

Rosendorff Women's Pairs



Winners:
Jan Blight and
Wendy Driscoll



2nd: Marnie Leybourne and
Leone Fuller



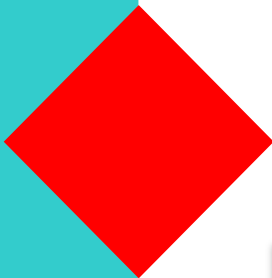
3rd: Pauline Collett and Cathy Hood



Winner Restricted: Katrina Will
and Jane Adams



Winner Novice: Ann Kelley and
Lyn Clarke





President's Report

By Ian Clark

The first three of our five licenced gold point events have now raised a combined total of over \$10,000. These funds are being used for youth and bridge development. We intend to provide travel support to eligible youth players for Youth Week in Canberra in January 2025.

After 3 years of declining total entry numbers to our licenced gold point event program, it looks like we have stabilised this year. We would like to see a return to growth in total entry numbers next year. To help achieve this we intend to reduce the minimum entry age to the TBIB Western Pairs back down to 60 years of age in 2025.

Entries for our state event program have generally increased this year (except for the state selection trials). Entries for our development events have been very pleasing. Our bridge calendar for 2025 is almost finalised. There will be two new state development events in 2025:

1. State Restricted Championship (< 300 MP) scheduled for Sunday 6 April and
2. Charity Congress to Support Youth Bridge scheduled for Sunday 29 June.

I would like to wish all players, officials and their loved ones a safe and merry festive season for 2024.

I wish to thank all the wonderful people who have helped me produce this magazine during 2024. I could not have done it without the support from the club contributors, the many photographers, my regular



columnists: Di Brooks, David Schokman, Ron Klinger and John Beddow, my guest contributors: Matt McManus, Chris Mulley, Paul Brayshaw and Maura Rhodes and my support team: Ian Clark, Robina McConnell, Eugene Wichems and Cynthia Belonogoff. Thank you for all your efforts in helping to spread the WA Bridge news throughout our community. Also a big thank you to everyone who turns up and plays at one of our many clubs around WA so that we can all enjoy our favourite card game.

HGR Memorial Congress Winners



Mixed Pairs: Renee and Ron Cooper



Restricted Pairs: Sandra and Jeff Veling

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Around the Clubs

By: Helen Rogoysky

Bunbury Bridge Club

By Brian Hanson

Holly Nutley retires.

Last month Holly surprised her many bridge friends when she advised the club that she was retiring from bridge at the end of November.

She will be missed by all, especially her friends at Bunbury Bridge Club where she has played for over 20 years on a regular basis. Holly is a highly proficient bridge player and was happy to play with a range of people. Always competitive and prepared to take calculated risks to make the opposition earn any contract. That said, she is quick to say that she was there for the social interaction. 'People first' could well be her motto and she remains a fun-focused person.

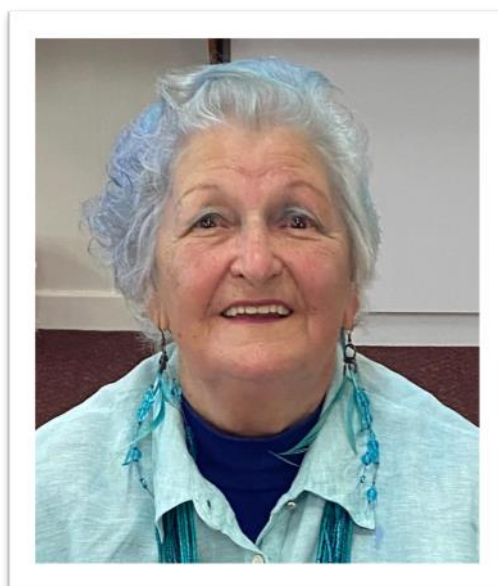
Holly's attitude towards bridge can be captured in the following quote attributed to her in the 'Who's Who of Australian Women' book.

"I believe in people ... and in myself. All things are possible if we are prepared to work for those things we want. Living is 90% preparation and 10% inspiration. Dreams never just happen they

are the result of planning and work."

Here are but a few examples of how Holly 'lives' her beliefs: 1st female Councillor at Harvey Shire, Marriage Counsellor, Supervisor - Frail Aged Care Centre, Member of Transactional Analysis Association. Other skills: art, spinning, knitting, weaving, painting and more.

Below is picture taken at the last session Holly played at Bunbury Bridge Club. The Club has invited Holly to attend its Club Christmas lunch in early December.



Busselton Bridge Club

By Barbara Averill

The annual Busselton Bridge Club championship was held at the Naturaliste Community Centre in Dunsborough on Monday, September 16.

There was a good turnout of 17 pairs, and the event was co-ordinated by the highly respected director Brian Wade from Bunbury.

There were two sessions. The first one was in the morning, and the other in the afternoon (after a short lunch break), with a table movement split into two groups, which was designed so that each pair would have to play against all the others, to ensure a fair result.

Unsurprisingly, the morning session was won by

experienced pair John Lill and John Whiting with 63.99% (despite the fact that they had only played together three times before!) Another fairly recently formed pair - Merleine Wylie and Linda Foard - finished 2nd with 62.17%, just ahead of Club President Jenny Shaw and her husband Bernard who scored 58.93%.

There was a bit of a turnaround in the afternoon, with Rosa McGillivray and Maggie West taking out the honours with a sparkling 66.28%! This was an absolutely amazing result, as they had never even played with each other once before! Brian Appleyard and Michael Stewart were second with 61.87%, with the two Johns (Lill and Whiting) slipping back to third place with 55.82%.

