

Peninsula News and Views



Newsletter of the Peninsula Bridge Club

Volume 11 No 1 • April 2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT



On 13 Friday Winifred Nielsen celebrated her 90th birthday at the club. Pictured with her are Robyn Hoey and Tina Hewes.

I know that I speak for all members when I wish Winifred a fabulous year, hopefully spending a lot of it with her friends at the club. Winifred's husband (Henning) was the first person I played bridge with at the P.B.C. he was one of life's gentlemen, and an excellent bridge player. He actually told me the first time he saw her he fell in love!

You may have heard that we are trialling a program called Pianola. This computer program allows players to track their results in myriad ways but also and probably more importantly will assist in membership management.

The Technology sub-committee is in charge of Pianola's implementation and you have been sent an email to get you involved. Using Pianola is totally voluntary and if it is of no interest to you, then please feel free not to participate, as it will have no effect on your membership.

Pianola has so many useful features I hope you try it. You can see all of your results and track your performance over time. Pianola allows you to analyse your performance by partner and by role, (declarer, defender, even dummy). As soon as our club uploads the results, Pianola will send you an email with your final score and a breakdown of your performance.

By default, your contact details are private. However, if you choose to, you can share your contact details with other players at the club. Looking for a new partner? You can use Pianola to find someone who's suitable (and hide your advert from people who aren't!). All this information is on the Pianola website and I would like you to test this program with me and help the committee decide whether we should continue with Pianola past the 3mth free trial.

Happy bridging —Sue Riley



Ask the Director—Frank, Fearless and Anonymous

Dear Director, what's the strangest thing you seen this year? - Puzzled

Well Puzzled, funny you should ask. One Friday night I was called to a table to witness this unusual sight. Two dummies!

It seems that the one of the defenders caught up in the excitement of the game placed down her cards as her partner led. What a conundrum.

This makes every card a major penalty card. The declarer can demand or refuse suits to be led, each time the defenders win a trick.

Dear Director, what happens when you get a ruling that is obviously incorrect? Miffed

Well Miffed, I want you to answer a couple of questions. Are you playing in a tournament? Did you make a mistake? If the answer to the first question is NO and your answer to the second question is YES, then I have a 3 word response: SUCK IT UP. You've made a mistake, you need to be punished. The Director has also made a mistake, don't worry we will ridicule him/her at the next Directors committee meeting. If you don't want bad rulings don't make mistakes, — SUCK IT UP!



Peninsula kicks bridge butt at the Gold Coast Congress

The best performance at the Gold Coast this year was Chris Duggin and Faye Carnovale. They came first in the Restricted Pairs Championship. Well done champs.

Maurice and Rachael Loomes came 4th in the Restricted section of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs

Vivien Eldridge and Alan Davies came 8th in the Intermediate Pairs Championship which is an another great result.

Dot Saxon-Williams and Sue Falkingham came 10th in the Novice Pairs.

Cath Whiddon and Lyn Smith won the Walk In Pairs



Chris Duggin and Faye Carnovale

Gold Coast Congress Board 16

North – Faye Carnovale
South – Chris Duggin

North		East	
♠	AKQ76	♠	842
♥	K9864	♥	QJT72
♦	43	♦	KJ
♣	3	♣	T98

West		South	
♠	JT953	♠	A
♥	53	♥	AQ9752
♦	T86	♦	AKJ754
♣	Q64		

Contract was 6♦ by South. West led 5♥, taken by South with the A. South leads A♣ then trumps a small club in dummy. AK♠ and K♥ led from dummy, all clubs in South hand discarded except K. Small ♦ led from dummy and finessed. South then plays rest of the ♦ and K♣ making 13 tricks.

Gold Coast Congress Board 20

North – Faye Carnovale
South – Chris Duggin

North		East	
♠	AKQ94	♠	T82
♥	6	♥	AKT43
♦	3	♦	T7
♣	KQJ842	♣	A93

West		South	
♠	6	♠	J753
♥	QJ85	♥	972
♦	Q962	♦	AKJ854
♣	T765	♣	

Contract was 6♠X by North. Lead from East was A♣ which was trumped in dummy. North then took out the trumps finishing in own hand. Led rest of the ♣ discarding all ♥ and small ♦. Led the ♦ from own hand and played A then discarded the ♥ under the K. Trumped remaining ♦ making 13 tricks. Score 1860.

