

**NEW  
BRIDGE  
BOOK**

**Test Your  
Bidding  
Against the  
Experts**  
by [Danny Roth](#)

Price: **\$15**  
264 pages.  
Paperback.

There are a number of areas in bidding in which players at all levels demonstrate room for improvement. This includes Bridge experts, whose (mis)bidding of actual hands constitutes the 140 problems in this book. Each chapter starts with 10 thematically linked bidding problems. In each case, you will be told where you are sitting and the conditions of play; any relevant conventional bidding and other information will be clearly explained. The problems are then repeated with a discussion of recommended answers ranked from a "perfect 10" downwards. Keeping score will help you assess how you are progressing through the book. You will need to recognize which type of problem is being illustrated and show how to handle it. The most important requirement is that you understand what you are doing rather than make a bid because "some expert told you to do so." That understanding represents the difference between the winning and the losing player. Enjoy your journey!



**QUICK TIP**

**Regarding No Trump Contracts (as Declarer) –**

Count your Winners. If you don't have enough top tricks to make your contract, decide which suit offers you the best chance of creating more winners. Attack that suit first (it will usually be your longest side suit). Give up tricks you have to lose early.



**WOULD YOU HAVE MADE 3NT ?**

<b>NORTH</b>		
♠	AT865	
♥	AKT84	
♦	K74	
♣	----	
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>
♠	Q94	♠ K73
♥	QJ96	♥ 72
♦	Q5	♦ JT93
♣	632	♣ AJ95
<b>SOUTH</b>		
♠	J2	
♥	53	
♦	A862	
♣	KT874	

These hands appeared in the English Open Teams competition in 2000. North was Dealer and opened 1♠, after East passed South responded 1NT and then North bid 2♥. South went to 2♠, North then went 3♥ and South signed off with 3NT. West led 2♣ and the question was, "which major should Declarer attack?" (answer on Page 7).



**BRIDGE JARGON**

**New Minor Forcing (NMF):** is a bidding convention used to find a 5-3 or 4-4 major suit fit after a specific sequence of bids in which opener has rebid 1NT. The convention is triggered by responder at his second turn by an artificial bid of two in an unbid minor; it requires that he/she hold five cards in the major that he/she has previously bid and an unlimited hand ranging in value from at least game invitational strength to that sufficient to have interest in slam; he/she may also hold four cards in the other major. Accordingly, there are six bidding sequences in which the New Minor Forcing bid may be applied.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT** - the most commonly dealt hand pattern is 4432, which you will get 21.6% of the time. Second comes 5332 (15.5%).

## DIRECTORS' CORNER

At some Clubs players may ask "when was the last time I had a genuinely pleasant experience with the Director at the table?" There is probably a wide range of answers to this question, but it is known that some interactions with Directors at some Clubs or Congresses (at the table) can sometimes be described as "unpleasant". This should not be the case and can't be considered so at our Club. Directors have a really neat opportunity every time they are called to the table but there are a few of them who view the situation in the right light.

"Hello, how can I help?"

When Directors start the interaction with this phrase (properly intoned, so as not to sound impatient or distracted), things often go more smoothly. As soon as any player gets the impression that the Director doesn't care about the ruling they are making, enjoyment of the game begins to degrade. Directors exist to help the games run smoothly, and to increase enjoyment for the players.

**It's rude to call the Director on beginners?**

This has been heard but it simply isn't true. It's never rude to call the Director if an irregularity has occurred. In fact, it's rude **NOT** to call. One does not call the Director **ON** the opponents. One calls the Director to assess options associated with irregularities, and to do so from an unbiased perspective. Players may not always agree with rulings, even when they go in their favour, but they should **always** be thankful to have someone unbiased to make those rulings so the players don't have to.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April: **Tuesday Eclectics** begin.  
Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> April: **Moore Trophy\*\*** begins.  
Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> April: **Novices Teams\*\***.  
Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May: **Wednesday Eclectics** begin.  
Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May: **Friday Eclectics** begin.  
Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> May: **Red Point Pairs** event.  
Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> May: **Red Point Pairs** event.  
Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> May: **Clubhouse Birthday Trophy**.  
Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> May: **Australia Wide Novices Pairs**.  
Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June: **Sunday Eclectics** begin.  
Fridays, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June: **Friday Winter Pairs\*\***.  
Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> June: **GNOT\*\*\***.

