

Coffs Harbour Bridge Club Monthly Newsletter

February 2025

January Club Session Winners

162 members @ end Jan '25

| Date | NS | EW | |
|------|------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1 | P Jonutz & H Eyers | L Powells & T Levitt | Bridge Development < 50 pts section continues on some Monday pm Club sessions Supervised play lessons continue at Club with Colin Tolley at 09.30 hrs Thursdays Sharyn Dilosa beginners sessions on Sunday Feb 9 th and Feb 16 th from 10.00 to 15.00 hrs Paul Marston on-line lessons and practice sessions continue Peter Holland bridge lesson |
| 3 | R Roark & F Gaunt | C & L Coupe | |
| 4 | B Johns & F Gaunt | J Stimpson & H Chalk | |
| 6 | C Tolley & B Herring | P Jonutz & H Eyers | |
| 7 | P Jonutz & H Eyers | | |
| 8 | P Griffin & S Dilosa | T Cooper & J Burrows | |
| 10 | R Roark & P Griffin | T Cooper & N Williams | |
| 11 | J Parker & P Houlton | B Johns & R Aitken | |
| 13 | L Power & J Leach | E Colley & D Strachan | |
| 14 | J Bryant & N Mitchell | | |
| 15 | J Bryant & B Salisbury | B Shallvey & B Brebner | |
| 17 | B Johns & R Aitken | B Shallvey & W Fenton | |
| 18 | B & B Herring | P Houlton & J Parker | |
| 20A | R Roark & D O'Meara | T Cooper & D Hickie | |
| 20B | J Isaacs & M Hosie | C Everson & J Michael | |
| 21 | J Watson & D Johnson | | |
| 22 | J Bryant & B Salisbury | J Stimpson & H Chalk | |
| 24 | R Roark & P Griffin | S & J Thorne | |
| 25 | R Bingham & P Griffin | E Colley & D Strachan | |
| 27 | P Guthrie team & R Levy team | | |
| 28 | J Watson & D Johnson | | |
| 29 | S Dilosa & D O'Meara | R Rutter & V Gayford | |
| 31 | C & L Coupe | C & R Tilley | |

Events this month
Feb 15th Club level Directors course
Feb 17th Red Points Gold Coast Congress

Monthly Quiz Answers from January Newsletter

1. 24 2. Prisoners of Mother England 3. 30270km 4. Can't walk backwards

February Quiz.....Know these ?

- 1. Where is English birthplace of Charles Dickens ? -**
- 2. Who was the only King of France to be canonized ?**
- 3. Where was Rod Stewart born ?**
- 4. The Kara Sea is considered to be part of which Ocean ?**
- 5. The 1999 film The Green Mile was based on a book by whom ?**

There are a lot of Bridge beginners, online educational videos and presentations (see above) in 2025.

If you are nervous about being a beginner
then remember

You don't need to be great to start

BUT

You need to start to be great

Spread the Word

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Signalling to your Partner

Attitude Signals

The most common signalling method is Low to encourage. This method of signalling is called *Reverse Signals (or Upside – Down)*. Some people play High to encourage, which is *Natural Signals*

Signalling on Partners lead

Your first priority when partner leads a card is to try and win the trick, but if partner has played a winner, or dummy has played a winner then you should give an attitude signal.

When to Encourage

You should Encourage if you have an adjacent honour to the card that partner has led or shown. Eg. If partner leads the Ace, encourage if you're holding the Queen, but not the Jack. Partner might have the Ace and King, but not the Queen. Eg. If partner leads the Queen, encourage if you're holding the Ten or the King.

If the opponents are in a suit contract, then you can also encourage when you have a doubleton, and you want to trump in.

If your opponents are in No Trumps, you should also encourage if you have four or more cards in that suit. Partner has presumably led from their long suit, so hopefully you can establish the suit

When to Discourage

You should discourage if you have no honours, and 3 or more small cards and can't trump the suit later. Whatever their contract you should Discourage if you desperately want to switch to a different suit.

Using Signals

When partner leads and you give a signal, that is just your opinion about the defence. Signals are not a demand that partner does or does not continue playing that suit. If you lead the Ace and you have Ace, King, Queen and Jack, then you would expect your partner to have no help in that suit. If your partner discourages a lead, you will sometimes continue playing that suit anyway.

Try to signal as clearly as possible. If you have 3 or 4 cards in a suit, try to play the highest card that you can afford as the signal.

Usually don't use honour cards for signalling. Throwing a picture card usually means that you have a very strong sequence of cards and you throw the highest card. This is very rare.

Signalling on the First Discard

You can use your first discard to show what suit you like

Using Attitude Signals (Low = Like & High = Hate) you have choices about what to discard. You could discard your lowest card in the suit you like (low = Like), or you could discard a high card in one of the suits that you don't like (High = Hate). If you discard a High Card you cannot tell partner specifically which suit you do like, you must hope that partner can work it out. Sometimes you don't like any suits.

Against No Trumps

If you have a good long suit in No Trumps, you generally don't want to discard them, so often you won't throw a Low = Like card. Often you throw a high card from a different suit to rule that out. Sometimes you aren't encouraging a long suit, but you are showing where your entry or stopper is. In this case, you might like use a Low = Like signal.

Against a Suit Contract

If you specifically want a certain suit led, then you can often afford to throw a Low = Like signal. The fourth or fifth round of a suit is often not needed if opponents have trumps. If you don't like anything specific, then discouraging your weakest or worse suit will usually be fine.

If there are other items you might like to see on a monthly / periodic newsletter then please email me with your thoughts to barrybutler45@gmail.com