However, in the wind-up John Lill and John Whiting emerged as the overall winners - and new club champions - with a score of 119.81. Runners up were Rosa McGillivray and Maggie West - who had played really well to finish on 117.34 - from Brian Appleyard and Michael Stewart in third place, on 115.74. Jenny and Bernard Shaw were fourth on 113.20 from Merline Wylie and Linda Foard on 108.51 in fifth spot.

The day was extremely enjoyable, and many thanks are due to Brian Wade for all his amazingly hard work. His commitment was really appreciated by all the players.

Busselton Congress

Busselton Bridge Club hosted a very successful congress the weekend of 12th -13th October. We had 36 pairs (72 players) on Saturday and 12 Swiss teams of four on Sunday. Participants came from various country and metropolitan bridge clubs. We received fantastic feedback regarding the venue, food and warm hospitality that we provided. Special thanks go to Brian Wade for his extraordinary talents as Congress Director. A huge thank you to convenor Ruth Willers who coordinated the whole event and to Jenny Shaw, our President, for her ongoing leadership.

Qualifying Pairs

North/South

1st: Esther and Colin Saunders

2nd: Lisa Cusack and Jo Sklarz



East/West

1st: Colleen Skipsey and Jan MacPherson

2nd: Anne Wakelin and Claire James



Pairs Final

1st: Ian Rowlands and Robyn Howe

2nd: Esther and Colin Saunders



Best Country Pair

Merliene Wylie and Jenny Shaw



Plate Final

1st: John Lill and Jackin Clare

2nd: Joy Gibson and Bev Hopley

Swiss Teams

1st: Eammon McCabe, Jackin Clare, John Whiting and Joann Theriault

2nd: Claire James, Pam Goodman, Anne Wakelin and Connie Derks

3rd: Lila Male, Tuya Cooke, Beata Bieganski, Jane Adams



UNDERCROFT BRIDGE CLUB

By Sharon Dyball

The effervescent Diane Tilvern turned 90 on 7th October. Her contribution to the club in various roles including as Past President is immeasurable. She continues to mentor and encourage members to support the night sessions. The Monday Night Members honoured Diane with a special cake and party. We wish Diane long life and many more happy years of Bridging.



Our annual October Congress, proudly sponsored by St Ives, was a very successful event. Members provided an assortment of culinary delights for the competitors to enjoy. The results of the Swiss Pairs were:

1st: Roz Trend and Alan Harrop



2nd: Gerry Daly and Viv Wood



3rd: Joscelyn Charters and Mark Goddard

4th: Stella and James Steer

Best Restricted – Edward Ellice-Flint and Patrick Smith

The results of the Congress Teams were:

1st: Chris Bagley, Tad Bieganski, Andrew Swider, John Beddow



2nd: Louise and Terry Collins, Richard and Sue Greside



3rd: Geoff Holman, Viv Wood, David Matthews, Gerry Daly

Novice Teams were:

1st: James and Terry Bausor, Marie Finegan, David Saunders



2nd: Mike Bennett, Nat and Jo Wright, Derek Dorward

Our monthly Fabulous Saturdays, sponsored by St Ives, are not to be missed. Delicious Morning and Afternoon Teas are served to titillate members' taste buds, scratchies are awarded to add to the fun and members enjoy socialising during the break. Many thanks to an array of talented cooks who contribute to the fare. Special thanks to Connie Coltrona, Sharon Dyball and Jenny Skinner for coordinating the days.

Nedlands Bridge Club

By Linda Bedford Brown

Vale Don Allen.

Nedlands Congress Results

Friday Restricted Pairs

1st: Shantha David and Keith Halliwell

2nd: Kate Sayer and Ronnie Malthouse



Friday Open Pairs

1st: Matt Kruk and Kathy Perry

2nd: John Beddow and Egmont Melton

3rd: Robyn Giraldo and Jairo Giraldo



Sunday Teams

1st: Rick and Maura Rhodes, Gill Gavshon and Chris Cullen

2nd: Tom Lemann, Gerry Daly, Jonathan Free and Ron Cooper

3rd: Valerie and Martin Broome, Sue and Richard Greside



Nedlands and WABC Mens Pairs

1st: Vinod Nasta and Tim Wright

2nd: David Matthews and Hamish McCracken

3rd: Mark Glasser and Maurice Ford

Coming Up:

Saturday December 7th Christmas Party 1:30pm

Saturday December 24th Blennerhassett Pairs, a most popular event, 1:30pm start



Willetton Bridge Club

By Richard Harris

A strong field contested the Spring Pairs championships, sponsored by Vijay Ahooja and featuring cash prizes.

The red point winners were:

1st: Ken Harrison and Ameer Ali, 64.35%

2nd: Charles Westcott and Margaret Pember, 60.65%

3rd: Michael Oehme and Jean Marks, 58.10%

4th: Nick Taylor and Pamela Thomson, 56.02%

5th: Richard Harris and Alan Byrne, 55.56%

6th: Simon Platt and Colleen Oehme, 55.32%

7th: Dorothy Cahill and Neil Rankine, 53.42%

8th: Philomena Whitton and Luis Torres, 52.31%

9th: Vijay Ahooja and Brenda Evans, 52.08%



President Noel Daniel thanked House Manager Kathy Perkins and Colleen Oehme for the spectacular festive board, which included potato muffins with chutney, egg sandwiches, fruit scones with jam and cream, savory scones, a walnut cake, and a platter of watermelon, strawberries and blueberries. Nobody was counting calories. No wonder the club gets bigger and better.

Other items of interest:

Josephine Mackiewicz reported that her husband, who is in care, celebrated his 100th birthday and received a letter from King Charles.

Martin Jones turned 80 and was awarded an OBE from his mates.

A young man strode into the club one day before

play began, scooped up two handbags and strode out before anyone could stop him. The police were called and arrived within 20 minutes. The thief scammed \$3000 from one of the credit cards before they could be shut down.