Stories from the coal face—thanks to MrAce from BBO forums

In Turkey we have this guy named Mahmut at the bridge club, who is famous for his attitude vs his partners. He always complains about his regular partner Orhan. His partner, a very well educated engineer and a decent player, one day decided not to put up with Mahmut's insults and said "Mahmut, if I hear one more time he did this he did that, he did not do this, I swear to god that will be the end of our partnership. This is partnership game, if you are going to talk I want you to use the words WE or US from now on, please"

Mahmut said ok and apologized.

One month later we had a huge tournament in a neighbouring city, all the famous players from Istanbul were coming and this was what Mahmut was waiting for, to prove himself. He was waiting to especially beat the famous Melih Ozdil if gets a chance. He had been talking about this all the way during the travel in the bus to the neighbouring city (Mersin)

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Anyway, when the tournament ended and i was going through score sheets. I saw one of the boards where almost all EW made 2 Diamonds making three. And I saw one score that says 2 Diamonds doubled for NS. I saw it was Melih Ozdil who made it and I went to him to correct the score. He said the score is correct, he played 3-3 fit and made it. Of course this was against Mahmut and Orhan.

So I walked towards Mahmut and Orhan who were sitting at the table, and obviously they weren't happy. And I asked "how did it go?"

Mahmut jumped from his chair but suddenly remembered his promise to his partner and then started saying "OUR bidding was (pointing to himself with his hand) great, but WE (pointing at his partner with his finger) didn't play or defend good at all "

Peninsula is expanding its nighttime activities

If you're a creature of the night and want to play in Sydney's best bridge club then Peninsula has a special treat in store for you. It's also a great opportunity to invite a friend along, especially if they're not a member....(hint, hint).

On Wednesday, May 20 the club is starting a regular Wednesday evening duplicate competition. It's going to be a little different from other nights:

- ⇒ There will be a non playing Director guaranteeing that people without a partner will always get a game
- ⇒ **It will be Brown Sticker friendly**

Kickoff will be 7.30pm, please get there at least 15 minutes beforehand so that partners and set up can be sorted

Peninsula is also planning to commence open duplicate games on Monday evenings, probably starting June or July.

Peninsula is a venue par excellence—you get pre-dealt hands, bidding boxes, bridge mates, printed hands at the end of the evening, a dedicated spacious room that does not need to be packed away, all for \$5 for members. It really is a steal.

Peninsula takes on Manhattan, or how your Editor scored a game at New York's No 1 Bridge Club

Your intrepid Editor found himself at a loose end the other month while on holiday in Manhattan and did what any self respecting Peninsula member would do in this situation. I searched the internet for a convenient bridge club and turned up unannounced looking for a game.

As long as I had \$25 and was able to find a willing partner, it was all systems go. Fortunately people without partners turn up on a regular basis and before I knew it I was partnered with Barbara Moss, a stylish woman wearing leather pants that were straight out of a fashion shoot. There were lots of things that were similar, lots of



differences. For \$25 you get a light meal, endless refills of soft drink, all in a room that was relatively unimpressive, lots of tables squeezed in, much more like Willoughby than Peninsula.

Now for a big difference—if you pay a pro's table fee (\$25) and an additional \$100—\$150, you can secure the services of a player who would normally stab themselves in the eye before deigning to play with you.

At one table there was a woman sitting next to us but not playing and I was told that she was a personal coach who would take notes and explain to her clients what they did well and what they needed to work on. All for a fee of course.

As with all sessions we had some good boards and some not so good ones. We were under time pressure on one board and my partner after a few exploratory bids went 3NT. With 18pts opposite an opener I wondered if should I do a logical exploration for slam or just go for it. Tick, tock....I just went for it

Board 18
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A 3	♥ K 5 4	♦ A K Q	♣ Q 10 9 7 5
♠ J 9 7 5 4	♥ Q 8 7	♦ 8 6	♣ J 8 6
			♠ Q 2
			♥ A 10 9 3
			♦ J 9 7 5
			♣ A K 3
			♠ K 10 8 6
			♥ J 6 2
			♦ 10 4 3 2
			♣ 4 2

EW 6N; E 6♥; EW 6♦; EW 6♣; W 5♥; EW 2♠; Par -990

Just as well I did because 6NT is cold. On a ♠ lead I played the Q and lost to the K, with 12 tricks now ripe for the taking. I was happy that I made the right bid.

