



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba Ph : (07) 46 384808 Email : secretary@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au



March, 2024

Ed: Glenys Clift

Management Committee 2023-2034

President	Greg Munck
Vice President	Tim Porter
Secretary	Trevor Henderson
Treasurer	Marie Steger
Committee	Paul Barrett
	Suzanne Brazier
	Michael Kaiser
	Adrienne
	Montague
	Ken Orange
	Elizabeth Thorne
	Ngairie Wills

Office Holders

Grounds Maint.	Tony Thorne
Teaching Co-ord	David Roberts
MP Secretary	Chris Snook
Tenancy	Bruce Hinchliffe
Librarian	Barbara Davies
Recorder	Ian Jesser
Chief Tournament	
Director	Chris Snook

PRESIDENTS REPORT



The President deserted the Club for some time in Japan during February.

From Japan all he has to report is that cycling 65kms over two days makes certain parts of the anatomy very delicate. The only bridge connection was the seven bridges crossed as part of the ride! More real bridge news next time.

Greg Munck

THE TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB GARDENING TEAM



Martin Cary Tony Thorne Margaret Tucker Melanie Simmons Tony Pattison Chloe John Ryan Peter Bryce



MINUTE SECRETARY UPDATE HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE MINUTES

1. Open the Toowoomba Bridge Club web page and click on **Documents**.
2. Scroll down to Committee and click on **Bridge Club Minutes**.
3. Open Web Page then click on **Link**.
4. Open **Current**.

The minutes are filed oldest to newest. Scroll down to access the latest copy.

Suzanne Brazier

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JANUARY 2024



We had a good month in January with table fees of \$7,018 taken. Our table fees for the 6-month period ended 31 January 2024 have increased by approximately 30% for the same period last year.

There was a cash flow deficit of \$5,092 in January; due to half yearly payment of \$10,690 honoraria for Directors, Dealers, Teachers and Teaching Assistants. The time freely given by volunteers is greatly appreciated, and an integral part of our club.

As at 31 January 2024 the club held \$130,157.95 in Term Deposits and \$4,752.95 in the working account.

★ Our librarian, Barbara, recently purchased three new books :-

- Hands on Weak Two-Bids (Anderson)
- Play it Safe (Seagram)
- To Bid or Not to Bid (Cohen)

Enjoy your bridge! *Marie*



TEACHING REPORT From DAVID ROBERTS



As you can see from the photo, Trudy has about 4 tables for Bridge lessons on Wednesday mornings. The number fluctuates but there seems to be a consistent core. Some of those taking lessons have returned from last year. Each week John Oxenham, Andrew Mollison and Paul Matthews (he arrives around 11am) help with the lessons.

The Thursday Night lessons with Oliver Dashwood and myself, have around two tables. Most of the people in the classes have been referred by a friend.

Keep that in mind when I ask you to invite your friends along to lessons in the future. *David*

LIBRARIANS REPORT



The Toowoomba Bridge Club Library has added some new resources to the collection. The following items are now on display and may be borrowed by filling in the catalogue cards.



"Play it Safe" by Seagram and Bird
A guide to the many ways of playing safe in contract bridge when your primary objective is to make your contract and nothing else matters.



"Hands On Weak Two Bids" by J Anderson
Winner - 2008 American Bridge Teachers Association Book of the Year
This book will walk you through the solutions to the problems you meet every day in offensive and defensive situations, delving into the more intricate aspects of the weak two-bid.

Barbara Davies

VOLUNTEERING IN 2024



Have you been considering becoming a volunteer but unsure about the commitment and your availability? Check the Noticeboard for details of how and where your support is needed or give me a call.

By adding your name to the list, in your area of interest or skill, you are definitely NOT signing up for any regular commitments.

Throughout the year, if and when your assistance is needed, the organiser of the activity or event will contact you and it will be up to you to accept the invitation if you are willing and available on that occasion.

So far, 32 members have offered to assist, but we would gladly add you to the list as many hands make for light work.

Volunteering is not just about giving your time; it's about building connections, gaining new skills and contributing to the future success of your Club! You can contact me on 0413 364 457

Michael Kaiser (Volunteer Coordinator)



TRIBUTE TO THE GARDENING TEAM



Most visitors and people who use Horn Park assume the Bridge Club gardens are either maintained by the Council or professional gardeners. However, if you read the History, you will find the gardens were designed, established and have been maintained for the past 17 years by members.

