



UNDERCROFT BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018



UBC ANNUAL CONGRESS



Convenor Connie Coltrona with
UBC President Graham Milward



Best Qualifying
Edward Roscoe and Jean Muller

Pairs Final



1st Trevor Fuller - Nick
Cantatore

Pairs Plate



1st Jennifer Skinner - Angela
Newton



2nd Martin - Valerie Broome



2nd Carol Netscher - Mei Huang



3rd Viv Wood - Gerry Daly

Consolation



3rd Phil Jacobsen - Arfah Yusof

Congress Teams



1st Cynthia Belonogoff - Deana Wilson



1st Viv Wood - Trevor Fuller - Gerry Daly - Ron Cooper



2nd Lorraine Rea - Alan Tolley



2nd Fusako Hashimoto - Noriko Sakashita - Ted Sakashita - Marcey Spilsbury



3rd Judy Clear - Margaret
Melsom



3rd Jonathan Free - Susan
Collinson - Rose Moore - Linda
Coli - Mimi Packer

CONGRATULATIONS ALL

'Twas The Night Before Christmas

Submitted by: Sharron Voohees (www.bridgeguys.com/)

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring, not even my spouse.
The cards were all shuffled, but I'd gone to bed,
Visions of grand slams a-dance in my head.

When all of a sudden there arose such a scream,
I sprang from my bed to see what did it mean.
Away down the stairs I flew like a flasher,
Peered round the corner, and lo there was Dasher
And Dancer and Prancer and Rudolph and Vixen
And Comet and Cupid and Donder and Blitzen.

Then what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But Santa and Rudoph and all the reindeer,
Playing bridge by the gleam of Rudolph's red nose
As cheery and bright as a new Christmas rose.

Four notrump, five spades, the bidding went higher,
Five notrump, six hearts, oh my, we're on fire!
Seven spades, seven notrump, the contract was set.
On Santa and Rudolph I wagered my bet.

I waited quite breathless, my heart it was beating,
Predicting the outcome of this sudden meeting.
But Santa just winked and twisted his head,
Soon letting me know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word but went straight to his work,
Taking all the tricks then turned with a jerk.
And when it was over, he'd made it look easy,
Leaving me feeling a little bit queasy.

Then laying a finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.
And I heard him exclaim as he rode out of sight,
"Grand slams in the New Year to all and to all a good night!"





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From Graham Milward

It was great to see so many people enjoying the three major events held during the last couple of months. Namely the October Congress, Melbourne Cup Day and the Open Swiss Pairs. Many thanks to all members who contributed to the successful running of these events, specifically Nick Jakowyna, Des Warner, Connie Coltrona, Sharon Dyball, David Cowell and Brian Whelton.

Perhaps I am biased, but I believe 2018 has been a wonderful year at Undercroft. Events have run smoothly, we have a beautiful new kitchen, thanks to a lot of hard work by Connie and Mark Cooper, the budget surplus is sitting a little above what was predicted, quite a lot of new faces are appearing at sessions, and I have a Committee of capable hard-working people. On top of that I always have lots of fun when I play bridge.

In my role as president I get a great amount of pleasure seeing members enjoy the game and associated good company. What disappoints me is receiving reports of and seeing people behaving poorly, thereby reducing the pleasure others might gain. All too often experienced, skilled players are the culprits and relative newcomers the victims. If you don't have something pleasant to say to an opponent, OR your partner, please avoid saying anything. The Laws of Bridge require that you don't say anything which may be upsetting.

Now I have that off my chest, very best wishes for Christmas and a happy 2019.

MerryChristmas



UBC OPEN SWISS PAIRS

By David Cowell - Convenor

Due to circumstances beyond our club's control the 2018 Undercroft Open Swiss Pairs, became a one day event and was played on Sunday 25th November. This was treated as a 'one day congress'. I would highly recommend that the club adopts this format, rather than as previous and that is, running the event over three evenings.

Several reasons – red point allocation, cost, attendance, timing – and that is, it is near to Christmas.

After several pairs pulled out on Friday and Saturday we had 31 tables, still an excellent turn out !

The winners were G. Daly and V. Wood. In second place were V. Bilcroft and D. Schokman. Third place were J. Free and R. More and in fourth place were C. England and K. Zhao . Prizes were also awarded for both people in the partnership with less than 200mps each. First were D. Dean and C Harding and second were M. Mcrobbie and M. Tesch.

It was particularly good to see that everyone that participated got red points, be it only a - .xx.

A very big thanks goes to Connie Coltrona who was very helpful organising the distribution of the food that members brought. She also stayed on for a while afterwards and helped me clear up.

Thanks also to Alan Tolley and Brian Whelton, who helped serving drinks whilst I sorted out the prizes.

All in all it was an excellent days bridge.

MAKING 7NT - Problem to solve

EAST

♠ 7
♥ AK
♦ AKQ
♣ AQ10987

WEST

♠ AKQ
♥ QJ10
♦ J109876
♣ 2

East is declarer at 7NT. North led the Jack of Spades. Can you make 7NT?

