



Surrey County Bridge Association

Newsletter # 29 March 2018

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President's Introduction

The weather forecasters inform us that the beginning of March is the meteorological start of spring. It is therefore particularly disappointing when exceptional weather cancels indoor as well as outdoor activities, denying some of us our regular bridge sessions and resulting in lost revenue for affected clubs.

On a more positive note, I am delighted to welcome Harry Figov as the new SCBA Web Manager. Harry plays his bridge at Bletchingley, where he directs and scores as well as acting as a Committee member. Keeping our website up to date is a very important task, so we are very grateful to Harry for stepping up.

SCBA and the Surrey bridge community have a tradition of generously supporting charitable causes. SCBA holds two events in support of charities each year, one of which is to raise funds for the Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People at Leatherhead. Last month I was pleased to be able to present a cheque for £2,905 to the Foundation, the proceeds from our last charity event. QEF recently lost funding from the DWP, which threatened to compromise its plans for a new neurorehabilitation unit at the main site. Fortunately the Foundation has been able to sell part of the site for residential development, which should enable the new unit to be started this year. I fear that charities will have less and less access to state support, which underscores the importance of donations from individuals and organisations like ours.

The next fund raising event in June will be in aid of Cherry Trees at East Clandon. Cherry Trees provides short term care for children and young adults with various disabilities. Stays from between a few hours up to a couple of weeks allow families or carers an often much needed break. Cherry Trees in turn supports bridge, by way of fundraising through bridge teas and, last year, a friendly bridge league.

Thanks

Tim

Can you help?

Do you have any experience in marketing? Are you willing to help the Surrey Committee with advice/assistance on some modest promotional activities?

If so we would be very happy to hear from you. Please contact the Chairman or Communications Officer for more details (chairman.scba@bridgewebs.com or communicationsofficer.scba@bridgewebs.com)

The 2018 Calendar

Next Surrey County Events

Click event to enter:

8 April	County Cup and Plate
22 April	Senior Pairs
13 May	Mary Edwards Cup
10 June	Surrey & Novice League Finals (entry by qualification)
24 June	Wanborough Cup
25 - 29 June	Surrey Simultaneous Pairs (register via the EBU)

[Click here for more information on these and future Surrey County events](#)

MARCH 2018

Sun 25 13.30 Bourne Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Bourne, Farnham

APRIL 2018

Sun 8 13.00 Surrey County Pairs Cup & Plate Oxshott

Sun 22 13.00 Surrey Senior Pairs Oxshott

MAY 2018

Mon 7 13.00 YHBC & Camberley Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Yateley

Sun 13 13.00 Surrey Mary Edwards Cup Oxshott

Sun 20 11.00 Wimbledon Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Wimbledon

JUNE 2018

Sun 3 13.00 Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Richmond

Sun 10 13.00 Surrey League Finals Oxshott

Sun 24 13.00 Surrey Wanborough Cup Oxshott

Varies 25-29 Surrey Simultaneous Pairs Clubs

JULY 2018

Sun 1 13.00 Surrey Blue Pointed Mini Swiss Pairs (with AGM) Oxshott

AUGUST 2018

Mon 1 13.00 Surrey Blue Pointed Bank Holiday Swiss Pairs Oxshott

SEPTEMBER 2018

Sun 2 13.00 Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Richmond

Varies 10-14 Surrey Club Pairs Challenge Heats Clubs

Sat 22 12.00 Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs Guildford

Sun 23 12.00 Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams Guildford

For more information on events that Surrey County Bridge Association run [Click Here](#) or click on a link in the Calendar on the website. To enter an event either online using the [Event Hub](#), download an entry form, or contact the competitions secretary, Shirley Pritchard competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com

