



Bridgemates

Issue No. 15



MARIO'S MESSAGE

My Friends,

In this, our first issue of the Bridgemates for the New Year, I am delighted to report that the club is functioning well.

Lessons are well under way with the participation of 36 enthusiastic pupils. We all extend our gratitude to Greg O'Connor and his helpers who are doing their utmost to incur an injection of membership numbers to the club.

Lend Lease is conducting a seminar on Tuesday, 6th March, 10am - 12 noon at the Hibiscus Hall. This is in promotion of property sales. Thanks to those who are giving their time to attend. In return, we are to receive a \$500.00 grant from Lend Lease.

Restricted Pairs competition is scheduled for Friday, 16th March. Since over half our members are under the 50%, the handicap required for participation, it is hoped that this year we will have sufficient numbers to make this one a "goer". There will also be a section for "normal bridge" with two directors - one for **each** section (ie an over 50% and an under 50%).

Some of our members have been operating the dealing machine for many years and are looking for a break from it. Time taken to use the dealing machine is about two hours on a Friday. The roster covers your participating about once a month. Please consider taking a turn. Have a chat with Bonnie who will make sure you are quite au fait with this job.

The noise factor is a very vexatious subject. Bridge is supposed to be a silent game. Our Directors have been trying to reduce the noise level particularly after close of play at some tables whilst others are still trying to concentrate. I really have to ask for your co-operation in this: Please keep your conversations to a very low noise level.

I thank my committee members for their assistance and willingness to assist in the functioning of the club, but also to you, the members, for the trust you have placed in us.

Happy bridging,

From President Mario

Two Events to look forward to

1. **Restricted Pairs – Friday 16 March**
2. **Club 24th Birthday PRO AM - Friday 6 April - Refreshments provided.**



MEET YOUR MEMBERS

Continuing our series of conversations with Bridge Club members

Sue and David Pryor



“Come to Bridge lessons!’ urged our next door neighbour at Inverell. She played three times a week and her mother had played with friends in her home until her hundredth birthday, with a strong lamp behind her so she could see. \

We were eager to learn, as cards had always been an enjoyable relaxation for us and all our family and we were keen for Bridge to be part of our retirement, as it was for many of our friends.

David, the, youngest of eight and born in Gosford, worked at Gosford, Wentworth, spent two years in National Service, worked for nineteen years at Guyra and was appointed Director of Planning and Development (Environment, Health and

Building) at Inverell Shire Council in 1991, continuing to be greatly involved in Rotary and Probus and in the playing and organisation of cricket, tennis, squash and bowls. He was Inverell Bowling Club president for many years.

I was born in Melbourne and, living on a barren, windswept Soldier Settlers’ block, riddled with rocks and rabbits at Toolong near Warrnambool (Vic) with only cows for company, did primary education through Correspondence School, attending high school in three different states, finishing as School Captain at Inverell High School, while playing the drums in our family’s country dance band at weekends. All I wanted to do was play the piano (as I still do!!)!! The piano, sax, banjo and clarinet were all taken and no-one was left to play the drums!!

After Armidale Teachers’ College, I taught kindergarten to Year 6 (specialising in music) in Armidale, Guyra and Inverell areas. My teaching career, which I loved, often had to play second fiddle to unexpected practicalities of life, such as during my twenty-five years in Guyra, raising a young family, teaching part-time and developing and managing a caravan park and squash courts, while dealing with the daring antics of wily itinerant potato pickers. Part of the routine was also placating frozen, fun and sun-seeking tourists who arrived, grim and growling, not having realised that, although travelling north, they’d just come a thousand feet (yes, like you perhaps, I still confuse my mountainous measurements!) up. They had travelled Devil’s Pinch Mountain from Armidale on the New England Highway to the windswept (sounds familiar!), steel-grey chill of Australia’s Highest Caravan Park. A ‘Come warm yourself by the fire!’ was my only retort which would perhaps break the ice! (Oh, what a terrible pun!)