This is a tribute to all past and present members involved in keeping our gardens in tip top condition. **If you have a couple of hours to spare on a Tuesday – it doesn't have to be every Tuesday, contact Tony because it is a big job not only mowing, but trimming hedges and weeding.**

Tony Thorne



Born in Brisbane. Worked as a Specialist Anesthetist at the TBH after doing a 6-month anesthetic registrar training rotation in Toowoomba in 1985. Enjoy trekking – Liz and I have done 1-2 multiday hikes in Tasmania, NZ, USA, Japan & Central Australia. and motor sport - after my son talked me into racing karts and then cars. After retiring in 2017 I had more time to read about bridge and play. After Lib retired in 2019 and we played more in the day. We realized that a lot of volunteers are required to keep the club going so well. I preferred a more physical active role and took over the Grounds Coordinator job after John Ryan. While it is a lot of work keeping the gardens in shape – the Tuesday morning gardening sessions are very sociable and productive. *Tony*

John Ryan



I was born in Sydney spending much time at Coogee, Bondi, Clovelly and Maroubra beaches. I began part time tertiary studies at the UNSW in Industrial Chemistry and after three years, decided to enter studies for the priesthood.

Five years later I realised it was not for me and I returned to the ANU to complete an Arts degree, began working as a secondary school teacher In Canberra where I met and married Christine and where our three children were born. I was Science Master at Daramalan College, Canberra when we made the move to Toowoomba in 1981.

While teaching at Downlands College I continued more study at UQ with a focus on adolescent, family and career counselling. I retired around 2013. Trudy Dunne told me that bridge was something I would enjoy. She was right. Keeping the garden looking good is a big job for our small band of workers. We enjoy it but would like others to join us. *John*

Peter Bryce



Grew up in Felton East, on a property where my mother who had migrated to Oz with her family from Holland, met my father when she boarded with his family as the new teacher for Felton East School.

I played a lot of sport when I was young and also belonged to rural youth organisations. The property we owned was created when a pastoral company was broken up with a myth that the owner had buried his treasure somewhere on the property. So, a lot of our time as children was spent digging up the ground trying to find this treasure.

I am continuing to run the property with cattle and grain farming and my love of bridge stems from competing in Euchre competitions which were popular in Cambooya, when I was young. *Peter*

Melanie Simmons



I was born, educated and nurse trained in NSW. For most of my 50 years as a general and midwifery nurse I worked mostly in rural Qld, before retiring to Toowoomba in 2020.

Joining the TBC in 2021 and learning the game just gets better and better – continually learning, making new friends and meeting wonderful people. From my earliest awareness of the TBC in 2020 I have admired the surrounding gardens.

Being part of the gardening team is fun, friendly and healthy. It gives me a sense of pride and acknowledgement to all those gardening volunteers who have gone before me. And did you know – we even stop for a wonderful coffee break.

Melanie

Margaret Tucker



I grew up in Brisbane, but with strong links to the Crows Nest and Meringandan areas. My husband George and I moved to Toowoomba in 1982.

I didn't start playing bridge until work and family life was slowing down a bit. In due course, I helped at a couple of garden working bees at TBC and then I started to help Ralph Geddes with the garden, though I'm not quite sure how that happened.

After Ralph died, a few others were cajoled to help, and we have a great little group now that meets once a week to keep the garden in shape. And Chloe the dog keeps us company. I must mention my dearly beloved who brings us coffee and goodies after I text him our order, and he's okay with that as long as he gets to golf on time!

Margaret

Tony Pattison



Born and grew up in Brisbane. Formal education was a Veterinary Science degree 1975. Shifted to Toowoomba in 2012 because I preferred the cooler climate and a city that has all I need and especially being close to quality agricultural country.

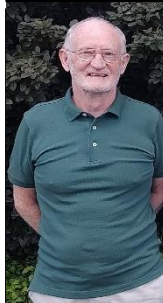
Joined the bridge club lessons with Trudy.

My involvement with the gardens at TBC started when I would pull a few weeds out of the garden near where I parked my car. At the Christmas party 2022 I asked Libby Thorne if she thought it ok if I weeded that garden in the south-east corner of the car park.

So I came over early on Thursday mornings and weed for several hours, there was a lot of weeds. Gradually working my way up towards the jacaranda where one day Margaret came across me for the first time like a garden gnome in the shrubbery pulling out weeds.

I find gardening good mental therapy. *Tony*

Martin Carey



A gardener to my fingertips, I grew up in a pub in Ireland, with not a blade of grass or a potted plant! In our early married years, myself and Kathleen regularly played social bridge until the early morning hours.

