

# SOMERSET CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

**MAY 2018**



## UPCOMING EVENT

**July 29<sup>th</sup> – Barometer Pairs Woolavington 1pm**

**August 12<sup>th</sup> – Paul Jones Woolavington 1pm**

**August 27<sup>th</sup> County League 1 Woolavington 7.15pm**

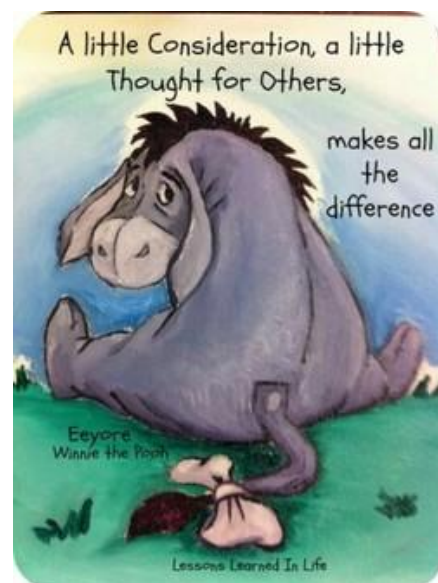
**September 2<sup>nd</sup> Mixed Pairs Woolavington 1 pm**

**September 21<sup>st</sup> County League 2 Woolavington 7.15pm**

**September 22<sup>nd</sup> Mixed Teams Woolavington 1 pm**

**BB@B**

As always we wish to underline the importance of courtesy to partners and opponents at all county events. Our county director says that players in County Events (including the County League) are reminded that each partnership should have a pair of identically completed convention cards. This is not only courteous to the opposition, but also assists the Tournament Director. When facts are disputed, incorrect explanations given, or misbids occur, the Director will usually rule against an offending pair if their convention cards are not present.



## **TERRY GIRDLESTONE TROPHY**

This is a new award given to the person voted to have contributed most to the smooth running of Somerset bridge clubs. Alan Atkinson was our first winner. The award will be an annual event so nominations will be requested for 2019 at a future date.

## **AGM Report**

Congratulations to the winners of the AGM Swiss Teams.

They were:- Wendy Miller, Sheila Coda, Margaret Adams & Naomi Molton.

I would like to also encourage those Club Directors who would like to improve their skills to shadow a Director at a County event. Please contact me to register your interest, County event dates can be found on the web site.

Also I am happy to receive suggestions about ways to improve events. Please contact me; my details are on the County website.

Frank Coltman

**Please Note that all weekend events will in future begin at 1pm**

## **The Pairs League**

This event goes from strength to strength  
2018 winners were:

Division One    1<sup>st</sup> Frank Coltman and Colin Simcox  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> Erci Cummings and Ceri Pierce

Division Two    1<sup>st</sup> Sheena Lanham and Andy Ridgers  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> Baranara Biggin and Anne Skinner

Division Three   1<sup>st</sup> Nigel Maggs and Jenny McDermot  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Bryant and Pat Ashford

Division Four    1<sup>st</sup> Sue Gudgeon and Malcolm Scard  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> Annie Holder and Belinda Cox

## 2017-2018 EVENTS

### Championship Teams

**CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Colin Flood, Eric Cummings, Alan and Jette Bailey

2<sup>nd</sup> Roger Sweet, Michael Whittaker, Colin Simcox and Frank Coltman

### Championship Pairs

**CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Barbara Biggin & Anne Skinner

2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Flood & Sheila Coda

3<sup>rd</sup> Colin Juneman & Graham Heal

**Consolation** 1<sup>st</sup> Steve Fletcher & Grant Weston

2<sup>nd</sup> Frank Coltman & Colin Simcox

### Club Teams of Eight

TAUNTON: represented by Colin Flood, Sheila Coda, Roger Sweet, Jackie Waters, Richard Feetenby, Sally Stuttard, Alan & Jette Bailey

### County League

**CUP** A Div Taunton: Roger Sweet, Sheila Coda, Alan & Jette Bailey, Colin Flood, Rob Lawy & Jackie Waters

B Div Taunton: Julian Brown, Kate Pilkington, David Porter, Norman Massey, Richard Feetenby and Sally Stuttard.

C Div Street: Alan & Diane Dean, Rhoda Tyley, John Carroll and Ian Williamson.

