



## SPRING 2022

### Michael Coda Cup

This event was completed with a magnificent total of **£1445** (to date) raised by Somerset clubs for the **Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance**.

Plaudits to **Mary Edmonds** and **Peter Hunter** playing in the on-line Barbarians game who finished with a massive 73.06%

Many thanks to all those who contributed to making the games such a success yet again.

### Up-coming Events

**Interclub Teams of Eight** with the winners representing Somerset at the Garden Cities trophy regional final.

March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1pm on RealBridge

Entries can be made here

## The Future of Bridge in Yeovil



Bridge in Yeovil has stuttered along for some time, the pandemic nearly putting paid to it altogether, but as England slowly emerges from lockdown so the game in one of Somerset's larger towns looks set for a new beginning.

Starting on Thursday **April 7th** (1.30 for 2.00pm) the **Yeovil Phoenix Bridge Club** will open its doors for the first time in the fine surroundings of the **Yeovil Golf Club**; thereafter play will commence at 2.00pm every Thursday. The intention is a broad church club welcoming all levels of player, hoping to encourage those less skilled to become better while still enabling the more experienced to play to their competitive limit. Hosts will be on hand to ensure everyone gets a game.

For further information and to sign up for the opening on April 7th, please contact Club Secretary Bob Warrender on 01963 440070 or via email [yeovilphoenix@gmail.com](mailto:yeovilphoenix@gmail.com)

### Recommencements:

**Wells Bridge Club** – Tuesday games restart from March 1<sup>st</sup> A host will be available on the first night. Please contact [sheena-tardis999@outlook.com](mailto:sheena-tardis999@outlook.com) for further details or if you would like a partner found for the evening.

**Cheddar Bridge Club** – Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> and following Wednesdays at the Catholic Church Hall. 1.30 – 4.30pm (please arrive by 1.20pm).

### Western League

#### January

Somerset A won 14 – 6 versus Dorset A

Somerset B lost 6 – 14 versus Dorset B

Somerset C won 14 – 6 versus Dorset C

## February

Somerset A won 17 - 3 versus Cornwall A

Somerset B won 18 - 2 versus Cornwall B (with Lou and Rob Hobhouse coming an excellent 4<sup>th</sup> in the crossimps)

Somerset C lost 2 - 18 versus Cornwall C

A link to the results can be found [here](#)

Following on from the 17-3 win against Cornwall, East Wales and Somerset are well ahead in the A Division. Avon are a long way behind in third place. Getting 14 VPs from our last two matches would mean Avon can't overtake us, so we can focus on overtaking East Wales. Our next match is against Herefordshire, and then, the final match of the season is against East Wales. We are set for a very exciting final match.

Thanks to Andy Ridgers for the report.

### **EBU Promotions:**

These are now listed on the SCBA website.

Premier Life Master	Mike Letts
2 Star Master	Meg Blight Barry Blight
Master	John Moore
County Master	Jane Dixon Bettina Pescod
District Master	Jane Hall
Area Master	James Macdonald
Club Master	Ngairi Mettam David Serle
Local Master	Carol Chaventre Rachael Joyce Clive Smith

Congratulations to all players.

## A fun hand from a BBO Vugraph (well, fun for some)

♠ A Q  
♥ 2  
♦ K Q J 6  
♣ A K 9 8 6 2

♠ K J 8 5 4  
♥ K Q 10 5 3  
♦ A  
♣ J 10

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

♠ 10  
♥ J 9 7 6 4  
♦ 10 9 8 7 5 4 2  
♣ -

South dealt but that was the only thing that was the same at both tables....

**Table One** the bidding went:

S **3D**, W **4D**, N **4NT** (alerted as 'RKCB, I hope') E **5S** and south making their second bid at the six level **6D P P X** – one off for minus 100. Not a great save with 5 spades doomed if indeed it was a save – North was probably entitled to think that there was a slam on.

**Table Two** was a bit different.

South opted to pass – the hand could be huge or useless depending.

West bid **1S** and North **doubled**. East then bid **3NT** alerted as some defence plus a raise to 4 spades which was nice and specific. Pass was followed by **4S**. North then bid **5 clubs** which was **doubled** by East, South now woke up and bid **5 diamonds** which was **doubled** by West and there the hand was played for plus 550 and a good swing for NS.

A commentator observed that the **3 diamond** opener muddied the waters for NS on table 1 – the points aren't there even for a pre-empt and the option of a heart contract disappears. After South passes initially when partner shows a strong hand then the best place is obvious to them.

And they say that it is a bidder's game..

## The Discovery Play

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

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

♠ K 6  
♥ J 7 5  
♦ K J 9 2  
♣ 9 6 5 4

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

Partner leads the **6 diamonds** against a **4 spade** contract (1S, 3S, 4S).  
What happens next?

Assuming you are not playing with a robot which will lead small from an ace in this situation about one time in twenty, you can place declarer with the Ace of diamonds. If you play the Jack of diamonds then you will find out if they have the Queen as well. After the spade finesse you are in again and now know the only way to defeat the contract is to switch to a heart and specifically the Jack since you will not be on lead again any time soon.

From the mind of Harvey Bernstein.

All comments, articles, news snippets and anecdotes gratefully received on  
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