BRIDGE MATTERS

Newsletter of the Caloundra, Coolum and Sunshine Coast Bridge Clubs December 2012

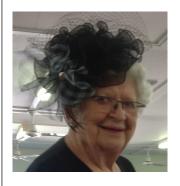
A STABLE OF MELBOURNE CUP BEAUTIES















MORE WINNERS

Coolum Invitation Day: Timothy Ridley, Kendall Early
Caloundra Butler Pairs: Adrian Mayers, Stephen Brookes
SCCBC Graded Pairs: Nathan van Jole, Ralph Parker















AND STILL MORE WINNERS

CCBC Novice Pairs: Terry Beale, Frances Stuart
SCCBC Novice Pairs: Lynne Layton, George Gibson

CCBC Teams: Cheryl Stone, Claire Green, Kim Ellaway & Ray Ellaway

Coolum Pairs Championship: David Harris, Doug Byrnes

CCBC Teams Championship: Randall Rusk, Carole Masters, Di & Alan Maltby

SCCBC Restricted Pairs Championship: John Klingner, Laurie Bell

SCCBC President's Trophy: Adrian Mayers, Steve Brookes

BUSCH BASCH Peter Busch

Misunderstood Laws - Alerting



It is an essential principle of the game of bridge that you may not have secret agreement with partner, either in bidding or play. Your agreement must be fully available and fully disclosed to your opponents.

The laws of bridge allow the individual bridge regions to make their own policy on alerting. Zone 7 (Australia and New Zealand) has established their own set of alerting regulations and these are available on the ABF and QBA web sites.

Some bids are specifically non-alertable (and should not be alerted even if they convey a special meaning).

These are:

- All bids beyond 3NT (the exception is any opening bid that is not natural e.g. a 4D opening which is a weak spade hand, sometimes referred to as "Namyats")
- A cue bid (defined as any bid in the same denomination <u>bid or shown</u> by an opponent)
- Doubles and redoubles
- 2C in response to 1NT opening bid in an uncontested auction, no matter what the meaning

Examples

The regulations go on to provide some examples of common bids that are **alertable**:

- 1C opening where the club holding may be as few as 2 (ie a short club)
- Relays e.g. a 2D waiting bid after a 2C opening
- Transfer requests
- Transfer acceptances if the receiver has different ways of accepting a transfer e.g. super accepts
- Bids that show 2 suits even if one of the suits is shown e.g. opening bid of 2S showing spades and minor

- All responses to a Stayman ask, except 2H / 2S when Simple Stayman is being used
- Jump response that is weak and non-forcing e.g. 1D 2H
- Any free bid (i.e. non-forcing) as responder's first bid when a non-passed hand
- A "pass or correct" bid
- Other less common examples 4th suit forcing, splinters below 3NT, Jacoby style responses, a natural NT bid that may not promise a stopper in the immediate seat, pass-out seat 1NT bid.

These bids are **not alertable**:

- Transfer accepts if bidder has no option as to how to accept
- Giving a suit preference even if the bidder may not have a natural holding in the suit (e.g. 2NT by partner (alertable) showing the minors, 3C by you preferring clubs over diamonds is not alertable)
- · Jump response that is strong and forcing
- Natural weak 2-level or higher opening bids or jump overcalls where only the actual suit is shown

How to alert

Alerting is done by circling your partner's bid <u>and</u> saying "alert". Both of these things must be done. It's actually to your advantage to say "alert" as soon as partner makes the bid even before you have circled it – if you're a bit slow to move your hand to the bidding pad and an opponent makes their bid and then requests a change because of a supposed late alert, having said "alert" as soon as the bid was made is your protection.

If your partner forgets to alert, do not say anything at the time, but keep bidding as though the alert was made. The opponents should be advised of the failure to alert either at the end of bidding if your side is declaring, or at the end of the hand if your side is defending. The director should be called if damage may have resulted.

Pre-alerts and delayed alerts

Pre-alerts are conventions that your opponents would be entitled to know if they came up, but you are unable to alert them during the bidding, for example, any self-alerting bids like cue bids or doubles. These should be announced at the

start of the round. Your NT range should always be part of your pre-alert. An example would be "we play 15-17 no trumps and have a weak redouble". There is also provision on your system card for pre-alerts.

