

Victorian Bridge Association Bulletin

August 2021

Editor: Dee Harley

ABF YOUTH COORDINATOR

At the AGM, the ABF Council discussed a 2021 - 2025 Youth Development Plan with the goal of achieving 1000 youth players by year end 2025. As part of that plan, States and Territories agreed to progress youth growth and development.

The ABF is committed to supporting the Youth Development Plan and the Board has agreed that oversight of the various activities in each State/Territory and identification of support requirements is an important part of achieving success in youth development.

To assist with this objective, the ABF Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Rebecca O'Reilly as Chair of State/Territory Youth Coordinators Committee.

Rebecca will be responsible for:

- ensuring close collaboration between the various State/Territory youth coordinators is achieved;
- keeping the Board apprised of the requirements for support with program implementation; and
- coordinating a youth report in each edition of the ABF newsletter.

The ABF Board trusts that you will offer Rebecca and your Youth Coordinator your full support with this initiative. The future of our game is in their hands.

best regards

Kim Frazer

Secretary

Australian Bridge Federation

austbridgefed@gmail.com

ALL CHANGE AT THE VBA

The VBA is considering a major structural change – to be implemented in the very near future. They are planning to sell the premises at Poath Road, and the Victorian Bridge Association will revert to its primary function, which is to oversee Bridge in Victoria and its dozens of affiliated clubs.

Each member of the VBA has been sent a letter containing the proposals, a question-and-answer document and a financial performance summary document. The full details and the letters are also available on the [VBA Website](#).

There will be two principal briefing sessions at Poath Road on Wednesday August 4 at 6 pm and Monday August 9 at 9.30 am. All members and associate members of the VBA are cordially invited to attend those sessions. In the meantime, please direct any, and all questions or comments not covered in the Q&A document, to this email address: secretary@vba.asn.au.

Questions will be collated and answered at the briefing sessions and added to the Q&A document where appropriate.

Change is never easy, however this particular change has been brewing for a while now, and is a clear step in the right direction.

OPPONENTS' KNOWN 2-SUITERS DEE HARLEY

It is important to have an understanding with your partner about how to handle opponents 2 suiters (when we know what their suits are). For example, if you open 1♦ and your left hand opponent bids 2♦ showing the Majors what are the meanings of Double, 2 of a Major, 2NT and 3 of a minor from your partner.

One of the opponents has shown 2 suits, so we can designate the suits they have shown as "their suits" and the other 2 suits as "our suits".

Double

It might be the case of course that you are 5-5 (or similar) in their suits, in which case you have a likely misfit with your partner, but the opponents have a misfit too! So, you should seek to penalise the opponents. In this case you would start with a double which says "I wish to penalise please partner" All subsequent doubles by either partner should be for PENALTY.

Bid one of "our suits"

You may have a limited hand but shapely, with no interest in penalising and no great interest in game (unless partner comes up trumps!). In this case you can raise your partner, or bid the other of "our suits", but be clear...this is non-forcing.

Bid one of "their suits"

To show forcing hands you bid their corresponding suit. There are various ways to relate the suits to each other, so it takes a bit of discussion to be sure how you play it. A bid of the lower of "their suits" would show our lower suit, and the higher of "their suits" would show the higher of our suits – forcing!

In a recent teams match I held this cracker....

♠AJ983 ♥7 ♦- ♣KQ97643

I was wondering how to bid this when partner (as dealer) surprised me by opening 1♣. Admittedly we only promise 2 clubs for this but a 7-2 fit at worst is not to be sniffed at!

We were vulnerable against non-vulnerable opponents, so it wasn't too much of a shock

when RHO piped up with 2NT (showing the red suits).

Based on our understanding I bid 3♥ (the higher of their suits showed I had the higher of our suits ♠) - with a bit to spare, I certainly have a forcing Spade bid.

My left-hand opponent was not to be left at the starting-gate and entered the fray with a 5♦ bid and my partner passed – declining to show Spade support, so I thought it time to test the water with a 6♣ bid – we are vulnerable, but I have little defence and a good chance of making this. Lefty wasn't finished and tried 6♦ which partner doubled and 6♦x became the final contract.

