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## October 2022

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### From The President



Well, this year has certainly gone quickly. As I write this, the AGM is 7 days away and the next edition of the newsletter will be the final for 2022 just before Christmas.

Thank you to the other board members for their support over the last 12 months, in particular Barry Williams who was on the board when I came on in 2014 and has decided to step down at the AGM. Thanks also to you the members whose continued support of our sessions has helped ensure the club finished the financial year in a sound position.

The maintenance committee continues to get things done that have probably been overlooked for too long and you will see renovation work happening for some time yet. So far, we have been able to fund these works from our own resources, but we are also continuing to apply for grants from the Brisbane City Council and the Gambling Community Benefit fund for equipment replacement.

Please come to the AGM on Saturday at 12 noon and then stay and play in the session which follows at 1.00pm

**Ray Ellaway**

### New Members

Here is a list of new members at QCBC:

Nives Clausen  
David Quick  
Phelim Reilly  
Eileen Reilly  
Sally McCracken  
Oliver McCarthy  
Debbie Stokes  
Chris Green  
Virginia Young

We are glad to see you 😊

### Vale Jean Tregoe



Jean Tregoe died 7th October, aged 94. Jean was a Monday daytime director for many years and a QCBC member for more than 40 years. Jean loved her bridge. Here is a lovely photo of her with Evelyn Mander.

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## Masterpoint Changes

The following members have been promoted:

### Graduate

John Wales

Karen Collier

### Club

Camielle Moran

### Local

Graeme King

Lois Munro

### Bronze Local

Louise Purdie

Kate Macdonald

### Silver Local

Martin Carter

Janet McKeough

### Regional

Lorraine Moulds

Sandra Mackiehan

### State

Carol Findlay

Thais Morgan-Pertus

### Life

Jenny Hay

### Silver Life

Wendy Gibson

### Gold Life

Jan Peach

### Silver Grand

John Luck

Well done to all!

### Lex Ranke

## Director's Corner

Saying, "Please play it out," when an opponent has made a claim or concession, does not mean "Please play it out according to your claim so I can work out if your claim is correct".

It means "Please play it out any way you like. Use the information that I might think your claim is faulty. Feel free to now draw my last trump or throw me in rather than take a finesse".

Please be very aware that when all four players agree to resume play, the claim statement ceases to exist. It's as though it never happened. Whatever line of play is now taken *will not* be adjusted by the Director. The player who appeared to think the claim was faulty has given *authorised* information to the claimer.

Although the laws allow it to happen, I strongly advise players not to ask an opponent to play out the hand after a claim or concession. Call the Director if you disagree or don't know if the claim or concession is correct.

Here is Law 68D in full: Suspension of Play. After any claim or concession, play is suspended.

1. If the claim or concession is agreed, Law 69 applies.
2. If it is doubted by any player (dummy included); either (a) the Director may immediately be summoned and no action should be taken pending his arrival, Law 70 applies; or (b) upon the request of the non-claiming or non-conceding side, play may continue subject to the following:
  - i. all four players must concur; otherwise, the Director is summoned, who then proceeds as in (a) above.
  - ii. *the prior claim or concession is void and not subject to adjudication. Laws 16 and 50 do not apply, and the score subsequently obtained shall stand.*

Law 69 essentially says that the board is scored, and the table moves on. Law 70 sets out how the Director adjudicates a contested claim or concession. Law 16 deals with unauthorised information and Law 50 deals with penalty cards, no unauthorised information, and no penalty cards.

Saying nothing, but resuming play with everyone else, is taken to be concurrence!

### Jan Peach

## Teacher's Corner

Our next round of Beginners Lessons will be starting soon:

- Monday evenings – 7 pm to 9 pm, starting 24 October
- Wednesday mornings – 10 am to 12 noon, starting 26 October

Encourage your family and friends to come along and learn this great game! For more information, contact Christine on 0412 427 748.

Here are some photos of some of our recent students enjoying learning bridge.



Meg Rafter, Gerry Smithers and Christine Bongers



Mike Johnson, Pattie Kehoe, Bronwyn Evans and Sally McCracken

Christine Newbery

## Happy Birthday Ellie



Well done to Ellie Spiro. Aged 95 and looking good! Ellie was born on 12th October. Here are a few other famous people born on the same day:

Mike Le Voi (OK – I am not famous 😊)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (Composer)

Luciano Pavarotti (Tenor)

Hugh Jackman (Actor)

Trevor Chappell (Well – not exactly “famous” 😊)

## Maintenance Committee Report

Well, what a hugely busy time it's been lately! In the basement a big effort has gone into locating and fixing some leaks and waterproofing the concrete foundations, all done now.

Meanwhile, a lot is happening on the roof as well. Firstly, a 40 kW solar panel system has been installed (by comparison, a house system is 6 kW). This will save a large amount off our power bill.

After a thorough survey of the roof, much work has been done to repair areas where leaks were or could occur. We are now watertight! The back garden trees have been trimmed to ensure we don't get debris build up on the roof.

To compliment the roof work, all the fascia around the building is being replaced, painted and new sign writing and a new QCBC signage in the front window. A canopy is being put on the side of the basement driveway to keep members dry when walking up from the basement. Phew! A busy and expensive time for the Club but it's getting our clubrooms in good shape for the future.



