



UNDERCROFT BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017

CHRISTMAS BELLS & BEAUX





Bridge People are Wonderful

From Leslie Routledge

As you probably all know, our house burnt down just before Christmas. Unfortunately that wasn't the end of it; on 5th January looters got into the locked garage and stole our most precious and irreplaceable pieces of antique china, figurines etc. as well as other items they wanted. As you can imagine, this was pretty hard to take after losing our home in the fire.

We would like to thank the bridge people who phoned, spoke to us directly or sent cards offering their best wishes. We also sincerely thank those who gifted or lent us furniture and household items for our rental place. These actions have been heart-warming and made it much easier to bear.

We've been told that it will be 6-12 months before we can move back home as the house is being rebuilt by the insurance company.

Thank you to you all.



Ray and Leslie Routledge

P.S.

On Saturday morning the 18th February, Ray and I were presented with a gift voucher for Clark's Restaurant in North Beach as well as a very generous cheque and cash for over \$2,500. We would like to thank all members of Undercroft for their amazing gift and kindness to us. A special thank you also to the Saturday morning players. We are blessed with having such good friends at Undercroft.



President's Report

From Graham Milward

I, and many others, were very saddened by the recent sudden passing of Gerard Roussilhes. Gerard was a true gentleman, very knowledgeable and talented story teller and outstanding bridge player. His friendliness and positive outlook will be missed by many.

It is great to see the large number of members who will be attending our official opening. It is just unfortunate that space will not allow everyone to partake in the afternoon competition. As advertised, the session will be split into under and over 50 masterpoints, as we do on Friday afternoons. I am very pleased to see the number of sub 50 pointers, who are venturing into our Red Point Events. Keep up the good work.

Committee members and others are in the process of finalising all the needs for our return home. Unfortunately, this is being made a little difficult, by the City's slow progress in giving us access to the building.

However, we will prevail and have you back in comfort very soon.

The building improvements did not include any upgrade of the kitchen, but Connie Coltrona has very kindly volunteered to examine the needs and hopefully there will be some action before too long. It was not possible to have work done in the kitchen while the building contract was in progress.

Many thanks to Gwen Kremer, Willy Dadour, John Bayly, Tony Eardley, Graeme Esson and Ted Roscoe, who recently gave up two of their Sundays, to attend the Directors course run by Bill Kemp. A special thanks to John Bayly who has already bravely tested out his new-found skills. If you are playing in a session controlled by one of the above, please appreciate they are new to the task.

I still notice players entering details onto a Bridgemate or personal scorecard before leading or putting down dummy. The progress of play is

made faster, if the order is reversed.

Continue to enjoy your bridge and when your partner next makes a mistake, don't get angry, just feel happy that she/he will feel some obligation to show compassion when you falter.

Thanks to everyone who assists with the ongoing operations of Undercroft and congratulations to all members who are pleased with their achievements.●



CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Please feel free to forward material or suggest topics you like to read about to

Beata Bieganski

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or Suggestion Box



Bridge Hand

Source: <https://web3.acbl.org/acbl-results/hand-of-the-week>

Information, please

Dir: W ♠ K643

Vul: None ♥ J92

♦ 953

♣ AQ7

♠

♥

♦

♣

♠

♥

♦

♣

♠ Q107

♥ A4

♦ AK64

♣ KJ64

West	North	East	South
2S	Pass	2NT	Pass
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

On the bidding – West's 2S is the weak variety – you know where all the spades are. A spade lead, therefore, would have given you your ninth trick. West, aware of the danger of leading his long suit, starts with the C10. How will you play to end up with nine tricks?

SOLUTION on page 11

General Rules for TAKEOUT DOUBLE

By Karen Walker

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If your opponent opens with a suit bid, a double by you promises:

- At least opening-bid strength (12+ pts.)
- Shortness in the suit the opponent opened.
- Support for ALL unbid suits. Your double forces partner to bid, so you must have at least 3-card length in any suit he will choose.

