

BRIDGE IN THE CITY INCORPORATED NEWSLETTER – March 2024

www.bridgeinthecity.net.au

2024 SubScriptionS are now due.

\$30 for home club members, \$10 for associates.

Payments can be made to the duty director or, preferably, to the club's bank account BSB 805-050, account number 102-790-715, indicating the purpose of your payment.

2024 Annual General Meeting

Sixty-one people attended the February 25 AGM, exactly half our membership! The President (David Anderson), Secretary (Nola Stone), Treasurer (Darrell Mitton) and vice President (Steward Kingsborough) were all re-elected unopposed. At our inaugural meeting in June of last year two people were elected to the Committee with two year terms, two with just the one year. Of the four nominees for the two vacant positions Cynthia Brinkman and Stuart Tuck were successful in the ballot. Thanks must go to the two unsuccessful candidates, we'll be calling on them later.

Special thanks to Stuart for organising the lunch, and to the bowls club for being their usual hospitable selves.

Recommendations Received.

- A register of emergency contacts be maintained. Members are asked to provide such information.
- A schedule of members and their contact details to be maintained in the clubrooms. Note: Players can ask that their details not be included.
- A qualified first aid person be identified for each session
- An Assets Register to be created and maintained.
- The books to be audited prior to next year's AGM
- A session with teams (imps) scoring will be held whenever there is a fifth Monday of the month.

2024 Gol den Bunny Teams

12:45 start Good Friday 29th March, nominations on the noticeboard or via the website. Please contact the director if you are looking for team mates.

The Club History, by Sue Phillips

I retired from paid employment in 2004 and was looking for something to do. Angela Ryan suggested I teach Bridge at her local community centre (I had been tutoring on Tuesday nights at SABA with David Lusk) and so that is how it all began, in the Black Forest Room in the Clarence Park Community Centre.

In 2005 we steadily grew from three tables on Tuesdays to ten so had to move to the community hall. I changed days to Fridays and we shared wine casks and plastic glasses after Bridge! (Our priority for new premises is that there must be a bar). I had monthly competitions, the first winners were Sandy Barnes and Margaret Lucas from 4 tables! The first Golden Bunnies Team Event was six teams held on Easter Friday in April 2005, very much frowned upon by some church going members. There were six tables and the chocolate bunnies were won by the Finesse Team, Mary Adlington, Leonie Rasch, John Blundell and Jinny Fuss.

This tradition continued through the years and in 2014 the chocolate easter bunnies were won by David Anderson, Sharmini Hoole, Bronny Colmer and Peter Colmer and in 2023 myself, Sharmini Anderson and the Colmers were victorious, David directed.

In September 2005 John Blundell, Jinny Fuss, John Smith and I organised our first Bridge Birthday Bash. By this time I had been sacked from my tutoring at SABA (for having a conflict of interest!) and I was delighted that the Bridge community showed their support with ninety people attending, a very successful first birthday party. I registered Bridge in the City as a Business Name and Di Marler helped me register with the Australian Bridge Federation so I could allocate masterpoints. What a year 2005 was!

We had by this time, outgrown the hall and so in 2006 moved to Clarence Gardens Bowling Club. We were only allowed the lounge area so John Blundell and I had to move the green lounge chairs out before each Friday session and put out the card tables. During this year I was asked by Max Gabel and Jessica Tindle take over the games at the Burnside Community Centre Bridge Club and the Fullarton Park Community Centre. This meant I had triplicates of everything and was running Monday sessions at Fullarton, Tuesdays at Burnside, and Fridays at Clarence Gardens. Terry Jones saw how chaotic I was with Membership money and took over this task - thank goodness, and Jackie Ward undertook the treasurer role after Terry. My husband, John Phillips set up a web site for our results to be uploaded and always helped me deal the cards. I was immensely grateful for this support from home.

Annual traditions of Golden Bunnies, Christmas in June, a Birthday Bash, BBQ's twice a year (Marlene Ryan organised the lotto tickets to pay for them), Lamingtons for

Australia Day and a Christmas party, created an atmosphere of fun and friendship for all the members.

