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## December 2022

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### From The President



The Xmas Party was attended by over 100 people. It was nice to see Rose in the kitchen. I once again was unable to attend due to some health issues however all the feedback was positive. Well done QCBC Members.

QCBC could not operate without the following volunteers. There are some members mentioned twice or three times in some cases below, so a special thank you to them. As always, Toni deserves the club's biggest thank you.

**Board:** Barry Williams (retired at AGM), Patrick Bugler, Charles Page, Joyanne Gissing, Mike Martin, Rachel Langdon, and Annette Hogan.

**Session Directors and Helpers:** Roberta Tait, Nick Curry, Jim Love, Jim and Pam Evans, Patrick Bugler, Claire Hyne, Ross Murtagh, Peter and Daphne Leggo, Anna de Borah, Helen Klieve, Neville Francis, Michael Gearing, Richard Fox, Barry Williams and Zorika Sipka.

**Library:** Barbara Ryan has looked after our library for years and has done an excellent job. Barbara is doing her last inventory and update of the library. At the age of 90+ and recent ill health, she is retiring. Stephen Bennett has offered to look after the library.

**Teaching:** Christine Newberry, Richard Fox, Annette Hogan, Claire Hyne, Ross Murtagh, and Ian Halford

**Masterpoint Secretary:** Lex Ranke

**Dealers:** Mike Le Voi, Gary Ypinazar, Colin Peardon, Thais Pertus-Morgan, Evelyne Mander

**Technology:** Mike Le Voi and Ian Bannister  
**Newsletter and Novice News:** Mike Le Voi, Kathleen Fahy and Stephen Bennett

**Recorder:** Richard Ward

**Sponsors:** TBIB, Moore Aust, Club Southside

**Maintenance Committee:** This committee has been the hardest working committee at the club, and I cannot thank them enough. The committee is Ian Bannister, Jenny Williams, and Robyn Clark. All three were covered in paint when I visited the other day. The club looks fantastic mainly because of them. Also, a special thank you to Graham Miller who does more for this club than he gets paid for.

**Social Committee:** Kathy Males, Janet McKeough, Rosemary Thomson, Wendy Cuthbert.

**Extra People:** Cheryl Stone, Kim Ellaway, Terry Clarke and Jan Peach - they know what they do for the club and me.

Apologies if I have left anyone off the list.

The AGM was held and Barry stepped down and Annette Hogan filled his position. I put my hand up for President again as I have some outstanding jobs which I want to complete before I retire. I can't believe I have been President for 8 years and a board member for more than this.

If you can't be on a committee to assist your club, the way you can support your club is by regularly attending your club sessions or by attending congresses hosted by QCBC. We have a Graded Pairs Congress coming up on 9 January. This means you can all play against players at the same level you are.

Kim and I would like to take this opportunity in wishing you all a safe Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year. We have all three grandchildren for two weeks over this period, so we are very much looking forward to it.

**Ray Ellaway**

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## Masterpoint Changes

The following members have been promoted:

### Club

Valeri Barakin

Lauren Morgan

### Local

Zac Ross

Helen Klieve

### Silver Local

Jacinta Lee

### National

Wendy Cuthbert

### Life

Barbara Power

Hanna Hoffmann

### Silver Life

Linda Norman

Well done to all!

### Lex Ranke

## Director's Corner

### Bidding Boxes

Some recent overseas cases of cheating centred around the way players positioned their playing cards. It is most important to use bidding cards in a uniform manner to avoid any problems.

Players should not touch any bidding card before they have determined their call.

There is no such call as tapping the table.

Pass Cards are best not kept on the table ready for use. The process is that one selects a card from the bidding box at each turn. Sliding a Pass Card a few inches from your cache is not so easily seen and may lead to delays.

Bidding cards are placed on the table so that they neatly overlap, but not hide, any previous call. They are not tossed from 20 cm above the table to see how far they will scatter.

All Bidding cards should remain on the table until after the opening lead has been faced. A player who removes his bidding cards from the table with the intention of passing is deemed to have passed.

There is a process to follow in alerting:

- The partner of the player who has made an alertable call **audibly** says, "Alert," and
- places an Alert Card across the bidding card designating the call being alerted.
- The opponent being alerted must acknowledge the alert before calling.

### Save Time at Every Opportunity

The Laws do not say, "After a bid, double or redouble has been followed by three passes in rotation, the Defender on presumed Declarer's left writes the contract onto his personal record sheet before making the opening lead face down".