The exciting bidding:

W	N	E	S
	1♣	2NT	3♥*
5♦	Pass	Pass	6♣
6♦	Dbl	All Pass	

The full hand was:

Dir: West	♠ KQ										
Vul: Both	♥ J1032										
	♦ A7										
	♣ AJ1085										
♠ 1062	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 754
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ AK8		♥ Q9654									
♦ 1098653		♦ KQJ42									
♣ 2		♣ -									
	♠ AJ983										
	♥ 7										
	♦ -										
	♣ KQ97643										

Lead: ♠K

We defeated the contract by 3 tricks (I remembered to overtake the ♠Q at trick 2 and was able to cash the 3rd Spade before it ran away. Teammates allowed the opponents to play in 4♠ for 650 so we lost 4 imps. (What fun if you lead your singleton club and partner ruffs it!)

RESULTS

Rye Dromana Swiss Pairs

1. Sylvia Gluck, Ben Kingham
2. Kae French, Geoffrey Johnson
3. Stephen Sharp, Danny Sharp

VBA Winter Swiss Pairs

1. Neil Ewart, Simon Henbest
2. Andrew MacReady-Bryan, Andrew Mill
3. Chris Hughes, Dee Harley

VBA Rothfield Teams

1. Stan Klofa, George Lovrecz
Kitty Muntz, Terri Kay
2. Serhat Ozenir, Bulent Kaytaz
Ismail Gulec, John Yang, Traian Chira
3. Diana Smart, Andrew Macready-Bryan
David Beckett, Michael Phillips
Andrzej Krolikowski

EDITORIAL DEE HARLEY

All quiet on the Western Front, as lockdown again closes down our congresses. Moonee Valley, Yarrowonga, Traralgon, Knox, and Ballarat have all been victims of Covid. It's very sad. Still, bridge continues to be played online, with the added bonus that you can watch the Olympics while you play.

The VBA are restructuring to revert to their primary role of overseeing the game of bridge within Victoria. Looking at the ABF Website it shows that there are 71 Bridge clubs in Victoria, with a total 5,120 members. I reckon they will be able to help out all these clubs, as well as hold central Victorian competitions in the various club premises on a best fit basis.

Something like this will enhance state competitions and raise their stature, in my humble opinion!

VCC - CANCELLED GEOFF SCHALLER

Hello Everyone.

Sadly, I need to confirm what is probably obvious to most of you, that the VCC for 2021 has been cancelled. The primary reason is the continuing lockdown for the ACT and NSW. It reduces the field below the table count we think is fair for all players and for the award of PQP points. There is still a cloud hanging over other interstate participants and Victoria is likely to endure further lockdowns. Hence all players, EXCEPT those who paid by Bank Transfer, should now withdraw their entries. This is the process:

- The primary payer should withdraw the team or pair.
- Your event entry fees will be pushed back into Bridge Credits
- Those requiring a Credit Card refund should now create a Support Request in MyABF requesting this.
- Obviously, you can use your Bridge Credits for other online or physical events
- Those who paid by Bank Transfer, DO NOT WITHDRAW. Contact me directly for specific instructions.

I might also take this opportunity to let you know that the VBA will be running an Online Spring Congress over the same weekend so we encourage you all to enter from MyABF. Saturday will have a Swiss pairs event with a teams event running Sunday. It will have a strong table count and a high standard of play so please consider entering.

Apart from that, I would like to thank Laurie, Andrew and Laura for effort expended that went nowhere, the VBA Council for its undying enthusiasm and moral support, and the ABF for helping us sort out refunds and manage MyABF. I am also sorry for the other directors, scorers, and administrators that we were unable to proceed.

All I can say is this: look forward to 2022 because we are going to smash it!

VALE: JUDY LARSEN
25 JULY 1940 – 13 JULY 2021



Judy Larsen has been the heart, soul and backbone of the Essendon and then Moonee Valley Bridge Club for more than 40 years.

She served on the Management Committee for many years, including as President for 22 years. She was granted Life Membership in 1991. Judy had a warm and inclusive personality and took a genuine interest in everyone's well-being.

Judy was a keen competitive bridge player who gained Grand Master status. She played successfully in numerous Victorian Congresses and regularly attended the 2 week Summer Festival of bridge in Canberra since the 1990s. She won Moonee Valley's Annual Pairs and Teams Championships among other competitions.

