

**Welcome to the
Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club**



NEWSLETTER

October, 2011

C HANGE OF VENUE

From *Saturday October 22* to *Saturday October 29* all bridge play sessions and lessons will be held in the Downstairs Office facility.

The entrance is just before the stairs to the Chinese Restaurant. If in doubt, please ask at the desk.

MONDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

As you may be aware, Monday Evening sessions were suspended in early August due to poor attendance.

In the past this was one of the largest games, probably because we had more members who were still working. The committee now needs to decide whether to cancel this session or to reinstate it.

If you are willing to attend Monday night sessions on a regular basis please advise any member of the committee.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION

At the AGM members indicated willingness to receive the draft minutes by email. Please confirm you would like this by an email which includes your name to:

cclcbridgeclub@westnet.com.au

We can also send changes of venue, and this Newsletter.

NEW and REJOINING MEMBERS

A warm welcome to:

Nancy de Ville; Helen and Murray McMillan; Pauline Bartley; Kay Tabor; Ava de Zueew.

RECENT RESULTS

ZELDA OVERHALL CUP THURSDAY SEP 8 9 tables

Five of the eighteen pairs were eligible for the Cup. Congratulations to the winners of this special event:

Trophy - Denise & John Branson (*Regional and below)

Special Prize - Barbara & Hans Smits (**Local and below)

Placegetters (eligible for Red points but not the trophy) were:

1st	Kathy & John Mitchell	71.2%
2nd	Toni Dixon & Helen Gulliver	68.0%
3rd	Joy Fogg & Camilla Barlow	60.3%

SPRING PAIRS WEDNESDAY SEP 14 11.5 tables

1st	Nancye Joss & Adele Mills	62.1%
2nd	Patricia Bowles & Kaylee Lemon	61.5%
3rd	Bob Morris & Gwen White	59.9%

INTER-CLUB TEAMS THURSDAY SEP 22 14 teams

1st	Sally Clarke, Helen Eaton, Ronnie Ng, Kaylee Lemon	132
2nd	Nancye Joss, Adele Mills, Lorraine & Jack Lindsay	109
3rd	Phillip Morris, Josie Ryan, Irma Heyting, Anne Steel	108

MONTHLY SHIELD

The lead of Nancye Joss and Lyn Pears is unchanged with a total of 82 for 6 sessions. Judy Wulff and Marilyn Whigham are still on 67 for 5 sessions but Dorothy and Peter Berzins are hot on their heels with 66 for 5 sessions. Anything can still happen!

CONGRESSES

PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS September 10/11

Butler Pairs Angie & Kevin Dougall 6th out of 52

26 Teams

Lorraine & Jack Lindsay, K Wilks, R Broughton	8th
Peter & Dorothy Berzins, Angie & Kevin Dougall	9th

HUNTERS HILL 52 Teams September 14

Carolyn Molloy, Frances Lyons, Jan Clarke, D Bennett	8th
Jacqui Wilson, Christine Hadaway, Susan McCall, Pam Joseph	19th

GREAT LAKES

September 17/18

The Central Coast players was well represented and players enjoyed some good results:

Pairs	Final (/14)	1st	Sally & Gary Clarke
		5th	Kerry Murray & Rhonda Innes
		7th	Irma & Gary Heyting
		8th	Jan Clarke & Frances Lyons
		Plate(/14)	1st
6th	Dorothy & Peter Berzins		
10th	Judy Wulff & Marilyn Whigham		
A Consolation(/18)	8th	Jacqui Wilson & Gwen White	
B Consolation (/17)	2nd	Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen	
	3rd	Pam Joseph & Susan McCall	

Teams - 32

- 4th Colin & Wendy Mitchell, Louis Koolen, Barbara Grant
- 5th Jan Clarke, Frances Lyons, Gary & Sally Clarke
- 8th Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman, Sylvia Foster, Patricia Kull
- 13th Gwen White, Jacqui Wilson, Susan McCall, Pam Joseph
- 14th Barry Foster, Hope Tomlinson, Martin Johnson, Jenny Buckley

CARDS RATINGS—MOST IMPROVED

September

Diane Nichols	1.38	Lyn Pears	0.52
Jim Swindells	1.02	Joan Brierty	0.48
Paul Unger	0.87	Tony Davis	0.46
John White	0.62	Carol Farrell	0.44
Nancy Asquith	0.53	Jane Langridge	0.40

SMILE AWHILE

Law of Probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Variation Law: If you change lines or traffic lanes, the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

Law of the Bath: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Logical Argument: Anything is possible if you do not know what you are talking about.