Answer on page 16

RESULTS

Individual Championship



1st Peter Wilson



2nd Robin Rose



3rd Linda Reading

Open Swiss Pairs



1st Viv Wood and Gerry Daly



2nd Val Biltoft and David Schokman

3rd Jon Free and Rose Moore



Best Undercroft Pair
Stella and James Steer

Aust Wide Restricted Pairs

NS Place

- 1st Mei Huang - Hilary Stilling
- 2nd Gill Blakey - Ross Blakey
- 3rd Mavis Koay - Jay Wongphasukhot

EW Place

- 1st Debbie James - Joan Schneider
- 2nd Linda Reading - John Bayly
- 3rd Margaret Branch - Elizabeth Martinengo

Kalgoorlie Bridge Club Congress

Welcome Pairs

- 1st Peter Stephenson and Dianne Tilvern
- 3rd Christine Jenkins and Jennifer Bandy

Qualifying Pairs EW

- 1st Christine Jenkins and Jenny Skinner
- 2nd Judy Clear and Margaret Melsom

Pairs Final

- 1st Christine Jenkins and Jenny Skinner

Teams

- 2nd Jennifer Bandy, Christine Jenkins, Chris Ross and Judy Havas



SuperVets 2018

Best non-medal performer over 90 years of age - Win Nordstrand

Gwen Johnson Teams of Four



Winners:
Edward Roscoe,
Jean Muller, David Cowell and
Ann Hopfmueller



New Graduates with Ray and Leslie Routledge.

Next course for beginners starts on February 2nd, 2019



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Making the Opening Lead against a NT Contract

How many times have you made the only lead against 3NT that allowed the contract to make?

Getting your defence off to a good start involves finding a good opening lead. That involves two skills:

- ✓ finding the most advantageous suit
- ✓ selecting the correct card from within that suit.

Remember the bidding! If partner has bid a suit you should lead his suit unless you have a very good lead of your own. If the enemy has bid a suit, you should avoid leading that suit unless you have a strong holding that is safe to lead.

In most situations the bidding will not reveal an obvious lead, so the choice must be based on your hand.

You also need to pick the right card in the suit that you lead. Nine times out of ten, you'll lead either your fourth highest card or the top of a sequence in your longest suit. Because your goal is to establish tricks, and because tricks come from long suits, your best shot is usually to lead from your longest suit.

If your opponents bid both of your long suits, and you have only two or three cards in the unbid suits, you may try a short-suit lead hoping you lead partner's strongest suit. If the opponents bid all four suits, you're on your own! You may treat the auction as if they had bid none of the suits, and fall back on old faithful, your longest suit.

OPENING LEADS GUIDELINES:

If partner has bid a suit, lead it (esp. overcalls) otherwise:

Lead the **4th highest** of your **longest and strongest** suit (Rule of 11), unless it has been bid

If you are leading from 4 or 5 **small**, try leading your 2nd highest or top rather than 4th highest – so that the Rule of 11 doesn't work for your partner.

With two 4-card suits or two 5-card suits, roughly of equivalent strength, prefer a major when in doubt. (Your opponents would usually look for or show a major if they had one).

1. Lead the top card of 3 or more touching honours (eg: **KQJxx**, **KQ10xx**, **QJ9xx**)
2. Lead from the top of a interior sequence. (eg: **KJ10xx** **AQJ10x**.)
3. Try to lead an unbid suit
4. Try to think about how many points your partner can have when you are defending. You may have to adjust this once you see dummy.

Here are some “Don’ts”:

- Don't lead a short suit unless partner has bid it or directed the lead.
- Don't lead a suit opponents have bid, particularly one bid by declarer.
- Don't lead Aces or other high honours that are unsupported.

Why not lead an Ace?

Aces are meant to take other honour cards. If you lead an unsupported Ace (no King), you may be helping your opponents to build their suit.

An Ace can be an entry back into your hand after building a different suit.

Defence Basics: The Rule of 11

The Rule of 11 can be applied whenever your partner leads a 4th card from the top in a suit. This happens especially in opening leads against No Trump contracts. You **subtract** the face value of his card from **11**. This indicates how many cards **higher** than his card lead, are in the hands of Dummy, Declarer and your own combined.

Example: Your partner leads the ♠7 in this situation:

♠ K 6 5	
♠ Q 10 8 <u>7</u>	♠ A J 9 2
♠ 4 3	

Declarer plays low from dummy. What should East do?

Assuming 4th-best, East uses the **Rule of 11** to get $11-7=4$.

East knows there are 4 cards higher than the card led in the North, East and South hands. East can see all 4 of them (A,K,J,9). He knows that South has no card higher than the ♠7, and accordingly lets the ♠7 win the first trick so that West can continue the suit.



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Applications are completely online, but if you have any questions or need assistance with your application please contact TBIB on 07 3252 5254 between 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday, and one of our helpful team will be happy to assist.



MELBOURNE CUP 2018



MAKING 7NT

ANSWER

West wins the lead of the Jack of Spades with Ace.

Play the King and Queen of spades and discard the A and K of hearts.

Lead the Q, J and 10 of hearts and discard the AKQ of diamonds.

Lead the J,10,9,8,7,6 of diamonds and discard Q,J,10,9,8,7 of clubs.

Lead the 2 of clubs to Ace making 7NT.

The East hand took only one trick: the Ace of clubs.



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