

Novice News – July 2023 by Stephen Bennett

There have been a number of events over the last month and QCBC have performed well in all of them.

25th June – Toowoomba Novice Teams

3rd – Chris Ferguson, Eve Sirigos, Peter & Sue Green.

Great to see QCBC members playing in events further afield.

9th July – Redlands Novice Pairs

1st – Stephen & Louise Bennett

3rd = Lou Stanley & Anne Welsh

Wonderful to see the food back to pre-Covid levels.

23rd July – QCBC Graded Teams with Novice Section

1st – Debbie Carroll, Jacinta Lee, Stephen & Louise Bennett

2nd – Carolyn North, Peter Fredericks, Carol Findlay & Jenny Thompson

As there were 8 teams in this event it meant all the teams played each other, which was a really great format.

29th July – QBA One Session Teams of 3 Green Point 0-50 MPs

Section A Winners – Louise Purdie, Jenny Neuss, Sue Green and Tony Treloar

Section B Winners – Christine Jensen, Brian Weigel, Simon Byrne and Barry Williams

Section C Winners – Kathy Van Geest, Karen Johnson, Suzanne Adams and Ross Murtagh

Well done to all the winners, and all the players who took part. This is a wonderful event that is put on by Queensland Bridge Association.



QCBC Graded Teams

Winners of Novice Grade

Debbie Carroll – Jacinta Lee

Louise & Stephen Bennett

Teams of 3 – 2023



A Grade – Sue Green, Louise Purdie, Jenny Neuss, Tony Treloar (capt)



B Grade – Christine Jensen, Barry Williams (capt), Brian Weigel, Simon Byrne



C Grade - Suzanne Adams, Kathy Van Geest, Ross Murtagh (capt), Karen Johnston



A grade 2nd



B Grade 2nd



**C Grade 2nd
Teams Events**

You may have noticed that 3 of the 4 competitions mentioned above were teams events. So, what is the difference between teams bridge and pairs bridge? Here is a great article I found on the South Australia Bridge Association Website that explains it really well.

<https://sabridge.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Teams-Tactics.pdf>

The main differences are when playing teams;

But I did none of those. Instead, I focused on my 8 losers and took my partner with her overcall for 8 losers and bid 2H. I could have had 6 points and 3 hearts for my bid, so partner rightly passed.

Louise made 12 tricks and I got this funny feeling that I had made another mistake!!!! If I had just remembered to bid aggressively to game.....oh well there is always next time.

Bennett's Bottom

For a partnership to work, not only do you need to make good bids but your partner needs to understand them.

This was the bidding sequence on the following board, what do you think the last bid means? The 2H bid is by the opposition.

1D, 2H, 3H

Do you think it means;

1. I have support for your diamonds and 10+ points.
2. My hearts are better than their hearts.
3. Do you have a heart stopper?
4. I have 5,5 in spades and a minor.

Here is the board Louise and I were sitting East, West.

BOARD 24					
BD: 24		♠ J3		Dir: W	
		♥ KJ9832		Vul: Nil	
		♦ 952			
		♣ 83			
♠ K987				♠ A64	
♥				♥ T64	
♦ KJT84				♦ AQ73	
♠ AQ54				♣ KT6	
		♠ QT52			
		♥ AQ75			
		♦ 6			
		♣ J972			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N			2		5
S			2		13 13
E	4	7		4	1 9
W	4	7		4	1

West opened 1D, north bid 2H and east bid 3H. She was asking if I had a stopper in hearts, which is the normal meaning. South bid 4H and now it was

my turn to bid again. Not being normal, I misunderstood my partners bid, I thought it was a Michaels Cuebid, showing 5,5 in spades and a minor, so I bid 4S. Now 4S is makeable, but not by me. I drew too many trumps and then when I started cashing my minor suit winners, south ruffed in and cleared my trumps and ran a number of heart winners.

So, I got a well deserved bottom for that hand. The worst part of this disaster was we were playing against one of my old bridge teachers, who very kindly explained why it was not a Michaels Cuebid!!!!!!

And Finally

With all the recent great results that the QCBC Novice players have been having I think it is worth thanking the wonderful team who try and educate us and make us better bridge players. I would particularly like to thank Richard Fox for all his words of wisdom. He never tires of answering all my questions, and believe me I have had a lot!!!!!!

Coming Up

13th August – Gold Coast Novice Pairs

20th August – QLD Graded Teams at Toowong

2nd September – QLD Graded Pairs at QCBC

10 September – Kenmore <50 <100 Pairs

17 September – Redlands Graded Pairs

17 September – Sanctuary Cove <500mp & Novice

24 September – QBA Teams of 3 (NSBC)