

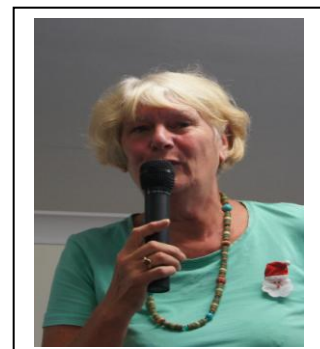
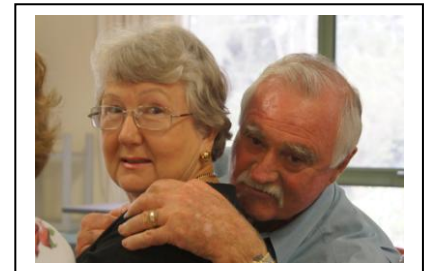
PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS BRIDGE ASSN INC

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY, 2012



CHRISTMAS PARTY

What a wonderful Christmas Party! So many people to thank..... first of all our co-producers and directors Neil and Bob, the whole cast, backstage crew, Robyn Griffiths and all her helpers for the wonderful meal afterwards.





CLUB WEBSITE

The Club now has a brand new website - thanks to Neil Badger. If you haven't had a look yet just log in to www.pmhbridge.com.au to see what a terrific job Neil is doing. You'll find all the latest news and gossip here - so make sure you check the website regularly. All coming events and club news will be posted regularly.



- I will always count my winners and losers at trick 1
- I will not describe my hand twice.
- I will plan my defense ahead of time (such as whether to cover an honor or duck an Ace or King)
- I will follow the law of total tricks on every raise
- I will stay positive and have fun
- I will try to focus and keep my concentration each time I sit down to play
- I will trust my partner
- I will always take the setting trick
- I will always take the winning trick

NEW TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

This will commence on a 3 month trial basis on Tuesday, 7th February at the usual time of 1pm. It will be an additional session and all other sessions will remain as programmed.



A special welcome to new member Sue McPherson and to returning member Valerie Walker.

A Man's Viewpoint

The bride came down the aisle, and when she reached the altar, she saw the groom with a deck of bridge cards in his tuxedo pocket.

She said, "Darling, what are your bridge cards doing here?"

He looked her right in the eye and said, "This isn't going to take all day, is it?"



To the following members on their recent master point promotions:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Graham Gilbert | Club Master |
| Jo-Anne Marzato | Local Master |
| Ern Sharman | * Local Master |
| Wendy Foreman | Regional Master |
| Helen Gwalter | * Regional Master |
| Denise Strain | State Master |
| Kath Hilder | * State Master |
| Ruth Weatherley | Bronze Life Master |

KNOWLEDGE OF THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE RADICALLY

- Do you have a method to compete against the opposition's "one no trump" opening
- Do you have a "balancing structure"
- Do you know what a "support double" is
- Do you know what is meant by "inverted minors"
- Do you know what is a "Michaels cue bid"
- Do you have a method to counter the opposition's bid after you open one no trump
- Do you have a method to counter the opposition's "unusual two no trump"
- Do you know what is a "sandwich no trump"
- Do you know how to signal your count and attitude
- Do you understand "Multi Twos"
- Do you know what is an "honour double"
- Do you know what is a "responsive double"
- Do you know what is a "cue bid" after partner overcalls
- Do you know what "Drury" is

It is to be expected that there are many more questions of importance, but meanwhile the comprehensive answers to these are available on the net; and will possibly vary according to partnership agreement. If you would like an explanation any experienced player would be willing to help.

MAJOR AWARD WINNERS 2011

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Summer Pairs | Jenelle Francis & Anne Rutter |
| Club Pairs (Intermediate) | Murray Booth & Marina Gregg |
| Viv Campbell Shield | Yvonne Cains & Noelle Kebby |
| Club Teams Championship | Yvonne Cains / Bob Jess Barry Thomas / Mike McElhinny/N Kebby |
| Anzac Day Teams | Barry Thomas / Jill Reid Wendy Foreman / Neil Badger |
| Winter Teams | Chris Manser / Barbara Griffiths Judith Manser / Denise Strain |
| Club Pairs Championship | Noelle Kebby & Tony Woolford |
| Vera Pugh Shield | Kristine Howe & Lorraine Robins |
| Winter Pairs | Mike McElhinny & Tony Woolford |
| PM Pairs – Lindner Shield | Margaret Thorn & Arthur Anlezark |
| Spring Pairs | Robyn Glover & Diana Zanon |
| Cains Novice Teams | Len Pascoe / Margot Nelson Dianne Henry / Freya Luick |
| Briscoe Shield – Teams | Tony Woolford / Noelle Kebby Yvonne Cains / Bob Jess |
| Anniversary Pairs | Colleen Berry & Kay Raicevich |
| Peg Webb Shield | Kristine Howe, Lorraine Robins, Bev Elliott, Margaret Seymour |
| Intermediate Masterpoints | Denise Strain |
| Open Masterpoints | Chris Manser |

STATE MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

The N.S.W. Bridge Association runs a number of Championships each year. Historically our club has not competed for quite a few years. One of the events is the State Mixed Pairs Championship and this year the final will be held in Sydney on the weekend of the 26th & 27th of May in Goulburn St., East Sydney.

