Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club Newsletter for April 2007.

Recent Results

2nd April – Monthly Shield

1st Carol McKellar & June Snedden

2nd Lyn Pears & Nancye Joss

3rd Bob Mavin & Graham Winder

Positions after 3 sessions (sessions / points):

1st Camilla Barlow & Colin Mitchell 2/56

2nd Nancye Joss & Lynn Pears 2/52

3rd Norm Berger & Bill Pinfold 3/51

5th April – Easter Pairs

1st John Tagg & Richard Wilson

2nd Bob & Vicky Morris

3rd Marie Purkiss & Liz Kerr

This event was first won in 1992 by Josie Ryan & Jack Rushbrook, in 1997 by Ted Neilsen & Neville Buchanan.

10th April – Graded Pairs

A Grade

1st Adele Mills & Nancye Joss

2nd Jack Lindsay & Frances Lyons

3rd Toni Dixon & Helen Gulliver

This event was first won in 1991 by Henny & Bill Geerligs, in 1997 by Margo Brennan & Lorraine Carr.

B Grade

1st Pam Harris & Norman Berger

2nd Gwen White & Marilyn Callaghan

3rd Elaine Riley & Tem Lancaster

This event was first won in 1991 by V Wright & Dot Storey-Wilson, in 1997 by Graham McLeod & Dick Wilson.

14th / 21st April – Swiss Pairs

1st Helen Gulliver & Toni Dixon

2nd Nancye Joss & Jan Henry

3rd Karen Ody & Christine Hadaway

This event was first won in 2001 by Anne Grayden & Karen Ody.

Forthcoming Events

2nd May Bridge for Brains

A charity event – all profits from this event will

benefit the Prince of Wales Hospital.

7th May Monthly Shield

19th/26th May Country Teams Qualifying

This event is to qualify one or more teams to

play in the Country Teams Regional Final to be held at the Central Coast BC on Sunday 9th

September. Red masterpoints at State

Championship level i.e. twice the masterpoints won at a congress or club special event. Pre-

entry is required.

Recent Promotions

Grand Master*Local MasterNancye JossJanette KukuraLife MasterLocal MasterCamilla BarlowMike Newman**National MasterClub MasterLeyla MonceletMei-Hua CrawfordRegional MasterGraduate MasterHalen FargusonBerenica Air

Helen Ferguson Berenice Air

Bob Morris Helen Lorne-Smith

Ruth Wilson

Congratulations to our latest Grand Master, Nancye Joss. Nancye plays on a regular basis at our club with a variety of partners. She also plays at other clubs and events – her record for the last twelve months shows that she has played (and won masterpoints) at Brisbane Water BC and Port Macquarie-Hastings BA, at Surfers in the Seniors Pairs and Teams, Canberra in the Seniors Teams, Bathurst Congress, Central Coast Super Congress, Brisbane Water Super Congress, Taree Teams (where she was a member of the winning team) and in the Central Coast GNOT qualifying and final.

Web page

As some members may be aware a web site is being developed for the club. It is almost complete – we are waiting for a phone line to be put into the office in order that the results of sessions can be loaded after scoring is completed. If you want to see the progress so far look at http://users.bigpond.net.au/CCLCBridgeClub/CCLCBC/

If there is anything that you think should be there (or should not be there) please let me know at cmi20452@bigpond.net.au.

Directors' Corner

Recently an appeal against a Director's ruling was made. The appeal concerned the application of Rule 66 - Law 66 B - Own Last Card. This law says

'Until a card is led to the next trick, declarer or either defender may inspect, but not expose, his (her) last card played'.

This is a fairly straightforward law which really means what it says – if you have placed your last played card face down on the table you may look at it until the lead is made to the next trick but you cannot show it to anyone else.

Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club

Colin's Corner

Wendy and I spent a week near Bateman's Bay during the school holidays and managed two games at the Bateman's Bay Bridge Club. The club own their premises at 52A Orient Street and run four daytime sessions per week (Sat, Mon & Tue at 1 pm, Fri at 10 am). I met up with a few old friends and we had an enjoyable game with a few interesting hands (all dealt at the table and recorded on the travelling score sheet). Wendy, sitting North as usual, picked up the following hand

Board 27 dealer S, nil vul.

- **♦** AQT982
- **♥** A9754
- ♦ K
- **♣** A

She was busy counting her playing tricks when I opened two diamonds! This showed either a weak two in a major or a balanced 20-21 HCP. Holding both majors she was happy to bid two no trump, a strong enquiry. I replied three clubs showing a good weak two in hearts. Four no trump asked for controls; five diamonds showed one control so with a total of four controls, Wendy bid six hearts thus becoming declarer. The full hands were:

- ♣ KJ6
 ♦ T3
 ♦ AJ84
 ♣ T97632
 ♣ K9543
 ♠ K9543
 ♠ KQJ862
 - ♥ KQJ86 ♦ Q5 • Q82

With a club lead Wendy had no problems in making thirteen tricks for a top score. A few boards later we had 'the slam that got away'.

Board 5 dealer N, NS vul. I held

♣ Q765♥ AKJT8♦ AK5

Wendy opened one club, showing at least three clubs. I replied one heart and Wendy bid two hearts showing a four card heart suit and a minimum hand. I thought, but not for long enough nor well enough, and made the chicken bid of four hearts (with 17 HCP and a singleton I should have asked for controls). LHO led the diamond queen and Wendy's hand appeared

- **♦** KJ92
- **♥** Q653
- **♦** 6
- ♣ AJT2

with just the right cards needed to make twelve tricks without raising a sweat! Luckily only one pair bid the slam so we escaped with a just below average score.

On the next hand Wendy held:

- **♠** AKQJT8742
- **Y** -
- ♦ KQ9
- **♣** Q

She was considering how to open her two loser hand when I opened one no trump – 15 – 17 HCP balanced and may contain a five card suit! My LHO opponent (somewhat foolishly?) bid two hearts. Wendy did not want a four club bid to be misunderstood and reckoned that the overcaller probably held the heart ace. Therefore she knew who held the minor suit aces so she bid seven spades. Of course, if she had been wrong, with me holding the heart Ace and not the diamond Ace, then we would be down! A heart was led and I put my dummy on the table:

- **♦** 96
- **♥** KJ8
- ♦ A865
- ♣ AK62

Wendy ruffed the heart, showed off by playing the four of spades to dummy's six and claimed. We were the only pair to bid and make seven spades. The next day Greg Phegan, an old friend (in both senses of the word as I have known him for a long time and he is well into his eighties) asked us how we managed to bid seven. When we told him he just rolled his eyes and walked away. Without the two heart bid it is questionable whether we would have got to seven spades – it would be very difficult for Wendy to find out which aces I held. We discussed the hand at some length over the next few days and thought that if Wendy had been the first to bid she would have opened three no trump – Kabel Ace Ask. I would have replied five clubs, showing two aces, the club ace and a higher ranked ace. Five diamonds would ask 'which higher ranked ace do you hold' and the five heart response (first step) would show the lower ranking of the next three aces – in this case the diamond ace. Seven could then be safely bid. © Colin Mitchell 2007 [Written by Colin and then edited by Wendy.]