The AGM re-elected Noel Daniel as president, with vice president Neil Rankine, secretary Arun Sahgal, treasurer Terry Owen, tournament manager Vijay Ahooja, house manager Kathy Perkins, and committee members Charles Wescott, Richard Harris, Gordon Holmes and Michelle Blood.

Home club membership fees were increased to \$60.

Mandurah Bridge Club

By Ian Jones

Congratulations to the following winners –

Ann Kelley and Lyn Clarke, winners of the Novice Section of the Rosendorff Swiss Women's Pairs.



Saturday Best 3 out of 4, Ursula Elson and Merle Proudfoot. Runners up were Alison Cullen and Lesley Nichol.



Thursday Best 3 out of 4, Robert Coulson and Rosemary Lockey. Doug Hardman and Crag Hardman were runners up.



Annual Mixed Pairs Championship, Phil and Kathy Power. Runners up were Jean Field and Michael Turner.



Northern Districts Bridge Club

By Ann Hooper

Winners of the **Graham Lee Red Point** held on Monday 16 September 2024 were Ken and Barbara Partridge N/S with 60.37% and Helen Hyland and Faye Snelling E/W with 57.41%. We had a successful afternoon of bridge with 11 full tables.



Congratulations to Angie Stepatschuk who turned 80 recently. As usual we had a lovely cake to share.



The **Reg Dawson Red Point** was held on Thursday 17 October 2024. Winners were Carol O'Grady and Lyn Fakira N/S with 56.88% and Elizabeth Martinengo and Hank Van Der Seen E/

W with 55.95%. Thanks to all those who contribute towards afternoon tea for these events.



Our President for the last seven plus years, Graham Woodard, has stepped down as he has other commitments. Former Vice President, Astrid Piller, is now President of the NDBC. We thank Graham for all his work and commitment to the Club and congratulate and welcome Astrid in her new role.

Our website is ndbc.bridgeaustralia.org where you can find all the latest information about our Club and where to find us if you wish to visit.

West Coast Bridge Club

By Hilary Heptinstall

West Coast Congress

Our West Coast Congress was held on Sunday September 8 and was a very enjoyable occasion with delicious food following the bridge. Thank you to Director Neville Walker and Convenor Sue Vincent, who presented the awards.

The results were:

Qualifying winners

North South - Mark Goddard and Rohan Bandarage



East West – Andrew Swider and Tad Bianski

Final results

1st: Marnie Leybourne and Hamish McCracken

2nd: David Matthews and Geoff Holman

3rd: Andrew Swider and Ted Bianski

Plate results

1st: Bieta Bianski and Lilia Male

2nd: Wendy Harman and Carol Newport

3rd: Margaret Tierney and Ray Purdy

Consolation results

1st: Dianne Dwyer and Joscelyn Charters

2nd: Se-Moi Loh and Sarita Singh

3rd: Maria Ehmke and Jessie Duffill

The award for the best performing West Coast Bridge Club pair went to Peach Partis and Sally Britcliffe.

Results of Club Competitions

Open Swiss Pairs results

1st: Ray Wood and Marlene Medhat



2nd: Maureen Phillips and Shirley Bloch

3rd: Patrick Garnett and Christina Woo

Sylvia Pollasrri Memorial Trophy results

1st: Ray Wood, Marlene Medhat, Wence Vahala, Anton Po

2nd: Patrick Garnet, Christina Wu, Max Havercroft, Brian Kaye

3rd: Chris Ruffle, Sally Britcliffe, Ying Goodlet, Colleen Stone



The John Ashworth Bridge Library

John Ashworth was not only one of WA's leading players from the 1960s into the 2000s, but also an avid collector of bridge books. He dragged his poor long-suffering wife round the world's second-hand bookshops in the search for important volumes not yet in his library. As a result, he built up one of the best collections of bridge books in Australia. There are around 1800 volumes, ranging from some early books on whist and auction bridge to a quite comprehensive collection of books on contract bridge published up to the early 2000s.

Before he passed away, John said he hoped a good home could be found for the books, and indeed it would be a tragedy if the collection had to be broken up. So, we are asking whether any bridge club feels it would benefit from offering a home to the collection. There would be no financial charge involved, but there would be two conditions. Firstly, John's main concern was that the collection should not be broken up, so we are looking for a home for the whole collection. Secondly, I think there should be some form of recognition of John's role in building up the collection. If any club is interested, please contact Tim Wright (timwright1906@gmail.com) and I would be happy to provide a full list of the books and to respond to any further queries.



Nudge, Nudge, Winkle, Winkle . . .

By: Paul Brayshaw

Well, tickle me gently with a chainsaw, for the unbelievable has occurred – I was wrong!

Not that that is terribly exciting or unexpected in any way, of course. However, I happen to have been incorrect in my prediction that a certain complex play, rarer than finding a leftover party pie at a congress supper, would not come up again any time soon. Many will recall that I wrote an article in the May Focus about the elusive *winkle* (or winkle squeeze) that made a miraculous appearance in an event in Perth in February this year; certainly it was the first time in my 30+ years of competitive bridge that I have ever seen one in real life and recognised it as such. Now, in an extraordinary circumstance, it appears that another of these has turned up at a humble club session in Bunbury in September! Many thanks to Colin Saunders for pointing this hand out to me, as it may have completely slipped my notice otherwise.

