



Melbourne Cup Day Bridge, Calcutta, Racing, Lunch!

This event last year was a huge success. Last year we had 20 tables and everyone had so much fun. We reckon there will be even more this year.

The inimitable Andrew Mill will be running the Calcutta auction again this year. Everyone can have a go in the auction, whether they're playing in the Calcutta or not.

The Calcutta and the duplicate will start at 10am – \$25pp including lunch and bubbly
The supervised will start at 12 noon – \$20pp including lunch and bubbly

Ern Palfreyman Teams (Monday nights from Nov 3rd)

Ern Palfreyman worked as a mathematician/statistician and was involved in the CSIRO's post-WWII efforts to build a computer (CSIRAC).

In bridge he was a longtime administrator, serving as an ABF Councillor as well as vice-president, committee member (and maybe even acting president) of the VBA from the 1960s through to 1980 or so. In addition he captained a number of Victorian Representative Teams.

He was an active promoter of our game and was involved with the setting up of many of the non-VBA run clubs in the 1970s, such as Geelong and Sale. He would often act as the initial director of such clubs. He was a very affable and easy-to-like person.

His keen interest in early computing technology led him to persuade the VBA Council to purchase an early Canon programmable calculator to improve the speed of scoring (not long after the VBA moved from La Trobe St to Prahran around 1971). Ernie, Bob Gallus and Bob Marks all wrote programs for this calculator that enabled matchpoints to be tallied (Ern) or Butler Scores to be computed (Bob Gallus).

Ernie invariably played Bridge with Beryl, his wife of many years. They were quite keen competitors at congresses and the VBA. He was interested in puzzles of all sorts and was quite a keen student of Coffin's "Endplays" book.

If you are keen to play in the Ern Palfreyman Teams and looking for a partner or team mates drop me a line or contact the club.



*Frank Hirst (seated) and Ernest Palfreyman at CSIRAC console. *Age & The Leader photo 15 June, 1956.*

Annual General Meeting

The AGM is coming up in early December and nominations for council are now open. Members have been sent nomination forms by email or post, and these forms are also available on the VBA website. The council thanks Paul Hobson for agreeing to act as returning officer for the elections this year. Council meets about once monthly at the VBA prior to Wednesday evening bridge, and has a number of sub-committees which run various aspects of the VBA. If you feel you can help or would like to be involved, I encourage you to consider nominating for council, or advising us that you would be interested in helping out on one of the sub-committees. For more information on getting involved, contact the secretary, Kim Frazer at kim.frazer@bigpond.com or phone 0409 416128.



Upcoming Events

Monday nights
Ros Blutstein Swiss Pairs
Oct 20th & 27th sessions 3&4

Monday Nights
from November 3rd
Ern Palfreyman Teams
(4 weeks)

Wednesday nights
Victorian Pennant
(Open Teams)
22nd October,
Nov 12th & 19th

Wednesday Nights
Oct 29th & Nov 5th
Victorian Individual

Nationwide Pairs Heats
Saturday 18th October
Saturday 1st November
Saturday 15th November

ABF Events

Spring Nationals
Open Teams
Oct 29th - 31st
Semis/Finals Nov 1st & 2nd
Dick Cumming Pairs
Nov 1st & 2nd
Seniors/Womens Teams
Nov 3rd to 6th

Congresses

Warnambool
18th - 19th October
Waverley
1st & 2nd November
South Gippsland
8th & 9th November
Kooyong
16th November

Visit the VBA Website for more details.

Developing Women's Bridge

VBA Session Times

Duplicate

Monday*	11:30am
Monday*	7:30pm
Tuesday	7:15pm
Thursday*	11:30am
Thursday	7:30pm
Saturday	1:00pm

Supervised

Wednesday	10:30am
Thursday	7:30pm
Saturday	1:30pm

Tournaments

Monday*	7:30pm
Wednesday*	7:30pm

*Cafe Open

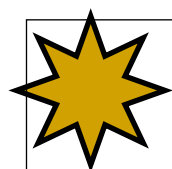
The VBA is running a series of tutorials with the goal of improving the standard and enthusiasm for women's bridge. Led by Anna St Clair, a number of guest lecturers will provide expert tuition for advanced players at the VBA on Tuesday evenings and for intermediate players at Waverley Bridge club on Friday evenings. Both sessions commence at 7.30pm

At the first session held on Tuesday 7th October, Dee Harley talked about when to rise with an honour. The 12 participants then had the opportunity to practice the concepts discussed and the whole session was wrapped up with some cheese, wine & discussion. An additional 18 attended the Waverley session.

Word has got out on how good the session was and at the second session 24 women heard Doug Newlands discuss "Overcalling & Protection".

These have been pleasant evenings and the women players in attendance have all agreed it is time well spent. Future sessions will cover different topics and I am sure attendees will enjoy the experience and improve bridge at the same time.

Cost is \$10 and includes notes and wine and cheese



Top Duplicate Scorers September/October

Jenny Atkinson & Edna Matheson
72.86%

Jenny Atkinson & Helen Snashall
70.5%

mmm seems to be a theme here. Well done Jenny!

Harry Rose & Mary Bryer
68.1%

Ben & Jenny Thompson
67.1%



The VBA Summer Congress isn't far away.

The Summer Congress is the VBA's major congress for the year and the last congress on the calendar prior to Christmas.

Program: Saturday Dec 6th Swiss Pairs 10:00am
Sunday 7th December Swiss teams

Enter via VBA Website.

Director: Laurie Kelso Convenor: Robert Ellery



If you would be able to assist with some nibbles for during play (cakes, cookies etc) could you let me (neilewart@icloud.com) or Cathie know. I'm the first name on the volunteer list!

A Suit Combination When it's Wrong to Finesse

This is a very common combination that I see a lot of people get wrong. They learnt early on in their bridge career about finesses and this combination looks to the unwary like a simple matter of finessing the queen.

You hold this combination and need three tricks:

A J 3 2
opposite
K 5 4

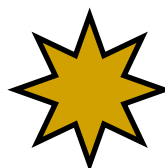
Do you take the finesse? NO!

If the finesse is working you are guaranteed to make 3 tricks (4 if the queen is onside and they are 3-3), but what if the Q is doubleton on your right? Your jack is lost forever if you finesse.

The correct play is to play the K first then small to the ace. If the Q drops all is good. If not come back to your hand and play a small one towards the Jack. If the suit is 3-3 then it doesn't matter and the 4th one will be good, and if the Queen is 4th on your left then the jack will score.

This play has a 77% chance of making 3 tricks. NOT BAD! And a whole lot better than the 50% chance of the finesse working.

Of course if you need 4 tricks you have no choice but to finesse and hope that the queen is onside AND that the suit is 3-3. That has only an 18% chance of success.



Masterpoint Promotions September Quarter

Pauline Grodski *National Master
Mieke Van Weel National Master
Faye Ding - State Master
Fleur Townsend - Regional Master
Philip Nankin - Regional Master
John Merkrebs - *Local Master
Noraini Knight - Local Master
Bernadette Livanos - Club Master