



West Coast Bridge Club Newsletter - June 2024

Autumn Swiss Pairs (*Morris and Shirley Bloch Trophy*)

The 2024 Autumn Swiss Pairs was won by Rick and Maura Rhodes (with a 5:1 win:loss record). Ray Wood and Marleen Medhat were second (also with a 5:1 record) with Jay Medhat and Shirley Drage in third place.



2024 Autumn Swiss Pairs winners Rick and Maura Rhodes.

Inaugural Restricted Swiss Pairs

The inaugural Restricted Swiss Pairs (players with less than 300 masterpoints), held in May, was won by Chris Ruffle and Andy Fairweather. Sally Brittliffe and Gayl Beissel were second with Maria Ehmke and Jessie Duffill in third place. Maria and Jessie won the Ocean Gardens Village prize as the best performing pair with under 150 masterpoints (averaged).



Chris Ruffle and Andy Fairweather, winners of the Restricted Swiss Pairs, with President Sue Vincent.

New members

The following new members have recently joined the Club – Virgil Calcan, Robyn Hayward, Jeremy Owens and Jan Plant. Please make them welcome.

Thanks and get well Patsy

Unfortunately Patsy Davey, one of the Club's stalwarts, has had to relinquish her role as Club Treasurer. Patsy has held several other roles in the past, including Coordinator of Dealers, and continues to teach our beginners' class. She was elected by the Committee to Honorary Life Membership in 2019. Thanks for all that you've done for the Club, Patsy, and get well soon!



West Coast Bridge Club stalwart, Patsy Davey.

New rankings

Congratulations to the following members who received rank promotions during the last three months:

Graduate: Jenny Barbara

Club: John Pitman

Silver Local: Lisa McGuire

Bronze Local: Max Purdy

Silver Local: Daniel Cronin

Regional: Lee Carter, Maria Ehmke, Glenys Keenan, Mary Macaulay and Adele Philpot

State: Derry Houston, David Malkin and Elizabeth Milne.

Coming competitions

The following competitions are scheduled for the next three months at West Coast Bridge Club.

- Club Championship Pairs (Anton Brazowski Trophy) – Mondays July 8-22.
- Club Championship Teams – Mondays August 5-19.
- Club Congress – Sunday September 8.
- Thursday Swiss Pairs – Thursday, September 12 & 19.

Behind the scenes

The Club has recently purchased two new computers with large monitors and a new printer and PA system for our directors and dealers, who have been battling with outdated equipment for quite some time. A large multi-function screen has also been purchased and will be used in several ways - as a timer, to display results, as an information board and as a TV (great for the Melbourne Cup).

The importance of signals

These two hands show the importance of signalling suit preference to partner.

Dlr: West	♠ Q5432		
Vul: NS	♥ J3		
	♦ 2		
	♣ QT863		
♠ T6		♠ AKJ7	
♥ AKT62		♥ Q95	
♦ KQT		♦ J954	
♣ 975		♣ KJ	
	♠ 85		
	♥ 874		
	♦ A8753		
	♣ A42		

West won the contract in 4H.

North leads the 2D – taken by South’s ace. South can account for 11 diamonds; the 2D is obviously not from a doubleton and is therefore likely a singleton. So South now leads back the 3D hoping for a ruff. The choice of the 3D is critical because as a low card it tells South she would like a club return. North ruffs and leads a club back to South’s ace. Another diamond ruffed and the contract is off.

Dlr: East	♠ Q7		
Vul: All	♥ AKQ74		
	♦ 62		
	♣ JT64		
♠ J654		♠ A973	
♥ 853		♥ 96	
♦ AJT983		♦ Q5	
♣		♣ KQ873	
	♠ K82		
	♥ JT2		
	♦ K74		
	♣ A952		

After a contested auction North finished in 4H. As West had bid diamonds during the auction East led the QD, KD by dummy and the ace by West. West returns the JD which holds and can now see that both her partner and declarer must be out of diamonds. West then led the 3D (lowest diamond) hoping partner will win with a ruff or over-ruff and a club return.

West duly led back the KC – dummy played the AC and West ruffed. The high club lead is sensible as partner also has the queen but it also implies the return of a spade. So West plays the JS, QS from North and AS by partner. QC wins East another trick and then West ruffs a third club A disaster for N-S!

A blast from the past!

Autobridge was a device developed to teach bridge in the 1930s. It uses a board that can be opened to insert sheets containing printed hands. Each hand is played by opening windows in sequence.

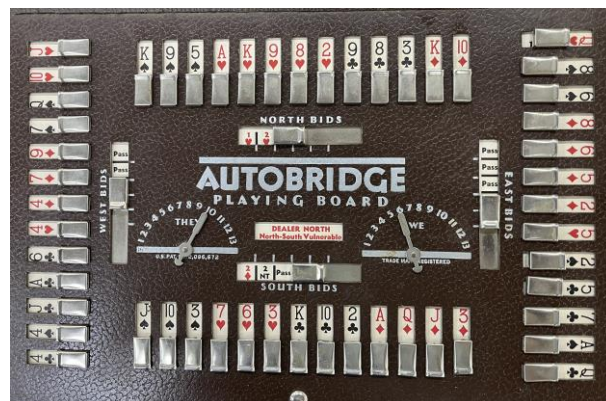


Photo of Autobridge brought into the Club by Anton Pol (donated by Joan Keeling).