Board 13		♠ K 10 9 7	
North Deals		♥ K 8 6	
Both Vul		♦ 6 5 4 3	
		♣ 9 2	
♠ 8 5 4		♠ A J 3	
♥ J 5 3		♥ A Q 9	
♦ A 9 7		♦ K Q J 10	
♣ Q J 6 3		♣ A K 7	
		♠ Q 6 2	
		♥ 10 7 4 2	
		♦ 8 2	
		♣ 10 8 5 4	

As per the previously reported hand, 6NT is the contract, with East in the hot seat. The critical scenario arises if South gets off to a neutral lead of a minor suit. Declarer is looking at ten top tricks, eleven if the heart finesse works, but a twelfth seems somewhat problematic. Assuming the ♥K is onside, two possible layouts to hope for are either the ♠KQ with North, or North holding ♥KT so that a double finesse in hearts can bring in three tricks in the suit. Anyone trying either of those lines is booked for disappointment on this

deal. In fact, it appears superficially that the contract must fail. Not so fast! Our friend Deep Finesse (or whomever it is these days) clearly states that 6NT is makeable, so it behoves us all to investigate further.

Firstly, it is worth noting that, once a successful heart finesse is taken by playing small to the queen, the heart suit becomes “frozen” – neither defender could lead one without giving declarer an extra trick. Hence, it will menace the defence if they are given the lead. Does this seem familiar? Absolutely! It was the key to the previous winkle. Assuming a successful heart finesse, declarer is also two tricks short of taking the remainder of the tricks, but only needs one of these two tricks to make the contract. Does THIS seem familiar? Absolutely! It is the key to any strip-and-endplay type situation. Add to this another suit which both defenders are protecting, and you have all the ingredients for a winkle.

Let’s watch the gruesome action play out. Assuming a club lead, East wins, plays a diamond to the ace and then a small heart, finessing against the king. Once this succeeds, declarer has eleven top tricks and can play for the winkle layout. It is important that the lead is in *dummy* when the critical play is made, so declarer must play off the diamonds *first*, discarding a small spade from dummy. Now, the ♠A is cashed, and two more rounds of clubs played, ending in dummy. We have reached the following diagram; all has been smooth sailing for North-South who, so far, have had no problems with keeping apace:

		♠ K 10	
		♥ K 8	
		♦ —	
		♣ —	
♠ 8		♠ J 3	
♥ J 5		♥ A 9	
♦ —		♦ —	
♣ Q		♣ —	
		♠ Q 6	
		♥ 10 7	
		♦ —	
		♣ —	

Declarer needs three out of the last four tricks. With the lead in dummy, the ♣Q now causes sudden, inextricable defensive pain. No matter how much the defenders squirm, wriggle and make pacts with the devil, it's all over; there is no way out. East has no such problem – they can discard the ♠3, or the jack, for that matter, even before North's face has finished contorting. It doesn't matter. Either North discards a heart (immediately fatal), or South does (in which case the ♥J is played from dummy next), or neither of them do. If neither, then both defenders will be down to one spade, and declarer simply plays a spade. It doesn't matter who wins this trick because the heart suit is frozen and the last two tricks will be declarer's.

Simple? Perhaps. The weakness of all squeezes involving throw-ins is ambiguity in the layout. If a defender can see far enough into the future, they can organise to discard in a crafty fashion by baring their heart card early on, making it difficult for declarer to count the suit and infer the position correctly. A wrong step by declarer would be fatal. However, the chances of both a declarer playing for a wrinkle, and a defender spotting it and purposefully discarding in a deceptive manner, must be vanishingly small.

Speaking of "very small indeed", what are the chances of a third wrinkle this year? Keep your eyes peeled!



A Cutting Edge Play

By: Ron Klinger

www.RonKlingerbridge.com

Improve Your Bridge Online

	♠ J 9 4 3 2						
	♥ J						
	♦ A J 8						
	♣ K 7 4 3						
♠ —		N		♠ —			
♥ —		W	E	♥ —			
♦ —		S		♦ —			
♣ —				♣ —			
	♠ Q 10 6 5						
	♥ 9 3						
	♦ K 10 7						
	♣ A Q J 6						

West	North	East	South
	PASS	4H	PASS
PASS	X *	PASS	4S
PASS	PASS	PASS	

* for takeout

West leads the C10. Plan the play.

Solution page: 16

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website

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SATURDAY BRIDGE

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER

Nigel Dutton is writing a weekly column, it doesn't matter what level your game is this will be informative, educational and instructive and at times tongue in cheek!

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Defending Against Multi 2♦ Opening

By: Chris Mulley

The Multi 2♦ opening has existed in various guises for many years. Its popularity today is undiminished. Consequently, it is important to have an effective defence against the convention.

For the uninitiated, a “Multi 2♦” is an opening which has various meanings, at least two of which are “a Weak Two in Hearts” and “a Weak Two in Spades”. Sometimes, those are the only two options. Other people play the opening with additional options, most commonly, a strong (20 – 21 HCP) balanced hand.

There are two popular defences which are used against this opening.

1. “Two Takeouts”

In this system:

X: Takeout double of a weak 2♠ opening

2♥: Takeout double of a weak 2♥ opening

2NT: “Natural”; about 16 – 18 HCP, balanced with stoppers in the majors

Other suits: Natural

This was the defence that was recommended to us by our Youth Team Captain (Geoff Pocock) back in the mid-90s when we first came across the Multi-2♦ opening. His argument, which is equally valid today, is that because they have two very different weak options, it is important to have two different takeout bids to cater to whichever of those two hands they actually hold.

2. “Three Doubles”

This method involves using an initial double over 2♦ to show a good hand, with the second double (by either hand) being takeout and the third double (by either hand) being penalties. The “traditional” approach involves the initial double showing 16+ points; the “Victorian approach” involves the initial double being “an opening hand which cannot overcall anything else”. The strength of this method is that a pass in direct seat over the 2♦ opening serves to limit the strength of that hand, which makes it easier for

the hand in “re-opening seat” to assess whether or not to enter the auction. As an aside, this kind of method works very well against other weak 2-level openings where there is no particular suit being promised by the opponents (RCO-style bids, for example).