This weekend coincides with our GNP Qualifying event, Life Masters and above are not eligible to enter the GNP and hence may as well have a crack at the big one, State Mixed Pairs Championship.

A qualifying event will be held at our Club on Thursday the 12th of April. This is a red point event with the red points not coming off our club's allocation of red points. Provided we hold a qualifying event we can send as many competitors as we like to the final. To receive the red points for the qualifying event at least one pair who qualified through our qualifying event must attend the Final.

It is intended to play the qualifying round as part of our regular Thursday afternoon session and all mixed pairs who play in this event will be eligible to go to Sydney for the Final. The Championship Final Knockout rounds will be held on Saturday 26th May from 12.00 noon to 4 p.m. The Final will be on Sunday 27th May between 10 & 2. Pairs that do not qualify for the Sunday Final will be given free admission to a Swiss Pairs event on the Sunday.

So find yourself a mixed partner and get practicing....you have just over two months for the qualifier.

YVONNE'S LESSONS

- OPEN DAY – Saturday 25th February 11.30am at the Clubhouse
- LESSONS commence 9am Monday, 5th March

The lessons run for 10 weeks – cost is \$10 per lesson. If you know anyone who is interested please give their names to Yvonne or call her on 65845766.

COMING EVENTS

- Viv Campbell Shield (Pairs) – Wednesday, 8th & 15th February – 1pm.
- Club Pairs Championship – Saturday 17th March (2 sessions, byo lunch) Saturday 24th March – 1pm

GOOD LUCK

- to everyone attending the Great Lakes Teams Congress and the Gold Coast Congress

Do you know what the difference is between a mad psycho serial-killer and a bridge partner? You can reason with the serial killer

HAPPY BRIDGING 😊

YVONNE'S CONVENTION CORNER

BALANCING...

A number of different terms are used to describe this position – 1C – pass – pass - ??

- Passout seat
- Balancing seat
- Re-opening seat
- Protecting seat

We will refer to it as the passout seat

There are significant differences between direct and passout seats.

Options in the passout seat are

- X
- Overcall
- Pass

It is correct to balance with 3 point less. Add a king (3 points to HCP) and then overcall, X or bid NT (King Rule).

- Takeout Xs can be made with 8HCP if you have good shape.
- Simple Overcalls can be made with 6+ HCP and it is not necessary for the long suit to pass the SQ test.
- Jump Overalls show 12-15 HCP and a good 5+ card suit, not WEAK as in the direct position.
- Bidding 1NT in the passout seat – called a re-opening 1NT shows 12-14 (add 3HCP) and the call does not necessarily promise a stopper in the opener's suit.
- Re-opening 2NT shows 19-21 with stoppers. This is NOT the Unusual 2NT.
- With a balanced 15-18 X first and then rebid 1NT.

RESPONSES TO BALANCING

Deduct 3HCP (King Rule) and bid as usual as if partner was in the direct seat.

Notrump bidding illustrates how the above works.

NT responses to **direct** takeout X

- 1NT = 8-10 HCP
- 2NT = 11-12 HCP
- 3NT = 13+ HCP

NT responses to **balancing** takeout X

- 1NT = 11-13 HCP
- 2NT = 14-15 HCP
- 3NT not possible

If the opponents stop at a low level having found a fit, feel free to overcall or make a takeout X with the right SHAPE but with fewer values than you would normally need for this auction. e.g. 1H – pass – 2H – pass – pass - X for takeout if you have support for the other three suits. When the opponents have a fit you probably do – push them to the 3 level!

NOTE: IF YOU ARE WEAK WITH LENGTH AND STRENGTH IN SUIT OPENED (unless bidding 1NT) PASS!

QUIZ

Decisions in the pass-out seat after (1-in a suit) :

Pass : (Pass) : ??