Hall of Fame so far

Competition	Winners
AGM Pairs	Maciej Pilecki and Stanley Herman
Wanborough Cup	Varda Derwig & Jack Goody, Tim Rees & Simon Foale
Mary Edwards	Peter Lee and Mike Scoltock
EBU Point-Board Teams	Frances Hinden, Graham Osborne, Jeffrey Allerton, Chris Jagger
Affiliated Clubs Teams of 8	RICHMOND - BLUE: Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm, Margaret Page & Patrick Bohan, John Clark & Nadia Koch, Dan O'Farrell & Maureen Dennison,
Club Chairmens Lunch	Steve Irwin & David Elvin (Selsdon)
Club Pairs Challenge Final	Marion Hart & Kenneth Wilshire
Dorin Salver Overall winners	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns (Bookham)
Dorin Salver Day 1 Monday	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns (Bookham)
Dorin Salver Day 2 Tuesday	Allan Webber & Mick Edwards (Caterham)
Dorin Salver Day 3 Wednesday	Frank Marshallsay & Steve Bourton (Tudor)
Dorin Salver Day 4 Thursday	Michele Lundqvist & Graham Cunningham (Wimbledon)
Dorin Salver Day 5 Friday	Renate Lane & Joyce Gibbs (Effingham)
Ladies Pairs	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns
Mens Pairs	Steve Bourton & Frank Marshallsay
Mixed Pairs	Easter David & Bhuma Rangarajan
Seniors Pairs	Steve Lock & Graham E Osborne
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Steve Preston & Andy Hughes
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Ingar Hansen, Peter Lee, Paula Leslie & Mike Scoltock
Bank Holiday Blue Pointed Pairs	Michael Hampton & Michael Prior

Victor Ludorum

For many years we have been running an annual competition that brings together the results of our event to identify an overall winner based on consistent performance over many events. We call this competition the Victor Ludorum and the current state of play can be seen by clicking on the Victor Ludorum tab on our website. For those of you that are interested in how the competition works there is a detailed explanation below.

The competition takes account of an individual's performance over many events and so can be won by someone that has not won a single event but has done consistently well over several events. While the Committee consider this to be a prestigious award it is not clear how well this competition is known about and followed by Surrey Members and there is some question over whether it should be discontinued. We encourage you to have a look at the Victor Ludorum on our website and would welcome any feedback you might have as to the merit of continuing with it from the end of this season. So it is a case of vote for it or you might lose it.

For those of you that like to understand the details:

Victor Ludorum points are awarded for success in all of our open events and for winning matches in the Surrey League and the Lady Rose. For the purposes of this competition the Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Pairs are considered to be open as two are open to each gender. Consolation events (Lady Rose Plate and the County Pairs Plate) typically attract points at half the rate of the main competition.

For all of our eligible one day events VL points are awarded as follows:

- 10 points (5 for the County Plate) are awarded to the top 50% of the field;
- 10 (5 for the County Plate) additional points are awarded to the top 25% of the field;
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd places are awarded an additional 5, 3 and 1 points respectively.

For our Lady Rose Cup and Surrey League team matches each member of a winning team receives 10 VL points for each win to a maximum of 30 for each of these competitions. The equivalent numbers for the Lady Rose Plate are 5 and 15 respectively.

Trevor Hobson

Next Training Activities

We are organising training activities to help the development of bridge players at all levels. These events hopefully will build upon and compliment training activities held in Clubs. If Clubs have training activities which they wish to promote to all players please contact [Douglas Wright](#)

Click Training Activity to Register:

28 April	Richmond Club Training - Take Out Doubles - Paul Mendelson
7 May	Richmond Club Training - Identifying the Dangerous Opponent and Isolating them from the Action - Paul Mendelson
11-13 May	Learn & Play Bridge Weekend - Defender Play
20 May	Advanced Seminar Ian Pagan NGS J - K
21 July	Richmond Club Training - Penalty Doubles - Bernard Magee
5-7 October	Learn & Play Bridge Weekend - Declarer Play
16-18 November	Learn & Play Bridge Weekend - Counting & Competitive bidding strategies

Club Teacher Training

Horsham, Thursday/Friday 12/13th April 2018

To book a place on this course, please contact [Lisa Miller](#) on 01296 317217.

