

Sydney Bridge Centre

October 2013 Newsletter

Introducing the Hallowe'en Pairs, and more!

On Thursday the 31st of October, Sydney Bridge Centre is sponsoring an event at the Spring Nationals Championships – the Hallowe'en Pairs.

This is a one day, two session event held at the Canterbury Racecourse, alongside the finals of the Womens' and Seniors' Teams Final. For those of you who have never played a Congress or Championship event, it will be a good chance to try! There will be cash prizes for first and second overall, and also for the best Restricted (Under 300 MPs) and Novice (Under 50 MPs) Pairs. The entry fee is \$30 each, **but Sydney Bridge Centre members also get \$5 off their entry**, just mention that you are an SBC member as you enter. You can enter online at the NSWBA website, or via the link on the front page of our new website www.SydneyBridgeCentre.com – there are more details on the inside back page of this newsletter. Twenty players have signed up already. If you are interested in playing and need a partner, speak to Vanessa or Will.

We are open on Monday October 7th, even though it is a public Holiday. There is a Duplicate game at 10am and another at 7:30pm. Anyone interested in a game should just turn up, you don't need a partner, we can find someone for you!

"It's not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It's the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones."

– S. J. Simon
(Bridge Author)

We have had another busy month, and it has been a lot of fun! We hope that you have worked out how to navigate your way around the new website, which we keep adding to.

Be on the lookout for some upcoming lessons that we have planned on System and Conventions for you and your partner to work on together. We haven't finalised the times and days yet, but we will in the next few weeks – we'll keep you all posted.

And finally, we hope you are all getting used to the name change, and getting used to calling us "Sydney Bridge Centre". We love the name, as you can see from Vanessa's new window decal!

♠♥SydneyBridgeCentre.com♦♣

Happy bridging. May all your slams make!

Vanessa & Will

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Will: 0415 181 901 will@sydneybridgecentre.com



Now when we get stuck in traffic on ANZAC Bridge we are getting people talking about this great game!

Bridge Challenges to test your Bidding and Play!

Suit Combination Quiz

How do you play this suit for the most number of tricks? You can lead from any hand to begin with, and you have entries to both hands.

♥ K543 (Dummy)

♥ Q762 (Your hand)

Answers inside.

Bidding Quiz

Your partner opens 1♦ and your RHO overcalls 2♣, this is your hand, what do you bid?

(Your hand)

♠ K9

♥ Q9754

♦ KT73

♣ 43

Answers inside.

Card Play Quiz

How do you play 4♠ by South, with West leading the ♠T at trick one?

♠ K743 (Dummy)

♥ K74

♦ KJT

♣ T53

Lead:

♠T

♠ AQJ65 (Your hand)

♥ A93

♦ A95

♣ 64

Answers inside.



**Teams Winners – The Bennett Team
John Syriatowicz, John Bennett,
Ric Lazar and Will Jenner-O’Shea**

On the last Thursday night of each month we hold a Teams night. Playing as a team of four, you compare scores only against one other team, not everyone in the room.

Teams scoring is slightly different as well, using IMPs rather than normal percentages. With IMPs you get large scores for making games and slams that the opposition miss, and also large scores for defeating their contracts, whereas overtricks are not as important.

Most club bridge in Australia is played like we normally do, Pairs with matchpoints and percentages. Most National events in Australia are played with Teams of four using IMPs.

If you haven’t played Teams bridge before, then you should! Arrange a foursome, or contact Will or Vanessa to arrange a partner or team for you. The next Teams game is on Thursday October 31st.

As well as being lots of fun, the winners also receive a prize, and a photo opportunity – it could be you, what are you waiting for!!

“One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts.”

– Alfred Sheinwold
(Bridge Author)

New Members of Sydney Bridge Centre:

The following players became members of Sydney Bridge Centre in September. If you see them around, please make them feel welcome.

- ♦ John Bennett
- ♦ Jean Bragg
- ♦ John Bragg
- ♦ Tina Carter
- ♦ John Harvey
- ♦ Jo Hobson
- ♦ Richard Morony

Sydney Bridge Centre member Mercia Bush won the 'People's Choice Award' at the Glebe Art show with a brightly coloured painting titled 'Spring'. There is an interview with Mercia on the [Glebe Art show website](#).

Congratulations Mercia!

Feel free to turn up without a partner to all sessions or lessons at Sydney Bridge Centre.

At Sydney Bridge Centre we always welcome players to come without partners.

At most of our sessions we have players turn up without partners, and usually Vanessa and Will are both available to fill in if required.