\*\* = red points. \*\*\* = gold points.

## MYSTERY PERSONALITY



Who is this handsome teenager who is one of our regular Tuesday morning players?

(answer on Page 7)



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE PLAYERS WHO HAVE GAINED RANKING PROMOTIONS

**Life Master:** Janet Price.

**National Master\*:** Narelle McIver.

**National Master:** Ismail Meman.

**State Master:** Derek Morris, Colleen Williams, Daphne Young, Ying Liu.

**Regional\*:** Tomasina De Luca, Jan Frewin, Janet Loosmore.

**Regional:** Andrea Pappas, Speros Pappas, Con Fernandez.

**Local Master\*\*:** Donna L'Estrange, Jane Whelan.

**Local Master\*:** Leonie Hall, Carolyn North.

**Local Master:** Bernice Cooper.

**Club Master:** Karen Leitch, Jenette Nunn, Sharon Smith.

**Graduate Master:** John Flynn, James Yee.



## ANAGRAMS

Who are these three members of our Bridge Club?  
(answer on Page 7)

**LINEN SEED  
RUN OLDEN FORD  
A TORN KINSMAN**



**DID YOU KNOW THAT** – it is illegal for Dummy to point out to Declarer that one or more of his/her quitted tricks is pointing the wrong way? (the same applies to Defenders). However, once play has moved on to the next trick it can be brought to the attention of the players.

## TOP SCORES OF THE MONTH

**JANUARY:** 71.88% - Bronwyn Taylor & Lee Pitt – Tuesday (pm) - 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

**FEBRUARY:** 68.98 – Ismail Meman & Ahmed Latif – Thursday (pm) – 7<sup>th</sup> February.

**MARCH:** 74.77% - Richard Spelman & Janet Price – Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March.



## LOOKING BACK TEN YEARS

Ken Robinson and David Utting were elected President and Vice-President, respectively, at our AGM. One of our February sessions saw Joyce and Max Worthington score 74.82%. Lesley Fox and Pam Wood won the KISS Trophy while Ken and Di Robinson won the Tuesday Eclectics and Geoff Davey and Bevan Parkes won the Wednesday Eclectics. Twelve new members were welcomed to the Club, of whom just Justin Mooney, Ron Cross and Janice Fawcett are still with us today. Anne Lovett was promoted to National Master\* and Janet Price to Regional Master.



## ALMONER'S REPORT

Lesley Focks is not very well at present and our thoughts are with her and any other members of whom we are not aware are having health problems. It is with great sadness that we have to report that Neil Christopher, Shirley Kerr and Margaret Vaux all passed away recently after long illnesses and we send our condolences to their loved ones.



**SOMERSET MAUGHAM** - reputed to be the highest paid novelist in the 1930s, was an ardent Bridge player. He once wrote, "The essentials for playing a good game of Bridge are to be truthful, clear-headed and considerate; prudent, but not averse to taking a risk, and not to cry over spilled milk. Incidentally, those are perhaps also the essentials for playing the more important game of Life!"



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Joyce Worthington, who reached 90 years of age in January, and also Heather Llewellyn, who was 80 in the same month.

## FAMOUS PLAYERS

**KYLE LARSEN** was one of the game's great



players and was a fierce competitor with a phenomenal table presence and great instincts. He had many partners throughout his career, but during the past 12 years he played almost exclusively with Rose Meltzer in the major events. His impressive career started off with him becoming the youngest Life Master (at that time), and culminated with victories in the Bermuda Bowl in 2001 and the Rosenblum in 2006. Kyle was also one of a select group of players that won an NABC event in each of the last 6 decades. Most recently he was inducted into the Bridge Hall of Fame. Kyle made his living playing Bridge and Poker and betting on sports. He will be remembered fondly not only for his prowess at Bridge, but more importantly as a kind and remarkable human being. He passed away in August 2012 after battling prostate cancer for several years before finally succumbing.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE COMPETITION WINNERS

Fridays, 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> February: **Friday Teams\*\*** - Philip Chang & Weiping Xie, Ying Liu & Mei Liu.

Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March: **KISS Trophy\*\*** - Philip Chang & Weiping Xie. Tuesdays, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

March: **Autumn Pairs\*\*** - Weiping Xie & Philip Chang. **Friday Eclectics** in March: Sam Ng & Derek Morris.