Nor do they say, "After the opening lead is faced, and after the contract is entered into the Bridgmate, Dummy spreads his hand in front of him on the table."

Keep the game moving. Make the opening lead and display the Dummy first. Ideally, all the peripheral stuff will be done at the end of the hand though players seem to have more difficulty these days in remembering both the contract and the opening lead. There may also be disputes with bidding boxes as to what the contract really was and whether it was doubled.

Players are not permitted aids to memory so do consider whether writing down the opening lead at the start of the play helps you to remember it. Keep the information on your personal record sheet hidden from opponents. This means don't leave sheets face up on the table and be mindful of prying eyes when writing on them.

### Jan Peach

## Teacher's Corner

Our next round of Beginners Lessons will be starting soon:

- Monday evenings – 7 pm to 9 pm, starting 23 January
- Wednesday mornings – 10 am to 12 noon, starting 25 January

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

There are also Summer Bridge Lessons for players aged 10-25. The lessons are from Monday 12 December to Thursday 15 December between 9.30 and 11.45. Please tell your friends about these

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**FREE** lessons. Register your interest with Michael Gearing (0419 733 930).

**Christine Newbery**

## IT Report

The new computer systems are now bedded down. The only major change still to come is the introduction of **Compscore3**. As the scorers and directors know, we have been using **Compscore2** to control all the Bridgemates and the scoring system. **Peter Busch** has upgraded Compscore2 to Compscore3.

The upgrade is required as Compscore2 is unlikely to work after the next major upgrade to Windows. The upgrade will be easy. Compscore3 works almost the same as Compscore2 but with a slightly different interface. We do not expect any problems as part of the conversion.

Accordingly, Toni and I are ready to implement the conversion process. If you are a scorer or director, please talk to Toni as soon as you can so she can discuss the conversion process.

Finally, the Dealing Room has been upgraded with lots of extra shelves. Also, thanks to **Evelyne Mander** who is now dealing regularly on Fridays 😊

**Mike Le Voi**

## Maintenance Committee Report

Congratulations to Graham, all the planned work was finished Thursday before GNOT's on Friday. Phew!

New fascia, signage, covered walkway from the basement, new ceiling panels and renovated dealing room. Time to take a short breath. We have a funding application to assist paying for new roof aircon, fingers crossed for that! Funding is getting more difficult with more organisations chasing the same pot of money.

Side wall and noticeboard upgrade next, maybe during December. In 2023 we have in mind to tackle the toilet upgrades but that's with the committee to sort the funding \$\$\$\$. The clubrooms are starting to look good with all this attention.

Anyone willing to help from time to time with a screwdriver or paintbrush, please see Ian. Happy Bridging!!

**Ian Bannister**

## QBA Events

All entry forms are available on the QBA web site.

**Senior Teams:** Hosted by Sunshine Coast Bridge Club on January 28/29

**Selection Trials:** Stage 1 – hosted by the QBA at QCBC. Anyone can play. If you do not wish to proceed to Stage 2, just tick non contending

**Mixed Teams:** Hosted by Noosa Bridge Club on March 4/5

**Selection Trials:** Women's and Seniors hosted by the QBA at QCBC

**Barrier Reef:** Hosted by Cairns Bridge Club. More information:

<https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/438>

Limited to 64 tables.

**Kim Ellaway**

## Grand National Open Teams



The Grand National Open Teams National Final (60 teams) was held at QCBC over the weekend of November 25-28. It starts off with about 4000+ teams playing and ends up with only 2 teams playing on the Monday in the Final.

After all this time and all the boards that were played, the two teams tied the event! The 60 teams came from all over Australia and are representing their zone within their state. I am the Tournament Organiser for the event and playoffs for the next year start immediately upon the conclusion of the final.

To make this event as successful as it was, I need hard working staff. I have Matt McManus, Sebastian Yuen, Jan Peach, our own Toni Bardon, Jim Love and Zorica Sipka and of course Kim my wife but it cannot be a success without volunteers.

I would like to thank the following QCBC members for giving me assistance over the 4 days: Richard Ward, Evelyne Mander, Jenny Williams,



Sue O'Brien, Richard Fox, Pele Rankin, Patrick Bugler, Jim Wallis and Marguerite Manifold.