Some inside work next but I will save that for the next newsletter. To finish, a big shout out to



**Graham Miller** who has masterminded and managed all this work. Be sure to say hello when you see Graham around the Club.

**Ian Bannister**

## Vale Reg Busch



Reg Busch died on 4 October at the age of 94. Reg Busch was a member of QCBC for many years.

Reg was President of the QBA for 1973-1979 and 1983-1986. Together with Hugh (Bing) Brown and others, he worked towards supporting players and clubs all over Queensland by introducing a system of subsidies designed to bring country players to Brisbane for state events. The Queensland Zonal structure can be largely attributed to his efforts. He became a life member of the Association in 1986.

He and Joan McPheat were a formidable directing duo for more than two decades. Together they developed, tested, and promoted one of the first computerised scoring software programs in Australia. Their ground-breaking pioneering efforts developed into “Compscore” which is widely used by many Queensland clubs today.

Reg directed many of our sessions and congresses in Qld. Please read his profile on the QBA web site.

<https://qldbridge.com.au/players/reg-busch>

## Bergen Raises

Bridge IT people all know of Hans van Staveren, the author of *BigDeal*, which is used by our Dealing Software to make the boards we play each

week. Hans has also written a program called “dealer”. This excellent program allows Teachers and others to deal random hands that fit certain patterns, such as Opening 1 NT, 2 Club Openings etc.

Basically, the dealer program deals random hands until it has generated, say, 36 boards of the shape you want. As part of this process, Hans reports how many hands the program had to deal before it found those that were requested. The more hands the program needs to deal, the less likely the requested hand shape is.

We can use these statistics to see how likely various Bridge deals are. Here is a table showing how likely you are to receive a hand with 0 or more HCP.

HCP	Deals	Probability
0-5	7	
<b>6-9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Most Likely</b>
10-12	4	
12-14	5	
15-17	11	
18-19	36	
20-21	98	
22-24	277	
25+	<b>2154</b>	<b>Least Likely</b>

The surprising thing about this table is that you are more likely to get 6-9 HCP than 0-5 HCP. Indeed, you are more likely to get 12-14 HCP than 0-5 HCP! Of course, the likelihood of you getting more than 25 HCP is very remote.

The next table shows how likely you are to open in a Minor, a Major or 1 No Trump.

Opening (HCP)	Deals	Probability
Minor (12-14)	<b>7</b>	<b>Most Likely</b>
Weak NT (12-14)	<b>12</b>	
Major (12-14)	<b>13</b>	
Strong NT (15-17)	<b>26</b>	<b>Least Likely</b>

No surprises here. You only need a 4-card suit to open a Minor, but you need a 5-card suit to open a Major.

Now, let’s put this theory to some use! Firstly, a simple case. How likely is the Responder to have a match for the Opener’s 5-card Major?

Responder's Fit	Deals	Probability
3 card support	<b>55</b>	<b>Most Likely</b>
4 card support	113	
5 card support	<b>385</b>	<b>Least Likely</b>

Again, no surprises here. You are twice as likely to have 3 card support as you are to have 4 card support. You are very lucky when you have 5 card support 😊

Now, what about Bergen Raises? Here are the bids as originally invented by Marty Bergen. When Opener bids 1♥ or 1♠, Responder makes the following bid based on HCP/Length and 4-card support (as published by Larry Cohen):

3♣ = 6-10 HCP and 4-card support

3♦ = 11-12 HCP and 4-card support

"3 of the major" = 0-5 HCP and 4-card support

As you might expect, the "3 of the major" bid is unlikely to occur as it requires 0-5 HCP **and** 4-card support. Here are some likely statistics, based on dealing more than **2 million hands!** I have adjusted the HCP point ranges to be the "normal" 6-9 and 10-12 (as in the first table).

Fit	HCP	Bid	Deals	Probability
3-card	6-9	2 M	<b>144</b>	<b>Most Likely</b>
4-card	6-9	3♣	263	
4-card	10-12	3♦	431	
4-card	0-5	3 M	<b>509</b>	<b>Least Likely</b>

As expected, "3 of the major" occurs very infrequently. Indeed, you are more likely to get 5-card support than this (see previous table)!

Here is a variation of Bergen Raises that considers what is most likely to occur. As a statistician, I firmly believe in having a bidding system that includes common events. My motto is: the simpler the better for my aging brain 😊

Fit	HCP	Bid	Deals	Probability
3-card	6-9	2 M	<b>144</b>	<b>Most Likely</b>
4-card	10-12	3♣	<b>431</b>	<b>Least Likely</b>
3-card	10-12	3♦	231	
4-card	6-9	3 M	263	

In this system, we have the most likely 3-card and 4-card support options. If I can remember, "**1 2 that'll do**" then I can easily remember "**1 3 that'll be**". The 3♣ bid is the least likely, but a welcome bid when you hear it from your partner.

Bergen stated that the advantage of his "3 of the major" was that it acted like a pre-empt bid and tended to shut out the opposition. I would argue that if your Major is Hearts, it **encourages** the opposition to bid 3 Spades, especially if the bidding has gone 1♥ - 1♠ - 3♥ - ?? as the opposition now know your side is weak!

As with all bidding systems, your mileage may vary. However, you may like to try this variation as it is the most likely to work in day-to-day bidding. Enjoy!

**Mike Le Voi**

### Editor

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Contributions should be by email (preferred)