THE NEED FOR AN ARROW-SWITCH

At the request of Tony Collis I have done some research on this topic. In the explanation that follows I have used information from articles by David Stevenson, Max Bavin, John Probst, David Martin and Australia's Dr Ross Moore and Ian McLennan.

As you know, in a Mitchell movement there are two fields and two winners – the best N/S and the best E/W. N/S pairs play against E/W pairs but never actually play any of the N/S pairs with whom they are competing! Where one winner only is needed a Howell movement can be used because the number of times that each partnership plays boards in the same direction as each other partnership allows a direct comparison of the scores obtained. The validity of this use of comparisons as a measure of "fairness" is due to the fact that also:

- each partnership plays against each other partnership, for an equal number of boards; and
- each partnership plays every board within the movement, from one direction or the other.

If the number of tables is too large for a Howell, the solution to find one winner is the *switched Mitchell*. This differs from an ordinary Mitchell because in comparing the scores, N-S pairs play as E-W on some of the rounds and so actually compete with some E-W pairs. This is achieved by turning some of the boards through 90 degrees, but the question is: how many boards should be arrow-switched? Instinct suggests switching half the boards - but that is wrong! David Stevenson says '*Trust me: arrow-switching is fair, and roughly one board in eight should be switched!*'

To illustrate, Max Bavin (EBU Chief Tournament Director) considers an 8-table tournament, playing 1-board rounds in a Mitchell movement. The best pair in the world is sitting at N/S-1 - the other 15 pairs are all equally matched. Obviously, the best pair in the world would win any tournament - but in which direction would you like to sit in order to come second, and does your choice depend on how many arrow-switches (if any) there will be?

[If you know, or have ever seen, how match points are allocated, you may understand the following – otherwise all I can say is that I have been convinced and converted! Ed.]

Case A - no arrow-switches

With 8 tables, a top on a board is 7. Assume N/S-1 score a top on each board,

receiving $7 \times 8 = 56$ match points (100%). Being equal, the 7 other N/S pairs share the remaining scores (6,5,4,3,2,1,0) receiving 3 per board, a total of $3 \times 8 = 24$ match points each.

Each E/W pair scores 0 when they play N/S-1, but 4 (28/7) match points on the other 7 boards. This comes to $7 \times 4 = 28$ match points (50%). So, you are better off sitting E/W than N/S!

Case B - one arrow-switch

N/S-1 still score **56** match points. The other N/S pairs score 3 when they sit the same way as N/S 1, and 4 when they sit the other way. Note that they sit the other way on 2 of the 8 boards: one when they themselves arrow-switch - the other on whichever boards N/S-1 arrow-switch. So, they score $(6 \times 3) + (2 \times 4) = 26$ match points.

Similarly E/W score 4 match points on 5 boards (sitting the opposite way to N/S 1), 3 match points on 2 boards and zero when they play against N/S-1. This comes to $(4 \times 5) + 3 \times 2 + (0 \times 1) = 26$ match points – the same score as the N/S pairs!

However, the pair who switched against N/S-1 is very lucky! They still score a zero on the switch round, but they score 4 match points on all the other rounds for a final score of **28** (because they never played a board the same way as N/S-1).

Case C - two (or more) arrow-switches

Zero switches was unfair to N/S and 1 switch equalled things out. However 2 switches will move things too far the wrong way and will actually favour the N/S pairs.

Summary

In general terms, less than 1 switch in 8 favours the pairs sitting in the weakest direction and more than 1 switch in 8 favours the pairs sitting in the strongest direction.

Dr. Ross Moore (Mathematics Dept., School of MPCE, Macquarie University) has used computer modelling to produce the definitive answer to the debate on the the recommended rounds where the switches are to occur:

4 to 11 tables	1 switch, any round (usually the last for convenience)
12 to 18 tables	2 switches: any 2 consecutive rounds if an odd no. of tables; for an even the rounds are specified
19 to 24 tables	3 switches etc. etc.

Wendy Mitchell

PERSONAL PROFILE - PART 2 (abridged)

Dorothy Berzins (nee MacLean)

Dorothy came to Gosford in 1982 as the Director of Social Work for Central Coast Health. Her first game of bridge was exactly one week after arriving with a partner arranged for her by Zelda Overhall. Games were held in Gosford on Tuesdays in the upstairs offices of Telstra in Baker Street. It was not long before Dorothy joined the Committee of the Central Coast Bridge Club and helped with raising money for the Long Jetty Hall as well as helping when the Hall was purchased in 1987.