Of course, thank you to all those members who gave up their beloved game on Friday and Saturday to allow me to host this event. QCBC have committed to the ABF to allow me to host the event for an additional two years and who knows what will happen after that.

QCBC receive more than adequate financial compensation for allowing the event to be held at our club and it also showcases our wonderful club to the rest of Australia. Players from all over Australia commented on what a wonderful club it was.

**Ray Ellaway**

### 2022 Interclub Teams

Some great performances by QCBC members!

**Winners of A Grade:** Patrick Bugler - Richard Fox - Tony Treloar - Brian Patterson.

**Winners of B Grade:** Wendy Cuthbert - Joyanne Gissing - Raelene Clark - Lilly Jia.

**2nd C Grade:** Liz Moran - Ben Leung - Kate MacDonald - Helen Klieve.

Here are the happy team members 😊



**Toni Bardon**

#### Editor

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Contributions should be by email (preferred)



### Vale Mike Pemberton



With the passing of our wonderful friend Michael Pemberton on 9th November, Queensland has lost one of its great players. Mike played for Australia as well as representing Queensland on numerous occasions. He also gave generously of his time to mentor developing players.

**Annette Corkhill**

## Mike Pemberton and Splergen – a Tribute and a Legacy

As a mathematician and retired member of staff of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Queensland, Mike was also a bidding theorist. Prior to falling ill, Mike had planned to publish an article about a convention he had himself invented, “Splergen.” He and I played it together successfully for some years and found it to produce many excellent results.

As the name suggests, Splergen is a combination of Splinter and Bergen. However, it is more than just this since it also incorporates Jacoby!

So how does Splergen work? Firstly, it only operates when Opener bids a major and Responder has exactly 4-card support.

### Opening bid of 1 ♠

Let’s start with an opening bid of 1 ♠. Here is what Responder bids:

- With 0-6 HCP, she responds 3 ♠ (“Bergen”)
- With a ♣ Splinter or 7-8 or 9-10 HCP, she responds 2 NT (“Splinter or Bergen”)
- With 11+ HCP, she responds 3 ♣ (“Bergen” / “Jacoby”)

If Opener hears a 2 NT response, he relays 3 ♣. Responder now replies as follows: 3 ♦ = ♣ Splinter, 3 ♥ = 7-8 HCP, 3 ♠ = 9-10 HCP. If Responder has 7-10 HCP and a Splinter in another suit, she simply bids the Splinter. Example: 1 ♠ – 3 ♦ or 1 ♠ – 3 ♥.

Opener can now generally place the contract correctly in 3 ♠ or 4 ♠. However, if he wishes to know more, he asks for Key Cards (KC) via the cheapest bid available. If the response were 3 ♦, then 3 ♥ from Opener would ask for the number of KC held, KC values being A = 2, K = 1.

The response is up the line: Step 1 = 0 or 1, Step 2 = 2 etc. If Opener required further information, he would ask via the next cheapest non-trump bid for the Q of trumps. If he held this himself, he would skip this level and go to the next cheapest bid to request further information.

Here is an example:

♠ AKTxxx	♠ Qxxx
♥ A	♥ xxxx
♦ AQx	♦ Kxx
♣ Qxx	♣ Kx
<b>Bidding</b>	
1 ♠	2 NT ♣ Splinter or 7-8 or 9-10 HCP
3 ♣ Which of the options do you have?	3 ♥ The first HCP range (7-8 HCP)

At this point, opener would usually place the contract in 3 ♠ (if a minimum were held) or 4 ♠ if he considered that game would make. In this case, however, he realizes that despite the relatively low point count for slam, his hand is worthy of further inquiry.

After Responder’s 3 ♥, he therefore bids 3 NT, a request for Key Cards (KC). The bidding would then continue as follows:

3 NT (omitting 3 ♠, which would be to play)	4 ♦ 2 KC (each King being worth 1)
6 ♠	

Now let's see what happens if Opener hears a 3 ♣ response after 1 ♠. His pulse is bound to quicken as this is the Game or Game+ response. He answers as follows:

- 3 ♦ = 17+ HCP and a shortage
- 3 ♥ = 17+ HCP and no shortage
- 3 ♠ = 11-13 HCP
- 4 ♠ = 14-16 HCP

If Responder hears the most exciting answer from Opener (3 ♦), she relays with the next available bid to ask for the suit in which the shortage is held.