Over the years, I have tended to switch back and forth between these two defences, getting decent results with both. More recently, I have drawn a conclusion on what I think is best. It is as follows:

If their 2♦ Multi opening has a strong option, play Defence 1

If their 2♦ Multi opening has no strong option, play Defence 2 (Victorian style)

There is a very good reason to do this. If their opening has no strong option, playing Defence 1 means that if you do not have a hand which can make a “takeout double” of one of the majors and has no good suit to overcall, you tend to pass. In particular, balanced hands in the 12 – 14 (15) HCP range will often pass. Because the opponents have no strong options in the 2♦ opening, the opponents can do all kinds of things to make it difficult for the hand in re-opening seat if direct seat ends up passing. For example, responder can make a pass or correct bid at the 3-level or 4-level. Responder can also pass the 2♦ opening (particularly when not vulnerable). These are typically not options if the 2♦ Opener can have a strong hand.

Imagine now that re-opener faces an auction such as:

(2♦) PASS (3♥*) ???

*3♥: Pass or correct

... and holds any of the following hands:

- a) ♠ AQxx ♥ Kx ♦ Qxxx ♣ Kxx
- b) ♠ KQxxx ♥ x ♦ AKxx ♣ xxx
- c) ♠ KTxxxx ♥ xx ♦ Qx ♣ AQx
- d) ♠ Jx ♥ Kxx ♦ AQxx ♣ KJxx
- e) ♠ x ♥ Jxx ♦ AKx ♣ AJxxxx

Depending on what partner has, it might be right to bid on any of these hands. It might also be an absolute disaster to enter the auction. This is where Defence 2 (Victorian style) shines. In that method, if partner has an opening hand, **they would not have passed**. So, the chances of missing a game by passing here with any of these hands is quite small.

If, on the other hand, the opponents have a strong option in their 2♦ opening, it is almost impossible for them to do anything except bid 2♥ or 2♠ if there is a pass in the overcall seat. That is a much more convenient level for re-opening seat to decide what to do, even if partner can hold something like a weak NT hand for their pass in the overcalling seat. That suggests playing Defence 1 where the 2♦ opening includes a strong option, so that when the overcaller enters the auction with X (takeout of spades), 2♥ (takeout of hearts) or any other overcall, they have made a very descriptive start to the auction.

In Summary

Regardless on what you decide to play as a

defence, I would strongly suggest that you think about the different challenges that are posed by the two different types of Multi-2♦ opening.

At higher levels, most players tend to play the “weak only” version, as it can pose some significant problems for opponents who are not prepared for the possibility of pre-emptive actions and regular passes of the 2♦ opening. When such things happen, your methods need to minimise the chances of you being robbed of your game contract, whilst at the same time not causing your side to get into huge trouble when the opponents are laying a trap for you.

Just remember that nothing is going to be perfect. No matter what defence you decide to play, there are going to be instances where you have difficult decisions to make, and **no-one** gets those decisions right every time. As they say, “Pre-empts work” – that is why they have stood the test of time as a bidding method. The goal of a well-thought-out defence is to minimise the instances of those difficult decisions and to minimise the damage to your side when things don’t work out.



MMP R2 Board 32

By: Di Brooks

Board 32 of the second week of the Mandurah Mixed Pairs Championships was amazing yet 7 out of 10 pairs never reached 6S. Sad to say, one pair bid 4C and got passed in .

Take a look at these hands and ask yourself, “Would I have bid 6S?”

Mandurah Mixed Pairs

Board 32
West Deals
E-W Vul

♠ A K J 6 5	♠ 3	♠ Q 9 8 7 4
♥ Q 9	♥ K J 10 7 3	♥ A 5 2
♦ J 9 5 2	♦ A Q 7 6 4	♦ —
♣ 10 7	♣ 9 4	♣ A K Q 6 3

♠ 10 2
 ♥ 8 6 4
 ♦ K 10 8 3
 ♣ J 8 5 2

West	North	East	South
1S	2H	4C	PASS
4H	PASS	6S	PASS
PASS	PASS		

East knows their side has a 10 card fit. East has first round control of the three side suits. Small slam **MUST** be on.

So what made East go 6? Using the Losing Trick Count, West has a 7 loser hand in order to open the bidding. East has a 4.5 to 5 loser hand. This adds up to 12. Take this away from the base figure of 24. The answer is 12.

The L.T.C. needs a trump fit and I think you will agree this hand definitely has a **GREAT** trump fit.

Happy bridging.



Who's Who In WA Bridge!

By Helen Rogoysky

Our country clubs have many talented players who you might see at a congress or two. One such country player is the lovely Esther Saunders, who is currently packing her bags ready to head off to Sydney to represent Country WA in this year's GNOT competition. We wish her and her husband, Colin, all the best.



When did you start playing?

My first memory of 'playing bridge' was as a very young child, maybe 2-3 years old, with the four hands fanned out on the coffee table and my mother instructing me which cards to play for each hand. It was always auction bridge. It wasn't until 1998 that I was made aware that there was another similar game called Contract Bridge and I learned that online as I had no easy access to a live club at the time.

First home club:

Bunbury Bridge Club

Current home club:

Bunbury Bridge Club

What system do you use?

'SAYC with variation'. SAYC was the predominant online system used at the time by the American-based online club that I belonged to in the late '90s, and I needed to be able to play with other online partners

What made you interested in learning/playing the game?

After I discovered bridge online and realised there was such a thing as contract bridge, and that it was very different to auction bridge, I liked to spectate Bill Gates and Warren Buffet playing the game. I figured if these super intelligent people enjoyed this version of the game there had to be something in it, so I decided to learn it.

What do you like most about bridge?

