



CENTRAL COAST BRIDGE CLUB

Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

COVID LATEST

Farewell Glen Campbell

Let me be Direct

Bridge problems to solve

*July
2021*

UPDATE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

TOGETHER WE HOLD ALL THE CARDS

It is with great sadness that I once again note the passing of one of our wonderful members, Glen Campbell. Personally, I had a great time playing with and against Glen who always had a smile on his face and something witty to say. I believe that Glen truly embodied the spirit of the game of bridge and I will remember his generosity. Shan has also written some words about Glen below. Vale much loved friend, we will miss you.

I would like to thank the members for providing their input into updating the constitution. So far, we have put some ideas forward regarding membership and I can tell you that the majority of the feedback has been favourable towards the categories. Shortly, Stephanie will post some ideas regarding a new discipline policy and we have corrected some errors and anomalies which will also be posted on the noticeboard. I hope that you continue to provide your feedback and ideas with the end goal of updating the constitution to reflect CCBC.

Also, a big thank you to those members who have put their names forward to volunteer at the club. We hope to be in contact with you in the near future to get to work but in some cases, we need to purchase equipment so we will speak with you asap. We are still looking for helpers, so please let us know by filling out the volunteer form if you are keen.

Finally, the committee has found it increasingly difficult to manage cash with the closure of more bank branches. Additionally, members have taken up the opportunity to pay table fees using the eftpos machine and there are only small amounts of cash that need to be banked. As a result of this and the availability of vouchers for payment of table fees, the committee has decided to go cashless from 30 June. Please let us know immediately if this causes any difficulty and we will discuss it with you. Thank you in advance on this matter.

As always, it's been wonderful to see so many happy people playing bridge. I look forward to seeing you again when we re-open.

*Louise Lewis,
President*



We'll miss you Glen Campbell – The Rhinestone Cowboy

Neither Glen nor I could remember exactly how it is we ended up getting paired together to play in one of the CCBC Congresses. We played in a team with Josie Ryan and Phil Morris. I hadn't long been out of lessons and still thought you needed to do everything "by the book" in bridge. And here I was partnered with this player who shot from the hip so many times that his nickname of Cowboy was well deserved!

His delight of that Congress was firstly that we earned some prize money and I was on cloud nine. Secondly was when a well-known club member was intent on doubling me when I made a mistake, his partner took it out (systemically and ignored his huffing, puffing) and Glen doubled them instead and we "took 'em off a motza"! Glen delighted in telling that story at the bridge table for years.

Glen was intensely funny, generous to a fault and incredibly open and honest. A lot of people didn't get that he was ALWAYS joking - especially when he quoted two of his favourite sentences in bridge

- 1) Here come a couple of pensioners we can carve up
- 2) B@stards

When I was President, and cars were getting keyed in the carpark, I wanted to install CCTV. I mentioned this to Glen and he ordered, paid for and installed the cameras all free of charge to the club. That was just the kind of bloke he was.

Glen taught me Precision and we played in many Congresses either together or the awesome foursome with Bob Harvey and David Lamont - Gold Coast, Canberra, Launceston, Hobart, Newcastle and Tomaree. And quite often we did "carve up a few pensioners".

I'll miss him at work. I'll especially miss him at bridge and, after 38 years in the club, I'm sure many of you will miss him too.

Rest well mate x

Shan Lawson



UPDATE FROM OUR COVID-SAFE COORDINATOR

Greater Sydney, and the Central Coast remain in lockdown until midnight July 16. Our Premier has reassured us that lockdown should end on this date. Our pathway out of this lockdown is yet to be finalised, and made public. We know that mandatory QR entry to premises will remain, as well as hand sanitising and physical distancing where possible. Face masks might be made compulsory, and we will need to wait to see how many people are allowed in premises, depending on the square metre rule that is adopted.

As you know, throughout the pandemic, we have been strictly following NSW Health orders, and will continue to do so to ensure the safety and well being of our members. You can be assured that our club is meticulously cleaned daily. We continue to have QR checkin, quarantine cards and boards, require hand sanitising after every round, maintain strict number limits in our club, and sanitize the Bridgmates after every session, as well as washing and quarantining our table covers.

As the pandemic progresses, restrictions will fluctuate. We have an aged demographic, and are in an indoor space for an extended period of time, so the health and well being of our members is paramount. I expect the wearing of masks will be required from time to time. To be effective, masks need to cover both our mouth and nose. When wearing of masks is required, we kindly ask that all members abide by these rules, and wear masks except when eating or drinking.

We will keep you updated via our website and also via email, as new restrictions are put forward. Hopefully, as more people are vaccinated, lockdowns and restrictions will decrease. I would like to thank all of our members who have supported us, and helped us on this challenging journey. Please keep safe, stay well, and come back and see us at the bridge club as soon as we are allowed to open.



*Stay safe,
Kerrie Ransom*

Let Me Be Direct

Whether you feel confident about knowing the rules of bridge or not, if there are ever any irregularities you should call for the Director - that's what we're there for. Each time you call, everyone at the table gets to learn or be refreshed about what should happen in the particular instance that caused play to stop.