Prior to retirement I was teaching at Warialda then Inverell, while the last of our brood of seven (a chaotic conglomerate of his, hers, ours, fostered and adopted) was finishing high school and attending University, as six of them did. (The pennies were scarce). The decision was made to wait until I retired (in 2002) and then as well as my being able to indulge my love of music and painting, (becoming President of the Inverell Art Gallery for four years), David and I would shiver in our shoes and attend Bridge lessons together.

What a sensible decision that was, being able to come home and admit to each other that we were in a state of depression and confusion about the mysteries, conventions and rules we were desperately trying to remember and apply!! Fortunately, friends, experienced in these matters, would take us home and practise

with us, as we are now happy to be able to do with friends who are learning at our club. We regularly ring our mentors and say, “Do you remember telling us to well!!!!

Our one moment of glory, when we first started to play competition, was in the Australian Novice Pairs, when we inadvertently made some dramatically unusual decisions bringing about a result which gave us a position of 25th out of 4000!! One can only go downhill after that!!!

We are now at the stage though of getting a real thrill out of our bridge!!

Inverell Club was delightfully patient, friendly, encouraging and helpful. Consequently, when we moved to Glenview in 2012 (after David’s retirement in 2006), we researched neighbouring clubs for one in which we could enjoy a similar atmosphere and so, although we’re often away travelling to see our large and loving family, particularly in USA (David loves his snow-boarding!) here we are!! Thank you!

Sue and David Pryor

Murray Schlecht has written the following article in relation to the cards which we all play at the Club.

Dealmaster Pro

Buderim Bridge Club uses **Dealmaster Pro** to deal hands each week.

The Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) sets out the rules for the use of dealing machines so the machines produce random results.

As dealer, there are **only four inputs** required for each deal. The **QBA defines two** of those inputs.

In the section of **Dealmaster Pro** headed **Balancing Options** there are **two inputs** required.

1 Balancing Option

You may use the following to ensure that the High Card Points are distributed between North-South and East-West within specified limits.

For example: If you select “within 2%”, the total HCP for each team will be at least 49% of the total available

- No Limits _____ completely random
- within 1% (49.5%-50.5%)
- within 2% (49%-51%)
- within 4% (48%-52%)
- within 10% (45%-55%)
- within 20 % (40%-60%)



The Dealer must select one of these options. The **QBA says that the only option which can be selected is No Limits**. Our club follows this directive.

2 Opening Bid Option

You may use the following to guarantee that at least one hand in each deal has opening points HCP values.

At least one hand in each deal must have or more HCP.

In this square QBA directs we enter 10.

The only other inputs are, (3) **how many boards** (either 36 or 39) we would like to deal, and finally we (4) **name the boards**.

This will produce a random deal. It will not distribute cards points equally.

Randomness

It has been calculated that a deck of cards needs to be given a proper 'riffle' shuffle at least six or seven times for the deal to be quite random. Overhand shuffling mixes the cards poorly, and it requires some 200 overhand shuffles to approach randomness in the card order. So most hand deals at clubs are far from random. On average, hand dealing results in flatter distribution than one would get with a truly random pack.

One of the great advantages of computer dealing is that the program can be set to produce random deals. When a club first introduces computer dealt boards, there are often complaints from members that the hands are too wild and have been fixed. This is because the hands they are used to playing have generally been poorly shuffled. The club management needs to explain this to the members. A few facts and figures about expected distribution in randomly dealt boards might help:

A **void** can be expected once in every 20 hands, i.e. once every five boards

A **singleton** can be expected once in every three hands.

Thus it is more likely than not, on any given board, that one of the players has a singleton or void. In fact, this will be the case on 80% of the boards.

In a typical 24-board session you, personally, would **expect to hold a singleton or void on about 9 boards on average**.

If there are 6 cards out against you as declarer, 15% of the time you can expect them to **break** 6-0 or 5-1.

Our club **follows QBA** rules.

If you have days where the hands you receive you consider poor, remember everyone else in your position has the same cards.

Your job is to make best use of what you have been given.”

Murray

SOME “**NON-BRIDGE**”. Is Bridge a magical game for you? This is!

Now this site is Magic

https://www.youtube.com/embed/mYTNQhK5Cgk?rel=0&start=043&end=196&fs=1&showinfo=0&modestbranding=1&autopause=2&iv_load_policy=3

