



**Coffs Harbour Bridge Club Newsletter**  
**June 2026**

**How to Practise Slam Bidding**

One of the greatest problems in slam bidding is the infrequency of slam hands during the ordinary run of cards. That is why slam bidding is usually the worse bidding area in every partnership.

One way to practise your slam bidding is to set aside a session where only you and your partner are involved. Take a pack of cards and separate the court cards (aces, kings, queens and jacks) from the other cards. Shuffle the remaining cards face down and remove any 16. Shuffle these 16 together with the court cards, face down, and then deal 13 cards each to yourself and to partner. Leave the remaining six cards face down.

Obviously you and partner will have very strong hands, but since there are six unknown cards, you will not know whether some court cards are missing or not. Bid the hands though, assuming no interference bidding, and take turns in being dealer. After you have completed bidding each hand, separate the court cards again, return the spot cards to their pack, reshuffle the spot cards again, return the spot cards take out a new lot of 16 and reshuffle these 16 with the court cards again.

As you bid the hands, it is a good idea to write down the auction. After the bidding is over, each partner should write down, before looking at the others hand, what you expect to find in your partners hand.

Comparing what you expect to find and what is actually there is often revealing. You can then discuss the recorded auction. This will be helpful in eliminating misunderstandings.

**Answers to May Quiz**

1. Nile & Amazon 2. Pangram 3. Blessing 4. Guilders 5. Sausage 6. Stephen  
Know these ?

1. What language does the word 'algebra' come from ?
2. How many stars on the flag of NZ ?
3. What year did the Beatles form a band ?
4. What is the literal meaning of 'Mardi Gras' ?
5. What is the most common eye colour in humans ?

Are 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](mailto:barrybutler45@gmail.com)