Over the years Club Championships have been an important feature on our Bridge Calendar, and have been run as Monday and Friday Pairs Championships as well as a Restricted Pairs Championship. The masterpoints allowed in the Restricted Pairs had to increase from Under 10 MPS to Under 50 MPS to Under 100 MPS to accommodate B grade members. John Blundell planned accommodation for our trips away while I organised the Bridge. We went to Barmera Country Club 2008, Clare Country Club 2009, McCracken 2010, the Barossa 2011 and 2012, Loxton 2015 and 2016. Jackie Ward took over the accommodation organisation and we went back to the Barossa 2017 and 2018.

In 2014 I moved the Monday Fullarton session to Edwardstown, creating the Monday and Friday sessions as we have today. In December 2018 I offered Sue Lusk Burnside Bridge Club. She continues to run this club to this day.

We had outgrown the lounge area and were not permitted to use the hall at Clarence Gardens (where we are now) so had to move. Edwardstown Bowling Club had a large hall and our card tables were to be put up by bowling club members (always Gumboots), a definite bonus, so we moved there in June 2009. I wrote in the monthly Clarrie-on that we have finally found a permanent home at Edwardstown Bowling Club, our third move and hopefully our last. How wrong I was - Marion Council decided to redevelop EBC so that we were on the move again.

In 2017 we moved to Marion RSL then Mitchell Park then back to the redeveloped but too small EBC then back to Mitchell Park! In 2019 when the council decided to redevelop Mitchell Park we completed the circle and moved back to Clarence Gardens Bowling Club. We are in the hall and hopefully here to stay!

Covid arrived in Adelaide in February 2020 and by March we could no longer sit at the bridge table. With David's help I set up competitions on BBO, an introduction for many members to playing online. We kept in touch by writing Snippets which I forwarded by email (who could forget the arrival of Dennis Miles baby rabbits!) It was a great relief for all to return to normal life and the Bridge table.

By the end of 2022 I had decided it was time to hand over the club and I am so grateful that David agreed to take it on. Over the years he has been a constant support and has proved that my choice was correct. We both love the game of Bridge and we both want this club to thrive well into the future.

Recent placegetters

FRIDAY FEBRUARY PAIRS

- 1 Chris Barnwell & Stewart Kingsborough
- 2 Carmel & Norman Thompson
- 3 Paul Acfield & Susan Phillips

FRIDAY B FEBRUARY PAIRS

- 1 Pam Bowman & Lois Glanfield
- 2 Marlene Ryan & Pam Wood
- 3 Jenny Kernbach & George Wilby

MONDAY FEBRUARY PAIRS

- 1 Genevieve Donnelly & Terry Healey
- 2 Janet Faber & Dennis Reynolds
- 3 Carmel & Norman Thompson

Slammed

Board : 16	S♠ 64	Dir: W	Makeable Contracts					
	H♥ AQJ6	Vul: E-W		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	D♦ QJ3		N	3	5	7	7	7
	C♣ AQ94		S	3	5	7	7	7
S♠ J32		S♠ 875	E	-	-	-	-	-
H♥ 2		H♥ 985	W	-	-	-	-	-
D♦ T9764		D♦ 82						
C♣ KJT5		C♣ 87632						
	S♠ AKQT9							
16	H♥ KT743							
5 0	D♦ AK5							
19	C♣							

I had the misfortune to sit West on the following hand last Friday against John Flynn and Keith Cropley. Their auction isn't entirely fit for a club magazine, however after John opened the North hand and supported Keith's hearts there was no stopping Keith from triumphantly bidding the grand slam.

Their auction, if they had followed regular bidding rules, would have been

N	E	W	S
1NT	P	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	P
2♥	P	4♣ ⁽²⁾	P
4NT ⁽³⁾	P	7♥	All pass

(1) Stayman, (2) Keycard, (3) two Aces + trump Queen.