The satisfaction felt when my partner and I are

on the same page with our bidding and defence.

If you're not playing bridge what else do you like to do with your time?

Reading and swimming.

Most memorable bridge moment?

In 1990 we were travelling over east and stopped for a game at a bridge club in Queensland. We were still playing auction bridge so were getting right royally creamed. A lovely elderly gent invited us back to his place next day to give us a few tips. When we got to his place, he proceeded to teach us simple Blackwood. It was a lightbulb moment! We thought, Wow! that is so cool! We still didn't know about contract bridge, and he didn't try introducing us to it but from that moment on we played auction bridge with Blackwood, just for the heck of it.

Most faraway place you've played bridge?

California, USA.

Most memorable hand that you have had?

Partner opens 3NT (Kabel, specific ace-ask)

Me: 4C (either Ace of clubs, or no aces)

Partner: 4D (well, have you or haven't you got the ace of clubs?)

Me: 4H (No, I haven't got it. No aces here, partner.)

Partner: Pass.

Leaving me in 4H with a 2-1 heart fit. Partner was so excited at our first try at Kabel, that they forgot to bid their spade suit!!

Favourite convention?

Kabel, even though it doesn't crop up very often.

Advice to new player?

Only have one bridge teacher until you know the basics. If you have more than one and they're not collaborating, you'll get very confused.

Do you play online?

Yes. BBO, Step Bridge and realbridge.

What did/do you do for work?

Teaching

Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

My father was a chess man. He absolutely hated bridge but would fill in as a last-minute fourth if begged profusely by the other three. He'd look at his hand, think hard, put it face down, then proceed to slowly roll his cigarette. Look at the hand again, put it down, then lick the Tally-Ho paper to seal his ciggie. He'd put it down and look at his hand again, then put the hand face down once again after a long hard think. At this stage

everyone is waiting with bated breath. Then he'd light up and take a few long puffs, pick up his hand, look at it intensely and say, in his broad Glaswegian accent, "Pass." I think he'd have liked contract bridge, though. He just had no tolerance for auction bridge.

The best two words in bridge: Next board.

The worst two words in bridge: Last board.

One of our learners said learning bridge is like climbing a mountain that has no peak.



JPMSRP R7 B2 Competitive Bidding

By David Schokman

Could you claim that competitive bidding situations are the real game changers that can derail a match when all you did was to make a decision to bid over a very high pre-empt. The board that I am spotlighting is Board 2 from Round 7 of the Joan Prince Memorial Swan River Pairs. I have little doubt that every person in the room opened with a bid of 4S in East. I will first place you in the South seat to find out whether you passed or had nerves of steel to make a bid.

East Deals		JPMSRP	
N-S Vul		♠ A 4	♠ K Q J 10 9 8 6 5 2
		♥ K 8	♥ 6
		♦ Q J 9 8 3	♦ K 6 2
		♣ A Q 8 4	♣ —
		♠ 3	
		♥ Q 7 5 4	
		♦ A 10 7 5	
		♣ J 6 5 2	
			♠ 7
			♥ A J 10 9 3 2
			♦ 4
			♣ K 10 9 7 3

Many people play that a double of a 4S opening is primarily for penalty, but when you have a shaped hand, particularly a two-suiter there must be other options. Then there is always a danger that opener's partner holds values that could lead to a heavy penalty. So, it is a question of making a decision. The statistics show that 40% of the players passed out the 4S opening, so +420 for E/W was the popular score, with the datum +40 for N/S. So will the experts tell you that I am wrong if I recommend that you compete, without fear?

This could well have been the most competitive

hand of the event, and the results showed that there had been competitive bidding. So, for a start do you think that South was too cautious? Obviously I do not but because I bid, and today, on the 2nd of November, I cannot recall the bid. In retrospect I would have liked to have bid 4NT and if/when partner bid 5D, I would bid 5H. Then my partner, Tim Wright, would certainly have bid 6C, which cannot be defeated. Two close friends of mine bid to 7C and were unlucky, but they always bid strongly and aggressively and have the results to prove that their style is a success. 15 pairs, out of 40, were allowed play in 4S and 5 more were doubled. Six pairs were doubled in 5S, and three pairs even went on to 6S. I assume that it was East who made that bid and really cannot justify it. Can you? 5C and 5H were doubled. Deep Finesse will tell you that 5H can be defeated, but a fact of life is that West would never have found the lead of a club to beat it.

There is nothing in the play of 5H or 6C as the cards are almost certainly marked. We were in 5H doubled, and on the spade lead only lost a trump and a diamond.

Always remember that pre-empts can be serious roadblocks to your own bidding style and I believe that on a hand like this, despite the vulnerability, that you should take some action. But I would also advise you to check with more erudite bridge players like Fiske Warren, Jonathan Free or a host of others whether bidding, over a 4S opening, is too aggressive with the South hand. Then you can contact me to tell me that I am wrong.



A Cutting Edge Play—SOLUTION

By: Ron Klinger

www.RonKlingerbridge.com

Improve Your Bridge Online

The deal arose in the 2020 South-West Pacific Open Teams Championship:

Board 16	♠ J 9 4 3 2
North Deals	♥ J
N-S Vul	♦ A J 8
	♣ K 7 4 3
	♠ A K 8
	♥ 10 5 4
	♦ Q 6 5 3 2
	♣ 10 8
	♠ 7
	♥ A K Q 8 7 6 2
	♦ 9 4
	♣ 9 5 2
	♠ Q 10 6 5
	♥ 9 3
	♦ K 10 7
	♣ A Q J 6

The popular contract was 4H East-West, making 54 times, once doubled, and failing twice. The 4S contract was reached 11 times by North, all making, three times doubled, with a top heart

being the common lead. South played 4S twice, both making, once after the SA lead and once, by Matthew Brown, after West led the C10 after the auction above.

