



# AUGUST, 2023 NEWSLETTER

# EASTS BRIDGE CLUB

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

## The Next Beginner's Course starts on Tuesday 19th September.

The course includes 4 weeks of lessons followed by 2 weeks of supervised play, all under the watchful eye of your teacher, Nick Hughes. The cost of the course is \$70 (or \$50 for seniors), easily the best value in town. As part of the "package" the participants are provided with a "first book of bridge" and, also, 6 months membership of Easts Bridge Club. Brochures are available from the director's table or from Committee Members. I encourage you to have your friends and family members attend and learn this game that continues to give us all so much enjoyment. Completed enrolment forms can be left at the Club or with the bridge director.



**IMPROVERS LESSONS** on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, are offered in lieu of the regular supervised session. This will be for all members. (You do not need a partner, just turn up) table money - \$15.

The **AUSTRALIA WIDE OPEN PAIRS CHALLENGE** on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August is for all players. This event features pre-dealt boards scored across the nation. (Some 4,000 entries are expected!) The entry fee of \$5 per player is subsidised by Easts Bridge Club to the tune of \$3 per player.

Easts Bridge Club have entered into an arrangement with the Community Bridge Club, formerly at the Rugby Club at Woollahra, to play at Easts on Monday night. The Community Bridge Club will use our facilities, and their regular players will become members of Easts Bridge Club. They run a pleasant though competitive session and our members are welcome to play at the walk-in sessions that start at 7.15pm on Mondays.

"I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal lobotomy." - Dorothy Parker

### Bridge Sessions at Easts

**Mondays** 1- 4 pm  
**Tuesdays** 1- 3:40 (talk at 12:45 pm)  
**Wednesdays** 1- 4 pm

**No Dummy, No Play!**



"If the final buzzer sounds and dummy is not down, the director will generally cancel the board, or award an adjusted score."

About 20 years ago, a Catholic Priest was playing in a grand slam at a US National. The play was proceeding at a snail-like pace, keeping everyone waiting. The director duly arrived and announced:

**"Our father who art in seven, hurried be thy game."**

## Here are the Numbers

### Top Scoring Players in July

	Total of best of 5	Rounded average
1. Theo MANGOS	330.0	66
2. Brian BEDKOBER	313.1	63
3. Chris HAMAM	303.2	61

### Monday Month winners in July

(Top 3 after session 5) Ave. of best 3 scores

1 Bonnie RIX & Helen VAN DAM	60.63 %
2 Brian BEDKOBER & Pat WALKER	59.43 %
3 Leah RONA & Beverley LULAND	59.13 %

### Wednesday Month winners in July

from average the best 3 scores after session 4

1 Brian BEDKONER & Theo MANGOS	57.30 %
2. Shirley ROWAN & Kamala VALLIAPPAN	62.8
3 Heather JESSURUN & Tamara POLLAK	56.85

## Results for Easts players in GNOT qualifying in July.

**First – Team Mangos** (Theo Mangos, Leigh Foran, Pat Walker and Allen Rosenberg) with a total of 112 Victory points over the two sessions.

**Second – Team Karsai** (Thomas Karsai, Lis Moller, Chris Hamam and Paul Larby) with 91 Victory Points

**Third – Team Gupta** (Lalitha Gupta, Ruy de Menezes, Tony Paramore and Mathew Lynch) with 86 Victory points

"There's a lot of inference and the better you are at inferring and working things out, the better your bridge will be. You don't have to be good at memory and all that sort of stuff. You can play bridge without being very smart and very smart people can also be terrible at bridge."

### Vale Barry Paroz

Long standing player in our Tuesday Sessions, always partnering his wife. **Our thoughts are with you Gaby, at this time.**





**THE VONDRACEK PHENOMENON**

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. This deal illustrates the point:

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

**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.

**Knowing this, what do you bid here as South?** Partner's 4C asks you to choose the trump suit.

S QJ87  
 H QJ87  
 D QJ5  
 C KQ

S 652  
 H AT9  
 D T9876  
 C 96

S 43  
 H K6  
 D 43  
 C AJT8754

S AKT9  
 H 5432  
 D AK2  
 C 32

**The Hills celebrated their sixty-year wedding anniversary earlier this year.** Kerrie and Geoff were hoping to join our Christmas in July celebration but were struck down by Covid. It's good to see them back at the bridge club.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
--	--	3C	dbl
pass	4C	pass	?

Of course, you choose hearts, the only making game.



**CHRISTMAS IN JULY AT EASTS** enjoyed by 70 of our members after the last GNOT session. Thank you, Adelia, for a great function! Can you recognize the bridge players?

Erik Paulsen comes back to his hometown, Downey, Ca. after being a member of the U.S team that had just won a world championship. The local players are surprised to see him at the local duplicate. But there he is, and he begins to play. About midway through the game he is competing in spades against opponents who are bidding hearts. Finally, he bids 3S, loudly, so he won't get doubled. It doesn't work. His LHO doubles. Erik looks at him and says: "Do you know who I am?" The guy says: "Yes I know who you are." Erik says: "Do you know how many masterpoints I have?" The guy says, "No, but do you know how many spades I have?"

**YOUR COMMITTEE... OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS**

**President:** Terry Maunsell 0419 266 641  
**Vice President:** Ted Popper 0410 162 503  
**Honorary Secretary:** Tamara Pollack 0419 360 666  
**Honorary Treasurer:** Allen Rosenberg 0408 628 233

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:-**  
 Adelia Tchelnokova 0403 951 017 (Events Officer)  
 Gaby Paroz 0416 437 999 (Welfare Officer)  
 Chris Hamam 0481 816 748 (Web-Master)  
 Ted Popper 0410 162 503 (Education & Marketing)

**Matchmaker:** Theo Mangos 0411 337 539  
**Chief Director:** Nicoleta Giura 0414 876 175  
**Newsletter Editor:** Thomas Karsai 0417 213 893

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Two wives are discussing how badly their respective husbands had played the previous evening – each convinced that their husband plays worse than the other. The first wife says, "Just let me tell you what happened last night. My husband was playing 7NT, vulnerable, with 12 top tricks and he needed to make a spade finesse for 13. Dummy had the AQ of spades and he had a couple of small ones in hand, the finesse was onside. So, what do you think he did? He took the first 11 tricks and ended up in dummy with the AQ of spades and then led the Queen from dummy at trick 12!" "So, what's so bad about that" says wife number two "Against my husband that play works!"