



CAIRNS BRIDGE CLUB CAPERS

March, 2024

www.cairnsbridgeclub.org.au



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President - William van Bakel
Vice President - Joan Campbell
Secretary - Klarika Tortely`
Treasurer - Peerapan Maslen

Committee Members

Lesley Fraser Rick Gryg
Anna O'Brien Gidi Azar

Other Key Club Personnel

Card Dealing

Jenny Crawl, Cheryl Parks,
Helen McCarthy & Bruce Frost (NWP)

Directors' Roster

Josephina Burrie

Library

Cobie van Kruistum & Ruth Bartlett

Events Management

Joan Campbell & Anna O'Brien

Facilities Manager

Dave Mathieson

Lessons

Rebecca Delaney, Lesley Fraser,
& Brian Tierney

Cards & Flowers

Ann Sutherland & Helen Rial

Master Point Secretaries

Jan Cluff & Elaine Dickson

Partners / Newsletter

Andy Mathieson

Webmaster

Julie Duncan

Zonal Delegates

Jan Cluff & Michael Byrne

MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS

Cobie van Kruistum	Life Master
Jonathan Jones	State Local Master
Danny Bowden	Regional Master
Mark Ryan	Local Master
Lyn Kerr	Local Master
Julie Brooker	Graduate Master
Bill O'Sullivan	Graduate Master



SUPERVISED PLAY

Every Wednesday morning
10:30am to 12:30pm

No partner is necessary. Come along to gain some practice and have the chance to ask questions to experienced players about anything you are unsure of.



President's Corner

Welcome everyone to March. Congratulations to all our members who went to the Gold Coast and came back with Gold Points; some are happy, some are not. Sadly, some members contracted Covid19 along the way. Speedy recovery to you all.

This is thus a timely reminder that Covid19 is still regularly active within our community. If you do not feel well in any way, please do not attend the club.

Our lessons for 2024 have started and both sessions have positive numbers. Thanks to Brian; Lesley and Rebecca. Brian in the morning is ably assisted by Helen; Pat; Barbara and Elaine. Great teamwork and appreciated by the committee.

Also supervised play is held every Wednesday morning from 10.30 till 12.30. Everyone is welcome. Thanks to Klarika; Joan and Gidi for their assistance.

Our first Congress in 2024 is our Easter Congress; ALL entries are to be on myABF (including walk-ins) and if you need help, please ask Cheryl Parks on 0407 770 114. Thanks to those members who have already entered. Form a team and have an enjoyable weekend; or just enjoy the pairs. Entries so far are slow coming in so please think about entering. Small numbers indicates that members are not interested, and the event could be cancelled in the future – this would be a pity.

I have no further update on the kitchen or the vacant block next door. Enjoy March and the rain.

Happy bridging

William van Bakel



LORD YARBOROUGH

A hand that contains no card higher than a nine is know as a Yarborough. It is so-named after Lord Yarborough, who used to offer players odds of 1,000-to-1 against picking up such a poor hand. The noble lord no doubt knew he was onto a good thing because the true odds against picking up a Yarborough are 1,827-to-1. The odds against two partners picking up a Yarborough simultaneously are 546,000,000-to-1.

(From "Learn to Play Winning Bridge" by David Bird)

AND NOW FOR A FEW WORDS FROM RON KLINGER'S BOOK, "THE BRIDGE PLAYER WHO LAUGHED"

A pair of newcomers were bidding it up when one of them bid 4NT. This stumped her partner for a minute, then a light dawned and she called the Director. 'If I now say *Alert*', she asked him 'may I ask my partner what her bid means?'

Clubhouse Session times

Monday afternoon	- 1:30pm
Tuesday morning	- 9:30am
*Wednesday afternoon	- 1:30pm
Wednesday evening	- 7:15pm
Thursday afternoon	- 1:30pm
**Friday afternoon	- 1:30pm
Saturday afternoon	- 1:30pm

*over 50 points only play with a partner under 50 points.

**Players with between 50 & 400 points must have a partner with fewer than 50 points. Players with more than 400 points must partner someone with fewer than 10 points.

COMING CAIRNS EVENTS

NATIONWIDE PAIRS

Red points online & *Green* points in the club.

