



West Coast Bridge Club Newsletter - March 2022

Christmas Party

Our 2021 Christmas function was held on Wednesday 8th of December. After an afternoon of bridge over 70 members enjoyed the festivities. The Club President, Geoff Friebe presented the winners of the various Club events with their trophies. Once again Sara Westergren did a fantastic job organising the refreshments.

2021 Wilma Piller - Jim O'Brien Trophy

The 2021 winner of the Wilma Piller - Jim O'Brien Trophy (awarded to the person achieving the highest green point aggregate in the calendar year) was Marleen Medhat. Congratulations to Marleen who has won this award for eight years in a row!

2022 Summer Teams

The 2022 Summer Teams held during February was won by a team comprising Shirley Bloch, Marleen Medhat, Wence Vahala and Ray Wood. Helen Baker, Jean Calder, Mike Smith and Barbara Martin were second with Max Havercroft, Brian Kaye, Maureen Phillips and Cathy Slaughter in third place



2022 Summer Teams winners Shirley Bloch, Marleen Medhat, Wence Vahala and Ray Wood.

Thanks to Eve Dethlefsen

Wednesday January 26th marked the last day that Eve Dethlefsen directed at West Coast Bridge Club. After almost 30 years in the position she has decided to stand down. The Club marked the occasion with a special

afternoon tea at which Club President, Geoff Friebe, presented Eve with a lovely floral bouquet.



Eve Dethlefsen's contribution as a director at WCBC for almost 30 years was acknowledged by a special afternoon tea and the presentation of a floral bouquet.

New members

Shelley Allen, Megs Allison, Jane Blacklock, Marion Bogue, Mark Cleaver, Bobbie Edwards, Deborah Greenway, Margot Hessels, John Pitman, Janet Reitberger and Roslyn Varkevisser recently joined the Club. Please make them welcome.

New rankings

Congratulations to the following members who recently received rank promotions:
Graduate: Megs Allison, Mark Cleaver; Club: Sally Swan; National: Wence Vahala; Life: Patrick Garnett

Ann Patrick's Director's corner – issues in card play

When is a card 'played'

Defender - A card is played when it is held in a position the partner can see it.

Declarer - A card is played when it is held face up, touching or nearly touching the table. Under these circumstances neither declarer nor defender can return the card to their hand because of a change of mind, or they realise they have made a mistake.

Checking cards played

You may ask to see cards played until you turn over your own card.

Next in turn to lead may check their own last card played - but not after a card has been played in the next round.

At the end of the contract

Neither side should remove cards from the table until the number of tricks has been agreed.

Never touch your opponents' cards

Congratulations to Shirley Toohey

Club member Shirley Toohey recently received a Dramafest / Finlay Award for Best New Writing in 2020 (in Melville Theatre's Summer Shorts Season) for the "The Heist", a comedic one act play set in the Bronx, New York. It's about four elderly ladies enjoying their regular evening of 'kitchen bridge' when an intruder breaks in and everything goes awry.



Club member and writing award winner
Shirley Toohey

Coming competitions

The following competitions are scheduled for the next three months at WCBC:

- GNO Teams (BAWA competition) – Mondays March 14-28
- Deferred Monday Pairs (Moody Trophy) – Mondays April 11-25
- Autumn Pairs (Morris and Shirley Bloch Trophy) – Wednesdays May 4-18
- Club Championship Pairs (Anton Brazowski Trophy) – Mondays June 13-27

Interesting hands – bidding

Couple of recent hands from the Club are worth a look.

Hand 1 ♠ AKQ54

Dlr: West ♥ 543

Vul: All ♦ AKQT5

♣ Void

♠ 32

♥ K96

♦ 98742

♣ Q72

♠ JT9

♥ QJ7

♦ 3

♣ KJT963

♠ 876

♥ AT82

♦ J6

♣ A854

Although North's hand is a three-loser it's better to open 1S so that the diamond suit can be shown more easily. 1S (N) 2S (S) – now North is certainly going to game but there is a slim chance of slam – need to know more about partner's holding, especially in hearts. There is no need to show the diamonds now so North bids 4C (cue bid – showing control of clubs). Somewhat bemused, South now cue bids 4H showing control for hearts. North now bids 4NT (keycard) and South's response of 5H (two keycards without the Q) is enough for North to bid 6S.

Hand 2 ♠ 854

Dlr: East ♥ K652

Vul: EW ♦ AK

♣ AKQ2

♠ A5

♥ T86

♦ K8632

♣ Q72

♠ 73

♥ J987

♦ Q7652

♣ T7

♠ AKQJT96

♥ A

♦ J8

♣ 963

Possible bidding sequence:

South bids 1S followed by North's 3H (Bergen raise showing three spades and 10/11+ points). North goes straight to 4S which implies a six-loser or better. North is much stronger than 10/11+ points and now bids 4NT (keycard). South's response of 5NT (3 + the Q) is enough for north to work out that 7NT is virtually guaranteed.