:

Help with Play, builds on the beginner course with different themes illustrated by set-up hands. Play the hands and talk through them with Richard Monday evening and Ian Wednesday morning

As you get more confident:

Supervised Play, play hands like a club session but you can still ask questions and take more time to think over the play. Ross, Claire, and various guest stars Wednesday mornings

When you feel ready:

Join in a club session. Monday (director Nick) and Wednesday (Peter) evenings are relaxed for newer players; Tuesday, Friday and Saturday

daytimes have a mix of levels. Tuesday evening and Thursday daytime are the stronger sessions, best to get some practice other days and work up to these.

Going further:

Improver Classes: more advanced themes with set hands with Richard and occasionally Andy Hung, look out for notices.

Mentor Nights: First Wednesday of the month, play through random hands with an advanced mentor watching and giving tips. If you enjoy your mentor's input, ask them for another game.

Enjoy!

Richard Fox



Restaurant Review

Michael and I decided to join Club Southside and check out the dining. We recommend booking a table for a weekend night. We went on Saturday at 5.30 pm and were lucky to get a table for two. The dining area is away from the noisier sections of the Club and is well decorated. It has several sections – one was closed off for a family birthday party. The menu is more extensive than we anticipated - offering good choices for vegetarians and meat lovers and quite a few vegan choices as well.

Although there was much on the menu that took our fancy, we were particularly impressed with the description of the Seafood Tower for Two People. "Crispy skinned baby barramundi with Asian dressing, 6 Oysters (2 natural, 2 Kilpatrick and 2 mornay), Half Shell Scallops with seaweed butter, Salt and Pepper Calamari, Garlic Prawns, Chunky Chips with thyme salt, Garlic Bread, and a generous serving of Fresh King Prawns and Smoked Salmon". All topped off with a complimentary bottle

of White Wine - for the very reasonable price of \$99.00.



The meal was fun to eat and thoroughly enjoyable. The Oysters, Scallops and Prawns were fresh and delicious. In truth we loved everything about the Seafood Tower. The only reasons we didn't eat the garlic bread was because we ran out of room in our stomachs. We heartily recommend a visit to the restaurant in Club Southside. Please allow 20-30 minutes for the chef to prepare this fabulous meal; it is well worth the wait.

Kathleen Le Voi

Improvers Sessions with Mentors

QCBC hosts an improvers-mentor session on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm. All improvers are welcome.

The format is very simple but seems to work well. In general, a mentor is assigned to a table of improvers. Anyone can attend and there is no need to bring a partner. You play randomly dealt boards and can ask questions throughout and to review each hand after you've played it. There is no scoring, no master points, no time pressure, and no shame.

You can ask for help with basic bidding and play techniques that may have slipped your mind since you did your lessons (months or years ago) and/or refine your bidding and play systems.

I coordinate the sessions and it is very helpful if you advise me in advance that you are attending so I can ensure we have a helpful number

of mentors attending. Please contact me if you want to be added to the mailing list for this group.

I would also like to acknowledge the amazing contributions of the mentors who give their time and expertise generously. If any experienced players are interested in being added to the mentors list, please let me know.

Annette Hogan (Phone: 0425 837 674)

annettehogan001@gmail.com

QCBC Teams Championship

Sponsored by **Club Southside**.



Winners: Watson Zhou, Charlie Lu, Patrick Bugler, Neville Francis (Absent)

Sorry, Partner

Sorry, Partner is a **free** weekly podcast about Bridge, hosted by Bridge partners and friends Catherine Harris and Jocelyn Startz.

Each week they interview Bridge celebrities from around the world, discussing anything and everything from their top tips to the funniest thing that's ever happened at a game. They also dip into the listener mailbag and share hilarious Bridge stories from across the globe.

If you're looking to take your Bridge obsession to new heights (or depths), then welcome to the table. Available wherever you get your podcasts (including Apple, Spotify, and all the major platforms).

You can find more information on their website at:

<https://sorrypartner.com>

AUSTRALIA WIDE TEAMS CLUB KNOCKOUT

The Australia Wide Club Knockout Teams will be played on **RealBridge** on the first Tuesday of each month commencing July 5 2022 at 7.30 pm AEST. There are 7 divisions based on members and masterpoints and each club can enter one team per division with a maximum of 4 teams. More information can be found on **My ABF**.

<https://www.abf.com.au/2022-australia-wide-teams-club-knockout/>

QCBC June Graded Teams

Congratulations to all the winners:



Novice 2nd: Elizabeth Moran, Helen Klieve, Louise Bennett, Jacinta Lee (and Ray with the money!)



Novice 1st: Bernice Cooper, Judith Bramich, Alice Edwards, Jenny Andrews.



B Grade 2nd: Bill Morgan, Barry Koster, Daniel Chua, Kim McDonald (Absent)



A Grade 2nd: Gheorghe Belonogov, Ewa Kowalczyk, Anne Lamport, Richard Wallis



B Grade 1st: Barbara Kent, Margaret Prentice, Dewi Eastman, Faridah McLennan (Absent)



A Grade 1st: Watson Zhou, Charlie Lu, Richard Ward, Therese Tully



A Grade 3rd: Paul Hooykaas, Ralph Parker, Ian Halford, John Luck