

# PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS BRIDGE ASSN INC

## NEWSLETTER AUGUST, 2010



### BRIDGEMATES

Our Bridgemates are up and running and from all accounts everyone is enjoying using them. Special thanks to Ray Ingielewicz who has done a terrific job ensuring that there has been a smooth introduction to this new technology. Ray has generously given up many, many hours of his time to attend almost every session over these last weeks to be available to answer questions and assist members and directors. Thanks also to Margaret Dunlop who held our initial Directors' workshop and Neil Badger who is helping Ray. We are getting more familiar with the Bridgemates as we use them and Ray is gradually introducing new features. There have been a couple of glitches which Ray has addressed by downloading new software. One of the machines was faulty – it has been returned to the manufacturer and has been replaced. As well as the obvious benefits of instant results our hard working directors no longer have to stay back to input results. Ray put in a request to the Committee for 5 extra Bridgemates to enable him to set up enough Bridgemates for use in both rooms. Ray and Neil now have them set up and operational.

### THE CLASS OF 2010...

A memorable group because the lessons were fun for me. Judging by the amount of laughs we had I think they were enjoyed by most.

The merging into club bridge has been very successful. A number of people are playing on Mondays. Maree Don and Ian Peterson feature regularly in the placings. Also, Nancy Sadlo and Clarice Christie have done very well. Florence Gibbons and Pat Thompson play every Monday and are seeing the results of their labours and achieving success. The first time Elaine Howell and Robyn Cohen played at the conclusion of the lessons they achieved second place. Unfortunately Elaine for health reasons has not been able to play recently. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her at the Club again soon.

Maree and Nancy have made a great contribution in assisting new players. Maree is the partner organizer for the new players and Nancy helps out in ensuring that there are two tables on Tuesday nights. This night has been particularly successful. Christine Guest, Norman Broomhall, Bill Laurie, Pam Nichols, Sue Jenner, Pauline Probert, Joan O'Reilly, Joy Whitby and Anne Gibbs are regular players. Sue and Joan recently joined in the teams and found it very enjoyable. The aim is to eventually merge all the new players into the Tuesday night teams.

Friday afternoon continues to be very successful mainly due to the efforts of Rowan Ferguson and Bob Jess who give a short instruction before play. Neil Badger has been a great help and when Margot and Len return they will continue with the assistance and encouragement they have given in the past. If all members help and encourage our new players it will further contribute to the great club we already have.

Yvonne Cains

### MASTER PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following members on their recent master point promotions:

Wayne Hall	Graduate Master
Graeme McLaren	Club Master
Neil Badger	Club Master
Lesley Neville	Club Master
Robyn Hardman	Regional Master
Kath Hilder	Regional Master
Judith Manser	Regional Master
Frank Sommerton	Regional Master
Sam Dobner	State Master
Denise Nelson	State Master
Jill Reid	National Master

### TAREE CONGRESS HONOUR BOARD

Margaret Thorn, Arthur Anlezark, Colin Choat, John Davies were 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Open Section

Denise Strain, Rod Easton, Jo-Anne Marzato, Dave Maitland were 1<sup>st</sup> in the Restricted Section

This was an excellent result for our two teams. There were 29 teams in total, 9 of which were from Port Macquarie.

**The Murder Night held last Saturday night was a great success – 50 people attended, a great time was had by all – many thanks to Pat Sleat for organising it.**

## FISH'N'CHIPS NIGHT

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Fish arrives approx 5.45pm

\$8.00 per person—BYO drinks

Non playing partners invited!

Names on board by please



## NEW MEMBERS

The following players have recently joined our Club

Rosemary Buckley, Bill Laurie, Barbara Trehy and Julie Terrasson. We have also welcomed back former members June Cook and Dave Maitland.

## ENERGY ASSESSMENT

Following a suggestion from some members, the Committee recently engaged an accredited Energy Assessor to provide a report on ways to reduce the Club's electricity consumption, keeping in mind that electricity costs are set to skyrocket. We have now received that report, which is excellent and very comprehensive. The Committee has asked John Schwab, Rowan Ferguson and Len Pascoe to form a sub-committee to study the assessment and report back to it with recommendations. We will keep members informed of their recommendations.

*No one is ever too old to learn how to count.*

*No one is ever too old to get great pleasure and satisfaction from playing – at any level.*

*Everyone makes mistakes. Accept your opponent's courteously and your partner's gracefully. And hope they do the same.*

*If your attention span is less than one minute forget about learning. If longer you will succeed in the best mental exercise ever discovered.*

## BIDDING TIPS

NT REBIDS – it is recommended that 1NT and 2NT REBIDS show a BALANCED HAND.

Opening the bidding with

- ♠8
- ♥AQ104
- ♦J9653
- ♣AJ7

You have a problem when partner bids 1 spade! You have 3 choices for your rebid

- i) 1NT – shows a balanced hand with 2 spades \*
- ii) 2C - your 2<sup>nd</sup> suit showing longer diamonds than clubs
- iii) 2D - shows an unbalanced hand with extra length in diamonds

\* this is the worst choice because if partner has a weak hand and 5 spades he will bid 2 spades.

However, if you hold

- ♠K
- ♥Jxxx
- ♦Kxxxx
- ♣KQJ

There is a case for rebidding 1NT – the singleton K in partner's suit can make up for 2 rags! Rebids are never easy and often you have to tell the best lie!

## MURPHY'S (BRIDGE) LAW

The First Law of Bridge: It's always partner's fault.

While there are only a few ways of doing the right thing, there are an infinite number of ways of doing it wrong.

If everything seems to be going well, you have overlooked something.

Left alone, things will go from bad to worse.

Properly attended, things will go from bad to worse.

Whatever you bid is wrong.

Whatever the opponents bid turns out right for them.

