

BRIDGE IN THE CITY INCORPORATED NEWSLETTER – April 2024

www.bridgeinthecity.net.au

2024 Golden Bunnies

Seventeen teams came along to the Golden Bunnies this year, an excellent turnout. If the seeding was correct it was going to be a contest between the Fallon and Harris teams, and so it proved to be with the two teams playing off in the final round, the following hand being the decider, one table reaching 6♣, the other stopping in 5♣.

Board : 25	S♠ Q4	Dir: N	Makeable Contracts					
	H♥ J98432	Vul: E-W		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	D♦ KT97		N	-	-	-	-	-
	C♣ 6		S	-	-	-	-	-
S♠ A876		S♠ K	E	6	3	2	2	5
H♥ AQT76		H♥	W	6	3	2	2	5
D♦ 543		D♦ AQ2						
C♣ 3		C♣ AQJT98742						
	S♠ JT9532							
6	H♥ K5							
10 16	D♦ J86							
8	C♣ K5							

What would you bid on the West hand after 2♥ by North, 5♣ by East, pass, your call? Sue Phillips bid 6♣ and was rewarded with the ♥K lead from South, for an easy 12 tricks.

Some other tables weren't as fortunate, getting a spade lead. Since this is your only entry to dummy you should play dummy's Ace, parting with your King, ♥Ace discarding a diamond, and then decide which finesse to take.

The odds favour taking the diamond finesse, since the ♣King may be a singleton, improving your chances. It doesn't happen, but for once virtue triumphs.

2024 GOLDEN BUNNY TEAMS

- 1 Alison Fallon/Gordon Fallon/Wendy Hopkins/John Smith
- 2 Sharmini Anderson/Rosemary Grund/Anne Harris/Judith Roberts
- 3 Susan Phillips/Carmel Thompson/Norman Thompson/Jackie Ward

Do you Want a Name Badge?

An order for further Bridge in the City name badges will be going in shortly, please let the director know if you need one (cost is \$7).

The New Committee

At the recent AGM the following were elected:

President - David Anderson

Vice President - Stewart Kingsborough

Secretary - Nola Stone

Committee – Pam Bowman, Cynthia Brinkman, Dennis Reynolds and Stuart Tuck.

During the coming year committee meetings will be held on the second Friday of each month.

If a player has a concern that they would like addressed at the next committee meeting please approach one of the above, preferably presenting your case in writing.

Recent placegetters

FRIDAY PURPLE MARCH PAIRS

1 Chris Barnwell & Stewart Kingsborough

2 Jinny Fuss & Jackie Ward

3 Genevieve Donnelly & June Kleeman

FRIDAY PINK MARCH PAIRS

1 Jenny Kernbach & George Wilby

2 Ken Stone & Peter Tuck

3 Pam Bowman & Lois Glanfield

MONDAY MARCH PAIRS

1 Genevieve Donnelly & Terry Healey

2 Chris Barnwell & Stewart Kingsborough

3 Glenda & John Marshall

Enjoy your afternoon teas even more.

We hope you have been impressed about the cleanliness of the cups and utensils lately. This is thanks to one of the great unsung heroes at our Bridge: the industrial cup, bowl and cutlery dishwasher. This machine washes cups, bowls and cutlery super well in about 2 minutes per tray. It uses a very high temperature and high pressure wash and rinse. This means we can easily ensure really clean equipment: no need to rinse or wash your own cups.

Please put your used cups face up on the kitchen serving bench. Don't worry about any dregs – we will get rid of them for you.

Also, used glasses are cleaned at the drinks bar and should be left at the South end of the bar. (There is a specialised industrial glasses cleaner at the bar - not in the kitchen.)

Used spoons can be left near the hot water urns.

Please feel free to talk with one of the Committee if you have any queries or suggestions related to this.

Thank you, Eleanora

You may have noticed that the table cloths no longer slip, instead being firmly held at all four corners. This is all due to the efforts of one of our newer members, Eleanora Truskewycz who, without being asked, did all the necessary sewing for us.

Thank you, Eleanora.

Do You Need a Partner?

If so, wherever possible please contact Bob for Mondays, or David for Fridays, beforehand. Their details are on the website, while there is also an online form that you can complete.

Please note that, due to the number of tables we are getting each session, the Friday director is no longer able to play.

Some Hands Just Play Themselves

Playing in the Gawler Pairs congress you reach 4♠ after your left hand opponent's diamond overcall, opening lead a small heart. Dummy comes down, and whoops – where are your spades, partner?

♠-

♦KQ7

♥10743

♣A107653

♠AKJ9742

♥A62

♦K8

♣J

You win the ♥A in hand and play the ♠A – west shows out! The missing spades, all six of them, are in the one hand!

Then, perhaps you should try to get some ruffs in hand. So, club to dummy's Ace, ruff a club. Next a heart to dummy's King, again ruff a club. A further heart to dummy's Queen, followed by your third club ruff.

You have now taken eight tricks, and have the following cards left.

♠KJ9

♥-

♦K8

♣-

You exit with a diamond, left hand opponent winning until his partner trumps it – his hand is all trumps. The flustered opponent on your right returns a trump, won with your 9. Another diamond lead from you, again your right hand opponent is forced to ruff, and you win the last two tricks with your ♠KJ.