In 1987 I took an accounting job in PNG for travel and adventure and where Kathleen further enhanced her social bridge skills and knowledge of Australian wines.

In 1988 we visited Australia on holidays before migrating in 1991 with our three sons.

Cutting grass at the Club is my way of thanking the club officers and committee for providing such a wonderful mental health facility. My gardening inspiration was our renowned Life Member, Ralph Geddes, who was 21 years my senior and scared the living hell out of me when I once saw him jump up and down in the wheelie bin to compress the garden waste. *Martin*



COMING EVENTS IN MARCH



AUTUMN CLASSIC PRO-AM PAIRS SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 1 PM

When I first walked into the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 1985, they asked me “Could I play bridge?” “Yes” I said. After all, I had been part of a group of girls in a country town, who set up a bridge group – were given one lesson by one of the group and for 5 years played what we called Bridge. (There was an ugly rumour around town that if you wanted a drink before the pubs opened, find the bridge girls because their bar seemed to open before the pubs.) But I was lucky, some of the more experienced players in the club took me under their wing and introduced me to the real world of bridge.

The purpose of the Pro/Am game is to provide a sanctioned game at all levels, to give our new players an opportunity they would not otherwise have, to play with a more advanced player against other Pro/Am pairs and receive some important tips at the end of the game eventually increasing their skill level. Additionally, this event is to encourage Pro Players to “give back” to the new players as someone did for them when they got started. (*Note – in the Diary this event is advertised as Teams – and has now been changed to Pairs*).

GUIDELINES:

- The Pro will play the Ams convention card – if you don’t have a convention card, the club will provide one for you and if need be, help you to fill it in.
- There will be some time allowed at the end of each round for discussion.
- Remember this is not about winning – it is about sharing some tips to help newer players increase their skill level and hopefully, the enjoyment of the game.

HOW DO YOU ENTER: Chris Snook will be sending members details via Pianola or you can contact Glenys Clift jgclift@bigpond.com or 46 328932 *Glenys*



IVY DAHLERS PAIRS MONDAY 11TH, 18TH 25TH MARCH 1PM

You are invited to play in the **Ivy Dahler Cup (for the Open field)** or the **Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs (for pairs with both players having fewer than 100 masterpoints)**, which will run on three consecutive Monday afternoons on **11th, 18th & 25th March**. An entry form is attached which contains details of the event. The event will run as two separate grades.

The event is named in honour of Ivy Dahler, our most famous Toowoomba Bridge player, who was a highly successful player at international level and an important figure in administration, directing, organisation of major events and support for bridge in country areas.

We would appreciate prior entry to assist with seeding and planning the movement, and this can be done via: The "Events" link on our website

<http://www.toowoombabridgeclub.com.au/comeingevents.asp?id=30004>

or direct to MyABF : <https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1296> .



Masterpoint Secretary's Report

About Masterpoints

Masterpoints are points awarded to individuals for success in any competitive ABF sanctioned tournaments (club sessions, congresses, and national tournaments). Most countries have their own masterpoint scheme – if you move to a new country, you leave the old points behind; although you can ask to be credited an equivalent amount (or a congress director might do so on your behalf, so we don't have an Irish grand master winning an Australian novice event!).

The ABF Masterpoint Scheme is intended to:

- a) Stimulate interest in Contract Bridge.
- b) Provide means of measuring player achievements.
- c) Assist with the financing of the ABF's national and international commitments.

These objectives are done by:

- Crediting masterpoint awards received from sponsoring organizations (clubs and State Associations) to the player records. The points that you earn and that I submit to the Masterpoint Centre each month.
- Issuing player registration cards and various certificates (that we distribute to players each month).
- Collecting all ABF levies (the club pays \$1.91 per green point and \$1.53 per red point on your behalf).
- Updating and maintaining the ABF Masterpoint Centre website.
(See www.abfmasterpoints.com.au)

How are they calculated?

You earn masterpoints whenever you place in the top half of a pairs event. Winner gets the most, second gets 70%, third gets 50%, fourth gets 1/3rd, fifth gets 1/4, and so it goes to all in the top half of the field. The method of calculation for green point winner awards is 0.02 x number of tables x a 1.5 multiplier. Red points at the club level is the same calculation except with a 2.5 multiplier. Win in an 11-table Mitchell movement at the club gets you 0.33, second gets 0.23, whilst 6th place gets 0.07. They take a long time to add up, but they do. Team calculations are a bit different and a bit more generous because you get masterpoints per win.

