



#### SESSION TIMES

Monday	1.30pm
Wednesday	9.30am & 7.00pm <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Wed</b> 1pm Rookies
Friday	9.30am
Saturday	1.30pm

**Please be seated and paid at least 10 minutes prior to the above times.**

#### CONTACT US

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### *What's On*

- 12 June Clark Trophy
- 16 June Teams Morning
- 14 June Rookie Rivalry
- 18 June OBC Teams Championship
- 28 June Tops and Bottoms

## *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

### *Orange Bridge Club 36<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party*

Members who attended our birthday party celebrations on Sunday 28 May 2023 had a wonderful day. A very warm welcome was extended to Colina Huxtable and Nan Mulcahy and we were delighted to have them join in the celebrations.

*Happy happy birthday* to Enid Dawes and Margaret Longstaff who also celebrated their birthdays on the day. Also to Betty Stewart whose birthday was earlier in the week.

Thank you to everyone who assisted in preparing for the party. Special mentions go to Kathy Redfern who decorated the room and David Woodside (honorary member) who did the delicate work of hanging the decorations from the ceiling.

Also special mentions to Helen Nicol for organising the birthday cake which was delicious; Piers Bannatyne who was the sommelier for the day and our photographers for the day - Janine

and George – thank you both. It is always important to record special events.

The cake was cut by our own Bridge Club “treasure” Enid Dawes. Enid has contributed so much to OBC over many years and a lot of our members would be astounded to know the extent of her contributions in so many ways.



## Orange Bridge Club Newsletter

### ***Australia Wide Novice Pairs***

Congratulations to Margaret Corby and Barbara Shelley who came **9<sup>th</sup> out of the top 50 players Australia wide with 68%.** Well done – we are so proud of you.

Other top ranking pairs for our Club in the competition are Kay Davison and Vicki Smith who came 79<sup>th</sup> with 61.5% and Allan Kerrigan and Julie Kerrigan who came 133<sup>rd</sup> with 59.3%.

If you wish to see all the results, you will find them at [australiabridge.com](http://australiabridge.com).



### ***New Members***

Warm welcome to Phil Cummings who has chosen OBC as his home Club.

### ***Vale***

On behalf of Orange Bridge Club, deepest sympathy is extended to Betty Stewart on the recent loss of her husband Neville.

### ***Contributions to the Newsletter***

If any member wishes to make contributions to the newsletter, please let me know. Our first educational contribution is included this month.

## ***TEACHER'S TALK***

Rookie Rivalry will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1pm instead of supervised play.

We have received very positive feedback from the players who competed in the first event of the year on 24 May.

Congratulations to Joan Gillespie and Sue Jessop who came first. Well done to everyone who competed you were amazing at time keeping and card play.

To compete in the Rookie event you will need to have less than 11MPs. You don't need to have a partner to play. The event is master pointed.

Next Rookie Rivalry will be on **14 June 2023.**

The second lot of lessons for 2023 begin in July and will be held over a 10 week period.

***MASTER...ful***   
***Masterpoint Promotions for May 2023***

***Duncan Stuart - Silver Local***  
***Roslyn McGroder - Club***

## EDUCATIONAL

From time to time, I will include educational material in the Newsletters which I hope will be of benefit to all members.

**David Fryda is the first contributor so a big “thank you” to David.**

### Thank you Partner ... What's next?

**Question One:** What's the first thing you should do as declarer when dummy goes down on the table?

**Question Two:** What's the second thing you should do?

Most bridge players know the answers to both of these questions and nearly everyone does the answer to the first question.

Why then, do so many players call for a card so quickly from dummy after saying “Thank you Partner”?

Planning how you will play a hand is typically critical to your success as a declarer.

In Beginner's lessons we are taught to count our winners in No Trumps and count our losers in suit contracts. These days the “expert” players also advocate that it is important to count your winners as well in a suit contract. We were taught that if there are not enough winners to make your contract you need to explore how to create more winners.

If we are playing in a teams (or IMP scoring) event then all we have to do is make our contract. However, often we are playing match points and making more tricks than the other pairs is the difference between a good score and an average or poor score.

But irrespective of the scoring method, pausing at trick one and counting tricks and losers will often make the difference between making a contract or failing. It is at trick one that you not only count your winners and losers, you should also be formulating your plan of the order in which you

will play. If you don't do that at trick one you might win the trick in the wrong hand or you might let the momentum get the better of you and go on to trick two without sufficient thought.

Here's an example of why it is so important to do this. Let's say you hold this card combination:

### **K732 opposite AQ984**

Ninety percent of the time it does not matter how you play this suit because the four missing cards will be split two-two or three-one and playing the Ace, King and Queen will result in the opponent's cards in the suit being drawn. But ten percent of the time (that's three times each session!) the missing cards will split four-zero. If the J1065 are sitting underneath the hand with the King then we are always going to lose a trick in the suit. But if all four cards are on the other side then you don't have to have a loser. By playing the King first and seeing the opponent with a void show out you are now able to play twice towards the Ace Queen hand (assuming you have an entry to the hand with the King). However, if you play small away from the King to the Ace and then you see that there was a void you have just unnecessarily lost a trick! The mathematicians amongst you will know that this happens five times out of every hundred. That may not seem like a lot but five good scores is better than none!

I have been playing bridge for a long time now and seeing these things still requires brain power! So, if I don't stop and think these things through, I end up with a sore leg from kicking myself!

Back in beginners we were also taught that you should typically draw trumps first or establish your long suit first if you are playing No Trumps. But what if you need to ruff a loser in the short trump hand and you have already drawn a round of trumps? If that's the case then your astute opponents might play another round, or two, of trumps before you can take that important ruff!

Alternatively, in No Trumps, you may need those entries to dummy's hand, via the long suit to take a finesse in a side suit and if you have cashed all of those long suit winners already, it might be too late!

## Orange Bridge Club Newsletter

If you find planning the play of a hand at trick one to be challenging then here's a tip: try sorting the cards in your own hand by sequencing the cards in the order in which you might play them. This makes it easier to visualise and will also make it easier to execute the plan. Often times this exercise also highlights an issue for you that you may not otherwise have seen.

Of course, life, and bridge, doesn't always go the way we planned. So, be prepared to re-plan as well. And if we have stopped and formed a plan at trick one, it is much easier to re-plan at trick four, five or six because we have such a good "picture" of the hand in our minds already.

So, the next time I hear you say, "Thank you partner, small please" you will know why I have a smile (or smirk) on my face!

Happy bridging.

*Margaret Barker*

