

It has fallen to me, Deirdre Ingersent, and Bernard Donde, to get out an SABF Newsletter to all our members. I thought I would start off by introducing our 2024 Committee. Our acting PRESIDENT is Neil McLeod who is from Kwa Zulu Natal. Then there are four representatives from Cape Town, the SECRETARY is Andrew Cruise, the VICE PRESIDENT Jocelyn Ashberg, and members Carol Grunder and Michele Alexander. Next comes the TREASURER Bernard Donde from Gauteng and also from Johannesburg are members Roz Bernstein and Deirdre Ingersent. We have Glynis Dornon from Port Elizabeth and Geoff Ellis from St. Francis Bay and Delene Spencer from Pretoria, all members. We are a fair mix of sex ( 4 men to 7 ladies! ), quite a wide range of age and bridge playing ability! We all have the same interest at heart, the promotion of bridge, the game we all love!

## **STOP PRESS !!! TO BE DIARISED !!! FORTHCOMING EVENTS!**

### **SAWBA CONGRESS**

(South African Womens Bridge Association)

For LADIES ONLY

All the following events are to be played ONLINE (from home)

They will be organised and directed by Steve Bunker

### **NATIONAL SAWBA INTER PROVINCIALS**

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August 2024

Teams may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players. ONLINE BBO FORMAT

Definitely A and B Sections and probably

Bunny Pritchard Bowl as well subject to entry numbers

### **SAWBA NATIONAL CONGRESS**

TEAMS Tuesday 19th November until Friday 22nd November 2024

ONLINE REAL BRIDGE FORMAT

PAIRS Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th November 2024

ONLINE BBO FORMAT

### **NATIONAL MIXED TEAMS TOURNAMENT**

(Replacing National Inter Club Event)

Friday 8th - Sunday 10th November 2024

ONLINE FORMAT

## ***A message from the acting President of the SABF***

With the resignation of Carol Grunder as the President of our Federation, I was elected to act until the next AGM.

I first started playing rubber bridge in my high school and university days and then did not play again until about seven years ago when my wife began to play. The duplicate version of the game is far more competitive than rubber bridge and it took me some time to adjust.

I am a civil engineer with a management masters degree and have continued to work nationally and internationally as a consultant after retiring ten years ago. I have been the chairperson of the KZNBU and a member of the SABF committee for a number of years and continue to serve on a number of boards as well.

In my spare time I also play golf and racketball and enjoy the outdoors.

In my view, competitive bridge in South Africa faces a number of challenges that need addressing:

- ***Effectively marketing bridge as a sport*** (but also as an enjoyable social event) and affiliation to the SABF as being of value to people looking to grow their bridge playing skills by learning from and playing against good players. This will require the sourcing of marketing skills to determine the correct market to target and the messaging and the best channels of communication to use. It will also mean learning from other countries and improving our social media and website messaging. Since the days of Covid, there has been a move away from playing bridge in affiliated clubs and towards playing socially in unaffiliated clubs.
- ***Developing a cohort of scorers and tournament directors*** who are able to manage both our red point and club tournaments. Many of the people who provided these services in the past are no longer with us and we find that our members prefer to play bridge rather than officiating at tournaments.
- ***Providing training*** for new, as well as intermediate and experienced players, in ways that encourage them to join affiliated clubs that play face to face, rather than online.
- ***Making best use of the excellent initiatives*** underway in the various provincial unions, for the benefit of bridge in South Africa as a whole.

***Neil Macleod  
Acting President of the SABF***

# Getting to Know Our **SA** Representatives

## *Glynis Dornon*

I started playing bridge at 19 in Algeria where we were the only 4 foreigners in a small village and nothing to do for fun, so we got a bridge book and played. After that I played in Botswana for many years and luckily learnt a lot from the Minwallas

Moved to Port Elizabeth in 2002 where I was again lucky to be able to play and learn from: Hennie Fick; Chris Castelein; Naomi Solomon

Di and I played a lot and travelled around SA to many Congresses then we stopped playing and only started again in 2023

I am retired now and have 2 daughters one is married with 2 sons and lives in England and the other one lives in Spain (single)

I do a lot of baking and catering for all the bridge club events. I am also the Tournament Secretary at the moment. And I help all the bridge players in PE with their bridge where possible.

## *Diane Penlington*

Age 71. Single. 6 grandchildren

Working as a designer. Played bridge since high school. My parents played and taught us as school kids

I do not always play with Glynis but a big percentage of my bridge with her now.

We were encouraged at the 11th hour by Mark Oliff to enter trials. No time to be coached or to practice.

I am a Past President several times of PE Contract Bridge Club and served on SABF Committee. No longer involved in Club or SABC admin.

Used to teach; no more tho.

My youngest son and his family live in UK. I visit regularly. Most of my family live in UK - Nieces, nephews, cousins etc. My sister and her family live in Brisbane Australia. I also visit her every year.