Such items usually give rise to delayed alerts. The declaring side should offer a full explanation of the bidding to the opponents at the completion of the auction, especially regarding self-alerting calls and unalerted calls over 3NT. Matters of partnership style should also be raised here. Examples are "4NT is a keycard ask in spades and partner is showing 2 aces without the spade queen" or "partner's 3H bid shows a weakish raise as we have other methods to show a strong heart raise".

In summary, (with some exceptions) you alert any bid that is not natural or has an unexpected systemic meaning that might not be apparent to your opponents. The principle is that an opponent is entitled to know as much about the meaning of your bidding (and play for that matter) as does your partner.

KEN'S KONUNDRUM KORNER Number 3

Ken Dawson

Spades are trumps. How do you plan to handle these holdings for one loser?



- 1) 🛕 Q2
 - **★** K76543

You need a lot of luck. Lead • 3 towards • Q. If the queen holds, you then play low from both hands hoping that West started with • Ax and the ace will beat the air. No other layout will allow you to escape for one loser.

- 2) Q432
 - ♠ K765

Again, you will need some luck. However, this time you must guess which of your opponents might hold Ax. After that, it is the same as last time.

Of course, if you can cajole one of the opponents to lead the suit, you might escape for one loser by following the familiar doctrine "second-hand-low".

Say West leads a spade. You play low, and perhaps East will pop the ace. Even when they don't pop the ace, the body language may convince you of the location.

OVERHEARD: If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

In 1976, the famous *Omar Sharif Bridge Circus* (see *Bridge Matters March 2011) c*ame to Brisbane, and the Sunshine Coast team of Ingola Meldrum, Betty Carney, Maurice Sargent and John Glennie finished a very commendable third. The same team came second in the Queensland Open Teams a year or so later.

Ingola and Betty played against Omar and Garozzo, while the other two played Belladonna and Forquet. Forquet went off in 6H when John held 4 to the queen and Forquet did not finesse. The other trick was John's ◆ A. *

Reg Busch was given the job of picking up Omar from the airport and driving him to the venue at QCBC. Omar insisted on stopping somewhere in the back streets of Albion to visit an old friend from Egypt he hadn't seen for over 20 years, and they spent over an hour reminiscing about old times.

John Glennie won the SCCBC Pairs Championship in 1976, 1978 and 1979. Other interests took him away from bridge, but he started playing again down the Gold Coast after he retired in 2010. He says hello to anybody who remembers him.

* If Forquet couldn't get it right, what hope is there for the rest of us? But then, of course, he didn't attend Steve's workshop.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Caloundra: Sue Bartlett, Carol Curran, Pamela Lindsay, June Smyth, Graham & Lorraine Wilson.

Sunshine Coast: Pauline Douglas, Jocelyn Harken, Catherine Janiszewski. Welcome back to Antonia Davis, Priscilla Etheredge, Sinama Llokes de Beer & Beth Weitermeyer

VERA DENCH (Caloundra) spends a lot of her time knitting for charity, mainly toys and bed socks. She would appreciate any odds and ends of yarn you might have lying around or knitted garments that can be unravelled. Vera can be contacted on 5437 0893. Thank you.

LONGEVITY STAKES

Norma Leven and Pam Henry have been playing together for 42 years. Their partnership began at Toowong and they have been playing on the Sunshine Coast for the last 35 years.

OVERHEARD

- What did you do on board 28?
- It was passed in.
- Oh really. How did the bidding go?

AH THE JOYS	OF THE PREC	CISION 1 + O	PENING Alan Maltby
Dealer: S NS Vul ♣ AQ6 ♥ AQ32 ♦ 96 ♣ K863	NS Vul	↑ T75↑ K75↑ AKQT5↑ 97	This is a hand played at SCCBC around 10 or more years ago. The NS players are now playing bridge in Heaven, but West was Judith Slade and East was Dorothy Beil. The bidding went *1 ◆ by South, X by Judith, pass by North and Dorothy decided to pass with her hand and see what transpired. South decided he had nowhere to go, and passed.
	▼ J64◆ J73♣ AQT5		Judith, on lead, decided to lead trumps. The rest of the play was unremarkable except that Declarer

decided to finesse his queen when Dorothy led clubs, and, when the tumult concluded, the result was 1 ◆ X making zero tricks, score -2000.