VALE: LAURENCE MAXWELL ATTWOOD
27 AUGUST 1952 – 4 JULY 2021



Larry participated regularly at both the VBA and Waverley in duplicate sessions. A passionate player, Larry was a deep thinker of the game who enjoyed nothing more than partnering his wife, Kate. I remember playing against Larry in a dicey slam contract during a duplicate session at the club. I managed to guess the trump suit correctly and Larry's first comment at the end of the hand was 'How could I have made it harder for you?' This, to me, epitomised Larry's approach to the game. He was a very gentle man but a keen competitor in all that he tried. His passion for bridge was matched by his devotion to his beloved West Coast Eagles and dual loyalty to the Brisbane Lions.

Larry found great solace and comfort in his religious beliefs and through his family. After moving to Melbourne in the 90s, he immediately established himself within his local church community, becoming great friends with many parishioners.

Larry will be sadly missed at the VBA. Taken from us tragically, we will always remember his happy smile, generous heart, and willingness to help out.

PLAY PROBLEM #20 - SOLUTION

Last month you had a small slam to make:

Dir: West ♠ J632
 Vul: E/W ♥ AQ2
 ♦ A6
 ♣ KQJ2

♠ 8	<table style="margin: 0 auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">N</td><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♠ 109</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">E</td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♥ ?</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">S</td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♦ 7?</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♣ ?</td></tr> </table>	N		♠ 109	W	E	♥ ?		S	♦ 7?			♣ ?	♠ 109
N		♠ 109												
W	E	♥ ?												
	S	♦ 7?												
		♣ ?												
♥ 4?		♥ ?												
♦ K?		♦ 7?												
♣ ?		♣ ?												

♠ AQ754
 ♥ K9
 ♦ 985
 ♣ A109

Contract 6♠

Lead: ♦K

There was no opposition bidding.

The play to the first three tricks is as follows:

T1: Win the ♦A (East follows with the ♦7)

T2: ♠2, ♠9, ♠Q, ♠8

T2: ♠A, ♥4, ♠3, ♠10

So, East has a guaranteed trump trick. Can you still make this?

If East holds three clubs you can imagine throwing a diamond loser while he ruffs with his winning trump, however you would still have another diamond loser. This hand requires that first, you are able to cash three Heart tricks – throwing a diamond from your hand. THEN you can play four rounds of clubs, hoping that East started out with at least three Clubs. If he ruffs the fourth round then you throw your last diamond, and you have squeaked home. Playing the Hearts first, then the clubs will get you home if East has at least three cards in both Clubs and Hearts.

TP was the only person to send me the correct solution.

PLAY PROBLEM #21

Here is a tricky one. How are you to make 4♠ on this hand?

Dir: West ♠ K872
 Vul: E/W ♥ K76
 ♦ A7642
 ♣ 5

♠ ?	<table style="margin: 0 auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">N</td><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♠ ?</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">E</td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♥ ?</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">S</td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♦ ?</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">♣ ?</td></tr> </table>	N		♠ ?	W	E	♥ ?		S	♦ ?			♣ ?	♠ ?
N		♠ ?												
W	E	♥ ?												
	S	♦ ?												
		♣ ?												
♥ ?		♥ ?												
♦ ?		♦ ?												
♣ 6?		♣ ?												

♠ Q654
 ♥ AQJ
 ♦ 985
 ♣ AK2

Contract 4♠

Lead: ♣6

Bidding

W	N	E	S
		1♣	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

East opened the bidding, so must have most of the points. Can you see your way to 10 tricks? (without losing 4).

Send me the best line please:
dee_harley@hotmail.com

Suit Combination:

This month you hold A8 opposite your partner's K10943

How would you play this suit for 3 tricks?

What about for 4 tricks? And if you need 5?

Assume you have plenty of entries to both hands.

