



Bridgemates

Issue No. 11



From the President

Welcome to the second issue of Bridgemates for 2016. You will have already received a form for your renewal of membership for the next financial year. Thank you for your response to this. As in the past, you have a range of methods to use to pay your subscription for the next financial year.

Our beginners have now finished their ten weeks of lessons and six sessions of supervised play. You may have met some of this group during the recent restricted pairs day. I am sure that we can all remember the trepidation that we felt on our first club session, even secretly hoping that we did not have sufficient points to bid! With your help and support, we can ensure that the beginners are made welcome and are able to make a smooth transition to our club.

I have just heard some weather news – it seems that Queensland has had the hottest May on record and perhaps this is why many club members have been asking me about the progress on our plan to air condition the club rooms. Firstly, I have some good news regarding the funding of the project. We have secured a gaming fund grant as well as the Buderim Foundation grant and together, these should pay for the project without any input from the club. This is indeed good news, however, we have to wait until the refurbishment of the Community Hall of the Hibiscus Retirement Village is completed. As you will have observed, the Education Centre is being used for the storage of some of the gear from the Hall and the management considers that this would not be a good time to be doing further work to the Education Centre. So, we must be patient and hope that we can meet our goal before the next hot weather arrives.

Happy Bridging

Linda Boyle



REMEMBER THESE NEW DATES

	NOT THIS		FOR YOUR RECORDS	
President's Day		Not 15 July		Wednesday 13 July starting: 9.30 am (WITH LUNCH etc \$20)
ProAm Day		Not scheduled		Friday 30 September 2016

MEET YOUR MEMBERS

Continuing our series of conversations with Bridge Club members

Joe and Pat Czekanski

Everyone at the Buderim Contract Bridge Club has heard of 'Bram-and-Joe' but, no, Joe is not married to Bram, he is married to Pat. Joe is our past president and one of our most successful players. He has given his time to assist others through lessons and mentoring and Pat is a highly respected club member who has served on the Committee.

Joe lives happily here on the Sunshine Coast after a fascinating and sometimes harrowing life journey which began in Poland not long before the outbreak of World War II. From Poland his family was deported to Russia, and then later sent to Persia and India, finally arriving in England in 1947.

Although Joe's early years were marked with extreme hunger and deprivation, he bears no ill will to his captors but does say that to this day, he hates to see food wasted.

Bridge entered Joe's life when the family was aboard a ship returning to England from their time in India. Joe's fourteen year old sister, whom he describes as a brilliant mathematician, watched the adults play bridge and later taught the family to play. Joe then played bridge through his university years while studying engineering. He admits that he taught some of the young women to play, possibly as a way of getting to know them.



Pat and Joe met when Joe was studying at university. Pat learned to play social bridge with Joe and with friends. Pat's first career was as a librarian but the Saturday night work that was required interfered with her social life. Consequently, Pat changed professions and became a teacher. Joe's career in engineering led to work initially as a lecturer and later to working with a company which installed heating coils in oil tankers. While working with this company, the family spent two years in Japan. These years are remembered extremely fondly by both Joe and Pat.

After their return to England, Joe and Pat were ready for a change and Australia beckoned. Joe took a position as a lecturer at the university in Rockhampton and Pat and the young family followed. What a change from their other destinations! Pat remembers thinking that they had come to a 'cowboy town'. Joe recalls with a smile that he also had an offer from a tertiary institution in Melbourne, but he consulted the ocean temperatures in both places and chose Rockhampton. This was to be their home for many years. The children finished their schooling and Pat taught in a number of different schools.

It was at the Rockhampton Bridge Club that the Joe-Bram team was born and they represented the district in the Queensland pair's championships. Eventually, both Joe and Bram retired to the Sunshine Coast and continued with the successful partnership.

Pat and Joe enjoy the friendly atmosphere in our club and when asked for advice to players, the first response was a light hearted – 'Don't play with your husband!'.

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMMITTEE

Linda Boyle	President
Mario Cresta	Vice President
Joan Keeley	Secretary
Helga Groen	Treasurer
Jean Thompson	Provedore
Bonita Barrell	Tournament Director
Daphne Britchford	Publicity
Greg Jellis	Web Master
Murray Schelcht	Dealing machine
Lynda Laffan	Assistant Treasurer and Membership Secretary
June Beasley	Notices to members and Editor

Fourth Best

Jan: Why did you lead *nine* from K-9-7-5-

Sue: I play fourth best.

Jan: Then why not the *five*?

Sue: Darn! I always forget which end to count from.



2?

Are second hand low, and third hand high, good rules to follow?

Second-hand low is a good rule, with few exceptions. Get in the habit of doing it quickly:

Hesitation often helps declarer to decide what to do. If he has a king-jack combination in his hand, or in dummy, he will know what to do if the second player hesitates, indicating he has the Ace. (Hesitating with no reason is improper.) If you play second-hand low and lose your ace, the trick often comes back, sometimes with interest.



Third-hand high is a good rule if dummy plays second and is weak. But if dummy has an honour or two, the third player will often look for a way to control a card in the dummy. For example, if dummy has A J x and a low card is led. Third-hand should play the ten from K 10 x if dummy plays low, keeping control of the jack.

Bridge Rule or Life Rule

The essentials for playing a good bridge game are to be truthful, clearheaded, considerate, and prudent, but not adverse to taking a risk and not to cry over spilt milk.

A BRIDGE STORY:

Two little old ladies were playing in a tournament against two celebrated masters.

One of the ladies opened the bidding with one no trump. The master to her left was looking at his hand containing 14 points on which he considered bidding. He turned to the opening bidder's partner and asked, "What kind of no trumps do you play?"

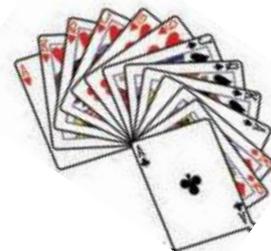
"Strong," she answered, "around 20 points."

Consequently, the master hastily passed and so did the opening bidder's partner. The Dummy laid down 2 queens and a jack and the expert silently congratulated himself for not having stuck his neck out.

But the defence started to take trick after trick and eventually accumulated 9 of tricks, beating the one no trump contract by 3, and unfortunately un-doubled. Game, it seems, could easily be achieved from in the opposition.

The expert with the 14 point hand turned to the dummy and said in an aggrieved tone, "Didn't you say you played a strong no trump?"

"I do," answered the little old lady. "But my partner plays a weak no trump, about 12 points."



Bidding after a 1NT overcall:

Most players bid 1NT over an opening bid showing 15-18 pts, a flat hand and at least one stopper in the suit that opener bid.

Opener's partner now has 4 options:

1. Pass. Normal hand 0-7hcp and no fit with partner.
2. Bid of a suit. This bid is virtually always just competitive. It should be based on at least a 5 card suit 5-8hcp and is to play. Opener should NOT bid again unless raising this suit where there is an exceptional fit.
3. Double. This bid is for penalties. Opener's partner has most of the outstanding hcp's. Usually 9+ and the 1NT bidder has a problem.
4. Raise partner's suit. This bid is usually competitive and not invitational and is based on a few points and a fit. (usually 4+ cards in partner's suit).

All partnerships should have a system of bids when your partner overcalls 1NT. There are two methods, either play systems ON or systems OFF.

1. By systems ON - I mean 1D – 1NT – Pass – 2C is Stayman and transfers apply.
2. Systems OFF means that in the above auction 2C would be natural showing clubs (and to play) and transfers would not apply hence 2H would be to play H.

Both methods have advantages and disadvantages. It does not matter which system you use so long as you and your partner agree.