What did I learn? When you're asked what standard you are, don't lie. I said I was an intermediate player and was thankful not to be playing in the professional section, they would have chewed me up.

I was also fascinated to see professionals willing to play with weaker players for a fee and wondered if that's something that we could explore at Peninsula

Have you joined the Peninsula Bridge Club Facebook page yet?

Peninsula has set up a Facebook Group Page called Peninsula Bridge Club. This page has an immediacy that's lacking in more conventional forms of communication. Already over 30 members have joined.

If you're on Facebook please visit and check us out, send an email to tiliqua@optusnet.com.au and I'll send you an invite.



Kelly Barber under the microscope.

Kelly regularly attends the club both as a player and Director. While running a family as well as working full time she somehow manages to be on the Peninsula Bridge Club Committee, additionally being available to assist with the Club's Bridge Education program. Proof that if you want something done, ask a busy per.....

Who taught you to play bridge? My mother, in my teenage years and later my mother and I had formal lessons at Trumps under Derek Brown

What system do you play? Standard American (Ed—I'm hoping to lure her to 2 over 1)

How often do you play a week? Not enough! 2-3 times a week

Do you have any tricks for maintaining your concentration? When playing the last couple of rounds, take at least three deep breathes, it helps me not feel so sleepy and aids in concentration

If you could change anything about bridge, what would it be? Nothing, thank you for asking. (Ed it's my job...lol)

What characteristics make for a good partner? One that can laugh over each other's mistakes, always thanks you for dummy's cards even when you have nothing or a misfit! And one that very rarely gives post mortems after each hand

Do you find it hard to find a regular partner? Yes and no, I find working in full time employment makes it hard to keep regular partners and I also I like to be available to mentor up and coming bridge players

Have you made many friends through playing bridge? Yes many lasting friendships

Who is your favourite Director? As a director, I think all directors are wonderful and do a great job (Ed—I need a bucket)

Are multi 2s essential for the modern bridge player? As I don't use this convention I cannot comment, however playing against multi 2s is challenging requiring a lot more thought about how to bid to game and how to defend against

What trump asking convention do you use? I use both Gerber and Blackwood (straight) as Blackwood key-card is difficult with my dyslexia

What criteria do you use for a penalty double? Above the 3 level and using my instincts (it just feels right to double) I am very selective whom I double especially in friendly play, I like to make friends not enemies (Ed—I hate nice guys)

Have you ever redoubled a slam contract and made it? Once, oh what a feeling!

Is squeeze play part of your repertoire? Yes I strive to achieve this into my defensive play

Do you have a favourite bridge book? Books by Audrey Grant, as I found them easy to understand and the examples of declarer play and defence were easy to follow

What advice would you give a new player? Jump in the deep end and swim with the sharks! In other words, less supervised play and more regular session bridge play with your regular partner

Is Peninsula is good club, if so, why? Excellent for me, as it's close to my home and where I can be of service, with directing, being involved in the Committee and teaching/supervising bridge; when and if required

Please stop my head from exploding — L'Orange Magoo

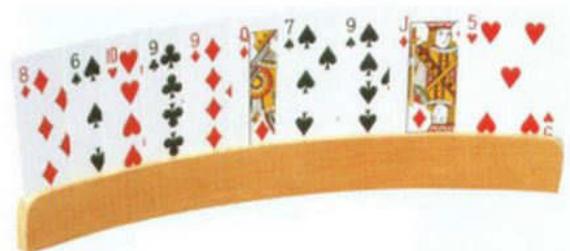
In bridge there are players who would rather win than make friends and I also believe there are players who happily take advantage of opponents inadvertently revealing their cards.

Let's face it, finessing is a bitch, it's much easier if you know where a queen is lurking rather than having to guess and unfortunately way too many people playing at Peninsula help the more devious declarers.

I am certain for every opponent who asks you to keep your cards hidden there are a number who silently say thank you and proceed to get a dodgy benefit.

If you have ever been told more than once in a session to stop flashing your cards to all and sundry please buy a card holder from the Bridge Shop for under \$20 and help L'Orange—after all no-one wants their head to explode.

Phone [9967 0644](tel:99670644) and talk to Nick, he'll even post it one to you



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