

Coffs Harbour Bridge Club Monthly Newsletter

November 2025

October Club Session Winners

No of members @ end
of Nov 170 approx

Date	NS	EW
1	H Pitt & R Roark	J Stimpson & H Chalk
3	I Doland & S Dilosa	A & D Anderson
4	H Pitt & R Roark	L Edsall & R Levy
6A	P Griffin & C Tolley	E Hulbert & L Quinn
6B	G Battershell & L Powells	L Edsall & R Levy
7	M Angus & S Duxbury	
8	H Murray & H Lawrence	J Stimpson & H Chalk
10	C Tolley & M Siford	L Quinn & P Haigh
11	R & L Brocker	(E Colley & D Strachan =(L Collins & C Tolley
13	L Power & J Leach	J Stimpson & P Houlton
14	D Featherstone & N McIvor	
15	J Bryant & B Salisbury	A & D Anderson
17	B Salisbury & N Mitchell	B Johns & R Aitken
18	L Essex-Clark & H Chalk	C Tilley & R Rutter
20A	J Bryant & J Burrows	L Edsall & R Levy
20B	K Penhall & R Dierick	R Rutter & P Quillan
21	J Watson & D Johnson	
22	S Dilosa & D O'Meara	A & D Anderson
24	P Houlton & J Bryant	A & D Anderson
25	P Jonutz & N Mitchell	J Stimpson & H Chalk
27A	L Power & B Brebner	E Colley & D Strachan
27B	N Williams & P Guthrie	C Everson & J Michael
28	D Featherstone & N McIvor	
29	S Dilosa & D O'Meara	D Hickie & N Williams
31	E Colley & D O'Meara	A & D Anderson

Bridge Development

Supervised play lessons
continue at Club with **Colin
Tolley** at 09.00 hrs Thursdays

Keep an eye on Bellingen
Camp Creative Options in
January '26 as they now
have Bridge development
lessons on their menu. And
CHBC is involved

**Club AGM
on Monday
24th
November**

Monthly Quiz Answers from October Newsletter

1. 7 2. Mexico 3. Nara

November Quiz.....Know these ?

- 1 Domingo is Spanish for what day of the month ?
2. What was the name of boy raised by wolves in Jungle Book ?
3. How many sides does a hendecagon have ?
4. Only letter that does not appear in any USA state name ?
5. What year did Elvis Presley die ?

HOW OLD IS CONTRACT BRIDGE ?

How old do you think contract bridge is ? Bridge is based on trick taking games that date back many centuries. Whist became the fashion in the mid 1700s, spawning much literature starting with Edmund Hoyle's seminal work, A Short Treatise on the Game of Whist (1742). In 1894, Bridge Whist was introduced to the Portland Club and by 1905 it had transformed into auction bridge. According to British bridge historian Richard Fleet, the idea of contract bridge, where you must undertake to make a certain number of tricks, was first invented in 1912 by Sir Hugh Clayton while he was an English colonial administrator in India. However, the birth of contract bridge is credited to wealthy American railroad tycoon Harold S Vanderbilt. He was on a cruise from California to Cuba on SS *Finland* when he came up with a new scoring table. The scoring has hardly changed since then. That was November 1st 1925

Yes, contract bridge will soon turn 100 !!

Hesitation at the Bridge Table **(Unauthorised Information)**

(Thanks to David Johnson)

There has been some discussion and comments made regarding hesitation before bidding at the club recently and I would like to address this.

Firstly, it is quite ok to hesitate and think before you bid; it is not illegal to do it and if you watch the top players they often think about their hand a long time before bidding.

Secondly it is not illegal or incorrect to pass after your hesitation, and it also happens all the time.

Thirdly it is not illegal and is fine for your partner to bid after you have hesitated and passed. However they must ignore your hesitation and have the proper values for their bid as if you had passed in tempo.

Hesitation is covered in the rules under LAW 16 unauthorised information and is any extraneous information from your partner that might suggest a call or play. It includes, remarks, questions, failure to alert, unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism.

So, a long hesitation is part of the game and if your partner passes after hesitating you have unauthorised information that your partner was thinking of bidding so has some values. *Your opponents also receive this information, and it is perfectly legal for them to use it to their advantage.* You as their partner must not use it and make your bid assuming there was no hesitation and your partner had passed. You must have the values for your bid and if you were thinking of maybe passing or maybe bidding, then you must pass.

If you are the opponents and there has been a hesitation and then their partner bids you are entitled to note that everyone agrees to the hesitation and play out the hand. At the end of the hand after you see the cards and tricks made, if you think the partner of the hesitator should not have bid, call the director to make a judgement at the end of the hand. The director may look at the cards and decide the partner had a valid bid or should not have bid. If it is questionable, he or she will poll other players of similar ranking what they would bid and if any of them would have passed, then an adjusted score with a penalty for the offending team will be applied.

If there is dispute over whether there has been a hesitation or not call the Director immediately.

Two situations where hesitating are illegal are 1) When you have a singleton and hesitate before playing it. And 2) where you obviously have no bid and hesitate which gives the impression you do have a bid.

If you are worried about anything at the table, **call the Director**, they are there to help you.

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