Decide how you would play before peeking at the [Solution](#) on [P6](#)

♣♣♣ **KNAVE OF CLUBS** ♣♣♣
RETAINING TRUMP CONTROL

This hand occurred in a club teams contest. North's rebid of 3♥ is a mini-splinter bid and agrees spades but does not imply any extra values. This is possible since 2♥ would have been a reverse and so forcing for one round. West led the ♣Q. Declarer took the trick with dummy's ace and cashed the ace of trumps, pleased to find that the suit was not 4-0. Now he could count at least four trump tricks and three tricks in the minors. As ruffing two hearts would bring the total to only nine tricks when the trumps were not 2-2, he set about establishing the diamond suit. He continued with ♦A, ♦K and another diamond. When East followed, declarer was about to ruff the trick with a low trump when the thought occurred to him, "If I ruff this, what will happen if West has three trumps and only two diamonds?" The answer was, "West will overruff with the spade ten, cross to partner's hand with the king of clubs and a fourth round of diamonds will promote West's queen of spades."

Teams:

Dir: North

♠ AK65

Vul: E/W

♥ 2

♦ K8653

♣ A74

♠ Q108

♠ 4

♥ AJ95

♥ K1063

♦ 92

♦ QJ104

♣ QJ108

♣ K962

♠ J9732

♥ Q874

♦ A7

♣ 53

	N	
W		E
	S	

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
-	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Lead: ♣Q

The solution to this problem came to declarer after a moment's thought. He could avoid this

fate by discarding his losing club. If East could play a diamond then declarer would ruff low and the defenders could take at most two more tricks. At the table, East tried to cash the king of clubs, which declarer ruffed. Next, a low heart was conceded and the defenders were without recourse. East won and played another club. Declarer ruffed, played a trump to the ace and ruffed a diamond with the jack of trumps, establishing a long card in the suit. All West could take was the queen of trumps. Of course, declarer should have ducked the opening lead of the ♣Q and won the continuation, whatever it was. He could then draw one round of trumps and play a heart and be completely safe on the lie of the cards. The technique of playing one trump with this holding should be noted. Try drawing two trumps and explore what can go wrong.

Solution to Suit Combination ([page 5](#))

This month you hold A8 opposite your partner's K10943

Needing 3 tricks: You can guarantee 3 tricks by leading the Ace playing low from dummy then play the 8 and if the next hand does not play a quack (Q or J) then you run it. Even if the suit breaks 5-0 this will work. (100%)

Needing 4 tricks: For this to work you need to find the suit splitting 3-3, or find a doubleton honour in either hand, so play the Ace from hand and the 3 from dummy, then play to the King (or cash the King) (69.44%)

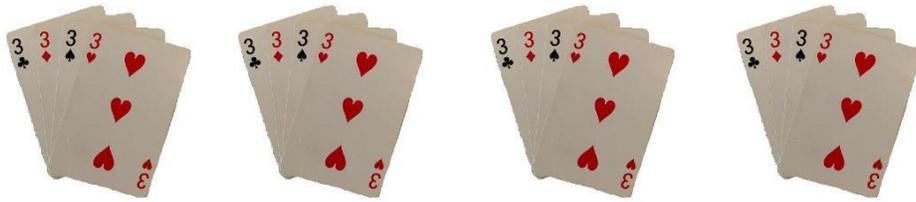
Needing 5 tricks: you need the miracle of QJ doubleton. So again you play the Ace and when a quack drops you cannot repeat a finesse if the suit breaks 4-1, so you just go for the drop! (3.22%)

A bridge playing bunny found a magic lantern and gave it a rub. Whoosh – a genie appeared, saying "I grant you one wish". "Wow" says the bunny – "here is a map of the world, and I'd like all these countries to live together in peace forever..."

The genie exclaimed, "C'mon bunny I'm only a genie – haven't you got something more sensible to wish for", so the bunny says "I'd like to be a really good bridge player and perhaps win the club championship". "Hmm" says the genie...can I see that map again?

Victorian Team of Three

Saturday 7th August, 2021



VBA Clubrooms, 131 Poath Road, Murrumbeena

6 x 8 board Tams matches, 10am Start

- Enter as a team of three players. You will be allocated a Top Player as the fourth member of your team.
- Each player in the team plays 2 matches with each other team member.

Cost: \$60 which includes lunch and a \$5 contribution to the fund-raising pool for the Victorian Youth Team who will represent the State in the ANC in Perth in November.

- Enter via the VBA website.
- If you would like to play but don't have team-mates, please email the club (info@vba.asn.au) or call Andrew on 0417 543 076.