As these dates do not appear in our club program, this is the list of dates we have so far – please add them to your calendar...

- (6) Sat 16th March
- (7) Sat 6th April
- (8) Sat 20 April
- (9) Thurs 2nd May
- (10) Sat 18th May
- (11) Thurs 30th May
- (12) Sat 15th June
- (13) Thurs 4th July
- (14) Thurs 18th July
- (15) Sat 3rd August
- (16) Thurs 15 August
- (17) Thurs 5th September
- (18) Thurs 19th September
- (19) Thurs 3rd October
- (20) Thurs 17th October

FRIDAY FORUM

1st Friday of the month @ 12:45pm
with Sandy Long & Brian Tierney

NO FORUM FOR MARCH

5th April: Openers Rebids

CLUB LADDER

Now is the time to start planning for 2024! To stay in the competition, you need to have at least 4 different partners out of the 6 sessions.

2024 dates are:

1. 20th January
2. **2nd March**
3. 25th May
4. 6th July
5. 21st September
6. 9th November



TEAMS

Tuesday, 12th March

PLEASE PUT YOUR NAMES IN THE BOOK

THURSDAY PAIRS

RED POINTS

Thursday 14th March

A one session event

with the chance for some red points.

CAIRNS EASTER CONGRESS

MATCHPOINT SWISS PAIRS & SWISS TEAMS

RED POINT EVENT

29th March – 1st April

6 Session Event

Director: Julie Jeffries

BYO Lunch

Friday @ 1:30pm **Walk-in Pairs**

Saturday @ 9:30am & 1:30pm **Pairs**

Sunday @ 9:30am & 1:30pm **Teams**

Monday @ 9:30am **Teams**

All Entries on MyABF – including Walk-in Pairs



GNOT QUALIFYING HEAT CAIRNS

GOLD POINTS – 2 Sessions

Sunday, 14th April @ 9am & 1pm

Entry form required

BYO Lunch

Teams of up to 6 players.



ANZAC DAY PAIRS

RED POINT EVENT

Thursday, 25th April

1 Session @ 1:30pm

Lest We Forget.

ZONAL TEAMS CAIRNS

RED POINTS

Sunday, 28th April @ 9am & 1pm

The winning team will receive a \$1600 subsidy to represent the Far Northern Zone at the QBA Festival of Bridge on 12-14 Oct.

FURTHER AFIELD

GNOT QUALIFYING HEAT ATHERTON

GOLD POINTS – 2 Sessions

Saturday, 16th March

@ 9am & 1pm

There will be an entry form for this teams event.

INTERCLUB Malanda

RED POINTS

Monday, 25th March @ 9am & 1pm

\$10 to play – BYO Lunch

Morning & afternoon tea provided.

PLEASE NOTE – 4th March has been cancelled.

25th March is the NEW date.

There is a new SIGN UP SHEET at the club.

Please put your name down if you wish to attend.



28th BARRIER REEF CONGRESS 2024 - Mackay

GOLD POINTS

3rd - 6th May

Venue: Mackay Showgrounds, Milton St

Walk-in Pairs: Fri @ 9:30am (\$30/pair at session)

Swiss Pairs (Open, Restricted & Novice):

Friday @ 2pm & Sat @ 9:30am

Swiss Teams (Open & BRC 300):

Saturday @ 1:30pm;

Sunday @ 9:30am & 1:30pm

& Monday @ 9am

Farewell Luncheon: Monday after play

Chief Tournament Director: Jan Peach

Entry to this Congress is OPEN – go onto MYABF to enter.

RESULTS FOR LAST MONTH

JOYCE ATKINSON

MEMORIAL CUP PAIRS

Saturdays, 3rd & 10th February

1. Tony Lusk & Sandy Long
2. Liz Litzow & Lois Pollock
3. Brian Tierney & Pat Bruce



Nationwide Pairs Event (3)