Board : 3	S♠ Q9874	Dir: S	Makeable Contracts					
	H♥	Vul: E-W	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	
	D♦ T9654		N	-	2	-	2	-
	C♣ 873		S	-	2	-	2	-
S♠ T62		S♠ A	E	4	-	6	-	6
H♥ J8652		H♥ AKQ93	W	5	-	6	-	6
D♦ KQ7		D♦ 3						
C♣ 54		C♣ AKQT92						
	S♠ KJ53							
2	H♥ T74							
6 22	D♦ AJ82							
10	C♣ J6							

Next a hand from Wednesday's teams, where East has a 12 playing trick hand. The vulnerability tempted some North players to open 2♠ in third seat, showing a weak hand with 5+ spades and a second suit. Double from East, 4♠ from South, pass, pass, ?.

Without the interference a common auction was:

P P P 2♣
P 2♦ P 3♣
P 3♥ P 4NT
P 5♣ P 6♥

One East player lazily opened 6♣, and got her just desserts. South led his ♦Ace, saw the dummy, and switched to a heart, ruffed by partner. The switch to a heart is a logical choice from South since East, with her opening call, can have just one diamond, at most one spade (the Ace), the rest of the hand must consist of hearts and clubs.

Next a hand from Monday night when my partner, sitting West and dealer at Nil vulnerable, picked up

♠AKJ5
♥AKQ7
♦AK85
♣A

He opened 2♣, North overcalled an insipid 3♣ (I would have bid 4♣), pass, pass ?. Partner bid 4♣, I bid 4♦, 6♦ from opener, making thirteen tricks when the trump suit behaved kindly. Full deal next page

	♠10	
	♥43	
	♥Q7	
	♣KJ1097543	
♠AKJ5		♠Q873
♥AKQ7		♥1085
♦AK85		♦J9643
♣A		♣6
	♠9642	
	♥J962	
	♦102	
	♣Q82	

Finally, another Friday hand. When you see that the missing King is not the King of hearts Finally you want to play in 7NT – otherwise there mightn't be an entry to North's hand! If you count your tricks you have seven from the club suit, the AKQ of hearts, spade AK and the diamond Ace.

	♠K10932	
	♥K65	
	♦A765	
	♣6	
♠QJ74		♠865
♥10		♥J732
♦98432		♦KQJ10
!♣094		♣52
	♠A	
	♥AQ984	
	♦-	
	♣AKQJ873	

Some pairs played in hearts, missing the safety play to only get 12 tricks. With such a holding you can't do anything about a four card trump suit on your left, but may be able to succeed if it is on your right. You should play your heart Ace first, note the 10 falling, next a heart to dummy's King, and finesse on the way back.

Let's Get our System Sorted

Just about every pair at Bridge in the City is playing Standard, with five card majors, strong No Trump. This article is intended to teach you how to improve your auctions.

1. The 1♣ opening should promise three cards, not two. Then the only difficult hand is specifically the holding of four cards in each Major, three diamonds, two clubs and a hand that doesn't fall within the 1NT opening range. With such a hand you should open 1♦, the only occasion where such an opening has less than four cards. Such a change will improve your partnership's performance in competitive auctions.
2. Your 1NT opening should promise 15-17 high card points, and a balanced hand – 4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2, or 5-3-3-2. This point range fits in with the rebids, so a 1NT rebid now shows 12-14 (can be off shape), while a jump to 2NT shows 18-19. The 16-18 opening means that the 1NT rebid now shows 12-15 points, too wide a range.
3. Your 1NT opening shouldn't promise a stopper in every suit. It's convenient when you have such a holding, however such a restriction can make your hand quite difficult to bid otherwise, since you are then unable to properly define your point range.
4. With a weak opening, if you lack support for your partner, you should rebid 1NT wherever it is practical. Such a rebid shows 11-13 high card points. This is preferable to bidding a second suit, since your hand is immediately limited, and partner can now find the right level. My own approach is to only rebid a second suit at the two level if I have a 5-5 shape, or 14+ points.
5. The 2♣ opening is much abused at club level – it's used far too often! The opening hand should have 20+ points and an obvious rebid, or 18+ points with at most 5 losers. Otherwise just open one of a suit, if partner passes you haven't lost anything.

Recent New Members

Marlene Chapman, Jane Linde and Eleanora Truskewycz have all recently joined the club, please make them welcome.

Do you Want a Name Badge?

An order for further Bridge in the City name badges will be going in shortly, please let the director know if you need one (cost is \$7).