Minibridge Teach the Teacher Courses

Horsham BC Thursday 31 May 2018

Wimbledon BC Sunday 24 June 2018

For more details or to book a place on one of these courses [click here](#)

Anyone who wishes to discuss becoming a teacher please contact [Douglas Wright](#) on 07801 989630

Bridge Hand (1)

IMPROVER DECLARER HAND

Board: 1447 Dealer: South Vul: None Contract: 4♠ by South Lead: ♥K

South	West	North	East
1♠	Dbl	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

North

♠ KT43
♥ A976
♦ 75
♣ J64

West

♠ 72
♥ KQJ5
♦ KQ64
♣ AT8

East

♠
♥ T832
♦ JT932
♣ K932

South

♠ AQJ9865
♥ 4
♦ A8
♣ Q75

We have no losers in the major suits and an unavoidable loser in diamonds. We'll make this contract if we can restrict our club losers to two.

This will be possible if the missing ♣AK are in the same hand. In practice this is fairly unlikely: West would have led a club from ♣AK, while his takeout double might be a little light without either top club.

The above analysis assumes that we have to lead clubs ourselves. If, on the other hand, we can force the opponents to lead the suit, we'll automatically make a club trick regardless of the distribution.

To force a club lead we need to eliminate the other suits. We therefore win the opening lead in dummy and immediately ruff a heart high. We re-enter dummy in trumps and ruff another heart high. We play to dummy's remaining spade honour and ruff dummy's last heart in hand.

Now we simply play ♦A and another diamond. Whichever opponent wins the trick has to choose between opening up the clubs or giving us a ruff and discard. In either case we have our tenth trick.

Hand supplied by Richard Granville for No Fear Bridge

Play more hands like this at www.nofearbridge.co.uk

Bridge Hand (2)

IMPROVER DEFENCE HAND

Board: 246 Dealer: South Vul: None Contract: 4♠ by South Lead: ♥K

South	West	North	East
1♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

North

♠ 832
♥ 9642
♦ A32
♣ 542

West

♠ Q5
♥ A87
♦ Q8654
♣ A63

East

♠ AKJT76
♥ J5
♦ JT7
♣ QT

South

♠ 94
♥ KQT3
♦ K9
♣ KJ987

The confident bidding by East and West suggests that the defence might struggle to defeat this contract, but all South can do at this stage is to lead from his strongest suit and hope for the best.

Declarer wins the first trick in dummy and cashes ♠Q followed by ♠AK, North following suit. On this trick South signals with ♣9, since he would like North to lead a club if he gets on lead. Declarer now leads ♦J from hand. Should South play high or low?

This is the crucial trick. It's just possible that declarer is "trying it on" with ♦AJx, in which case playing low would give him no fewer than 13 tricks. But in practice, it's reasonable for South to assume that his partner has ♦A.

He can then deduce that declarer has ♣Q, otherwise North would have responded to his 1♣ opening. If South wins the trick with ♦K, he won't be able to attack clubs himself.

South therefore allows North to win the first round of diamonds with ♦A. North remembers South's earlier signal and leads a club through declarer's ♣Q. South later wins tricks with ♦A, ♣K and ♥Q to defeat the contract by one trick.

Hand supplied by Richard Granville for No Fear Bridge

Play more hands like this at www.nofearbridge.co.uk

Bridge Hand (3)

County Pairs and Corwen (by Jeffrey Allerton)

At this time of year, thoughts turn to the Surrey County Pairs. It's a great opportunity to play against people from around the county and takes place at the central location of Oxshott Village Hall. This year's County Pairs takes place on Sunday 8th April. Numbers are limited by the space of the Hall, so find yourself a partner and submit your entry at <http://www.bridgewebs.com/surrey/> before it is too late!

The top five qualifying pairs in the County Pairs earn the right to represent Surrey in the EBU's Corwen event in early June. Even if you don't normally play in national events, most people enjoy the combination of the familiar format of 2-board rounds and the wide variety of opponents. Here is a hand from last year.

At Love All, I held:

♠ KQ6
 ♥ K52
 ♦
 ♣ AQ107654

My LHO, Simon opened 2♥ (weak) and my partner, Mike Scoltock overcalled 4♦. By agreement, this was a convention known as 'Leaping Michaels', showing a good hand with at least 5-5 in spades and diamonds. RHO passed. What should I bid? The void in partner's suit is a concern, but with a promising side suit of my own and partner being heavy favourite to hold the ace of spades, we could be making a lot of tricks. It could be important to protect ♥K from being led through at trick 1, so it would be unwise to cue bid 4♥ and hear 4♠ from partner. Considering all of these factors, I decided to bid what I thought I could make and jumped straight to 6♣.