A HANDY TOOL Ruth Mackinlay

No, it's not a grinder, a drill or a screwdriver.

This handy tool is the Kabel Specific Ace Ask. It is an opening bid of 3NT which asks partner, "Do you have an ace or aces & if so which one or ones?"

```
This hand featured at the recently held
              ♠ A9752
                                         Bairnsdale Congress (Eastern Victoria).
              ♥ J102
                                         Holding 2 solid suits the only thing that
              ♦ 82
                                         stops a bid of 7 ♥ from West is the
              4 1095
                                         singleton diamond.
Nil
                            ♠ QJ108
                                         How do you find out if partner holds the
♥ AKQ7643
                            y 95
                                          ♦ A?
                            ullet AQ1093 Open the bidding with 3NT (Kabel). The
♦ 6
AKQ82
                            ♣ J3
                                         standard replies to this are 4 * = no aces,
              ★ K643
                                         4 \blacklozenge = \blacklozenge A, 4 \blacktriangledown = \blacktriangledown A, 4 \blacktriangle = \blacktriangle A, 4NT = 2
              ♥ 8
                                         aces, 5 ♣ = ♣ A.
              ♦ KJ754
                                         Or there is a more precise CRO variation:
              * 764
                                         4 ♣ = no aces, 4 ♦ = ♦ A, 4 ♥ = ♥ A, 4 ♠
                                         = ♠ A, 4NT = ♣ A, 5 ♣ = 2 aces same
```

colour, $5 \blacklozenge = 2$ aces same rank, $5 \blacktriangledown = 2$ odd aces, $5 \blacktriangle = 3$ aces.

Only one pair at the congress bid 7 ♥ and they were the only ones playing Kabel.

^{*} Precision :11-15 HCP minimum 1 diamond , no 5 card major

END PLAY - DON'T FINESSE

Ken Dawson

Players often complain that textbook hands just don't come up at the table. Perhaps they are always there but best technique isn't always needed thanks to helpful opponents. Not this hand!

DIr S **▲** J92 2C* 1H ▼ KJ63 3NT 4H ♦ AK4 *delayed game ***** 732 A875 ♠ KT6 **v** 2 **▼** T94 ♦ QJT9 **♦** 7653 ♣ Q854 **♣** T96 **♠** Q43 **♥** AQ875 ♦ 82 AKJ

It is tempting to draw trumps, cash A and finesse J. This will be fatal when West wins Q and returns a club. Now, South will have to tackle the spades resulting in the loss of 1C+3S. Note that, if EW have to start the spades, declarer can hold the spades to 2 losers simply by following the well-travelled road, "Second-Hand-Low". Can you spot the way to make

EW start the spade suit?

Opening Lead : ♦ Q. Plan your play.

Solution: The key is to eliminate the minors from the NS hands. After drawing trumps, play the other top diamond and ruff the ♦ 4. Now, play ♣ AK and ♣ J. Whoever wins the ♣ Q will have to lead a spade or provide declarer with a ruff and discard in one of the minors. Either way, declarer loses only 1C+2S. Certainly, 9 tricks in 3NT would have been easier. However, 4H making will be a better score at pairs.

Ken admits to playing a hand very similar to this in club play, but unfortunately he was asleep at the time.

THE ULTIMATE RULE

All those involved in teaching are meeting next Sunday to decide at what point in the program to introduce The Ultimate Rule. They feel exact timing is crucial.

The Ultimate Rule: All rules are made to be broken. MacKinnon RF Richelieu Plays Bridge

PRO-AM

On Tuesday, November 20th, the Sunshine Coast Bridge Club launched its inaugural Pro-Am event, having seen how successful it has been at Noosa. Experienced players paired up with players having <50 masterpoints and no established partnerships were allowed. 48 pairs entered this hotly contested competition, which was taken very seriously by all concerned. Winners: NS Pam Nearhos, Rosemary Crowley; EW Margaret Robinson, Cherie Butler.