Thursday 1st February – 391 Pairs registered

Rank	Pair	%	Red Pts
5	Byrne, Lusk	67.433	1.250
26	Firth, Firth	61.499	0.300
63	Wurzel, Frost	57.956	0.300
79	Thomas, Rial	56.707	0.200
80	Tortely, Campbell	56.707	0.200
99	Azar, van Bakel	55.225	0.200
124	Long, Ladner	53.269	0.200
126	Clarke, Lyons	53.062	0.200
161	Horseman, Zoia	51.565	0.100
172	Gilbert, van Kruistum	50.889	0.100
202	Gryg, Pollock	49.359	0.000
230	Pressley, Gryg	48.095	0.000
232	Tierney, Knight	47.957	0.000
236	McCarthy, van Kruistum	47.701	0.000
283	Conlan, de Rooy	45.275	0.000
295	Dickson, Jones	44.711	0.000
326	Bowden, Litzow	42.483	0.000
338	Dempster, Howard	41.948	0.000
353	O'Gorman, Rossiter	40.331	0.000
358	Mathieson, Nykamp	40.061	0.000
368	Bruce, Card	38.582	0.000

Nationwide Pairs Event (4)

Saturday, 17th February – 375 Pairs registered

Rank	Pair	%	Red Pts
12	Conlan, Horseman	63.936	0.455
30	Eustace, Allen	60.581	0.300
50	Lusk, Maslen	58.146	0.300
57	Allen, Williams	57.431	0.300
94	Rial, Dickson	54.788	0.200
150	Winkworth, O'Reilly	51.630	0.100
162	Azar, van Bakel	51.094	0.100
191	Cluff, Knobel	49.731	0.000
265	Tierney, Bruce	46.046	0.000
283	Clarke, Wurzel	44.734	0.000
290	Thomas, Sutherland	44.494	0.000
291	Bell, Peters	44.366	0.000
294	Barnard, de Rooy	44.170	0.000
331	Spurrier, Spurrier	41.959	0.000
368	Frost, O'Gorman	36.895	0.000



Vale Derek Sparkes, who sadly left us on 1st February.

There are few people in our club, or in any club for that matter, about whom you could truthfully say “everyone likes them”.

Derek was such a person. How could you not feel gladdened by his broad smile and his sense of fun expressed in his soft Devonshire accent?

Yes, he was born and raised in Devon but felt the call of the tropics and headed for Africa, and later PNG, to work with, and research, tropical fruits and crops. It was in PNG that he met his American wife, Leslie, and they formed an unbreakable bond. It was also there that he started to play bridge.

After relocating to Cairns Derek joined the beginners’ group and learnt to play formally. He teamed up with another member of the group, Alex, and they played

regularly on a Monday night. The following year they entered the Nationwide Novice Pairs event and claimed the second prize. Their photo subsequently appeared on the front page of the ABF newsletter.

Derek loved his bridge. He enjoyed experimenting with different conventions and was always looking to improve his game. All his partners will remember the analyses that he did after every session. Plusses and minuses for each declarer and also for defence. Celebrating success but inviting discussion on how we could do better!

I was lucky enough to be Derek’s partner for 14 years. It was always fun. He will be greatly missed by all his partners and by all who knew him.

Thanks Derek, rest in peace.

By Lesley Fraser

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Cheryl Parks	Dave Mathieson
David McConachie	Denise Maroney
Helen Crampton	Lena Maunder
Leonie Kennedy	Lyn Kerr
Marcia O’Gorman	Michael Manthey
Rick Gryg	Ruth Halpin
Sandra Harding	Sarah Mainwood
Ursula Thiessen	





To Accept or Reject – Part 1

By Jan Cluff

There are situations where you will be asked to accept or reject an action made by your right-hand opponent. In this column we will discuss bids, and in next month's column we will talk about play of a card out of turn.

Two common situations are: your opponent makes an insufficient bid, or they open the bidding out of turn. When either of these things happens, the left-hand opponent is given the option of either accepting or rejecting that bid. Many people immediately reject the bid.

It is actually a good idea to pause and consider both options. You are entitled to choose the option that benefits your side.

In the case of an insufficient bid, it might be worth accepting that bid, because it lets you bid at a lower level. For example, you may repeat the last bid that your partner has made, telling them that you have support for that suit, but that you don't have a strong enough hand to want to bid at the next level. Another example: Suppose that your LHO opened 1S, your partner passed and your RHO bids 1D. If you have a weakish hand with hearts, you may accept the insufficient bid, enabling you to bid 1H. If you don't accept the 1D bid, you will have to enter the auction with 2H or higher.