As John Redfearn has shared with us, we've had Richard Grenside play in our club on more than one occasion. Richard has Directed the Bridge World Championships so you can safely say he knows the rules of bridge! But even he, when something happens at the table, will call for the Director. It's the right thing to do and calling for the Director in itself is actually one of the rules of playing bridge.

Our Club Directors are going to each share with you aspects of Directing and our first piece is from Steph Mathews who directs Mondays. Take it away Steph!

Director Please!

Some of us may feel bad when an opponent calls the director to the table; others feel reluctant to call the director for a variety of reasons. But the truth is irregularities occur at the table, and the director's job is to determine how to resolve those irregularities and restore equity. Calling the director does not amount to accusing anyone of wrong doing; it simply means that something weird has happened and needs to be fixed.

It is important that you call the director rather than ruling or allowing other players to rule on what should happen. Your opponents or partner may not know the rules as well as they think they do. More importantly, it is the director's responsibility to make such decisions, and appeal procedures are available if the director's ruling is in error. The tone you use when you call the director can go a long way toward making your opponents more comfortable. When the director arrives at the table, the player who called should describe the situation. The director will give others a chance to speak, but the director should control the discussion.

Let Me Be Direct (cont.)

One common situation in which I previously never called the director was when declarer called for a card and from dummy when he should have led from his hand. When this happens dummy should say nothing. If opponents say anything, it should be "Director please!" In the past I would have just asked declarer to lead from the correct hand. I learned at our latest directors' meeting that I should call the director because either defender may accept the lead.

It's also important to get all players' agreement to the number of tricks won before you shuffle your cards and put them away. When there is disagreement, call the director to sort it out; don't try to shout it out. It's not impossible to sort out even after cards are put away, but it's much more difficult

What if you expose more than one card when playing to a trick? What if a card is hidden in dummy or found on the floor after the hand is played? What if an illegible bid thought to be 2 NT is claimed to be 3 NT? There is a rule for almost every situation in bridge, and the rules are designed to ensure fair play and equity.

So when something unusual happens, please call the director and when a player at your table calls the director, don't feel bad!



*Enjoy your bridge,
Steph Mathews*

Bridge Problems



You are South playing in 3NT. The bidding has gone, 1NT, pass, 3NT, all pass. West leads the Queen of Spades - what's your plan?

Dummy

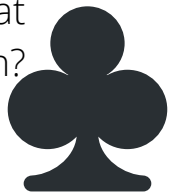
K6
A2
QJ843
QJ93



You

A5
KQ43
K107
K1075

You are South and the declarer in a 4 Spades contract. The bidding went 2NT, pass, 3C, pass 3S, pass, 4S all pass. You count your losers and see that you have four - that's one too many. You get the QC lead. What's your plan?

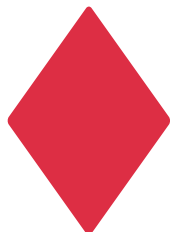


Dummy

QJ102
432
108
K862

You

A9654
AJ6
AK
A54



Bridge Problems Answers

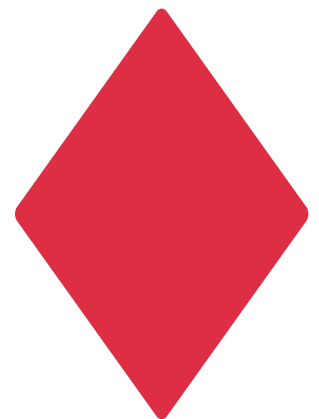
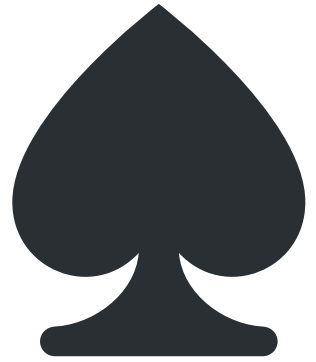
Hand 1

You have two spade tricks and three heart tricks so you need four more tricks. You have eight cards in both the minor suits but they are split 4/4 in clubs and 5/3 in diamonds. When you take out the Ace you can make 4 tricks in diamonds but only 3 tricks in club so you must work on your diamonds.

Hand 2

Your best chance of eliminating a loser is the trump suit. If East has the King you can finesse and if it doesn't work you still hope the clubs break 3/3. Win trick one in dummy with KC and lead QS through East. If it's not covered then play a small spade to your Jack. If it's still not covered play the 10S. This play will cover a 4/0 split of trump in the opposition hands.

You're able to lead an honour to finesse in this case because it's supported by at least one touching honour (Q J 10).



*It's a thinking game
John Redbearn*

Club mugs for coffee

Thank you to everyone whom has already, and continues to, donate Breadtags for Wheelchairs. We've filled the jar already so let's do it again!

The club is doing so well at playing their part in recycling and being as green as we can. So, here's another idea for you to try (when we get back to the club).

Club mugs for coffee

I'm talking about actual ceramic mugs here, not people you consider "easy beats" at the bridge table LOL.

The next time you're getting a lovely coffee from our wonderful friends at Lucky Surf shop next door, why not pop into our kitchen first and grab your preferred mug off the shelf? You can take that in and they will happily make your coffee directly into your mug. The service isn't just for travel mugs.

The fewer single-use items we keep out of landfill (or even recycling for that matter) is a great thing.

*Thank you!
Shan Lawson*