Typical hands for a takeout double of an opponent's **1C** opening would be:

♠ KJ76 ♥ AQ92 ♦ KJ4 ♣ 65
♠ QT4 ♥ AK84 ♦ KT432 ♣ 8

• **THE EXCEPTION:** There is one type of hand where you can double without support for all unbid suits. You can start with a double if you have a hand that has one long suit and *great* strength (**17+ pts.**) -- the type of hand where you don't want to risk having partner pass a simple overcall of your suit. Your hand and your suit should be strong enough that you could make game if partner has as little as 4-6 pts. and a fit -- a hand like

♠ KJ ♥ AQJT92 ♦ AK64 ♣ 7

To describe this hand, start with a double that forces partner to respond. Then "overrule" partner's choice by freely bidding your heart suit at your next turn.

• **If the opponent opens 1NT**, all the suits are unbid, so a double is **NOT** for takeout. A double of 1NT is always for **penalty**, showing 18+ pts against strong NT and 16+pts against weak NT. **Use this double cautiously.** Even if you have a lot of high-card points, you should avoid making a penalty double unless you have a strong suit to lead.

Responding to Partner's TAKEOUT DOUBLE

If partner doubles an opponent's suit bid, you **MUST** bid *unless*:

- The opponent on your right has also entered the bidding, **OR**
- You have a long, strong holding in the opponent's suit and want to pass and "convert" partner's takeout double to a penalty double.

If partner doubles and the next hand passes, respond your **longest** unbid suit at the **level** that shows your point-count:

0-8 pts	Bid your longest suit at the lowest level possible (1H) - X – (Pass) - 1S, 2C or 2D
8-11 pts	JUMP a level in your longest suit to show strength (1H) - X – (Pass) - 2S, 3C or 3D
7-10 pts	Bid 1NT if you have good stoppers in the opponent's suit, but do not have length in an unbid major.
11-12 pts	JUMP to 2NT if you have stoppers in the opponent's suit, but do not have length in an unbid major.
12+pts	JUMP TO GAME in your suit (usually an unbid major) or notrump if you have good stoppers. But the best way to force when you have a strong response (12+ pts) is to CUEBID the opp's suit (1D)-X-(Pass)- 2D . This tells partner that you have game-forcing values, but need more information, usually because you aren't certain of which game to bid. You may need to find stoppers for notrump, or you may be uncertain because you have only 4-card length in unbid suits and fear that partner has only 3 cards for his takeout double. After your cuebid, partner should bid his cheapest 4-card suit, which should help you confirm whether or not you have a 4-4 fit.

The above guidelines can also be followed if your right-hand-opponent bids over your partner's double. The main difference is that you are not forced to bid if you have 0-8 pts. If you do bid (1D)-X-(1H)-**1S**, your bid is called a **FREEBID**. It shows length in your suit and some values (usually around 6 to 9 playing points), but it does not force partner to bid. ●

RESULTS

New Year's Pairs



1st

Beata Bieganski and Carol Fensome



2nd

Brian Kaye and Chris Price



3rd

Tad Bieganski and Brian Fensome

Syd Noakes Trophy



1st

Chris Price and Brian Kaye



2nd

Ann Hopfmueller and David Cowell



3rd

Tony Eardley and Satish Bedekar

MOST IMPROVED BEGINNER 2016



Awarded to the most improved player who started the year as a nil master.

(Excluding experienced players who have moved here from overseas).

CONGRATULATION

Ingrid Fredericks pictured with the award founder Tony Martin.

LESLIE ROUTLEDGE AWARDED LIFE MEMBERSHIP



In recognition of her wonderful contribution to the Undercroft Bridge Club over the past 10 years, the Management Committee has voted unanimously to award Leslie Life Membership.

Leslie has developed and run an excellent teaching programme and is ably assisted by husband Ray. As some indication of Leslie's impact on the

Club, approximately 450 people have attended her twice yearly lesson sessions and our current membership is slightly more than that number. Many members of other bridge clubs also received their first instruction from Leslie. Leslie has developed a set of notes for her students and the sale of these generates income for the Club.