MPs
 Love All ♠ 105432
 dealer ♥ 9
 West ♦ AQJ8754
 ♣



♠ KQ6
 ♥ K52
 ♦
 ♣ AQ107654

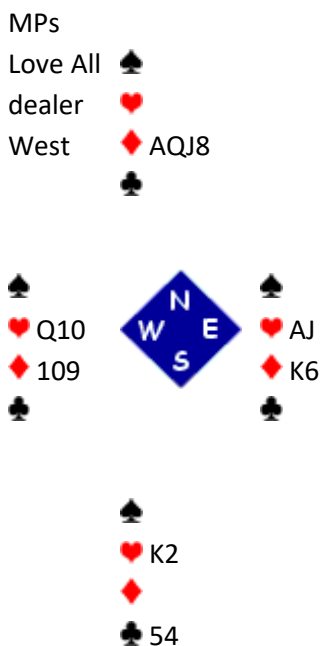
West	North	East	South	notes
2♥	4♦	Pass	6♣	4♦ = ♠+♦
Pass	Pass	Pass		

Partner's hand was a disappointment to say the least. The 4♦ bid was a leap made by Michael, but the suitability to use the Leaping Michaels convention ended there. I prefer a 3♦ overcall with the option of competing in spades on the next round; then at least partner will know about the suit disparity.

Normally when planning the play, I like to construct the layouts on which the contract might make. I was struggling here, even if Simon's opening lead of ♣9 gave me a temporary reprieve. Perhaps the highly unlikely combination of ♦KJ doubleton and ♠Jx doubleton would help but even then I could be struggling with entries to dummy. Perhaps the clubs could be established, but even if I discarded a heart on the ♦A whilst in dummy I would still have a heart loser at the end.

So a favourable lie of the cards would not be sufficient even after the favourable opening lead, I needed some further help from the defence. Perhaps I could take advantage of the fact that my hand was concealed.

The opening club lead ran round to 10 (East discouraging) whilst dummy's heart disappeared. When I ruffed a club, West played the jack and now a spade to my King held. The clubs looked to be 3-3 (good news) so I decided to abandon the diamond suit, ruff a heart in dummy and lead a second trump. This time, East won with the ace and played a third trump. Now I was in my hand to cash the established club suit. Unfortunately I also had two hearts left in hand, but look at the hand from the defenders' points of view.



Both defenders assumed that I must have a diamond in my hand to access dummy. On the penultimate club, West could safely discard a diamond and East the ♥J. On the final club, West did not want to discard his final diamond in case it would help me guess the end position when his partner had been squeezed and forced to bare ♦K. So West discarded ♥10. Meanwhile, East knew that only he was guarding diamonds and (assuming I had a diamond left) needed his partner to hold ♥K, so East discarded ♥A. Now ♥K felled the ♥Q and ♥2 took trick 13!

This was the full deal:

MPs
 Love All ♠ 105432
 dealer ♥ 9
 West ♦ AQJ8754
 ♣

♠ 97		♠ AJ8
♥ Q107643		♥ AJ8
♦ 109		♦ K632
♣ KJ9		♣ 832

♠ KQ6
 ♥ K52
 ♦
 ♣ AQ107654

It is easy to laugh at the defence, but both defenders had some logic for their plays. How should they have got it right? It is easy to miss important inferences in the heat of the battle. East was very critical of his partner's defence, but he might have reasoned that he was playing his partner for a reasonable 7-card heart suit, which would probably have been opened at the 3-level.

Of course, West's opening lead was a debatable (it could have been right on another layout) but West missed an opportunity to help his partner out at the end. Once he had decided to discard a heart at trick 10, he should have let go the ♥ Q not ♥ 10! Neither unguarded card could win a trick, but ♥ Q would tell partner that he did not hold ♥ K (as with ♥ KQ he would have played the K first, either when discarding now or on the opening lead) so discarding that card now should have been enough to stop partner going wrong.