\*\* = red points.



## NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome Watson Zhou, Michael Fox, Anthea Tekloot, Jill Arkadieff, Nanette Hinsch, Lyn Tracey, Sonja Goodwin, Joan Jenkins, Robin Webcke and Margaret Bower to the Sunnybank Bridge Club and hope that their stay will be a long and happy one. This brings our membership to 250.



## HAND EVALUATION

**Charles Goren** developed the modern point



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count system of hand evaluation, that replaced the honour tricks used by Ely Culbertson, but he borrowed ideas from others: Milton Work, Bryant McCampbell and William Anderson. Oswald Jacoby and William Anderson were both actuaries, but Anderson was a noted Canadian actuary who was President of a Life Insurance Company, President of the Society of Actuaries, and President of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. In the mid-Forties, Charlie came to Bill, a long-time friend and brilliant mathematician, and asked Anderson to undertake the mathematical research needed to prove whether a hand's trick-taking potential could be totally evaluated for suit bidding as well as No Trump bidding, on a point-count basis. The problem with the 4-3-2-1 Milton Work point count was that it was fine for No Trump bidding with balanced hands, but was notoriously inaccurate for suit evaluation. At the time, nearly all players still used the Culbertson honour-trick method of evaluating their hands for suit bidding. Bill spent two years working on the problem. His first task was to verify whether the Milton Work point count method was accurate – he discovered that, although it could be bettered slightly mathematically, the combination of its simplicity and accuracy could not be improved upon. He then set about resolving Goren's main issue – how to evaluate hands for suit bidding. Bill thus developed the 3-2-1 point scheme for evaluating hands with voids, singletons and doubletons respectively.



## CLUB RECORD

Members quite often ask, "What is the highest percentage ever scored at Sunnybank Bridge Club?" The answer is 82.50% and that was by Lyn Rodgers and May Waddell, playing together on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2015.

## PARTNERSHIP PSYCHOLOGY

The art of keeping your partner happy is worth more in terms of results than much advanced technical knowledge; but it is an art in which many players never learn. Players who encourage their partners instead of shouting at them, praising the occasional good play instead of pointing out the obvious, earn large dividends. On the other hand, players who are subjected to a barrage of criticism are likely to play below their best not only for the remainder of the session but on subsequent occasions. Long-lived partnerships usually consist of players who enjoy each other's company and have a genuine respect for each other. Egotists whose main concern is to prove how brilliantly they themselves play and how foolishly their partners perform may have temporary successes but they have to find new partners regularly.



## THE TRUE ORIGIN OF BRIDGE?

In the month of June 2011, Hans Secelle of Schelderode, Belgium, reported having discovered conclusive evidence about the history of the game of Bridge. His research ended at the Bridge Collection Amsterdam, which is a feature of the Special Collections of the Amsterdam University Library, when he reportedly discovered a booklet. The content of this booklet definitively concluded that Russia is the country of the origin of the card game known as Bridge. The reporting of this discovery was also confirmation at the same time that the origins of the card game called Bridge was found in that country before the middle of the 19th century.



## ANOTHER TYPE OF PRE-EMPT?

David Bruce, one of America's top players, was on lead against a grand slam in a suit holding two Aces and he knew the Dummy had to be void in one of those suits. The Dummy was that expert player, Oswald Jacoby, who always left the table the moment a card was led when he was Dummy. David Bruce decided to lead his chewing gum wrapper. When Jacoby saw something hit the table he put his Dummy down and David Bruce was then able to see which Ace would cash.



## CARDS IN ART



This engraving, called "The Whist Party", is the work of Jean Michel (known as "The Younger Moreau") and was produced in 1783. Whist, of course, was the forerunner of Bridge.



## DON'T BE POUTY

During a National Pairs event overseas, a partnership had a bidding misunderstanding and wound up playing a contract of 3♣ in a 2-1 fit, when they were cold for game in Spades. When Declarer saw the Dummy, he threw his cards face up on the table claiming "Down 9", and stormed off. The opponents, not wanting to add insult to injury, accepted the claim and moved on. Later on during the session, they were assessed a procedural penalty by the Director for accepting tricks they couldn't legally accept. According to the laws, a player can't legally concede a trick they must win (for example: the trump Ace). Had they called the Director at the appropriate time, the correct result would have been determined (including maximum penalty for making a bad claim), and the pouty Declarer would probably have received a zero tolerance penalty for being a jerk.

