

Peninsula News and Views



Newsletter of the Peninsula Bridge Club

August 2016

Australia Wide Pairs

Peninsula competed in the Australia Wide Pairs on Saturday 27th August. The winning pairs were Sarah **Young and Marieta Borthwick** (E/W) and **Peter Clarke and Hans van Weeren** (N/S). The results will be submitted and re-scored with over 4000 players from around the country and available at www.australianbridge.com in September.

The boards were randomly selected from matches in the Australian Open Playoff. 27 boards were played and there was not a single biddable slam.



The saga of the Club Pairs Championship has become very complicated and has sapped much of the committee's time and energy over the past several months. The PBC Club Committee made a decision to void the Club Pairs Championship. The reason for this decision was that there were two conflicting sets of substitute rules on the notice board which affected a few pairs in their choice of substitute. The PBC Club Committee takes full responsibility for this serious error. Some of the participants have objected to this decision and the committee has arranged an Expert Determination. All parties have agreed to accept the findings of the Experts. We will keep you posted.

However in spite of this the Club continues to flourish. We now have a dishwasher, the Zip water heaters have been replaced, the ancient curtains have been replaced with stylish blinds, we are running a fabulous 50th birthday celebration, a Beginners course is in progress, the Defibrillator has been installed and members trained to use it and the Tournament Committee has developed a number of new competitions, particularly for our members with less than 100 master points.

Cath Whiddon has been invited by the ABF to join their National Teaching Coordinator to conduct Teacher Training around Australia next year.

The club has over 500 members and the work load for the volunteers who do all the work necessary to run a club of this size can at times be quite daunting. So if you have any special skills or free time please approach a member of the committee and offer your services.

There was an unsettling incident after a night game where a player felt unsafe. We would like all players at night to be aware of others including the director and make sure no-one is alone or vulnerable at the end of the night.

Vivien Eldridge —Acting President

50th Anniversary Party Update

- There is a **WAITING LIST** so if for any reason you are unable to attend please let us know as soon as possible.
- We need **PAID HELPERS** so if you know any young people who would like to work on the day please reply to this email or ring Sarah
- Please bring **SAVOURY NIBBLES OR CAKES** to start the day. Lunch and dessert will be provided but please contribute to morning tea.
- **PARKING** may be a problem so please car pool if possible.

CONTACT SARAH YOUNG ON 99973609



COMING UP AT THE CLUB...

- 50th Anniversary celebrations Sept 3.
- Members Only Teams on Thursday 15th September at 10am. Get a team together and sign up.
- The **Inaugural <100mp Pairs Championship** will be held over three Saturdays starting on the 17th September. This is a chance for newer players to get your names in gold on the new honour board so find a partner and sign up at the club.
- Find 4 different partners for 4 Mondays in October for the **Annual Stebbins Trophy Competition**.

Bridge Education



Joan Butts professional workshop

Saturday 15 October 9.30 – 11.30

Stay & play with free hand discussion after the 12.30-4.00pm game.

Also: CPD day for Bridge Teachers Sunday 16 October.

Should I Open 1NT w/ a 5-card Major?

By Larry Cohen

This is the #1 question. If bridge teachers had a dollar for every time this question is asked, they'd be wealthy people.

Let me start by saying, that there is no "right" answer.

With 15-17 balanced, and a 5-card major, open 1NT (balanced means 5-3-3-2. With 5-4-2-2, open the major).

The biggest reason I have for opening 1NT is that if you don't open 1NT, you will have a major (pardon the pun) headache when it comes time to rebid. For example, say you hold:

♠Q 10 ♥A Q 10 4 2 ♦K J 2 ♣K J 3

If you open 1♥, what will you do next? Suppose partner answers with 1♠. How do you show this hand? If you rebid 1NT, you are showing less than 15. If you rebid 2NT, you are showing more than 17. That is why I prefer to start with 1NT. You have 16 balanced and if you open 1♥, you will never be able to convey that information. Whatever partner responds to 1♥, you will have trouble telling partner that you have 16 HCP.

Is there a downside? Of course. By opening with 1NT, you will sometimes miss out on a proper contract in your major. You will miss some 5-3 major-suit fits (and occasionally, even a 5-4 fit). There are conventions (such as Puppet Stayman) to get out of this mess, but those are outside the scope of this article.

I have found (in 30+ years) of experience, that my way is the best way. I have my good and bad moments, but in the long run, the money goes to the 1NT opening. Even when I do miss a 5-3 major-suit fit, I find that notrump plays just as well (and even if it is the same, it is worth a fortune at matchpoints to get the 10 extra points for your contract).

I think it best for less-experienced players to blindly open all balanced 15-17 hands with 1NT. That is because opening with the major ends up creating annoying rebid problems. For example, players who open the hand above with 1♥, will have to invent a rebid (typically in a 3-card suit). Bridge is hard enough. Intermediate players need to keep things simple.

Improve your bridge



Are you languishing at the wrong end of the winners table?

Why don't you try Bridge Vid?
<https://bridgevid.com>

Peter Hollands is a young National Player who is trying to make a living from bridge. For the cost of about 1 cappuccino a week you can access hundreds of videos suitable for new players, improvers and experts

Every day he puts out the "Daily Dose" a short 5 minute video - there are literally 100s of hours of material for the bridge tragic. He runs courses and if you're really keen you can purchase personal coaching sessions

What I particularly like is his commentary as to how he approaches declarer or defensive play, it's much better than just being told what card you should play and in what order, he gives the logic behind his decisions.

For \$15 pm it's the best bridge investment you can make

Wednesday evening bridge—more fun than ever

Wednesday evening starts at **7pm** and is new player friendly. There is a non playing Director in attendance which guarantees you a game, so you can turn up without a partner. The game finishes at 10pm and the regulars are some of the most supportive, encouraging people you will ever meet at a bridge club.



PBC has an active Facebook page — are you participating? With over 70 members and lots of activity, we'd love to see you there. If you're interested in joining in, please send PBC an email and we'll do the rest.