Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club Newsletter for March 2007.

Recent Results

26th February – February Pairs

1st Marie Purkiss & Patricia Bowles

2nd Lyn Pears & Nancye Joss

3rd Anne Grayden & Lanie Jesperson First won by Glad & Ron Pooley in 1998.

5th March – March Pairs

1st Janette Kukura & Jacqueline Wilson

2nd Bob Mavin & Graham Winder

3rd Jan Wheeler & Pam Carew

First won by Lorraine Harkness & Elsie Trask in 1998.

12th March – Monthly Shield

1st Dorothy & Peter Berzins

2nd Camilla Barlow & Colin Mitchell

3rd Caroline Holmes & Heather Cox

Progress scores of this event will be published after the next session on 2nd April.

21st March – Birthday Pairs

1st Dorothy & Peter Berzins

2nd Vicky & Bob Morris

3rd Nancye Joss & Karen Ody

First won in 1995 by Alys Alexander & Toni McVey; in 1997 by Tem Lancaster & Val Clarke.

Central Coast Super Congress

In the Swiss Pairs (66 pairs) held on Saturday 17th March several of our members did well: Dorothy & Peter Berzins came fourth, Diana & Peter Coats came fifth, Bob & Vicky Morris came sixteenth and Alys Alexander & Marie Purkiss came twenty-second (coming in the top third of the field earns extra masterpoints in a multi-session competition). In the Swiss Teams (44 teams) held on Sunday 18th March the team of Adele Mills & Nancye Joss and Christine Hadaway & Karen Ody came fourth, Dorothy & Peter Berzins and Diana & Peter Coats came twelfth and Patricia Bowles & Marie Purkiss and Graham Winder & Bob Mavin came fourteenth.

Presentation Lunch

This was held on Saturday 24 March and there was a somewhat disappointing attendance of about fifty members. Photographs of those prize winners that attended will be available later in April. If you have any suggestions regarding the format of the presentation lunch please communicate them to the Secretary.

Forthcoming Events

2nd April Monthly Shield 5th April Easter Pairs 10th April Graded Pairs

This is a Club Championship event held in two grades – National* Master and above, National Master and below.

14th / 21st April Swiss Pairs
19th / 26th April, 3rd May GNOT Qualifying
Sessions will start at 10 am as usual. There will
not be a side game. This event will qualify teams
to play in the Regional Final to be held on the
weekend of 3rd & 4th November. The Regional
Final will qualify two teams to play in the
National Final to be held at Banora Point
(Northern NSW) starting on 30th November.

Directors Corner.

When the Director has an approximate idea of the number of tables that is playing in a normal single session pairs competition held at the club she/he is faced with the problem of what movement to select (which is why it would be helpful if players could be seated before the published start time of the session!). To do this there are some rules that must be followed if the maximum masterpoints are to be won by the players. Basically at least 24 boards **must** be played by all pairs. In addition each pair must play at least 75% of available boards (this can include boards that are 'sat out'). Those of you with an enquiring and mathematical mind can see that this is why the Director sometimes announces that two board rounds will be played – and then a murmur of discontent appears to flow around the room. In this case I am not a member of the murmuring brigade because I prefer to play two board rounds. It minimises the amount of waiting time between rounds. You get to play against more players and this is good for at least two reasons – bridge is a social game and the more pairs with whom your score is compared ensures a more accurate result. However the director does not select two board rounds just to please me or anyone else like me – she/he is just following the ABF Masterpoint Regulations. On a recent Monday Ted had 12 ½ tables and was faced with the choice of either running two board rounds or three board rounds. In either case there would be a sit-out (in this case N/S) and the regulations would be satisfied. With two board

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rounds all N/S pairs would play all EW pairs; all pairs would play 24 boards and all pairs would play 92% of available boards. With three board rounds it was necessary to play ten rounds; every pair would play at least twenty-four boards; every pair would play thirty boards and every pair would play 76.9% of the boards. If only nine rounds had been played only 69.2% of the boards would have been played so that the movement would have been illegal.

Colin's Corner

Playing Bridge with Phil Morris! I have known Phil for a long time and have played against him frequently over the years. I played with Phil for the first time a few Fridays ago. The Monday after I was approached by a club member who asked me "How did you bid six clubs on board 37 last Friday" and my reply was "You have to play it with Phil Morris" because – he likes to bid!

The hand was:

Board 37 dealer N, NS vul.

♦ 753 ♥ KQJ54 ♦ O65 ♣ KJ ★ KJT9 **♦** O842 **♥** 873 **♥** A6 ♦ T832 ♦ J974 **♣** 98 **♣** T62 **♦** A6 **▼** T92 ♦ AK ♣ AO7543

The bidding started with one heart from Phil (sitting North). I replied two clubs and Phil raised me to three clubs! Assuming that Phil had four clubs with his five hearts I bid four no trumps (RKCB) and Phil replied five diamonds (one key card) so, missing one key card I bid six clubs. LHO led a spade which I won in hand with the ace. Played the diamond ace and king, followed by the king and jack of clubs. Then the diamond queen on which I discarded the losing spade followed by the heart king which was won by RHO. It did not matter what was played now because I can ruff a diamond or spade or win a heart or club in hand, draw trumps and claim. As a result of Phil's unique bidding style we were the only pair in a slam

and the only pair in clubs; all of the other pairs played in hearts at various levels.

A few boards later we were dealt the following hand:

Board 1, dealer N, nil vul.

- ★ KQ93♥ Q96◆ Q873◆ T4
- ♠ 64
 ♠ KJT52
 ♠ K4
 ♠ 8652
 ♠ 52
 ♠ 52
 ♠ 52
 - ▲ AJT8▼ A♦ AT952▲ AKO

The bidding went pass – pass – two clubs from me, two hearts by LHO, two spades from Phil. Two clubs was a game forcing bid asking partner to tell me the number of controls held where an ace is two controls, king is one. I had some vague memory of agreeing to play DOPI (double = zero controls, pass = one control) in this situation so Phil presumably had two controls. As I had all of the aces he must have two kings. I bid three diamonds and Phil bid six! LHO led a heart won in hand with the ace. Small spade to the king, small diamond towards hand and when RHO played low I played the ten. LHO won with the king and returned the diamond four won in hand with the ace. I the played the club ace, king and queen discarding a heart in dummy, three rounds of spades ending in dummy, ruff the last heart and claim. Once again we were the only pair in a slam; one pair made all thirteen tricks in no trumps (how?), four pairs made twelve tricks in spades or diamonds, two pairs made eleven tricks in spades whilst one pair somehow managed to make only eight tricks in three no trump! © Colin Mitchell 2007.

Remember.....

In any moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing. Theodore Roosevelt The only difference between a rut and a grave is their dimensions. anonymous You may be on the right track, but if you just sit there you'll get run over. Paul H. Dunn