An interesting side story is that before computerisation, players were given little slips of paper with your masterpoints recorded on them. They called these fractions of a masterpoint "cents" (eg 0.33 as above) and you would add up all your cents and when you got to 100 you would trade them in for an actual masterpoint allocation.

In the big time

You get more masterpoints if you beat more pairs, and even more in events that are recognised as being stronger (such as congresses). An extreme example is the winners in the Bobby Richman pairs event at the recent Gold Coast congress - Ella Jacob and Phil Markey, who earned 59.51 gold points each! Winners of the teams got even more but had to share these as they were a six-person team. Even loftier, the person who earned the most masterpoints in 2023 was Liam Milne with 438.37. Leading this year across Australia is Ella Jacob with 165.26 points.

The top three in our club are Liz Zeller (26.77), Denise Hartwig (13.95) and Bob Fulcher (13.16).

In each master ranking category, the top club players to end of February are listed, so you know who you are chasing:

Grand and above	Liz Zeller	26.77
Gold Life	Denise Hartwig	13.95
Silver Life	John Churchett	12.40
Bronze Life	John Elrandson	7.13
Life	Mavis Simpson	11.11
Silver National	Hema De Zoysa	11.37
Bronze National	Robert Fulcher	13.16
National	Kathy Duke	10.65
Bronze State	Desley Hanrahan	5.58
State	Sandy & Susie Fraser	4.20

Bronze Regional	Jill Cory	2.03
Regional	Helen Fitzgerald	8.52
Silver Local	Helen Kemp	8.37
Bronze Local	Anthony Pattison	3.70
Local	Rosanne Munns	2.57
Club	Stephan Nugent	2.26
Graduate	Yvonne Mallory	1.71
Nil	Joan Brownlie	0.85

Masterpoints are a broad indicator of your approximate overall ranking relative to every other member. Green (club), red (competitions and congresses) and gold (national events) all contribute to the lower master ranks (Graduate, Club, Local, Regional). As you move to the higher ranks (State, National, Life and Grand) then you need a higher proportion of red and gold points.

I process all the green and red club masterpoints and our local congress red masterpoints at the end of each month. Those from elsewhere, nationwide and other events are done by other people.

Being too “attached” to masterpoints is not wise. They are an accumulation. I think you will agree that a person who earned 500 masterpoints in the last 3 years is a stronger player than someone who accumulated 1000 masterpoints over 40 years. There are some other players ranking systems that place emphasis on your recent performance (eg handicap systems) but none have gained universal acceptance.

It is nice to recognise when someone has done well, and as a club we present certificates on behalf of the ABF when players reach notable rankings. We also use masterpoints to grade some sessions (eg Mondays and Wednesdays) and to seed the field for competitions. Bridge players love data, so it is natural to look up our own points and those of our friends. It is not appropriate to “keep tabs” on other players and “say you will dob them in” when they are close to a cutoff. That is the Director’s and the Masterpoint Secretary’s job – and we already know 😊. It is appropriate to congratulate our friends when they reach each master ranking.

Missing some points?

If you feel that you are missing some masterpoints, check with me as the Club Masterpoint Secretary, advising of the date and session that you played in, who your partner was and who the Director was. If you added up the points you think you might receive, and the actual amount is different, then tell me the points/events you think you did achieve. Please put the information in writing via email or letter so I can check exact details.

I usually wait until the last day of the month to calculate eclectic events and process masterpoints, but for February I made the cut-off 28th so I could have data ready for my report to the Management Committee meeting. In February processed results for 40 sections from 31 sessions yielding 157.08 green and 26.80 red masterpoints. The results and points for Thursday 29th February will be included in the March update.

Cheers *Chris*

In the Zone

The “Zone” is comprised of the Toowoomba, Darling Downs, Dalby, Warwick, Lockyer, Roma, Goondiwindi and Stanthorpe clubs. Within the zone, we run the GNOT (Grand National Open Teams) events, and a zone championship and qualifying event for the Queensland Open Teams and Queensland Open Pairs.

Queensland Open Teams Qualifier : Sunday 24th March. All are welcome to play, and entry forms are available on the club noticeboard and website.

Queensland Open Pairs Qualifier : Sunday 2nd June.

Grand National Open Teams : Zone Final Sunday 11th August, but you have to qualify for a place in this final via a Toowoomba club qualifying heat on Friday Afternoons in March, Tuesday Nights in May, Wednesday Afternoons in July, or via a qualifying heat at one of the other clubs in the zone.
(See <https://qldbridge.com.au/zone/darling-downs>)

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT



Thanks To A Good Samaritan.