TRUMP PROMOTION

Reg Busch



1	
191	
13	
1841	
W	
W	
M	
I	
100	

Hand #1.	 QJ74
DIr E	♥ 1075
NS vul	♦K1063
	♣ A5

◆AK985
 ◆Q2
 ◆J3
 ◆A982
 ◆QJ4
 ◆87
 ◆QJ6432

\$32

◆ AK9864

♦75 **♣**K109

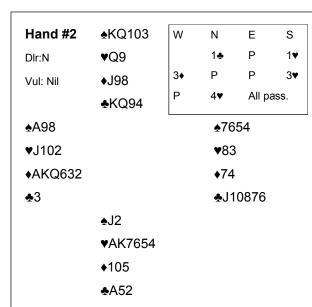
W N E S
 1 P 1NT 2H
 P 2NT P 3H
 P 4H All pass.

West's 1♠ showed 5 cards so South knew that at the most East had two spades. Play went ♠A, ♠K and then ♠9 (to 'kill' dummy's now spade winners.). East ruffed with the ♥3, over-ruffed by South. South drew trumps, led up to the ♦K and proceeded to make his10 tricks. Next board.

Nobody realized that East, with the worst and seemingly useless hand, had made a major error. See what happens if he ruffs the third round of spades with his ♥J, not the ♥3. Now South must ruff with his K or A. Now when South leads trumps West's ♥Q becomes good. Almost magically East has managed to establish a trump trick for his side. When West cashes his ◆A, EW now have four defensive tricks.

East's play of the ♥3 would be described by my old Scottish auction bridge mate as 'sending a boy on a man's errand'. My, that seems a lifetime ago. (Come to think of it, it was a lifetime ago).

Looking at all four hands on this page, this is easy to see. At the table it is not quite so obvious. This sort of play is known as the '**uppercut**'. Always be aware of the possibility, and often it will arise when you seemingly have a useless hand. Particularly when you are short in trumps, and you have the chance to ruff, always think 'uppercut'. It usually pays to use your highest trump. Take this next hand. Have you ever seen a worse hand than East's? The bidding:



West leads diamonds, and East peters (high / low) to show a doubleton. West can see two diamonds and a spade in defence. Almost certainly East doesn't hold the ♣A. A trump promotion, however unlikely, seems to be the best chance for the setting trick. So he makes the message clear to partner, not by continuing with the ♦Q, but with the ♦6, demanding that partner ruff and by inference with his best trump. East ruffs with the ♥8, forcing the ♥K from declarer. Now West's ♥J will

come good, and the defense gets 4 tricks. With East's useless hand, the ♥8 is the vital card! If he lazily ruffs with the ♥3, South overruffs, draws trumps and makes game.

West is the ideal partner. He has made life easy for you by forcing you to ruff by not playing the \mathbf{Q} . The only reason for this tactic is as a trump promotion.. But, even if he had played the \mathbf{Q} , you should still ruff with the \mathbf{V} 8. It can't cost. The next hand shows a somewhat different approach to trump promotion.

Hand #3

	♣ K53						
	♦ A2						
	♥ 98						
	 AQJ932						
♣ 9842		♣ QJ107					
♦QJ653		♦ 108					
♥ 2		♥ AKQJ1075					
≜ K104		♠ -					
	 ♣A6		All pass				
	♦K974		Р	2♠	4♥	4♠	
Vul NS	♥ 643					1♠	
Dlr S	 \$8765		W	N	E	S	

With the West hand, you lead the ♥2. West plays three rounds of hearts. South ruffs the third round with the ♠J which you over-ruff with the ♠K. Now whatever you return South wins and draws your last two trumps. But see what happens if you don't over-ruff, but simply discard a club. Now, however he wriggles, South must lose two spades and is one off. This is an excellent example of promoting your own trumps by *not* over-ruffing.



ETHICS OF BRIDGE

Mary Murray

The first three lessons given by my teacher Ingola Meldrum in the famous game of Duplicate Bridge incorporated talks on the Ethics of Bridge. This side of the game, according to our tutor, was most important. Here are a few points because, in my opinion, ethics, as such, are practically non-existent these days. Today winning seems more important than enjoyment.

