

May 2019

Newsletter

Malanda Bridge Club

The Barrier Reef Congress held in Cairns over the May long weekend was well attended by Malanda & Tableland Bridge Club with 13 of our members attending. A wonderful time was had by all..... unfortunately no cigars.



Results

The handicap pairs held over 2 Mondays in April were won by John Sainsbury & Margaret Dodding

Coming events

27th May **GNOT Qualifying** - Malanda

CAIRNS NOVICE PAIRS CONGRESS Red Points Sunday, 26th May 2

Sessions - 9:30am & 1:30pm Director: Rebecca Delaney Cost: \$50 per pair

Bring your own Lunch Drinks & nibbles provided at conclusion. Both players should have fewer than 100 masterpoints as at 31st March 2019

2nd June **Zonal teams Red Points**- Cairns

8th June **Interclub** - Atherton

23rd June **Zonal Pairs Red Points** - Cairns

April Birthdays: Netta, Pat P & Janet

May Birthdays: Bjorg, May H, Kate & Lois

Wishing Leon a speedy recovery from her hip operation. And our special thoughts for Maralyn, wishing her all the best with her health issues.

A married couple are not speaking to each other after a horrible game and are driving home from a distant bridge tournament. They pass a field where there are many donkeys. The husband breaks the silence by asking the wife: "relations of yours"? "Yes" she said "in laws!!".

An interesting hand for you to consider!! Can you make 7 Diamonds???
 (of course it all depends on the lead!!)

bridge

Excitement is never far away when the wizard of Karachi, Zia Mahmood, is sitting at the table. This deal came up in the in the Lederer Memorial Trophy in London in February. Holding the amazing South hand, Zia proceeded to lead his opponents a merry dance.

NORTH
 ♠ A J 10 8 7
 ♥ K 5 2
 ♦ J
 ♣ 10 9 3 2

WEST
 ♠ 9 2
 ♥ Q J 9 7 6 4 3
 ♦ —
 ♣ Q J 8 5

EAST
 ♠ K Q 6 5 4 3
 ♥ 10 8
 ♦ 7
 ♣ A K 7 4

East deals, North-South vulnerable

SOUTH
 ♠ —
 ♥ A
 ♦ A K Q 10 9 8 6 5 4 3 2
 ♣ 6

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
—	—	1♠	2♦
2♥	pass	2♠	2NT
pass	3NT	pass	5♥
pass	5NT	pass	7♦
pass	pass	double	redouble
all pass			

Zia started with a simple two diamonds, quietly walking the dog. Then a psychic two notrumps to add confusion. When his partner raised to three notrumps, Zia leapt to five hearts, to ask for aces outside of hearts. It was clear here that he intended to bid the grand slam if his partner held either back ace. If it were the spade ace, he was gambling that the opponents would not lead a club. If he wanted to know if his partner specifically held the ace of clubs, he would have leapt to five spades, an ace-ask excluding spades.

Zia is no stranger to gambling. In 1994, he bet 1,000,000 pounds that no computer would beat him at bridge. However, in 2002, he withdrew the bet – a sure sign that robots are getting better.

When his partner bid five notrumps, to show one ace, Zia carried out his plan and bid the grand slam. East doubled and Zia naturally redoubled. Redouble for a Pakistani is a matter of pride!

The double was intended to suggest a non-spade lead, but the message got lost. West led a spade. Zia dumped his club on the ace of spades and faced his hand to score plus 2,660 and a 14-IMP swing.

Suits of 11 cards or longer are extremely rare. Tom Townsend of London explains that there are exactly 233,224 such hands. Not many given there are 635,013,559,600 possible bridge hands. That's about one 11-card suit every 287 years, if you play every day.

Paul Marston

I don't care what people think of me – at least mosquitoes find me attractive!!

HAPPY BRIDGING