Received in the post recently was the following letter with a TBC name badge attached:

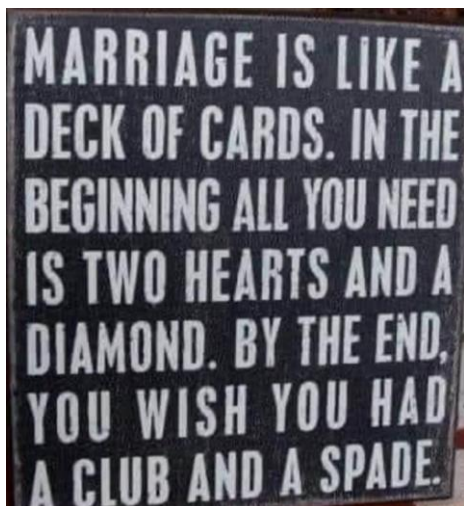
*To Whom it May Concern,
I found this name badge of Dianne's on
Sunday 28th Jan 2024 on the roof top
carpark at Grand Central.
I ask that you please return it to Dianne
ASAP.*

Kind regards

Rose# Just doing a nice thing 😊

Ngairé Wills

PS The badge has been returned to
Dianne.)



Contributed by Lynda Oxenham –“It tickled my fancy”. Thanks Lynda – tickled mine too. *Ed.*

THE ROLE OF THE RECORDER IAN JESSER



The recorder is a person to whom players have recourse on complaints or suspicions of improper and unethical behaviour. He will receive the complaint tactfully, confidentially record it, and may discuss the matter with the subject(s) of the complaint if he deems it appropriate. If he receives repeated complaints of a similar nature against a particular player or pair, he may discuss the matter personally with him, and should report the matter in confidence to the Management Committee.

If attention is drawn at the table to improper behaviour, including discourtesy, the director should be called. The director may apply disciplinary penalties if warranted and may also report any matter to the recorder for filing. Laws 9B1(a), 73B2, 74 and 91 apply.

Recorders do not themselves have disciplinary powers but, when the problem is serious, or there is the possibility of ongoing problems, they will raise it with the tournament organisers on the player's behalf. It is then their job to take any necessary action and advise the players of the outcome.

QBA makes a clear distinction between improper behaviour and discourtesy (which happen in a session and should be handled by the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and the Director) and complaints or suspicions of improper and unethical behaviour (eg the “cheating” word). The latter should be referred to the Recorder.

Regards, *Ian Jesser*

What a happy bunch of (Mahjong) tenants!



For more than 16 years, the Mahjong for Fun group from U3A has met at Toowoomba Bridge Club's Stuart Street clubrooms.

"And it's been a ton of fun meeting here in ideal conditions," says Mahjong tutor Cheryl Gilchrist. "We love the clubhouse, the facilities, the parking, the parkland setting . . . beautiful not only for Bridge, but also for Mahjong!"

The Bridge Club's happy too. "They're ideal tenants," says President Greg Munck. "Please stay on for at least another 16 years!"



Mahjong is a four-player tile-based board game of Chinese origin. It has a rich history, having been developed in the 19th century in China, and it has since spread throughout the world.

The game is played with a set of 144 tiles adorned with Chinese characters and symbols.

It's captivating – a game that combines strategy, memory, and observation.

If you are interested in learning Mahjong, contact Cheryl Gilchrist at

johngilchrist@optusnet.com.au, or phone 0488-662-442.



Article submitted by our Tenancy Co-ordinator – Bruce Hinchliffe

(Bruce has been the club's Tenancy Co-ordinator continuously since 2008 except for one year in 2013 when Eileen Josey took over. Thanks Bruce.)

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

The “Monthly Winners” are recognised as the “individual” winner of **eclectic** multi-session events. These events combine of all the green masterpoint sessions in a month that have not already counted toward a competition. If there are three available sessions then your best two scores are counted (shows as 2/3), if there are four available sessions then your best three scores are counted (3/4) and if there are five available sessions then your best four scores are counted (4/5). If there are two available sessions, then they are treated as an eclectic event (best 2/2).

