

Over to you and back to me

Not much response from the majority of members even though you had a few months instead of minutes at the bridge table to solve the two problems. As far as the first problem was concerned, the introductory discussion about the finesse was irrelevant. Here are the North/South hands again.

- North
- ♠ A3
 - ♥ KJ93
 - ♦ AQ86
 - ♣ KJ8
- South
- ♠ K6
 - ♥ AT64
 - ♦ KJ72
 - ♣ AT9

Problem 1: Only two club members bothered to respond, and both got the correct technique. Thanks Edda and Kathy! They suggested, win the opening Spade lead in either hand, and win the second Spade trick next. Win



the HA and then the HK. Now start on the Diamonds. One of the defenders will eventually ruff in with the HQ and must return a Spade for a "ruff and Club discard" or a Club.

Problem 2: Kathy provided a vague general solution verbally. With 10 tricks off the top, we need at least one finesse to work. Win the SA. Start on the Heart finesse since you have more Hearts than Clubs. Lead the HJ and note how East plays. If they play a low Heart without hesitation, win the HA and finesse West for the HQ. If that fails, play off all your remaining winners in Spades, Hearts and Diamonds, while counting the first defensive hand to show out. If the Heart finesse worked, you might make 13 tricks using the same counting technique.



NEWSLETTER

GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB 2883 Gold Coast Hwy, Surfers Paradise, PO Box 7009 GCMC 9726 • PH: 5538 2905 **SEPTEMBER 2021**

President's Message



I'm sure that all past and present Presidents and Member's would like to join me in thanking Neville de Mestre for his very much appreciated 18 years in the roll of Editor, gathering information for our Quarterly Newsletter.

He has inspired our minds plus shared useful hints and humour about this amazing and sometimes frustrating game of bridge. Thank You!

Odette Hall



The Editor's Last Message

The time has come to close the Quarterly Newsletter for various reasons. I have learnt a lot as editor over the past 17 years. Here are some of the highlights.

The Newsletter would not have continued without the input of presidents and directors and their regular reports, Kathy Johnson with her "Double Dummy" articles, and Lynley Jenkins with her "Tips for Improving Players".

Charlie Howard began the Potted Bridge History series which I then continued.

Other regular contributors included Richard and Rita Kahn, Danny Hatcher, Neil Rayward, Tony and Eva Berger, Lazar Mikata, Meg Pisko.

We tried bridge jokes, bridge cartoons, bridge poems, and even a bridge anagram competition but few of you responded. There is no doubt that tricky bridge hands were by far the favourite articles, but even these received only minor feedback, if any. The most outstanding of these were three by Tony Pastor in 2006 in which the featured players were Vasco da Gama, Christopher Columbus, Bartholomew Diaz, Marco Polo, Americo Vespucci, Peter the Great, Pedro Heijn, James Cook, Abel Tasman, Jeko Maradonna, Islaem Dalmonto and Andre Segovia.

Finally, I must acknowledge the help that I have had from Wendy Peck at Your Local Newsletters. Each quarter Wendy has set the typing, re-arranged the articles to fit, added little icons, and responded quickly to any last-minute changes. Thanks Wendy for your input.



Potted Bridge History of Lois Steinwedel



Ross and I came to live on the Gold Coast in 1978; our girls were six and four.

I had always played cards with the family it's in our blood.

Auntie May, who some of you will remember, and I went to TAFE to learn to play bridge from Roy Huthnance, an early President of the Gold Coast Bridge Club.

My first question was, "What are the stakes?" He replied, "My dear girl, it is the honour and glory of the game." So true!

I'm so glad Ross decided to also take up bridge.

The club and our friends have been wonderful over the years.

Kathy and I have a great partnership and friendship; so lucky.

We have represented Queensland in the women's teams in Adelaide, Perth, Hobart, and Canberra. These were great fun and a wonderful way to see some of Australia.

We also represented Gold Coast on numerous occasions in the GNOT in Sydney and Tweed Heads.

Now it's mainly club Bridge, trying not to make too many mistakes.

Thank you Gold Coast Bridge Club for all you do. It's like home away from home.



SEPTEMBER DOUBLE DUMMY

It's very sad that this is our last quarterly newsletter. Our Editor, Neville, has been wonderful compiling the many stories, encouraging everyone to contribute, always turning up with interesting articles, because of his curious mathematician's brain which is forever active. He loves to make up double dummy problems while in the surf, one of his other many achievements we admire. I will personally miss his expertise and friendship.

This double dummy problem sparked both our interests and was created from the hands in a recent article by Paul Marston in the Weekend Australian with slight modification.



North
 ♠ AKQ
 ♥ K3
 ♦ Q76542
 ♣ 83

West
 ♠ JT97
 ♥ Q52
 ♦ KT98
 ♣ 97

East
 ♠ 8643
 ♥ 9876
 ♦ void
 ♣ T6432

South
 ♠ 52
 ♥ AJT4
 ♦ AJ3
 ♣ AKQJ

South opened 2NT, North used Gerber to hear South had 3 Aces and 1 King. 6NT was the final contract. SJ was led by West, won by North. Declarer counts 10 tricks off the top and the other 2 should come from Diamonds. When the D2 is led, East shows out, so declarer plays DJ which is lost to the DK. The contract can no longer make. Over to you before reading on.

At the second trick win the DA, and then lead D3. West must duck or all the Diamonds are good. This is the key. You win the DQ and return to hand with a Club. Now lead the HJ and let it run if West doesn't play HQ. If West plays the HQ cover with HK because you don't want West to win and lead the DK. The HT is now the 12th trick, with declarer winning 3 Spades, 2 Diamonds, 4 Clubs, and 3 Hearts. So good!

Wishing Neville & Marg all our love & best wishes for the foreseeable future.

Jonathan Skye



Some Unusual Tips for Standard Bidding

Since this is my last newsletter I decided to pass on some unusual bidding tips that I have come across. Some of you may want to use them.

1. **Controls:** If you are using 2Diamonds as a waiting bid after a strong 2C opening, some of us pass more information to the opener by using controls with aces worth 2 and kings worth 1. The simplest is 2D (no controls), 2H (one control, ie one king), 2S (2 controls, one ace or 2 kings, etc) but there are variations possible. Opener now bids their 5 card suit or NT, and responder's second bid either supports the suit, bids their own 5 card suit, uses transfers, uses Stayman, bids 3NT or passes with no points.

2. **Super Splinter/ Early cue bid:** After partner opens one of a major suit, a splinter bid is when partner responds with a double jump showing a singleton or void in that suit and 4 card support for the major. But if there is a void in a side suit and a possibility of a slam, partner replies 3NT instead. Opener asks "which one" by bidding 4C. Responses are to name the suit or bid 4NT for Clubs.

3. **Zar Points:** To help with opening light in HCP's, the rule of 20 says open if the HCP plus the number of cards in the 2 longest suits reaches 20. Zar Points adds HCP, total of 2 longest suits, 2 for each Ace, 1 for each King and the different length between the longest and shortest suit (Phew!). If it reaches 26 or more then open.