- 1) Never argue with, or question the director's ruling remember he/she has studied and been examined in this field.
- 2) Greet new players to your table with a smile and a pleasant remark.
- 3) Never reprimand or query your partner in front of the opposition. Keep it private, if you must do it at all.
- 4) Do not continue to discuss the previous hand when the new pair arrives at your table. This goes for the new pair as well.
- 5) When E/W, and the move is called, do not stand up and continue the previous conversation before moving. You can always have a social game and a gossip at your own home.
- 6) It is much better to call "Director Please" instead of the stentorian bawl "Director!"
- 7) The N player is responsible for passing the boards. <u>Please remember this</u>. So many don't.

- 8) A thank you to the director as you leave the club shows appreciation.
- 9) Never state at the table in front of the opposition, "Partner, that was a top board for us!" It is bad enough to give away a top without having one's nose rubbed in it.
- 10) Most important cherish your partner. He/she possibly has a lot to put up with

Actually ethics as such are really just courtesy and good manners.

BRIDGE FOR THE IMPROVER

Ron Klinger

This is the fifth of a series of articles which appeared in the Gold Coast Bulletins for 2011 and is reproduced with kind permission of the author. If you have not already done so, we urge you to visit Ron's website **ronklingerbridge.com**. You will be amazed at the variety of helpful suggestions, articles and bridge problems you will find.

West leads the ♦ A. Which card should East play? How does East expect the defence to go?

Answer: East should play the Q under the ◆ K. This shows either a singleton or promises the jack. West can then lead a low card to East. Now a club return will be enough to defeat 4 ♠ if the full deal looks like this:

♠KQJ2 After the ♦ A lead against ▼ A K Q 10 4 ♠, if West continues with ♦ 8 6 the ♦ K, South makes 10 **♣** J 9 7 tricks if West then switches **♠**83 **↑** 7 to the A or 11 otherwise. **♥** 643 **♥** 8752 The defence should go: ♦ AK5 ♦ QJ1042 ◆ A, East plays the ◆ Q; ♣ A Q 10 6 2 ***** 8 4 3 West continues with the A 109654 ♦ 5. East wins and switches **♥** J 9 973 to a club, and West collects **♣** K 5 two club tricks for one down.

BRIDGING THE GAP

WITH FOOD FOR THOUGHT

OLIVE JAMES CCBC

Well, the end of another year and the end of my Food For Thought column in the newsletter. I am making way for another member to share his/her favourite recipes with us all. My final recipe is appropriate for the festive season.

EGGNOG CUSTARD TART

Pastry

1 cup plain flour 100 gr butter

2 tbsps icing sugar mixture

1 egg yolk

1 tbsp cold water

Cinnamon sugar to decorate

Double or clotted cream to serve

Eggnog Custard

2 tsps powdered gelatine 2 tbsps tap water

1 cup thick vanilla custard

½ cup thickened cream

1/4 cup brandy

½ tsp ground nutmeg

To make Eggnog Custard

Sprinkle gelatine & a small pinch of salt over water in a small heatproof jug.

Stand jug in a pan of simmering water. Stir until dissolved. Remove jug.

Cool slightly.

Combine remaining ingredients in a large jug or bowl.

Whisk in gelatine mixture.

Pour custard into cooled pastry case.

Cover.

Refrigerate overnight or until set.

To serve, sprinkle with cinnamon sugar & a large dollop of cream.

Method

Lightly grease a 20cm loose based flan tin.

Process flour, butter and icing sugar mix in a food processor until mixture resembles fine bread crumbs.

Add egg yolk and water. Process until mixture forms a soft dough.

Cover & wrap in Gladwrap. Refrigerate for 30 mins.

Roll dough between 2 sheets of baking paper until large enough to line base and sides of pan. Gently lift into the tin, press into place and trim edge.

Cover base with a piece of Gladbake and fill with dried beans. Place tin on oven tray. Cook in a moderately slow oven (160°) for 20 mins.

Remove beans and paper. Cook for a further 20 minutes or until pastry is cooked. Cool in tin. Remove onto platter.

Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year to you all.

Olive.

We have all very much enjoyed Olive's recipe page. If anyone is ready to take it over, please contact the editor.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT?????? Anette Wigan

Your special correspondent interviewed each of our Club Presidents:

Ruth Mackinlay (Caloundra), born in Morwell VIC, has lived on the Sunshine Coast for 18 years.

Ines Dawes (Coolum), born in Poland, has lived on the Coast for 10 years.

Marion Bucens (Sunshine Coast), born in Dunedin NZ, has lived on the Coast for 6 years.

Here are their answers to some curly questions.

1. What is at the top of your 'Bucket List'?

Ruth: To keep breathing.

Ines: To spend more time with my granddaughter.

Marion: To go to a ball in the Vienna Concert Hall.

2. Name two people you would most like to have dinner with.

Ruth: Elizabeth George and Catherine Cookson.

Ines: Angela Merkel and Bill Clinton.

Marion: Nelson Mandela and Condoleezza Rice.

3. What do you like to sing in the shower?

Ruth: Can't sing, I'm tone deaf.

Ines: I don't.

Marion: 50s/60s tunes.

4. Where is your favourite holiday destination?

Ruth: Anywhere in Australia.

Ines: USA.

Marion: Boston, USA.

5. What is the one thing you can't live without?

Ruth: Food. Ines: My old dogs.

Marion: My computer.

SHOCKING

A contestant in a tournament suddenly slumped down in his chair, victim of what seemed like a seizure or fit of some kind. A doctor was hastily summoned. He took the stricken man's pulse and noted that it was steady and firm. Obviously it was no heart attack. From the victim's white face and clammy hands the doctor surmised that this was a case of shock. A bridge player himself, he picked up the victim's cards and studied them. He then turned to the others at the table. "Now let me have a review of the bidding."

LAW 40 Dana Tanahill

An Australian couple travelling in the USA visited a local bridge club for a game.

They sat E/W and the local North opened the bidding 2 . East asked for an explanation. South answered that she did not know what it meant, then bid 3 . West asked what that bid meant and North replied that he didn't want to tell.

The director was duly called, who told North (whose name was John), "John, you have to tell", to which John replied, "I don't want to!"

Needless to say, the visiting Australians went elsewhere for their next game!

It is an essential principle of the game of bridge that you may not have a secret agreement with partner, either in bidding or in card play. Your agreements must be fully available and fully disclosed to your opponents.

INWARD CORRESPONDENCE: To our lovely president

Dear Madame President

I am writing to tell you how much I enjoy my lovely weekly bridge game in your lovely club. I am 94 years old and live at the local Community Home for the Aged. My lovely friend Tilly brings me to bridge and it is my only outing. My family has long since moved away and I rarely have visitors. As a result, apart from my lovely bridge game, I have very limited contact with the outside world.

I was overjoyed to win the lovely radio in your recent raffle. My roommate, Ermintrude Hickson, has had her own radio for as long as I have known her. She listens to it all the time, though usually with an earplug or with the volume so low I

can't hear it. For some reason she has never wished to share.

Last Sunday morning, while listening to her favourite gospel program, she accidentally knocked her radio off its shelf. It smashed into many pieces and caused her to cry. It was so sad.

Fortunately I had my new radio.

Knowing this, Ermintrude asked if she could listen to mine. I told her to \$*#!!*#\$ off!

Bless you and all the lovely members of your lovely club.

Sincerely

Dolores (Dolly) Macintosh.



PHEW! It was really hot at our Christmas Party this year, with the thermometer rising to 36°C. It was even hotter Fahrenheit!

BRIDGE PLAYERS fall into 3 kinds. Those who can count and those who can't.

A WELL-BALANCED PLAYER makes up for his inadequacy in the bidding with his ineptitude in the play.

THE BEER CARD: In trick-taking games like bridge, the beer card is the $7 \, \blacklozenge$, when it is agreed that if a player wins the last trick of the hand with the $7 \, \blacklozenge$ his partner must buy him a drink.

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU KNOW, IT'S WHO YOU KNOW

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play bridge.

One day they were playing, when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me ... I know we've been friends for a long time ... but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