February Monthly Winners

Monday Open	Oliver Dashwood
Monday Novice	Ann Downs & Helen Fitzgerald
Tuesday Night	Don Adsett & Terry Sheedy
Wednesday AM Restricted	Lynda Oxenham & Tony Pattison
Wednesday PM Open	Will Higgins & Adrian Mayers
Wednesday PM Novice	Helen Fitzgerald & Andrew Mollison
Thursday Night	Andrew Mollison
Friday Morning	Dennis Lincoln & Pamela Steele
Friday PM	Adrian Mayers

Winners of recent competitions are detailed below. Well done everyone ☺ Cheers *Chris*

COL MARTIN SHIELD WINNERS



Denise Hartwig & Chris Snook

2nd Lawrence Price & Michelle Porter
3rd Desley Hanrahan & Roz Wright

**TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB
2024 OPEN & NOVICE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP**

OPEN COMPETITION WINNERS



Adrian Mayers John Erlandson Will Higgins Liz Zeller

2nd : Chris Snook, Denise Hartwig, Jenni Buckley, Jim Wood
3rd: Henry Eastment, Ian Jesser, Trevor Henderson, John Churchett

NOVICE COMPETITION WINNERS



Dennis Lincoln Pam Steele Kathy Duke Paul Matthews

2nd: Roz Wright, Lyn Vary, Desley Hanrahan, Suzanne Brazier
3rd: Pauline Curin, Kerry Gibson, Helen Fitzgerald, Andrew Morrison



EXPLAINING COMPARABLE CALLS
Chris Snook – Tournament Director

Directors and players both appear to be having problems in deciding if a call is “comparable” or not. This article is a continuation of one I wrote previously, and I have added an actual bridge hand to each explanation to make it easier to see what is going on.

Insufficient bids and calls out of rotation

If you make a call that you are not allowed to make (eg an insufficient bid, or you make a call when it is not your turn), then you have accidentally given extra information to your partner that they were not entitled to.

In all these cases, someone at the table should call the Director as soon as the illegal call is noticed. At first, the Director will allow the player on your left to accept that call, and if they do then the auction proceeds with no further rectification.

If your call was out of rotation,

Then the Director will get the correct person to call and the auction continues. When it gets to your turn you may make any legal call that you wish. If your replacement call is *comparable* to the withdrawn call then the auction proceeds with no other restrictions, if your replacement call is not *comparable* then your partner will have to pass on their next turn.

If your call was insufficient,

Then the Director will get you to substitute a legal call. If your replacement call is *comparable* to the withdrawn call then the auction proceeds with no other restrictions, if your replacement call is not *comparable* then your partner will have to pass for the remainder of the auction.

Law 23 – Comparable Call.

A call that replaces a withdrawn call is a comparable call, if it:

- 1 *Has the same or similar meaning as that attributable to the withdrawn call, or*
- 2 *Defines a subset of the possible meanings attributable to the withdrawn call, or*
- 3 *Has the same purpose (eg an asking bid or a relay) as that attributable to the withdrawn call*

Example 1 – Call out of rotation – same or similar meaning:

As South, I open 2H which in my system shows 6-9 HCP and 6 Hearts, but it is not my turn. My call is not accepted so it is withdrawn. The correct opener, East, opens 1D.

♠ K2
♥ AQT432
♦ 864
♣ 92

In my system, after the opponents open 1D a jump overcall of 2H shows 6-9 HCP and 6 Hearts. It meets criterion 1 and the Director deems that my replacement 2H is comparable to my withdrawn 2H. After my replacement 2H there is no restriction on my partner.

If instead I had decided to pass or bid something else, then my partner would have to pass on their next turn to call.

Example 2 – Call out of rotation – subset of the original call:

♠ JT86
♥ Q32
♦ K632
♣ 94

As South, I pass but it is not my turn, it is my partners. West does not accept my pass out of rotation. The first call now goes to the correct dealer which is my partner (North) who opens 1H showing 5+ Hearts and 12-19 HCP (there is no restriction on my partner at this stage). East passes. The information attributable to my withdrawn call (the illegal pass) was about 0-10 HCP and a hand not suitable for a weak 2 opening.

If I now bid 2H in response to partner, it will show 5-9 HCP (this is a subset of the hands indicated by the withdrawn 0-10). 5-9 fits inside all possible hands with 0-10. My replacement call of 2H satisfies criterion 2 and the Director deems it a comparable call. I make my 2H and there is no restriction on partner. As you can see, there is more chance to have a normal auction.

If instead I had decided to call 3H, then I may do so, but 3H is not a subset of my withdrawn pass so will not be comparable – thus my partner will have to pass on their next turn. If I bid something else such as 1S it will not be comparable because that is unlimited (it could have more points than my withdrawn pass showed).