### Mixed Teams

**CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Andy Ridgers, Sheena Lanham, Caroline MacPherson & Katrina Foote

2<sup>nd</sup> Roger Sweet, Graham Heal, David & Gina Howard

### Paul Jones

**CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Eric Cummings, Ceri Pierce, Alan & Jette Bailey

2<sup>nd=</sup> Richard Feetenby, Chris Thomas, Terry & Sally Stuttard

Colin Juneman, Graham Heal, David & Gina Howard

### Swiss Teams

**CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Eric Cummings & Ceri Pierce, Ralph Smith & Steve Tomlinson

2<sup>nd</sup> Michael Powell, Lesley Floyd, Michael Wigmore & Jenny Gostlin

### County Pairs League

- 1<sup>st</sup> Division: Colin Simcox & Frank Coltman
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Andy Ridgers & Sheena Lanham
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Division: Nigel Maggs & Jenny McDermott
- 4<sup>th</sup> Division: Malcolm Scard & Sue Gudgeon

### **Ladies' Pairs**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Ceri Pierce & Sheila Coda
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Shirley Durrant & Ann Allsopp

### **Men's Pairs**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Andy Ridgers & Glyn Meredith
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Juneman & Roger Sweet

### **Swiss Pairs**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Bob Warrender & Jackie Waters
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Juneman & Roger Sweet

### **Mixed Pairs**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Alan & Jette Bailey
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Juneman & Caroline MacPherson

### **Barometer Pairs**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Roger Sweet & Ian Walsh
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Andy Ridgers & Sheena Lanham

### **Percentage Individual**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Nigel Hamlyn
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ray Walder

### **Inter Club Championship**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Langport

### **Inter Club Teams of Four - Open section**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Inter Club Teams of Four - Restricted section**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Wells: John Staite, John Carroll, Paul St. Quintin & Geoff Davies  
2<sup>nd</sup> Langport Pat Nelson, Bridget Thorn, Steve Fletcher and Grant Weston

### **Inter Club Pairs - Restricted 5\* section**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Anthony Nicolson and Daphne Greateorex (Wedmore)

### **Inter Club Pairs – Lundie Rees 1\* section**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Michael and Marie Baldes (Nailsea)

### **Michael Coda Chareity Simultaneous Pairs**

- CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> Barbara Biggin & Gillian Toogood (Coxley – afternoon)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Roy Rowe & Liz Bradley (Coxley)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ernie Whitehead & Pat Bright (Cannington)  
4<sup>th</sup> John Cockram & Patrick Cartwright (Winscombe)

Tournament & Star Masters: Valerie Siggee & Joan Murray (Wells)

Advanced Master: Maggie Uffindell & Nan Watt (Cheddar)

Club Master John Gould & Vivienne Dalby-Welsh (Wells)

Non - SCBA Sharon Maddock & Sheila Mortland

In 77<sup>th</sup> place Di Askwith & Sheila Berry (Wells)

**Terry Girdlestone Cup** Alan Atkinson

**Cynthia Day Victor Ludorum** for best overall performance in county competitions

**CUP** Roger Sweet

## **FAST FORWARD TO BRIDGE in South Somerset**

This was the first venture of this kind in Somerset and was organized by 3 local bridge clubs (Castle Cary, Sherborne and Yeovil). It was a concentrated course for beginners and learners and was held over the weekend of May 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> in the hall of the Sparkford Inn.

The course was taught by Caroline Macpherson supported by Barry,

**Meg and Ray from the bridge clubs. The course content was a mixture of teaching and supervised play interspersed with coffee breaks, lunch and dinner so that a very good social atmosphere prevailed.**

**The first session on the Friday evening was for beginners, and “rusty” bridge players joined in on the Saturday. In the final session on the Sunday afternoon, six club members joined the attendees for an enjoyable mini tournament during which the students were introduced to bridgemate scoring.**

**Sixteen people attended and these will all attend a series of follow up lessons, at the end of which we expect several will join clubs.**



**Five of the students went to Castle Cary Bridge club on the following Thursday. They played separately (supervised by Meg) to the main competition but they were made welcome by the members and it was a very successful evening. Some are going to a club night at Sherborne.**

**All attendees and teaching staff regard the project as a great success.**

## **A Step Further: Bruton 2018** (Jean Howard, SCBA Education Officer)

Another successful weekend with 14 tables practising their skills at Teams events with tuition led by Caroline MacPherson. There was a varied programme including a Swiss Teams event won by Val Bond, Jane Grist, Andrew & Christine Weller with Geoff Davis, Paul St Quintin, Annie Holder & Belinda Cox as runners up.

The difference between Duplicate Pairs & Teams was explained with tips on tactics; the adage 'Bid Boldly & Play Safely' given as the clue to success or how to avoid those big swings that catch partnerships out when in a Teams event.

Hopefully, this weekend will encourage more teams to enter County events as the mystique should have been lifted.