Solution:

If declarer wins the club lead and plays a trump, West wins and continues with the C8. West can win the next trump, put East in with a heart and receive a club ruff to take 4S one down. Brown obviated that possibility with a 'Scissors Coup'. He won trick 1 and immediately played a heart. That cut the communications between West and East. Any chance of a club ruff had vanished. Brown later led trumps and ultimately played West for the DQ for +620 and +11 Imps vs 5H doubled - 100 at the other table.

Our lives are defined by opportunities, the ones we take and the ones we miss.

Grand Master and Restricted Congress

Sunday 3rd November

This year the congress was held at the West Coast Bridge Club who supplied a scrumptious morning and afternoon tea for the players. There was a wonderful atmosphere all day and everyone had an enjoyable time. Well done to everyone.

- 1st: Joann Theriault and Chris Mulley
- 2nd: Brenda Campbell and Jonathan Free
- 3rd: Martin Doran and Shirley Lavarack
- 4th: Helen Rogoysky and Eugene Wichems
- 5th: Yulia Koh and Gwyneira Brahma



Country Championships

By Jan Burgess

The annual week-end long party – commonly known as the Country Championships – took place over the 7th/8th September in the centre of the South West, at beautiful Bridgetown, again. The weather was pleasant, the views of the expansive countryside from the playing venue at Bridgetown Gardens were magnificent and the atmosphere inside the venue was buoyant. Most of the players know each other well, having faced each other at countless Country Congresses over the years and it was good to catch up again. We all have to travel considerable distances throughout the year if we wish to play; my own club, Bridgetown, for instance is classified by the ABF as a “small, remote club”, being at least 100 kms distant from any other affiliated club so this event is the only time my partner and I don’t have to travel at least 200 kms to play in a congress! Two of the participants, Maureen and Jeanette, drove all the way from Geraldton to take part, that’s a round journey of about 1,400 kms! Happily, their commitment was rewarded with prizes for 2nd in the Pairs on Saturday, and 5th in the Teams on Sunday – a just recompense for the effort they put in to coming!

Hopefully country bridge will continue to thrive; it’s sociable, it’s fun and it’s competitive; fortunately there are many people working hard to keep it viable and in good shape; warm thanks for them for their contribution in this respect. Thank you, especially to Jo Dundas for her good-natured, thorough and efficient organisation of this event; there’s a lot to keep track of when every item needed has to be supplied and brought in, and many thanks also to Brian Wade as our regular and inscrutably calm director who always keeps the whole week-end ticking over smoothly, come what may.

RESULTS

PAIRS AM

1st: Esther and Colin Saunders
2nd: Helen and Steve Rogoysky
3rd: Eamonn McCabe and Eugene Wichems

PAIRS PM

1st: Kate Boston and Murray Webber
2nd: Jeanette Day and Maureen Knight
3rd: Esther and Colin Saunders

PAIRS OUTRIGHT

1st: Esther and Colin Saunders
2nd: Jeanette Day and Maureen Knight
3rd: Helen and Steve Rogoysky

TEAMS

1st: Annie Wakelin, Claire James, Connie Derks and Pam Goodman
2nd: Christine Leather, Sandra Hardie, Patricia Anderson and Roz Trend
3rd: Sheryl Coates, Melanie Sheffield, Joy Gibson and Bev Hopley



Upcoming Events

November	
Saturday 16th-Sunday 17th	Golden West
Saturday 23rd	Undercroft November Congress
Friday 29th-Sunday 1st Dec.	WABC Christmas Congress
January	
Sunday 5th	South Perth January Swiss Pairs Congress
Friday 24th-Sunday 26th	Mandurah Summer Congress

Note: Times and venues are subject to change: substitutes must be confirmed by the director: read conditions of entry for the event on the BAWA website.

70% Results—Random Search

Nedlands BC

- 71% Sheila Bishop and Christine Bradley
- 71% Penny Styles and Peter Hicks
- 70% Robyn Giraldo and Jairo Giraldo
- 70% Trish Lynch and Darrell Lynch
- 70% Barbara Smith and Robin Burton

Rockingham BC

- 75% Helen Rogoysky and Steve Rogoysky
- 71.7% Mike Fulwood and Nicky O'Connell
- 71.7% Di Brooks and Helen Rogoysky

Mandurah BC

- 74.6% Roz Trend and Florence Maltby
- 73.7% Helen Rogoysky and Eugene Wichems
- 72.6% Craig Hardman and Doug Hardman
- 70.8% Eugene Wichems and Steve Rogoysky

Denmark BC

- 87.5% John Kenyon and Suzanne Yates
- 71.53% Kay Thompson and Ken Else
- 71.43% Wendy Wade and Michelle Randle
- 70% John Kenyon and Suzanne Yates

South Perth BC

- 73.1% Valerie Isle and Ros Warnock
- 72.6% Valerie Isle and Jan Blight
- 72.5% Jeremy Clifton and Judy Palmer
- 71.5% Brian Shaw and Sue Craig
- 70.8% Nigel Dutton and Marie-France Merven

Geraldton BC

- 73.2% Heather Cupitt and Wayne Cupitt
- 72.2% Heather Cupitt and Wayne Cupitt
- 70.8% Carol Pearce and Kerry Short

- 70.8% Debra Wann and Theresa Wilkes

Joondalup BC

- 76.92% Tad Bieganski and Beata Bieganski
- 75% Harry Crosby and Edward Roscoe
- 72.9% Rick Morris and David Cowell
- 72.24% Ky Khan and Marian Smedley
- 71.5% Shayne Bates and Alex Bates
- 70.4% Brian Craig and Ann Hopfmueller
- 70.07% Shayne Bates and Alex Bates