The probability of a bad trump break is in direct proportion to how high you have bid, whether you are doubled, and whether you are vulnerable.

Whoever you play for the queen of trumps doesn't have it.

The longer you spend with a new partner going over your agreements the greater the chance of a misunderstanding.

On a hand where everyone else should have the same problems, nobody does.

If you perceive that there are four possible ways in which a thing can go wrong, the fifth will doubtless occur.

The probability of anything happening is the inverse ratio of its desirability

If it looks easy, it's tough. If it looks tough, it's impossible.

## SEPTEMBER TEAMS CONGRESS

Saturday & Sunday  
11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> September

Entry forms available at the club or you can enter online on our website

We are limited to 32 tables for this Congress so early registration is recommended

## YVONNE'S CONVENTION CORNER

NEW MINOR FORCING.....Think about this convention as CHECK BACK STAYMAN. This convention, used by responder, enables partnerships to locate major suit fits after opener has rebid 1NT.

Partner	You
1C	1H/1S
1NT	2D (new minor) is artificial and asks partner to further describe his hand

Partner	You
1H	1S
1NT	2C/2D – here you have two unbid minors - choose the stronger one

What does responder need to use New Minor Forcing?

Responder needs to have at least invitational values – e.g. 10+ HCP.

By far the most common reason for using NMF is that you have a 5 card major and would like to know if partner has 3 card support. Let's say you have:

**AK853**  
**K64**  
**84**  
**A83**

and partner opens 1C – you bid 1S. Clearly you must be in game, but which one? Playing NMF you bid the unbid minor (2D) and partner will tell you whether he has support for your major.

### RESPONSES TO NMF

The responses you have available will give very accurate information about SHAPE and STRENGTH. These are listed in order of priority.

#### Priority 1 – Show an unbid 4 card major.

This can only be hearts – if you had 4 spades you would have rebid 1S rather than 1NT. Note that you will often have 4 hearts when you open a minor and rebid 1NT after partner's 1S response. You have neither the shape nor the strength to reverse so you had to settle for 1NT. Now partner asks for more information:

You hold:

K3	You	Partner
KJ85	1D	1S
AJ84	1NT	2C (NMF)
Q84		

How many hearts do you bid? As is the case in all of the replies to NMF, you make the minimum bid with a minimum hand and jump with a maximum. The hand above has 14 HCP so you would jump to 3H. (We are calling this hand a maximum because your 1NT rebid shows 12-14 HCP). Remember when partner uses NMF he only promises values to invite game (11 HCP). He also knows that you may have only 12 HCP. 11+12 does not sound like enough points for game, so you must jump to show your full-strength opening bid when you are a little better than minimum. If you had a minimum opening bid with 4 hearts you would rebid 2H only.

#### Priority 2: Support partner's suit if you can.

You hold

K75	You	Partner
A62	1D	1S
KJ85	1NT	2C (NMF)
K85		

You do not have 4 hearts so you can ignore Priority 1. Priority 2 is to show support for partner's suit which you have here. As before, you are maximum for your 12-14 1NT rebid, so you must jump to show this too – bid 3S. With the same shape and a minimum hand you would simply bid 2S.

**Priority 3: Show your range.**

If you do not have an unbid heart suit and cannot support partner's major, the only thing left is to show your range – maximum or minimum. When you have a minimum hand, you have two options:

You hold

86	You	Partner
AQ7	1D	1S
K1095	1NT	2C (NMF)
K1063		

You don't have 4 hearts and you cannot support spades. You are minimum with stoppers in two unbid suits (remember partner's 2C bid was artificial so only diamonds and spades have been bid naturally). Bid 2NT. If partner only has invitational values, he will pass. If he bids again then you are now in a game-forcing situation.

86	You	Partner
AQ7	1D	1S
K10975	1NT	2C (NMF)
1086		

As before you don't have 4 hearts and cannot support spades. You again have a minimum opening but this time you have no stopper in one of the unbid suits, clubs. Rebid your first suit – bid 2D. If partner has only invitational values he will either pass or convert to 2NT. Any other continuation creates a game-forcing situation. Given the chance, you can bid the suit in which you have a stopper. When you have a maximum you must force to game since you know partner has at least an invitational hand. Essentially, you can make any bid that we have not so far mentioned, but you have two basic choices:

**Q6                      AQ7                      K10975                      K106**

This is the same hand as before but with the QS added to make a maximum 1NT rebid. You still do not have 4 hearts, now can you support spades. However, with stoppers in the unbid suits and a maximum you can bid 3NT.

**K6                      1086                      KQ975                      AQ7**

This time you have a maximum with a stopper in only one of the unbid suits. How you show this will depend on which suits have previously been bid. On the auction above, you can simply show your stopper by bidding the suit you have stopped – 3C. This cannot be a natural bid since you did not bid 2C at your second turn.

**K6                      AQ7                      KQ975                      1086**

Now you cannot bid the suit in which you have a stopper – hearts – as that would show the suit. The answer is to jump in your first suit – 3D – to show extra values but a hand that cannot bid 3NT or 3C. Partner will work out why.

This is an excellent tool to add to your arsenal and will greatly improve your accuracy in bidding. Good luck!

A post mortem as enjoyed by married bridge partners



"You know why I'm livid! You went to bed with an ace!"

**OPENING LEADS OUT OF TURN**

The major bugbear of all Directors is the opening lead out of turn. Every time it happens the Director has to patiently explain the five options to declarer, who is frequently flustered and confused by all the alternatives on offer.

And, it is all so unnecessary. The proper procedure is for a defender to place his lead card face down on the table, allowing that card to be retracted if it wasn't that player's turn. If it is in fact that player's turn to lead then partner now has the opportunity to ask questions about the auction, without being accused of attempting to influence partner's choice of card.

