



OCTOBER, 2020 NEWSLETTER

EASTS BRIDGE CLUB

We encourage the game of bridge in an environment where players compete and develop with enjoyment and mutual respect

New Sessions for Easts bridge players

Good News! *Between Easts and the three "sister clubs" we now have bridge for six days of the week, at 1:00 pm, as follows:-*

Mondays hosted by Wollstonecraft

Tuesdays (supervised) hosted by Easts
(with "mini lessons" at 12:30 pm)

Wednesdays hosted by Easts

Thursdays hosted by Kiama

Fridays hosted by Wollstonecraft

Saturdays hosted by Randwick



You are saved from committing infractions when playing on line. Computer software in games such as Bridge Base Online, (for example) prevent bidding out of turn, leading (or playing a card) out of rotation, insufficiently bidding and the commission of a revoke. The challenge, of course, is to start paying attention once more when we return to face-to-face bridge once more at our Club

Stop Press -The Wollstonecraft Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd are hosting the **"Wollstonecraft BBO Pairs" on Sunday 4th October, 2020 at 10:0 am (Remember daylight saving)** and continuing in the **afternoon session at 1:30 pm**. It will be Matchpoint scoring with Red Masterpoints at Congress Level (B4) under the auspices of the NSWBA. No Yellow systems. All players are subject to the NSWBA's congress disciplinary regulations. Entry via NSWBA website; nswba.com.au \$BBO10 per player. You will need to have sufficient \$BBO in your account. On the day, log onto BBO at the same time as your partner, go to (Virtual Clubs) (ABF) and find the event (vABF2280) – Entries close Friday 2nd October (limited to 20 tables)

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My Hand was **AKQJT98765432** in spades
'Twas the club Christmas party, and needless to say,
The punch and the season had made us quite gay.
"Find your seats and shuffle" the director had said.,
As visions of first place danced in my head.
When I checked our position, I got dry in the mouth,
We'd been assigned "Table One", sitting North/South.
Just little novices, my partner and me,
We'd come fourth once, but never first three.
With two Grand Masters sitting East/West,
We took our positions and said not a word,
But I'm sure our heartbeats could clearly be heard.

We shuffled the cards without blinking an eye,
I dropped one on the floor and thought I would die.
As North I was dealer and though I was green,
I knew to open you must have thirteen.
I spread my hand and counted Alas,
With only ten points, I just had to pass.
And frankly, I thought this was a shame,
'Cos I'd never had 13 spades in a game.
My left-hand opponent, East was his name,
Opened "Two Diamonds" and I thought of his fame.

My partner, South, was trembling with fear,
And the bid of "Two Hearts" came to my ear.
My right-hand opponent sat straight in his chair,
"Three Hearts" was the suit he chose to declare.
Now I possessed a good suit, but alas,
With nothing in hearts, I could only but pass.
My left-hand opponent now bid "Three Spades",
And you can imagine that I was amazed.
My partner, South, bid "Four Hearts" and I thought,
If they take the bid, I could not lead her best suit.

My right-hand opponent studied his hand
And soon "Seven No Trumps" was his command.
It was my turn to bid, and just to save face,
I doubled 'cos I knew he missed the Spade Ace
The next bids were pass, pass, pass
So, I was ready to lead, but alas,
My partner was nervous and she led the Heart King.
Now a lead out of turn is a damaging thing.
The Director was called, I can still hear his voice,
As he told declarer he could make his own choice.
With a singleton heart, you must understand
This could well be his only entry to hand.
So he turned to me, and looking so smart,
He said, "lead any suit, but don't lead a Heart".

So, of course, I led my fourth best spade.
I guess it was the best lead I ever made,
'Cos in this hand I never lost the lead,
And our opponents (Grand Masters) had to concede.
Thirteen tricks we took right off the top,
When we won the board, I thought I would pop.
Now I ask you, with a board like this,
The rest of the game, well how could we miss???
And I overheard the Director say "Who was that lass
Who had thirteen spades and cleverly passed???"
After winning first place, and still full of fright,
"Merry Christmas" we called, and they all said
'GOOD NIGHT'



Vondracek ...

In 1956 Felix Vondracek wrote in The Bridge World Magazine that when choosing between two trump suits of the same length, it often pays to choose the weaker suit.

Who?

This deal illustrates "The Vondracek Phenomenon" nicely. The only making game is five clubs. They lead the **A** of Hearts and you ruff. You duck a club and ruff the heart return. Now you play your **CA** and run your winners. They can take their club trick whenever they want. - Five diamonds goes down. They lead the **HA** and you ruff. You draw trumps and give them a club. They lead a second heart, forcing you to lose your last trump. Now you cannot afford to lose the lead so you cannot establish any long suit tricks in clubs and you end up two down.

S 876
H 8765
D 876
C 876

S T93
H AK932
D 954
C KQT

S J542
H QJT4
D 32
C J2

S AKQ
H -
D AKQJT
C A9543



Alert! When playing BBO, the player must alert his own bid if it is in any way open to misunderstanding. First, click on "Alert", next type the "explanation" and only then make your bid.



We are learning to live our lives in this time of Covid, with the numbers of infection showing significant decrease, especially in our state of New South Wales. Although a vaccine is still some time off, a number of bridge clubs have, or are planning in the near future, to commence playing face to face. Grand Slam at Double Bay have had screens erected and have been playing for some little time now and The Sydney Bridge Centre is planning to reopen their Goulburn Street premises on the 6th October (with larger 1200 mm tables). Kings and Queens have been playing a small number of tables and the Blue Mountains Bridge Club has been socially distancing by using four tables joined together.

There are plans afoot for some of the North Shore clubs to re-open soon.

We, at Easts, are having to wait a bit longer. Having our premises be part of the licensed Leagues Club, we are constrained by the strictures that pertain to such organisations. We await instructions from Easts Leagues Club as to the appropriate Safety Plans and also as to when it may be safe to return to play in the Bondi Room.

YOUR COMMITTEE... OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS

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The ABF is introducing **FREE Weekly Refresher Lessons**
<https://www.abf.com.au/introducing-free-weekly-refresher-lessons>

The ABF Newsletter which was distributed every two months to Easts Bridge Club for our members is now only available online.

If you want to read the latest news, visit ABF.com.au. If you don't have an internet connection to access the newsletter, please contact Allen on 0408628233 and he may be able to arrange a copy.