In the case of an opening bid out of turn, it might also be a good idea to accept it. This would enable you to make your bid immediately. If you

reject it, the bid will return to the other player and you will have to wait longer to enter the bidding. Accepting the bid may enable you to give your partner more information about your hand by getting your bid in early.

There is no black and white answer to these situations, The basic rules are:

- If you are not planning to bid, reject the opponents' bid. This may force them to bid higher than they intended, or to have other restrictions applied to them.
- If your hand is weak but you still want to bid, accept. This enables you to enter the auction at a low level.
- If your hand is strong, reject. This will force opponents to reveal more information about their holding.

But like any other rule in bridge, it depends on your hand, and what, if any, information you might want to communicate to your partner. It's always worth considering your options.

Important note: Don't allow your opponents to correct a bidding infraction immediately. Always call the director.



"No madam I can't make an insufficient bid ruling when your partner stops at five, and you have six cold!"

(From "Out of Hand and Off the Fairway" by Bill Buttle)



We've arrived at the **Gold Coast Congress** ready for the 2nd day. Yesterday Cairns members had mixed results, some doing well, others not so much (I won't mention my results! 😊)

But Joy Trigg did very well in the Swiss Pairs open finishing well above her seeding with a new stand by partner. Sadly Camie is unwell and couldn't make it to the GC, so we wish her a speedy recovery.

In the Swiss Intermediate Pairs, our Malanda neighbours, Sonja Ramsund and Kate Gargen did exceptionally well coming 5th overall followed closely by Melissa Pressley & Jane Gryg at 9th and Cobie and Simon van Kruistum at 12th.

For those in the Bobby Richman section, the battle continues today. For the rest of us, it's a clean slate with another chance to do better in the Swiss Pairs!

The beautiful photos are from early bird Barbara Howard. After a week of wet weather, the GC has turned on the gorgeous weather for us!

Wish us luck!! 🍀 (Posted 19-2-24)





3 days of bridge as a team, ranked 64, finished in 13th place, super happy with the result. Thank you Camilla, Judy and John for being such awesome team members 😊

(Posted by Sandrine Manning 22-2-24)



Last day of teams today and everyone is still smiling 😊 We've got some honorary Cairns members as we rounded up Di Rigano and Jenny from Gold Coast playing with Joy to fill in for Camie. Also Margaret from Sydney who is playing with Lorraine, but I think she deliberately hid in the midst of us 😊

(Posted 22-2-24)

BRIDGE POEM

I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's my last night
 It's amen to Stayman, I give up the fight.
 The insults and muddles are giving me troubles
 And I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles.
 My cards are all rotten and I have forgotten who's played
 and what's trumps and what's gone on my right!
 So for now it's all over- I'm off to the back wood
 I'm bidding good-bye to Gerber and Blackwood
 I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain
 I'm getting those bad cards again and again.
 So I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's a bad night.
 Declarer is horrid and nothing's going right.
 My partner's a dope and I'm losing all hope.
 And when she says "double" I know we're in trouble.
 My points are not high and I'm wondering why
 She kept on bidding right up to the sky.
 We're in seven spades and all my hope fades
 When surprise, surprise, the high bidding pays!
 We're winning all tricks, the defenders feel sick,
 And I have to admit my partner's a brick
 But I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's my last night!
 Farewell to conventions- I give up the fight?
 So I leave with few words but some that are true,
 Bridge is a game- not for me but for you.
 So be kind to your partners and don't mind their cheek.
 For it's only a game- Oh! Yes. I'll see you next week

*This gem is sourced by Associate Member, **Chris Ballantyne**. We hope to see Chris again soon when the weather starts getting a little chilly in Canberra!*

*til' April
 Andy Mathieson 0479 168 228
 cairnsbridgeclub4870@outlook.com*

Sorry, Partner

A Bridge Podcast



SORRY, PARTNER is a fun **FREE!!** podcast about bridge and the worldwide community of bridge players, hosted by bridge partners and friends Catherine Harris and Jocelyn Startz.

Each episode they chat with bridge experts and dip into listener mail, sharing stories from around the world about this game we all love.

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Fun for players at all levels!