**LARRY COHEN** is a top American Bridge player and a writer of Bridge articles.

Larry is a staunch advocate of "less is more" and says that his observation is that at every level of the game, players are using too many conventions. Too often there are players (from beginner to world champion) misusing or forgetting their methods. Everyone would benefit if they would just KISS. (Keep It Simple, Stupid). He says:

If I had to choose just 4 conventions, this would be my list:

1. Negative Doubles
2. Blackwood
3. Stayman
4. Jacoby transfers

If you forced me to choose 4 more, this would be the next group:

5. 4th Suit Game Forcing.
6. Methods (I prefer "DONT" ) vs. Opponents' No Trump
7. Weak jumps in competition
8. 2NT ask (Feature) after our Weak 2-bids

If you insisted I fill my convention card with 12 conventions, these would be the next four:

Unusual no trump / Michaels bids, New Minor Checkback, Jacoby 2NT, Support Doubles

And, since people just love to learn/play/teach conventions, these would be my D-list -- choices 13-16:

lebensohl, Drury, Inverted Minors, Splinter Bids

Honestly, I think it would be counterproductive for 99% of players to go any further than this. The memory strain is not worth it. Someone once said, "The Road to Hell is Paved with Good Conventions."



**DID YOU KNOW THAT** - although you cannot ask for a review of the bidding (after the third trick of the first round has been played) you can ask what the contract is? Recently this question was asked and the opposition refused to tell their opponents.

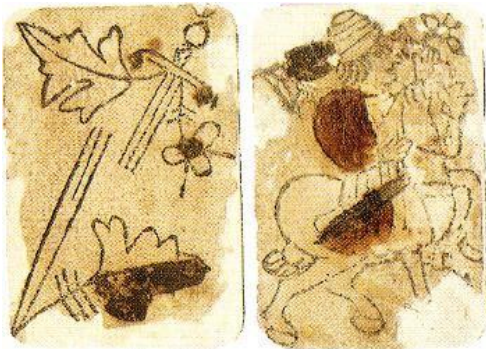
**ANAGRAMS**  
(answer)

**DENNIS LEE**  
**NOEL DURNFORD**  
**NORMAN ATKINS**



**THE ART IN CARDS**

These cards are from a primitive pack dating probably from the early 15<sup>th</sup> Century, possibly of Swiss or German origin for export to Spain, which makes them one of the earliest known surviving packs of playing cards.



There are Moorish influences in some of the cards and they show a lingering evidence of a suit system derived from early Arabic cards, which eventually became popular in Europe. They have been printed from wood blocks and coloured by a technique known as *a la morisca* which involved using the fingers dipped in ink. (the figure in the right hand image appears to be carrying a Saracenic shield).



**MYSTERY PERSONALITY**



**Answer:**  
**William Pavey.**

**DID YOU SHOW THEM HOW IT'S DONE?**

<b>NORTH</b>			
♠	AT865		
♥	AKT84		
♦	K74		
♣	----		
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠	Q94	♠	K73
♥	QJ96	♥	72
♦	Q5	♦	JT93
♣	632	♣	AJ95
<b>SOUTH</b>			
♠	J2		
♥	53		
♦	A862		
♣	KT874		

After West led 2♣ Declarer discarded a Heart from Dummy at trick one. East won the Ace and returned 5♣. Declarer won the King and discarded a Heart from Dummy. At trick three he led J♠. West covered with the Q and Dummy's Ace won. He crossed to the A♦ and led his second Spade to Dummy's eight. East won the K and the defence cashed two Club tricks (Declarer discarding a Diamond and T♥. He won the Heart switch in Dummy and, when the two outstanding Spades fell under the Ten, he could cash his two long Spades and claim.



**CRAFTY CRAWFORD**

John R. Crawford, the American Bridge player, achieved considerable notoriety as a shrewd card player. According to legend, he was once in a hopeless four-spade contract. About **midway** through the play this exchange takes place:

**Crawford:** the rest are mine, making five.  
**Opponent:** what do you mean? I still have a trump trick.  
**Crawford:** my apologies, you are absolutely right. Great defence too, to hold me to four.  
**Opponent:** Thank you.