Making 11 tricks, the full deal.

<p>♠ -</p> <p>♦ KQ7</p> <p>♥ 10743</p> <p>♣ A107653</p>	<p>♠ Q108653</p> <p>♥ J94</p> <p>♦ -</p> <p>♣ K842</p>
<p>♠ -</p> <p>♥ 10843</p> <p>♦ AQJ9652</p> <p>♣ Q9</p>	<p>♠ AKJ9742</p> <p>♥ A62</p> <p>♦ K8</p> <p>♣ J</p>

Matchpoint Scoring

Most club sessions use matchpoint scoring, where the scores on each board are ranked, and given the appropriate points for that ranking. As an example, see the following scoresheet. There are seven scores on each board, so the top in both directions get $(7-1) * 2$, while bottom gets zero.

N-S	E-W	Contract	Result	Score	NS Pts	EW Pts
1	1	2HE	-1	50	3	9
2	3	3SN	-1	-50	0	12
3	5	2NTN	=	120	10	2
4	7	3HE	-1	50	3	9
5	2	4HXE	-2	300	12	0
6	4	1NTN	=	90	6	6
7	6	1SN	+1	110	8	4

Note that tables one and four had the same net score, so share the points, i.e. $(4+2)/2$. Also, the amount of the difference doesn't matter, so table three's +120 is clearly better rated than table seven's 110, regardless of the minimal extent of the difference.

Butler Pairs on Mondays.

Whenever there is a fifth Monday in the month we will be using Butler scoring, which is just like teams, except that the result that each of your scores is being compared with, and then converted to imps, is the room average.

The tactics for such an event are described below, while the first such session will be at the end of April.

Teams (IMPS) Scoring

In teams scoring, however, it's the extent of the difference that matters, since the difference between teammates results on each boards are converted to what is called Imps, using the following scale:

Margin	Imps	Margin	Imps	Margin	Imps	Margin	Imps
0-10	0	220-260	6	600-740	12	1750-1990	18
20-40	1	270-310	7	750-890	13	2000-2240	19
50-80	2	320-360	8	900-1090	14	2250-2490	20
90-120	3	370-420	9	1100-1290	15	2500-2990	21
130-160	4	430-490	10	1300-1490	16	3000-3490	22
170-210	5	500-590	11	1500-1740	17	3500-3990	23

So, you can see that a difference of just 10 is worth nothing at all, whereas making a vulnerable game (+620) versus going one down in the same contract at the other table is worth 12, which may be the match. Let's look at a scoresheet from last year's Daytime Teams Final.

Brd	NS Contract	NS Score	EW Contract	EW Score	Diff	Imps +	Imps-
15	4SN-1	-100	4SN-1	+100	0		
16	2DXW+1	-380	3DW-1	-100	-480		-10
17	6SN=	980	4SN+1	-450	+530	+11	
18	3HXW-1	100	4HXW-2	-300	-200		-5
19	3DW-2	200	2SS-1	50	250	+6	
20	4SS=	620	4SS=	-620	0		
21	4HS=	620	5CXW-1	-100	+520	+11	
22	4SE+1	-650	4SW+2	680	+30	+1	
23	3SS-2	-200	3SS	-140	-340		-8
24	3CS-1	-50	3SE+1	170	120	+3	
25	4DN-2	-100	4DXN-2	300	+200	+5	
26	5HS+1	680	4HS+2	-680	0		
27	1NW+3	-180	3SN-1	50	-130		-4
28	6SS-3	-300	6CN=	-1370	-1670		-17
						+37	-44

It was a wild session, the match being determined by the North South pair getting into a system muddle on board 28, playing in the wrong slam for a big loss.

How should you vary your game if playing in a teams event?

The IMP scale helps determine what your tactics should be. For example, if you bid and make a vulnerable game, while the opponents stop in a part score, you will gain +620-170, i.e +450, which is 10 imps. If instead your game fails you will lose -100 and -140 at your team mates table, which is just 6 imps.

The odds aren't quite as good for non vulnerable games, since you will either gain 6 imp (420 -170), or lose 5 imps (-50, team mates -140).

Small Slams: Vulnerable, you either gain 13 or lose 11. Not vulnerable, either gain 11 or lose 11.

Grand slams. Vulnerable, gain 13 or lose 17, not vulnerable either gain 11 or lose 14.

This is quite different from matchpoint pairs, where being the only pair to bid a game or slam may get you a top if it makes, or a zero if it goes down, whereas you would get 60+% for your competent card play had you stayed at a lower level.

Your teams tactics should be as follows:

- Bid your games, particularly if vulnerable.
- Small slams if more than 50%.
- Don't get doubled for a large minus.
- Concentrate on making your contracts since overtricks, at just one imp apiece, aren't especially relevant.
- Check your system agreements – bidding accidents are expensive!
- In particular have a firm understanding with your partner regarding what is promised by an overcall, or a takeout double.
- Do your best to take the opponent's down. A speculative defence might cost a trick, for a small loss, or it might just bring an ample reward.

Prepayment Scheme Procedures Change

Players using the prepayment scheme now receive weekly summaries by text message, rather than by email – too many emails were being rejected, or finished up in player Junk folders.

Prepayment credits should be paid into to the club's bank account BSB 805-050, account number 102-790-715, indicating the purpose of your payment.