We also have a few players looking for partners regularly or temporarily while their partners are away on holidays.

Always feel free to turn up without a partner, you are very likely to be solving a sit-out, and we would love to see you!

*"We had a partnership misunderstanding.
My partner assumed I knew what I was doing."*

– Eddie Kantar
(Bridge Author)

Card Play Quiz – ANSWER

How do you play 4♠ by South, with West leading the ♠T at trick one?

♠ K743
♥ K74
♦ KJT
♣ T53

♠ AQJ65
♥ A93
♦ A95
♣ 64

In 4♠ you have three obvious losers, the two Clubs and the third round of Hearts. There is also the missing ♦Q which could be your undoing.

This hand was played in the Youth Teams Championships in Canberra in 2011 by talented Junior player Alex 'Pebble' Lockwood.

With nearly mirrored shapes, this is a classic hand for an endplay.

You need to do all of the following things to setup the endplay – in no particular order. Yet.

With trumps splitting 3-1, draw 3 rounds of trumps.

Play 2 rounds of Clubs (losing) and then the third round of Clubs, trumped in your hand.

Then play ♥A, ♥K and exit with the third round of Hearts – losing – to reach this position:

♠ 7
♥ 4
♦ KJT
♣ --

♠ 5
♥ 3
♦ A95
♣ --

When you lose the Heart, either opponent is endplayed into giving you a ruff-and-sluff or catching the ♦Q for you.

The technical play here is get the timing right. Win any Heart leads in South early, keeping the ♥K as an entry to ruff the Club. Lose the Clubs as soon as possible.

Here was the full hand:

♠ K743		
♥ K74		
♦ KJT		
♣ T53		
♠ T98		♠ 2
♥ QJ8		♥ T652
♦ Q872		♦ 643
♣ AQ2		♣ KJ987
♠ AQJ65		
♥ A93		
♦ A95		
♣ 64		

Suit Combination ANSWER:

The Compulsory Duck

How do you play this suit for the most number of tricks? You can lead from any hand to begin with, and you have entries to both hands.

♥ K 5 4 3 (Dummy)

♥ Q 7 6 2 (Your hand)

The answer here involves making a guess!

Pick one of your opponents to have the missing Ace – use the bidding or play to help you decide. In this example, assume that the Ace is on the left side.

Once you have chosen the person who has the Ace, lead a low card *through* them and play the honour.

If you are right you will have won the first trick.

Now you will be left in a fairly unfortunate situation:

♥ ~~K~~ 5 4 3 (Dummy)

♥ Q 7 6 2 (Your hand)

When your King didn't get captured by the Ace it is almost certain that you guessed right and the Ace is on the left.

Now play a small card from dummy, and even though your right-hand opponent will play a tantalising card like a Jack or Ten, *resist the urge to cover it*. **Simply Duck**.

The only chance for three tricks is if your unfortunate opponent began with precisely the Ace and a doubleton.

♥ K 5 4 3

♥ A 9 ♥ J T 8

♥ Q 7 6 2

The Ace will need to be played 'on thin air', and your Queen will still be there to mop up the last Diamond.

Bidding Quiz – ANSWER

Your partner opens 1♦ and your RHO overcalls 2♣, this is your hand, what do you bid?

(Your hand)

♠ K9

♥ Q9754

♦ KT73

♣ 43

You are not strong enough to bid 2♥ (10+ and forcing).

If you raise Diamonds, you risk missing a Heart fit if you have one.

If you Pass, then partner won't know that you have a useful 8 points.

If you Negative Double, you run the risk of partner bidding Spades.

I would **Negative Double**. Usually a Negative Double shows 4+ cards in *every unbid Major*, but I don't like any of the other choices here, including PASS.

Even though I have no support for Spades, and it is likely partner is going to bid Spades, **I have a backup plan!** If partner bids Spades, then I can retreat the bidding back to the safety of our Diamond fit.

If she bids 2♠, then I will bid 3♦ which means: "I was looking for Hearts, but since we don't have a fit there, let's play Diamonds."

A Negative Double is a great tool for Responder. It shows a responding hand, and usually shows 4+ cards in each unbid Major. It either shows precisely four cards in a Major (where bidding would show a five-card suit) or it shows a hand that lacks the strength to bid at the current level.

Christmas and New Years Trading Hours for Sydney Bridge Centre

We will be running sessions as normal up to Thursday Night December 19th, which will be our final session for 2013.

We are holding our **Night Christmas Party on Thursday Night December 19th**.

We are holding our **Daytime Christmas Party on Monday Morning December 16th**.