When the Gosford venue became unavailable, Dorothy became part of the group wanting to set up a Club at the CC Leagues Club and was subsequently very involved in the Committee being the inaugural Secretary for two years and President on five occasions during the period 1987 to 1996. Working full time, she could only play on Monday nights and sometimes, Saturdays. Dorothy retired in 2007 having been at Central Coast Health for 24 years. During that time the number of staff under her direction grew from 11 to over 100 spread throughout all the Hospitals and Community Teams. The Social Work Department was also active in Disaster work and closely involved with the Local Disaster Management Committee.

Other than bridge, Dorothy's major interest is family history. As far back as 1976 she obtained the birth certificate for a great-great-grandmother who was born in Germany in 1831 and came to Australia in 1849. Dorothy's mother was a keen family historian and would spend days at the Mitchell Library poring over records on microfiche. Not so now. Dorothy has been able to go back 91 generations to 470 BC through one of her ancestors Fane Edge who was Provost Marshall at Norfolk Island from 1792 until his death in 1803. Though Fane Edge, Dorothy has found that she is related to the Royal Houses of Europe.

While based in Darwin Dorothy made three overseas trips. Six more in ensuing years and three since retirement show Dorothy's love of travelling. She has now been able to increase her bridge playing. She has remained on the Red Cross Regional Advisory Committee and in 2010 joined Red Cross Tele-cross making daily phone calls to older persons living alone.

Dorothy has also been collecting JOKERS for over 30 years and has about 400 in her collection – which some of you have seen recently. As she says: "As a bridge player, what else can you do with Jokers?" She is only too happy to bring her Joker collection in to show anyone who would like to see them and is always keen to gather more if anyone has them to spare.

GRAND SLAM BIDDING

Colin Mitchell

Board 4
 Dlr: W
 Vul: All

♠ J85
 ♥ T753
 ♦ 4
 ♣ QJ652

♠ Q7
 ♥ KQJ8
 ♦ AT3
 ♣ AK73



♠ AT64
 ♥ A642
 ♦ KQJ87
 ♣

4
 19 14
 3

♠ K932
 ♥ 9
 ♦ 9652
 ♣ T984

N:
 S:
 E: 2 ♣ 6 ♦ 7 ♥ 5 ♠ 6NT
 W: 2 ♣ 6 ♦ 7 ♥ 5 ♠ 6NT

This hand occurred in the Spring Pairs on 14 September.

Only one pair bid the grand slam in hearts; four pairs bid a small slam in hearts and two in NT; two pairs managed to stay in game only. To bid to the grand is fairly easy provided that you are using the appropriate methods of control enquiry. e.g.

1C	1D	
1H	4H	
4NT – RKCB	5H	2 controls without the heart Q
5NT	6D	one additional king
6H (missing 1xK)	??	

By asking for kings partner must know that all five controls – 4 aces and the heart king - are held. So there are no immediate losers. With the club void and the long strong diamond suit for discards, seven should be makeable, so bid 7 Hearts.

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

Monthly Shield	Monday 10
# Club Pairs	Wednesday 12/19
<i>Entries close 4pm Monday October 10</i>	
# Restricted Teams	Thursday 13/20
<i>(Less than 400 MP's total for whole team at June 30)</i>	
President's Cup	Monday 31
# Prior entry required	

NOVEMBER

Melbourne Cup Day	Tuesday 1
<i>Returning to the Parkview Room!!! Details on noticeboard soon</i>	
Monthly Shield	Monday 7
Inter-Club Restricted Teams at CCBC	Thursday 10
Remembrance Day Pairs (Red)	Friday 11
Club Teams	Friday 18 & 25
Summer Pairs (Red)	Monday 21

ALERT OR NOT?

Just a few examples of the ABF alerting regulations that seem to regularly cause uncertainty:

Yes	No
2♥ (say) showing hearts and another suit (whether specified or not)	A 2♥ (say) opening, which promises only hearts, whether strong or weak.
Responder's first round weak jump shift or weak jump raise	Single-suited overcalls whether weak, strong or intermediate
A single raise that may be strong or forcing	<i>Self-alerting calls:</i> Doubles; Redoubles; Cue bids of an opponent's denomination/suit; all calls at the 4-level or higher; any 2♣ response to a 1NT opening in an uncontested auction.
A pass which conveys a special meaning as to strength or distribution	
Conventional responses to Stayman	1NT in pass-out seat which may not promise a stopper in opener's suit

Wendy Mitchell Editor