What action would you take with these hands, given the auction presented?

| | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | Your action |
|----|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|
| | 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? | |
| 1. | ♠KQ1085 | ♥74 | ♦AJ76 | ♣82 | — |
| 2. | ♠J8764 | ♥82 | ♦AQ106 | ♣J3 | — |
| 3. | ♠1053 | ♥K108 | ♦KQ7 | ♣AJ107 | — |
| 4. | ♠AQJ106 | ♥43 | ♦AQJ5 | ♣73 | — |
| 5. | ♠AJ10865 | ♥83 | ♦762 | ♣A7 | — |
| 6. | ♠QJ7 | ♥AJ10 | ♦AQ10 | ♣K1097 | — |
| | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | |
| | 1♦ | Pass | Pass | ?? | |
| 7. | ♠K1085 | ♥A742 | ♦9 | ♣J853 | — |
| | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | |
| | 1♣ | Pass | Pass | ?? | |

Hand 1

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|----|------|------|----|
| ♠ KQ1085 ♥ 74 ♦ AJ76 ♣ 82 | <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Opp.</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Partner</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Opp.</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>You</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>??</td> </tr> </table> Overcall 1♠. Clearcut. | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? |
| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | | | | | | |
| 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? | | | | | | |

You would have taken similar action in 2nd seat.

Hand 2

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|----|------|------|----|
| ♠ J8764 ♥ 82 ♦ AQ106 ♣ J3 | <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Opp.</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Partner</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Opp.</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>You</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>??</td> </tr> </table> Overcall 1♠. Don't pass as you would in 2 nd seat. | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? |
| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | | | | | | |
| 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? | | | | | | |

In the balancing seat your hand does not need to meet the minimum strength and suit quality requirements which are standard for a simple overcall in the direct seat.

Hand 3

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|----|------|------|----|
| ♠ 1053 ♥ K108 ♦ KQ7 ♣ AJ107 | <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Opp.</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Partner</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>Opp.</i></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><i>You</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>??</td> </tr> </table> Overcall 1NT. Don't pass. | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? |
| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> | | | | | | |
| 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? | | | | | | |

In the direct seat you should definitely pass with this 13 point hand as a 1NT overcall would promise 16-18 points or at least 15HCP with a double stopper.

In the pass-out seat, however, strength requirements for a 1NT overcall are relaxed by several points so the hand is well suited for this defensive action. It would be a mistake here to pass and not compete in the balancing position.

Hand 4

| | |
|---|--------|
| ♠ | AQJ106 |
| ♥ | 43 |
| ♦ | AQJ5 |
| ♣ | 73 |

| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? |

Overcall 2♣ not 1♠.

A re-opening jump overcall describes the hand well. It shows minimum opening values (13-15 points) and typically a respectable 6-carder or a strong 5-card suit.

It would be a mistake here to compete as you should in the direct seat with a 1♠ overcall. This would mislead partner regarding your hand strength and sometimes a good game could be missed.

It is important to remember that weak jump overcalls are not used in the pass-out seat.

Hand 5

| | |
|---|---------|
| ♠ | AJ10865 |
| ♥ | 83 |
| ♦ | 762 |
| ♣ | A7 |

| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? |

Be alert. Overcall 1♠ not 2♣.

In 2nd seat, playing weak jump overcalls, you should bid 2♣. In the pass-out seat, however, such action would show stronger values – 13-15 points.

Hand 6

| | |
|---|-------|
| ♠ | QJ7 |
| ♥ | AJ10 |
| ♦ | AQ10 |
| ♣ | K1097 |

| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 1♥ | Pass | Pass | ?? |

Begin with a double. After a 1♥/1♠ opening avoid overcalling 1NT in the pass-out seat when the hand has more than 11-16HCP.

Start with a double, intending to next bid 1NT if partner replies 1♠, or 2NT if partner bids 2♣ or 2♦. This action would show a balanced hand with 17-18HCP and at least one stopper in the suit opened.

Hand 7

| | |
|---|-------|
| ♠ | K1085 |
| ♥ | A742 |
| ♦ | 9 |
| ♣ | J853 |

| <i>Opp.</i> | <i>Partner</i> | <i>Opp.</i> | <i>You</i> |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 1♦ | Pass | Pass | ?? |

Double for T/O. Don't pass.

Although the hand has attractive 4-card support for each unbid suit, it would be wrong in the direct seat to double for takeout with a point count of 10.

In the pass-out seat, however, a 'lighter' balancing double is fully acceptable.

Your RHO has indicated weakness, so it is safe to compete with slightly weaker values in this position.

Your ever alert partner will take into account that your double may be up to 4 or 5 points weaker than a minimum direct seat double.

Keep in mind that the shorter you are in the opposition suit, the more eager you should be to compete in the pass-out seat.