Our thanks goes to the in house team at Bruton for ensuring we were fed & kept hydrated; and to Caroline & Daphne who ensured the event was so positive for all involved

## **SCBA Privacy Policy and the General Data Protection Regulations**

This information relates to the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which came into effect on 25th May 2018, and which you may have seen referenced in English Bridge magazine, in the wider media or in emails from other organisations.

If you are content with the information that we hold, how we process it, how we currently contact you, etc. then you do not need to do anything. Unlike other organisations who may have contacted you recently, due to the SCBA's position as a membership organisation we do not need you to grant consent for your information to be used and you do not need to reply or complete any forms.

In any other circumstances you should contact either the EBU or the [SCBA membership secretary](#).

We have a privacy policy which you [can read here](#).



## The Quiz

April's solution:

5 solvers correctly identified the play of a low diamond at trick 2 and the winner drawn at random by Mrs. Russ was Gary Langdale who wins the prize of £10.

And One for the summer!

	♠ 10 9 5 3	
	♥ 10 9 8 3	
	♦ 10 9 5 3	
	♣ 3	
♠ 8 7 6		♠ Q J 2
♥ 7 6 5		♥ Q J 2
♦ 8 7 6		♦ K J 2
♣ 9 8 7 6	♠ A K 4	♣ Q J 10 2
	♥ A K 4	
	A Q 4	
	♣ A K 5 4	

South to make 6♠

Opening Lead: ♣9

## Interesting hand? (From Colin Simcox)

My featured hand comes from the butler pairs event on a recent bridge holiday. Board 16, you are the dealer, west, and vulnerable. What do you open with:

♠ AKQ6

♥ QJ65

♦ A

♣ KJT5

Well, there must be at least three options. Many players are happy to open 2NT with a singleton ace. Not my first choice, but at least it gets most of the hand attributes across in one go. If you chose to open at the one level, is it a club or a heart? Judging from the traveller, I would say the votes were about 50/50.



So let's look at both hands:

♠ AKQ6	♠ 95
♥ QJ65	♥ AT873
♦ A	♦ KQ975
♣ KJT5	♣ 4

What about:

2NT	3D (1)	1H	4C (1)	1C	1H
4H (2)	4NT (3)	or .. 4D (2)	5D (3)	or .. 3D (1)	4H (2)
5S (4)	6H (5)	5S (4)	6H (5)	Pass(3)	

(1) Transfer	(1) Splinter bid	(1) Splinter bid
(2) Super accept	(2) Cue bid - Ace	(2) 4H is enough
(3) RKCB	(3) Cue bid - King	(3) OK, I trust you.
(4) 2 aces + ♥Q	(4) Cue bid – Ace	5) Too late to stop in 5♥
(5) No further aspirations		

Can you empathise with any of these auctions? Maybe not, there are plenty more permutations, but I don't think any of these are poor. West's hand is very powerful, especially when partner is known to have five hearts (as in the first auction), and East's hand improves when west shows the ♦A (as in the second one). Ironically, west's hand devalues in the third sequence opposite a singleton diamond. It just goes to show what a problem singleton aces can be!

Anyway, let's suppose we've arrived in 6H by west. A diamond has been led and dummy goes down. Do you fancy your chances? No peeking ahead, how are you going to play this? Don't forget, you are playing butler pairs (i.e. teams' tactics) so don't worry about the overtrick! Given that you can afford a trump loser if you can pitch dummy's club, how about playing three rounds of spades straight away? Is it worth cashing the ace of trumps first for a small extra chance, in case one defender can ruff a spade with a singleton trump (or there is a singleton ♥K ? Probably not, because this loses out when north ruffs the third spade in front of dummy and you would have to fall back on the trump finesse.

Overall chance of success? Whenever spades are 4-3 (62%) plus if north

has 2 spades and the ♥K (over 7.5%), in all about 70%. Did you take this line?

The full deal:

♠	♥ K4	♠
♦ JT863	♦	♠ 95
♣ AQ9732	♣	♥ AT873
♠ AKQ6	♥ QJ65	♦ KQ975
♥ QJ65	♦ A	♣ 4
♦ A	♣ KJT5	♠ JT87432
♣ KJT5		♥ 92
		♦ 42
		♣ 86

Wow, talk about bad break! You just went off in a cold slam! If you took the inferior (50%) line of tackling trumps straight away you would have made it. Isn't bridge a great game? I don't think it is a terrible slam, and I thought the one pair that did bid it were a bit unlucky.

Someone once told me 'it is never wrong to lead an ace against a slam.' What happens here if north cashes his ace? You have no choice but to take the heart finesse - 12 tricks thank you very much.

**And Finally** My last word until September



Another tense night of contract bridge ahead.