3 COUNTIES BRIDGE LEARN & PLAY BRIDGE

LEARNING WEEKENDS

11 - 13 May

Defender Play

5 - 7 October

Declarer Play

16 - 18 November

Counting & Competitive
bidding strategies



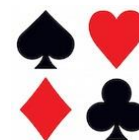
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invite you to stimulating
weekends at Balmer Lawn
and St. Anne's Manor.
Please visit website to
register for the weekends.

Contact Douglas Wright on 01428 717869 or 07801 989630
or email events@3countiesbridge.com
www.3countiesbridge.com



FARNHAM BRIDGE CLUB



SIDNEY CHISHICK SWISS TEAMS

**This is a Charity Event in Aid of the
Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice**

It is a BLUE POINTED EVENT

Wednesdays APRIL 4th and 11th 2018

Venue the Maltings Farnham

Starting at 7.30 promptly

Director Chris Kinloch

There will be three 8 board matches each evening

Cost £32 per team

Donations of suitable prizes for the raffle will be gratefully received

Please send entries to Frances Trebble at

Caradoc, Horseshoe Lane, Ash Vale, GU12 5LL

or give them to her at the club

Captain.....Phone.....

Team Members.....

.....

.....

Circle Payment Method: Cash / Cheque

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday 4th October

GUILDFORD CAFE BRIDGE

Join us for a fun day of bridge in the historic cathedral town of Guildford
to raise money for **SAMARITANS**

You'll play several hands at various cafés and restaurants in the town,
enjoy a tasty lunch and have the chance to win some great raffle prizes.

ENTRY FEE **£30** PER PLAYER

COFFEE ON ARRIVAL

TWO COURSE LUNCH

FIND OUT MORE AT:

www.3countiesbridge.com

or e.mail lizziebennett@btinternet.com

North West Surrey Samaritans is part of Samaritans, a charity registered in England & Wales (219432)



Marie Curie Bridge Tournament 2018/19



Join the
annual
nationwide
bridge
tournament.
Enter now
with a group
of 12 friends
for just £25
per person for the year.



*"She's just left.
She's gone to play bridge at your house."*

For more details ring Philippa Cannon on **01371 876731** or e-mail philippacannon@langthorns.com and I will send all details and entry forms.

Marie Curie provides high quality nursing, totally free, to give people with terminal cancer and other illnesses the choice of dying at home, supported by their families.



Marie
Curie

Care and support
through terminal illness

Youth News



Our Surrey Schools Cup took place on 2 Feb. With 84 players, 60% up on last year, our new venue, Roehampton Club, was buzzing. Thank you to Roehampton for their efforts; with nothing but positive feedback we're hoping to return there next year. Winners of our Cup, Salver and MiniBridge competitions were Westminster, Hampton and Weydon Schools (full results in the Youth section of the SCBA website). Whilst they didn't win this time, a special mention to Claremont Fan Court School for a magnificent entry of a dozen 9-10 year-olds in the MiniBridge competition. There'll be a full article in the next EBU Magazine, with lots of pictures on the EBU website version.

Over the weekend of 7-8 July, Surrey, Sussex and Kent are jointly promoting the Southern Counties Junior Bridge Camp at Ardingly in Sussex. It'll be a fun weekend for 8-21 year-olds, whether looking to improve or learn from scratch. £60 (for adults, £90) with accommodation and all meals, or £30 for non-residents. For more information, see www.sccba.co.uk or contact Tim Warren. We may be able to help with costs; again, contact Tim.

If you'd like to learn how to teach your children or grandchildren to play MiniBridge, or maybe help teach bridge at a local school, sign up for one of our MiniBridge Teach-the-Teacher courses – there's Horsham BC on Thu 31 May, and Wimbledon BC on Sun 24 June. If you'd like to help at the Ardingly Junior Bridge Camp, one of these courses might be ideal preparation.

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be in June 2018. News, views and interesting hands, what is happening at your club – please send them to secretary.scba@bridgewebs.com. If you have any comments on any of this newsletter or any other bridge matter please contact the Committee.