

Bridge Blog – 22 December 2020

Merry Christmas to you all.

What a strange year it has been for us all. On behalf of the Bridge Section I would like to thank Danny Gesua for all his hard work in getting online Bridge set up and for then continuing to iron out all the problems that some people experienced. I would have liked to make a presentation to Danny but circumstances did not allow this. So, we have arranged for a credit to his Wine Society account and hope that he will enjoy whatever he chooses. *Thank you Danny!*

Thank you to everyone who came to our festive Bridge last Tuesday evening. It was really good fun and great to see everyone. Congratulations to Sandra and Gordon Fox for winning and also to Caroline Walker and Brenda Nixon for coming closest (actually spot on) to the mystery percentage.

Duplicate sessions over the holiday period are:

Monday 21st December: 1.30pm

Tuesday 22nd December: 6pm

Wednesday 23rd December: 1.30pm

NO SESSION on Christmas Eve

Monday 28th December: 1.30pm

Tuesday 29th December: 6pm

Wednesday 30th December: 1.30pm

Thursday 31st December: 1.30pm

Please note that the **Real Bridge session on Tuesday 5th January will start at 7.30pm.**

The Teams competition finished on 18th December. This was run in two separate Leagues. The winners of each League based on Victory points are in:

Box 1 Malcolm and Diane Bricknell, Peter Hardymont and Rob Warriner

Box 2 Danny and Sally Gesua, Myles and Ellie Elliot.

Box 2 was incredibly close. Ralph's team were first on Gross IMPs, Danny and Ralph's teams equal on Net IMPs with Danny's team emerging victorious on Victory Points.

The winning two teams may arrange to play a final - if they do I will announce the winners in due course.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the League. It is a great way to spend a Friday afternoon. We are now going to take a break and we will launch a new League in the New Year.

If you would like to enter a team please let Danny know on dannygesua2003@yahoo.co.uk as soon as possible. Ideally, please enter as a team. However, if you are a pair and cannot find team mates please let Danny or me know and we will try to help.

In the RWGCL Ladies Section we played a match against Burhill Golf Club. Roehampton won by an impressive 31 imps victory. Well played!

I would remind you that **from January 1st we will be charging £2 per person for each Duplicate session**. There will be no change in logging on and playing.

The Committee will give a register of all those who have played to the Club per month and the money will be deducted from your Club Card. For this to work each Member will need to have topped up their card as the original levy cannot be used to pay for Bridge.

And finally, a puzzle from Paul:

Your partner opens 2H (Weak)

Your Right Hand Opponent bids 3S (described as “strong”)

What might you bid?

S	74
H	AQ86
D	AKQJ762
C	-

Analysis at the end.

Have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Hopefully next year will be better for us all ...

Kate

Paul's analysis:

When this hand came up in a big tournament, some opponents doubled; some bid 4S, but most bid 3S.

There could easily be 13 tricks, but equally you could lose the first two spades. How can you find out?

A jump to 5H would indicate that you think you can make 6H or 7H, but you have two losers in the “key” suit. Here, that suit must be spades.

If your partner has a singleton on Ks, she can bid 6H

If she holds As or a void, she should cue-bid 5S.

This was the full deal:

		S	A8		
		H	KJ10754		
		D	85		
		C	762		
S	J95			S	KQ10632
H	32			H	9
D	109			D	43
C	1098543			C	AKQJ
		S	74		
		H	AQ86		
		D	AKQJ762		
		C	-		

As you can see 7H is cold, and E/W would do well to bid 7S as a sacrifice and although it might yield 1400, this still beats the pairs who bid and make 6H+1.

However, few pairs reached 7H. They mainly played in 5H and 6H.
Would you have known how to find the 100% secure Grand Slam?