



West Coast Bridge Club Newsletter - March 2023

Christmas Party

Our 2022 Christmas function was held on Wednesday 7th of December. After an afternoon of bridge over 60 members enjoyed the festivities. The Club President, Sue Vincent, presented the winners of the various Club events with their trophies. Once again Sara Westergren did a fantastic job organising the refreshments.

2022 Wilma Piller - Jim O'Brien Trophy

The 2022 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 nine years in a row!



Marleen Medhat being presented with the Wilma Piller - Jim O'Brien Trophy by Councillor Jane Cutler from the Town of Cambridge.

Message from President Sue Vincent

Sue has been over east but sends the following message to members:
“Welcome to all members for 2023. Thanks to all who help to make the club a success - organising competitions, directing, teaching, dealing, looking after the library, submitting our masterpoint details to the ABF, doing kitchen duties and tending the garden. Look forward to a happy year in 2023.”

2023 Monday Pairs (*Joyce and Norman Moody Trophy*)

In a tight competition the 2023 Monday Pairs was won by Anton Pol and Wence Vahala. Ray Wood and Marleen Medhat were second with Sara Westergren and Gwen Gardiner in third place.



Winners of the 2023 Monday pairs: Anton Pol and Wence Vahala

2023 Summer Teams

The 2023 Summer Teams held during February was won by a team comprising Ray Wood, Marleen Medhat, Wence Vahala and Anton Pol. Sara Westergren, Gwen Gardiner, Valerie Keevil and Kate Nadebaum were second with Shirley Bloch, Colleen Hohlt, Christina Wu and Patrick Garnett in third place.



2023 Summer Teams winners Wence Vahala, Marleen Medhat, Anton Pol and Ray Wood.

New members

Barbara Lynn, Jo Armstrong, Lyn Meadows, Martin Broome and Peter McCann have recently joined the Club. Please make them welcome.

New rankings

Congratulations to the following members who recently received rank promotions:
Silver Local: Hari Shah; Bronze National: Wence Vahala

Ann Patrick's Director's corner – issues in alerting and bid explanations

Alert promptly and clearly. Don't stop to think about your own response first. Do not explain the alert unless your opponent's ask.

Do not ask for an explanation of an alert until it is your turn to bid.

Do not ask for an explanation of an alert unless you are considering making a bid yourself.

Any concerns at the table please call the director.

If, when asked for an explanation, you do not know or are not sure of the meaning of a bid, please say so!

- Do not say "I take it to mean..." This is giving your partner unauthorised information.
- Call the director ("director please") and you will be asked to leave the table so your partner can give the explanation.

Coming competitions

Calendar change!!

Please note the following changes to the Club's event calendar:

- **The proposed Novice Congress has been cancelled**
- **The Club Championship Pairs has been pushed back one week and will now commence on Monday June 12.**

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

- GNO Teams (BAWA competition) – Mondays March 13-27
- Autumn Swiss Pairs (Morris and Shirley Bloch Trophy) – Wednesdays May 3-17
- Club Championship Pairs (Anton Brazowski Trophy) – Mondays June 12-26

Interesting hands – bidding

A couple of recent hands from Club events.

Hand 1 ♠ JT86542

Dlr: West ♥ 5

Vul: NS ♦ 9

♣ QJ64

♠ Q3

♥ A64

♦ JT54

♣ AK87

♠ AK

♥ K3

♦ AKQ8732

♣ T3

♠ 97

♥ QJT9872

♦ 6

♣ 952

West opens 1NT and east falls off their chair! Regardless of whether north or south interrupt south needs to think that slam is likely and should investigate through some form of keycard (e.g. transfer to diamonds followed by 4D OR an immediate call of 4C – CRO). Finding two aces with west, east can now ask for kings and finding the KC bids 7NT (hoping that neither opposition hand holds four diamonds to the J) or 6NT if they are serial pessimists.

Hand 2 ♠ 854

Dlr: East ♥ 73

Vul: None ♦ AQJ942

♣ 42

♠ 7

♥ 84

♦ 863

♣ QT87653

♠ JT62

♥ AT96

♦ KT7

♣ K9

♠ AKQ93

♥ KQJ52

♦ 5

♣ AJ

This is for DONT devotees. East opened 1NT (I don't like it but some do). What should south do? It's a three-loser and 20 point hand so there aren't many points left for west and north. My partner bid 4H, which I passed, thinking he wanted to play in hearts and we went down. With a 5:5 hand in hearts and spades sitting over a weak 1NT opening it's probably reasonable to bid: 2H (with 11-17 points and a 7-loser); 3H (with a 5-loser) and 4H (with a 3-loser). Playing DONT if partner had a long strong heart suit and wanted to play in 4H they should double first and then respond to the 2C relay with 4H.