Example 3 – Call out of rotation – same or similar meaning:

♠ J2
♥ AQT43
♦ QJ4
♣ K2

As South, I open 1H showing 5+ Hearts and 12-19 HCP, but it is not my turn, it is East's! West does not accept my call, so my 1H is withdrawn, and now East opens 1S. Now that it is my turn, I know that I may call anything but if it is not a comparable call then I know my partner will have to pass on their next turn. The Director invites me away from the table so that they can give me their decision on whether a call will be comparable or not. I must not start reciting possible calls at the table because that would be giving too much unauthorised information to partner. The Director must not suggest calls to me. Away from the table I can tell the Director what I intend to do, and they will tell me whether they will deem it comparable or not. I can make more than one suggestion and in rare cases I may have more than one comparable call available to me. Anyway, I arrive back at the table and overcall 2H, which the Director deems as a call that is comparable to my withdrawn attempt to open 1H. My two-level overcall shows 5+ good Hearts and 10-17 HCP. 10-17 is not exactly the same as 12-19 but the playing strength is *similar* and the Director will try to get the auction to continue as normal.

If my mistake gives me a result that I would not have reached in a purely legal auction, then the Director may adjust the result to “restore equity”.

Example 4 – Call out of rotation - not the same or similar meaning

♠ AK942
♥ QT4
♦ A864
♣ 9

This is a similar situation to Example 3, but the outcome is different. As South, I open 1S showing 5+ Spades and 12-19 HCP. It was not my turn, my call out of rotation is not accepted by West and so is withdrawn. East opens 1H. Now I am in a dilemma – if I overcall 1S then this shows 5+ good Spades but could be with 8-17 HCP. The difference in points is now large compared to my withdrawn call of 12-19 and my attempted 1S overcall show a wider range of points than the withdrawn call. My 1S overcall is not comparable to my 1S opening.

If I overcall 2S then it is not a similar meaning. If I try Michaels Cue bid (calling the opponents suit of 2H) then this shows extra information about a second suit that was not a part of my withdrawn call, so 2H will not be comparable.

I may still call whatever I wish but my partner will have to pass on their next turn. In this situation, some players guess what the final contract might be and just go for broke.

Example 5 – Insufficient call – same purpose:

We're having a jolly good auction and partner has bid 4H and I think the baby slam is possible provided we don't lose more than one quick trick, so I ask for Aces by bidding 4C (after Gerber we use CRO responses, not that it is relevant here). My 4C bid is insufficient and is not accepted by West, so must be withdrawn and I must pass or make a legal bid.

The *purpose* attributable to my 4C bid was to *ask for Aces*. If in my system 4NT is Blackwood and also *asks for Aces* then 4NT is a comparable call (criterion 3) and I may make it and there is no further restriction on partner. (Note: if 4NT is Roman Keycard Blackwood then it is not a comparable call to 4C, and if I am silly enough to call it anyway, then partner must **pass for the rest of the auction**).

If you are in a similar situation to this and you cannot find a comparable call, then just guess the final contract – you might be lucky.

Example 6 – Call out of rotation – subset of the original call:

- ♠ K2
- ♥ AQT432
- ♦ 864
- ♣ 92

Suppose I play the multi-two diamond system, where a 2D opening call shows either 6-9 and 6H; or 6-9 and 6S; or 17+ and a 4441 shape; or 22-23 balanced. It is East's turn but I get excited and open 2D. West does not accept my call so it is withdrawn and the correct call goes to East, who opens 1D.

Whilst my attempt at opening 2D had a number of possibilities, I am lucky in this case and I could overcall 2H showing 6-9 HCP and 6+ Hearts. My mistaken opening of 2D has not given away any more *useful* information than my legal 2H call – so it is a comparable call (by criterion 3) and has not had an adverse effect on the auction.

Note the distinction:

- If I do not replace a withdrawn call out of rotation with a comparable call, then my partner must pass on their next turn.
- If I do not replace an insufficient call with either a call showing the same denomination at the cheapest level or by a comparable call then my partner must pass for the rest of the auction.

In all cases, if you are allowed to make a comparable call, and end up in a contract and score that you would not have reached with a legal auction – then the Director will award an adjusted score to take away the advantage. It is not to your advantage and not fair to the opponents to give up because it is too hard and just pass. Spend the time and try to make a comparable call so that you have a normal auction at your table.

Happy Bridging
Chris

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



Brian Brady

Born in the U.K. Arrived in Australia in 1969. A wood patten - maker by trade. Worked in Woolongong 1 yr, then supervised a brick-yard for 3 yrs. Moved to the NT - supervised a copper smelter then worked at Gove 6 yrs. Arrived in Toowoomba 1979 to manage Brazier Bricks. Have two sons 3 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. *Brian*



Sue McIntyre

Born in Warwick and taught in Toowoomba and Goondiwindi where I was married.

