

## **Novice News – October 2023 by Stephen Bennett**

Some more great results, well done everyone.

### **Toowong Novice Pairs on the 21<sup>st</sup> October**

2<sup>nd</sup> Lois Munro & Anna De Borah.

Playing in the B section at the club is clearly paying off.

5<sup>th</sup> Peter & Sue Green and winners of the Plate.

Just back from a big adventure overseas, perhaps it was really a secret bridge holiday!!!!

8<sup>th</sup> Christine Bolger & Fenna Cooper

15<sup>th</sup> Phil Kay & George Collings

19<sup>th</sup> Anna Oprysa & Sandra Lawrence

### **ABF Spring Nationals in Sydney**

#### **Novice Pairs on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

5<sup>th</sup> Stephen & Louise Bennett

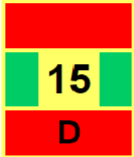
10<sup>th</sup> Debbie Carroll & Jacinta Lee

#### **Novice Teams on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> October**

1<sup>st</sup> Stephen & Louise Bennett, Debbie Carroll & Jacinta Lee

## I took a view !!!!

It is a good phrase to use when you make the wrong bid. I have many examples to pick from, but here are a couple from the recent Sydney event we played in.

<b>Board 15</b>	♠ AQ8	
Dealer S	♥ Q	
Vul N-S	♦ JT	
	♣ AKQJ853	
♠ 97632		♠ KJT54
♥ K853		♥ AT974
♦ A2		♦ 63
♣ T7		♣ 9
	♠ -	
	♥ J62	
	♦ KQ98754	
	♣ 642	

		Makeable contracts					
		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	
19		N	5	4	-	-	1
7	8	S	5	4	-	-	1
	6	E	-	-	3	3	-
		W	-	-	2	3	-

In the pairs event, Louise was sitting South, she opened 3D, pass from west and now what would you bid as North?

Well, **I took a view** that Louise was going to have AKQ to seven diamonds and so could count 7 tricks in diamonds, 4 in clubs and the AS makes 12. We would lose 1 in hearts and that was it. So, once I had taken that view, I bid 6D. Unfortunately, partner did not have the AD and after a heart lead I went off 1.

Was it reasonable to expect partner to have AKQ in diamonds? No, clearly not, but at the time I was confident she did. Was there a better bid I could have made? I think my better bid would have been 4NT asking for aces. Playing Roman Keycard 1430, partner would reply 5C showing 1 keycard in this case KD. If I passed this, it would be the best contract to be in.

In the teams event, Louise & I were sitting North, South.

**Board 22**  
*Dealer E*  
*Vul E-W*

♠ A64  
♥ AKQJ8  
♦ 8762  
♣ 7

♠ 97  
♥ 965  
♦ AKT3  
♣ AKT2

♠ KJ83  
♥ T743  
♦ Q5  
♣ 965

♠ QT52  
♥ 2  
♦ J94  
♣ QJ843

		Makeable contracts				
		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
14		-	-	1	1	-
14	6	-	-	1	1	-
	6	-	1	-	-	1
		-	1	-	-	1

After 2 passes, west opened 1D and I overcalled 1H. East doubled showing 4 spades and some clubs, and south passed. West bid 2C, given they don't have a heart stopper it is their only choice. They should have 5 diamonds and 4 clubs for the bid, but with AK to 4 in diamonds that is OK. As north what would you do now?

Well, I **took a view** that my hearts were so good even though I only had 5 of them they were worth a rebid, I bid 2 hearts. This was passed out and I went 1 off.

Let's go back to when I took a view, what did we know? West had 5 diamonds and 4 clubs and between 12-17HCPs. East has 6+ HCPs, 4 spades and 4+ in clubs. With only 1 club, I should have considered that partner may have 4+ clubs.

I would have been better off doubling which would be passed out going 2 off vulnerable for 500. That is what happened at the other table for a swing of 11 IMPs.

In both cases I took a view without seeking more information from partner. In the first case I did not check that Louise had AKQ of diamonds, I just hoped. In the second case I fell in love with my hearts AKQJ8 instead of asking partner what she thought.

Perhaps I need to stop **taking a view** and instead ask partner what they have. Who would have thought that works better!!!!!!

### **Coming Up**

With no novice events for the next month or so, it is a great opportunity to improve your bridge with some lessons. As luck would have it, Richard Fox is running 3 lessons on Saturday mornings from 10 -12.

**11<sup>th</sup> November 2 over 1 – The forcing NT.**

**18<sup>th</sup> November 2 over 1 – Sequences after a 2 over 1 response.**

**25<sup>th</sup> November Signalling on Defence**

These will be fantastic and well worth turning up to. And 2 over 1 is the way to bid, once you get the hang of it you won't look back.

If you are looking for more personalised lessons **Janeen Solomon** is the person to contact. She is an expert player who is prepared to pass on her brilliance at bridge.

## **And Finally.....**

What makes a good bridge player? Of course, a photographic memory helps and being able to count all the things you have to keep track of is useful.

But without **Grit**, you will get nowhere. What is grit? It is the power of **passion** and **perseverance**. Here is a ted talk on Grit if you are interested, it is only 6 minutes long.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/angela\\_lee\\_duckworth\\_grit\\_the\\_power\\_of\\_passion\\_and\\_perseverance/transcript?user\\_email\\_address=889530ed1ce7b29eb92dfe537fd535ad&lctg=62d1a2f916c9c83d72b18b9](https://www.ted.com/talks/angela_lee_duckworth_grit_the_power_of_passion_and_perseverance/transcript?user_email_address=889530ed1ce7b29eb92dfe537fd535ad&lctg=62d1a2f916c9c83d72b18b9)

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