West Coast BC

- 73.7% Joanna Tennyson and David Fowler
- 72.9% Silvia Mata and Jennifer Smith
- 72.4% Jocelyn Munt and Silvia Mata
- 70.8% Sally Brittliffe and Peach Partis
- 70.8% Ray Wacker and Georgie Wacker

Kalamunda Bridge Club

- 77% Marie McKie and Patricia Edington
- 72.2% Cora Brown and Saskia Roosevelt
- 72.2% Lesley Moon and Valerie Farr
- 71% Joscelyn Charters and Sandra Hoffman

Undercroft BC

- 76.7% Liz Retzlaff and Rob Retzlaff
- 73.6% Manuela Steinbrecher and Dave Munro
- 72% Diane Tilvern and Judy Clear
- 71.4% Diane Tilvern and Jamie Luxton
- 70.8% Isabel White and Cherene Johns
- 70.8% Floris Malan and Katrina Will
- 70.3% Jo Wright and Nat Wright
- 70.2% Edward Roscoe and Brian Fensome

Bayswater BC

- 76.9% Sandra Hoffman and Dorothea Hasley

Team of 4 Results

OPEN	Played	Won	Loss	Draw	VPs
Nedlands	7	5	2		93.56
WABC A	7	4	3		80.85
Undercroft A	7	3	4		67.39
Melville	7	4	3		64.15
Undercroft B	6	3	3		55.25
Mandurah	6	2	4		48.49
WABC B	5	2	3		48.56
SPBC	5	2	3		41.55

INTERMEDIATE	Played	Won	Loss	Draw	VPs
WABC	6	4	2		85.41
SPBC	6	4	2		75.13
Nedlands	6	3	3		58.70
Melville	6	2	4		56.51
West Coast	6	2	4		48.40
Kalamunda	5	3	2		41.32
Undercroft	5	2	3		34.53

NOVICE	Played	Won	Loss	Draw	VPs
Joondalup A	9	7	2		136.55
SPBC	9	5	4		105.14
Undercroft A	9	4	4	1	103.17
Melville A	8	5	3		93.79
Undercroft B	9	5	4		90.23
Rockingham	9	3	5	1	85.46
WABC	7	5	2		83.04
West Coast	9	5	4		77.79
Joondalup B	9	3	6		60.50
Melville B	8		8		24.33

January 2025 Deadline

December 31st is the deadline for inclusion in the January Focus.

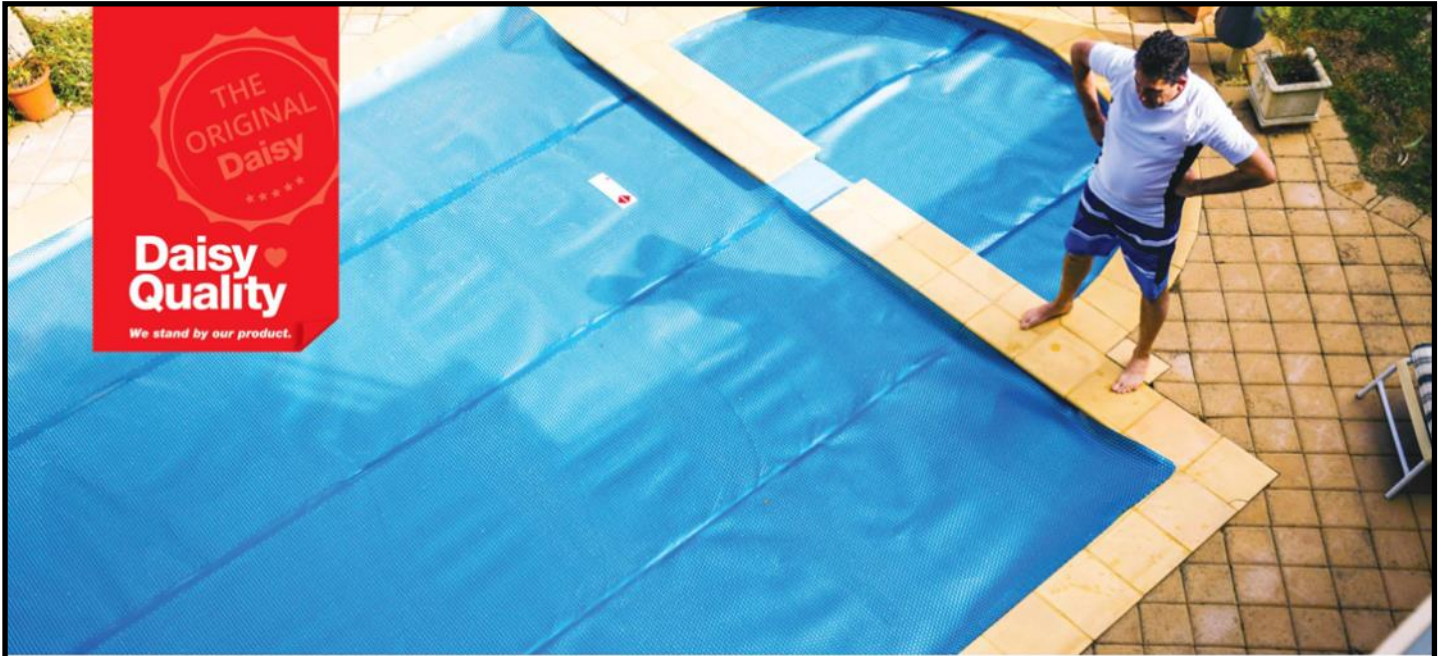
EDITING OF MATERIAL

Contributors should note that the right to modify submitted material is retained by the Editor.

Wishing everyone in the WA Bridge community a very

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a wonderful festive season. Best wishes for 2025.



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