When my husband died young, I moved to Toowoomba for 15 years, then back to the Western Downs – living at Surat. Have now made new friends playing golf, line dancing and love the challenge and companion-ship of playing bridge.

Sue

Born and raised in Goondiwindi. Went to school and worked in Toowoomba before moving to WA in 1980 when I married. Always knew I would return one day. Learning bridge and joining the club has helped me to settle into my new life here. My only hope now is that my game will improve with time and perseverance.

Helen



Helen Rutlidge

Elizabeth Pietsch

Born and raised in Toowoomba. Worked as a Physiotherapist in Victoria, married and stayed 14 years. Returned to Qld, living in Oakey and Toowoomba, having a busy life raising 5 children.

Enjoy playing tennis, swimming, reading, keeping in touch with the family including 9 grandchildren and now playing Bridge.

Elizabeth



Gabriela Berger

As a trained medical anthropologist, I worked in medical education in Oz, the UK, the UAE and Qatar. I speak 6 languages and love literary fiction, travel, gardening and play the flute. I am passionate about healthy lifestyles – try to do at least 2 hours sport each day – whatever is available. - cycle, swim, ski, tennis mountain climbing, walk etc *Gabriela.*



Jojo Uichauco

After attending the University of the Philippines where I started playing bridge (no mobile phones back then), I moved to Brisbane in the 80's to complete a Doctorate in Physical Chemistry at Griffith University. Sadly, none of my colleagues at Griffith played bridge. I have now joined the TBC with my wife Gabriela *Jojo*



Kerry Gibson

As a former English, Drama & Special Education teacher, I noticed that all the interesting characters in literature play a rubber of bridge while sipping sherry. On retirement, I decided to learn bridge and I'm glad I did.... but I haven't embraced the sherry!
Kerry



Deb Archer

Born in Sydney where I trained as a teacher specialising in early childhood education. Most of my working life was building and running a couple of childcare centres with my sister. Now retired I moved to Toowoomba to be close to my family. Hoping my bridge will improve but who knows.
Deb

I was born in Mackay and after marrying Trev worked in admin and retail before working as a Pharmacy Assistant. My passion has always been dancing and I am a regular at line dancing.

We came to Toowoomba after living 6 years in the Gold Coast. I joined the Bridge Club to see if Trevor knew what he was talking about!!!!

Yvonne



Yvonne & Trevor Mallory

I was born in Rockhampton and after we were married, lived in Mackay where I worked for Queensland Rail and the Aurizon for 45 years.

I started my bridge career in Mackay but my first passion is golf which I have played since my early teens. We both love Toowoomba for the country atmosphere and friendly people.

Trevor



Cecily McLeod

I grew up in a very large family playing all the popular card games. We have lived in Goombungee for the last 36 years and retired after 40 years of teaching, Seemed a good time to learn bridge! Relocating to Toowoomba is now on the cards and we hope to do more travel, overseas & locally in our caravan.

Cecily

I came to Australia to work on a project as computer analyst. I married an Aussie and lived in Melbourne for 40 years.

In 2023 I decided to move to Toowoomba as my daughters had "migrated" to Qld already a few years ago and enjoyed the lifestyle up here. *Inge*



Inge Ganzel

Session Rules Reminder

- Players should be **seated** 15 minutes prior to the start of play for a session.
- The Director makes the final decision on seating arrangements and on playing arrangements in the room (e.g. windows, air-conditioning).
- Only **green** and **blue** systems are permitted in club events.
- System cards are compulsory for competitions and red master point events and strongly recommended for all other sessions.
- NS are primarily responsible for the playing conditions at the table (bridgemates, management of boards and moving them if instructed to do so by the Director).
- EW are primarily responsible for tidy up and leaving the table in a good condition ready for the next session.
- All players should offer to help with general room clean-up to assist the Director.
- No notices are permitted on the noticeboards unless approval is given from the Management Committee.
- No trading is permitted on the club premises unless written permission is given via the Management Committee.
- Smoking is only permitted in the Designated Smoking Area or in the parklands off the premises.

Date Claimer

Grand National Open Teams : Two Friday Afternoons : 1st & 8th March.

Ivy Dahler Cup : Three Monday Afternoons : 11th, 18th & 25th March

Tuesday Night Pairs Competition : Two Tuesday Nights : 19th & 26th March

Zone Teams Qualifier : Sunday 24th March

Autumn Classic Pro-Am Pairs: Saturday 16th March