Leslie has a delightful, caring approach to her students and works with them to engender the correct attitude for ongoing enjoyment of the game and respect for other players.●

Graham Milward

LAWS OF CONTRACT BRIDGE

(Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org>; <http://www.bridgehands.com/Laws/>;
www.abf.com.au/about-abf/rules-regulations/)

EXPLAINING A BID

A bid should be explained according to your agreed partnership understanding. If there is a question about something that you have not talked to your partner about, you should say “sorry – **UNDISCUSSED**” as you do not want to mislead anyone. Or you are quite within your rights to say “I don’t know”.

If you have an understanding, you should explain the meaning of the bid as clearly as you can. If you have a system card, you can refer the questioner to that.

If your partner has made a bid that is not what your system said it should be (eg 3C explained in system as a pre-empt in clubs but partner has bid 3C as a cue bid meaning spades and diamonds), then this has misled your partner as much as the opposition and **NO CORRECTION** needs to be made at any stage.

If the other partner realises that an incorrect explanation has

been made then this must be corrected:

- **BEFORE THE LEAD** is made if **DECLARER**
- **AFTER THE PLAY** if **DEFENDER**

The director should be called in this instance in case the other partnership has been disadvantaged in any way.

REVOKES

From Graham Milward

There are other occasions, but normally a **REVOKE** becomes **ESTABLISHED** when the **OFFENDING SIDE** plays a card to the next trick. In the case of Declarer, this may be a card from his/her hand or Dummy. If it is thought that a revoke has occurred, **DO NOT TURN CARDS OVER** to look. Make a note of the trick at which it is thought the revoke occurred and finish playing the hand. Then **CALL THE DIRECTOR** to have the matter rectified.



BRIDGE STORIES

By Eddie Kantar

<http://www.kantarbridge.com/>



Helen Sobel, probably the greatest woman player of all time, was a chorus girl before taking up bridge. Not forgetting her

roots she used this little ploy when she was missing an important queen in a slam or grand slam contract playing against two men: she raised her skirt a little above her knees before playing. It never failed that the fellow without the queen would look and the one with the queen was so intent on taking a trick with that card that he didn't. Helen always found the queen.

Once asked how it felt playing with a great expert (Charles Goren)."Ask him," she replied.

BRIDGE HAND

SOLUTION

Declarer took the first trick with the CA and then cashed his remaining club winners. This enabled declarer to place West with 10 cards in the black suits.

On that basis, South's goal was to extract the remaining red-suit cards in West's hand.

Declarer's first move in that direction was to play the D4 from hand: 8, 9, 10 from East. Declarer took the DQ continuation with the ace, West discarding a spade, and played the H4 from hand. West rose with the HQ and exited with a heart to declarer's ace. West had shown up with 6=2=1=4 shape.

Declarer played the SQ next. It did not matter whether West, now down to all spades, took the SA or ducked: Declarer would make his contract by taking two spade tricks along with one in hearts, two in diamonds and four in clubs.

The full deal:

Dir: W	♠	K643		
Vul: None	♥	J92		
	♦	953		
	♣	AQ7		
♠	AJ9852		♠	
♥	Q5		♥	K108763
♦	8		♦	QJ1072
♣	10983		♣	52
	♠	Q107		
	♥	A4		
	♦	AK64		
	♣	KJ64		



Clubrooms Opening Event

Our official opening will be held at 10.30am sharp, Saturday 8 APRIL. Mayor Troy Pickard will officiate. Immediately after the official action, light refreshments (non-alcoholic) and finger food will be served.

Opening Event will be followed by a split session, under and over 50 masterpoints, commencing @ about 12.30pm. There will be a total of 32 tables. Under 50 masterpoints please take a seat at the new end of the building.

At the end of the session, drinks (alcoholic as well as soft!!) and nibbles will be served.

If you are attending the opening please put your name on the lists available before 20 March.

We will move back to the Clubrooms as soon as they are available, but that date is still unknown.

Committee Contact Numbers

Graham Milward (President)	0457 983003	Mark Cooper	9448 6007
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Undercroft Bridge Club

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