We will be taking bookings for the Christmas parties a bit closer to the dates.

We will reopen in 2014 on Monday January 6th with Morning and Night sessions on that day as usual.

Sydney Spring Nationals



in conjunction with


Sydney Bridge Centre

present a weekday Super Congress event

HALLOWE'EN PAIRS

31 October 2013

Two Sessions, 10:30 & 2:30

Host: William Jenner-O'Shea

Entry Fee: \$60 per pair

\$5 Discount for Sydney Bridge Centre members.

Canterbury Park Racecourse

96 King St, Ashbury

- ✓ Cash Prizes, sponsored by the Sydney Bridge Centre:
 - First \$200
 - Second \$100
 - First Restricted (<300 mps) \$100
 - First Novice (<50 mps) \$100
- ✓ Trick or Treat Spot Prizes
- ✓ Prize for best fancy dress
- ✓ Free parking.
- ✓ Sandwich ordering facility or snack bar
- ✓ Free tea or coffee, cash bar after play
- ✓ Played at the same time as the Women's & Seniors' Finals



Red Masterpoints at B3 level

www.abfevents.com.au/events/spnot/2013 for online entry



Held under the auspices of
The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated

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&

The NSW Bridge Association Ltd

ABN 61 000 438 648



Results Recap for September:

The "Average of best 3 scores" is calculated by taking the average of your three best sessions played with the same partner in the same session over the month. If a session has 4 or 5 weeks, then you get to drop one or two of your scores in the calculations. The Ratings score is calculated over 3, 4 or 5 weeks and is a handicap style system of comparing results. More information to come in the next month or two!

Monday Morning

Average of best 3 scores: Maryann Campbell & Archie Fraser 62.7%
Best scores based on Ratings: Diane Graham & Bob Berg +0.56

Monday Night

Average of best 3 scores: Faye Morris & Anthony Ruello 59.9%
Best scores based on Ratings: Faye Morris & Anthony Ruello +0.29

Wednesday Morning Supervised

Average of best 3 scores: Jo Morgan & Orsolina Aroney 65.67%
Best scores based on Ratings: Joy Harris & Gwen Macpherson +0.61

Wednesday Night Supervised

Average of best 3 scores: Lorraine Hecker & Patricia Sparks 61.97%
Best scores based on Ratings: Lorraine Hecker & Patricia Sparks +0.61

Thursday Night Pairs

Average of best 2 scores: Diane Connors & John Moen 60.75%
Best scores based on Ratings: Bill Taylor & Anne Phillips +0.37

Thursday Night Teams

1st John Bennett, John Syriatowicz, Ric Lazar and Will Jenner-O'Shea 79 VPs
2nd Guy & Holly Dillon, Richard Wulff and Vanessa Brown 71 VPs

Saturday Afternoon

Average of best 3 scores: Karl & Jill Buchmann 56.33%
Best scores based on Ratings: Karl & Jill Buchmann +0.26

Club Warming Party Pairs

North-South Winners: Archie Fraser & Peter Campbell 63.4%
East-West Winners: Ken Cahill & Gerry Hanna 67.4%
North-South Rated Winners: Shirley Udall & Margot Palmer +0.21
East-West Rated Winners: Jan Steele & Lynn Patterson +0.30

Most Improved Player of the Month:

This is calculated by taking your Rating at the start and end of the month and seeing whose has improved the most.

Most Improved for September: Archie Fraser +1.25

Outstanding Player of the Month:

This is calculated by taking every score from every session played at Sydney Bridge Centre and comparing your best 6 sessions, with any partner. We then calculate your average score to determine the Outstanding Player of the Month.

Outstanding Player: Orsolina Aroney Averaged 62.48%

Upcoming Events Summary (more details inside):

◆ Wednesday Morning (10am) and Night (6pm) Lessons for October: **Responding to 1NT.**

October 2nd: **Stayman for Intermediate players**

October 9th: **Transfers for Intermediate players**

October 16th: **Interfering with your opponent's 1NT**

October 23rd: **Handling Interference after 1NT**

October 30th: **Minor suits after 1NT**

◆ Thursday October 31st Special SBC Congress Event: **Hallowe'en pairs – Canterbury Racecourse.** Bookings required. **See details inside.** Sydney Bridge Centre members receive a discount on entry!

◆ Thursday Night October 31st **October Teams.** Start time 7:30pm. Bookings required.

◆ Final Bridge for 2013. **Day Christmas Party** Monday December 16th. **Night Christmas Party** (and final day for 2013) Thursday Night December 19th. **Reopens in 2014** on Monday January 6th.