Example: 1 ♠ - 3 ♣ - 3 ♦ (17+ HCP and a shortage) – 3 ♥ (Where is your shortage?) – 3 ♠ (in Clubs) or 3 NT (in Diamonds) or 4 ♣ (in Hearts).

### Opening bid of 1 ♥

Now it's time to look at an opening bid of 1 ♥. The responses are the same as for 1 ♠, with the major exception that 2 NT shows the 11+ HCP Game Force hand whilst 2 ♠ shows either a ♠ Splinter, 7-8 HCP or 9-10 HCP. The cheapest bids available are used as inquiries. Again, Splinters in suits other than ♠ (♣ and ♦), are indicated simply via 1 ♥ - 3 ♣ or 1 ♥ - 3 ♦.

Also worth noting is that the system applies over an opposition Double or if Responder has previously passed. Example: p - (p) – 1 ♠ - (p or X) – 2 NT or 3 ♣. Furthermore, if Opener asks, he is seeking a KC response. If Responder asks, she is requesting a RKCB response.

### Examples

#### Hand 1

♠ AQJxxx	♠ Kxxx
♥ x	♥ xxx
♦ AKx	♦ QJx
♣ Axx	♣ KQx
<b>Bidding</b>	
1 ♠	3 ♣ Jacoby 11+ HCP
3 ♦ 17+ with shortage	3 ♥ Where is your shortage?
4 ♣ It's in ♥	4 ♦ RKCB ask
4 ♠ 3 key cards (Playing 1430)	4 NT Do you have the trump Q? (*)
6 ♦ Yes and K♦ (*)	6 ♠

(\*) The first step available that is not trumps asks if partner holds the trump Q. If the inquirer held the Q herself, she would use the step above this as an asking bid (relay +1). In this case, she does not hold the Q, so she asks for it via the first relay. The replies are as follows:

- If no trump Q is held, the answer is the lowest trump bid available
- If just the Q is held, the reply is the lowest NT available (*In this case, 5 NT*)
- If the Q and at least one King is held, the response is the lowest suit where the King is held. In this case 6 ♦.
- (If no trump Q is held but there is still an outside king, this can be uncovered via the next relay bid from inquirer).

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## Hand 2

♠ Kxx	♠ Axxx
♥ AKQxx	♥ xxxx
♦ Qxx	♦ Kx
♣ xx	♣ Jxx
<b>Bidding</b>	
1 ♥	2 ♠ ♠ Splinter or 7-8 HCP or 9-10 HCP
2 NT What do you have?	3 ♦ 7-8 HCP
3 ♥ Final contract	pass

## Hand 3

♠ Axx	♠ KQxx
♥ AKJT9x	♥ Qxxx
♦ AKx	♦ QJ
♣ x	♣ Axx
<b>Bidding</b>	
1 ♥	2 NT Jacoby 11+ HCP
3 ♣ 17+ HCP with shortage	3 ♦ Where is your shortage?
3 ♥ It's in ♣	3 ♠ Responder asks RCKB
3 NT 4 key cards (Playing 1430)	4 ♦ More info (Omit 4 ♣ as hold Q♥ yourself)
5 ♦ I have K♦	7 ♥ Yippee! We have every important card 😊

Mike Pemberton will remain in our hearts and minds as a great mentor, friend, and bidding theorist. I trust that others will also find his remarkable, highly inventive Splinter, Bergen, and Jacoby combination of assistance in reaching the correct contract – whether it be a part score, a slam or a bid that soars to the giddy 7 level. We will miss you, Mike!

**Annette Corkhill**

## Next Month's Calendar

<b>JANUARY 2023</b>						
<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sun</b>
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Gold Coast Teams
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> ABF Summer Festival (Canberra) 10-22 January	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <a href="#"><u>QCBC Graded Pairs Incorporating Novice Grade</u></a>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <a href="#"><u>Tuesday 7.15pm - GNOT TEAMS</u></a>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Northern Suburbs Teams Toowoomba <500 MP & Novice Pairs
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <a href="#"><u>Tuesday 7.15pm - GNOT TEAMS</u></a>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <a href="#"><u>Australia Day Pairs 10am - red MP</u></a>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Kenmore Graded Pairs QBA Senior Teams (Suncoast)	<b>29</b> QBA Senior Teams (Suncoast) Kenmore Graded Teams
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> \$50 night					