I speak French and practice on line on Duolingo every day for at least an hour

My eldest son, his wife and 4 children live in George. See them often

## *Sharon Izerel*

- I am 57 - married to a Radiologist and have 2 daughters aged 25 and 23
- Besides bridge, my other interests are pilates and reading, I also love to travel.
- I started playing bridge around 22 years ago. My mom who still plays, encouraged me to start playing.
- I have had many different partners along the way as well as many different bridge teachers. My very first bridge teacher was Craig Gower and I subsequently had lessons with Sharon Lang and Val Bloom who are also both coming to Buenos Aires.

My partner Diana Balkin (with whom I qualified for trials) and I have been playing together for about 2 years. It has taken time and a lot of hard work to get to where we are today. We have spent many hours together (with the help of our mentor Bernard Donde) working on our system and compiling detailed notes of everything that we play. We are still adding to and adjusting our notes as we go along.

Since covid the ability to play so much online has really helped to improve our bridge as well. At present we are being coached by Tim Cope who has really been outstanding in refining our system and improving our play and defence.

I am also trying to read as many articles and bridge books as possible to prepare for trials. Diana and I play almost every day and have a lesson with Tim once or twice a week. I also still play with one or two other players that I have been playing with online for a while.

Bridge is the ultimate card game of skill and strategy. I have come to appreciate not only its competitive nature but also the unique joy it brings to those who play.

My love for bridge stems from its blend of intellectual challenge and social interaction and the continuous opportunity for personal growth.

The combination of triumphs and defeats fuels my desire to keep playing and improving.

I have made some wonderful new friends, all of different ages and from different backgrounds but all of us united by our the passion for the game.

I am excited and looking very forward to representing the South African ladies at the world bridge games in October.

## LOOSE LIPS SINK SHIPS

Bd 7, Dlr S  
6♥ = W

W Rob Stephens

S

W	N	E	S
1♣*	1♠	2♦*	P
2♥*	P	2♠	P
4♥	P	6♥	P
P	P		

1♣ 11-13 balanced or 17+

2♦ showed hearts

In a local teams event, East/West reached an ambitious 6♥ slam on the auction shown above. North had inserted a highly aggressive 1♠ overcall which proved fatal to the defence.

North led an unfortunate club and now West's trick count came up to 11 tricks (2 spades, 5 Hearts, 1 diamond and 3 clubs). Prospects for a 12 trick appear dismal once North is known to have the missing spades but Rob Stephens (West) showed us the way.

On winning the K♣, he played a diamond to the Ace, A♥ and Q♥ and a heart to the King. He ruffed a diamond and then cashed his clubs. North was obliged to hold onto all 4 spades and the Q♦ (if North comes down to only 3 spades, it would be trivial to give up 1 spade and claim the contract). He now played a spade to the Ace and ruffed a diamond extracting all North's side cards. A low spade to the Jack losing to the Queen endplayed North into giving up the 12th trick.

I believe the term for this coup is a Squeeze endplay as North is squeezed of any side winners and is then endplayed in the critical suit.

Had North not bid spades, it would have been natural for declarer to cash the spade king and try the finesse which would have been fatal on the hand. While bidding sometimes makes it difficult for declarer, sometimes it provides a route map to a successful line of play – **loose lips sink ships**.

*Submitted by Bernard Donde*

## BRIDGE DEVELOPMENT AT SCHOOLS

Duncan Keet, under the auspices of the WCBU, has initiated an extensive Bridge Development Programme at Bonteheuwel / Matroosfontein Primary Schools which commenced on 12 June 2024 at the Bonteheuwel Library.

Duncan and Intiaz Kaprey trained four coaching assistants (Mogamat de Goede, Clive Carollisen, Riedewaan Salie and Andre Bronkhorst) with another coaching session on Friday 14 June.

There are six primary schools with 16 learners from each institution +40 learners from Matroosfontein, making up a total of 136 learners who will be participating in this programme at the following schools: Arcadia, Nerina, Disa, Rosewood, Bramble Way and Mimosa.

It is a wonderful opportunity for young learners to become engaged with the game of bridge. We look forward to seeing them at the bridge clubs in future!



*Jocelyn Ashberg*

## THE BRIDGE LOUNGE

Many contracts that one plays in have choices in the play. But one of the first issues to consider is the matter of safety.

North dealer, neither vul

### NORTH

S AJ84  
H AK2  
D 6  
C A8753

### WEST

S Q105  
H 5  
D K843  
C Q10962

### EAST

S K962  
H 764  
D Q10952  
C 4

### SOUTH

S 73  
H QJ10983  
D AJ7  
C KJ

North	South
-------	-------

1C	1H
1S	2D*
3H	4NT
5C	5NT
6H	Pass

Opening lead: D3

This was a good auction by NS. 2D was the ever-useful fourth suit forcing (game forcing and asking opener to describe their hand). Usually it's used to find out if opener has a stopper in the 4th suit for NT purposes, but it can also be employed when responder wants to find out more about opener's shape and strength.

In this sequence, North's delayed jump to 3H showed a better hand with three trumps, and a three-suited hand with a shortage in diamonds. After that, South used Keycard Blackwood to find four key cards opposite (three aces and the trump king). He asked for kings, over which North bid 6H, to deny any.

It's easy to make a hash of a hand like this, and then complain afterwards about the bad breaks. With ten top tricks all that has to be done is to ruff two diamonds in dummy.

But it's getting back to hand twice that needs to be dealt with. If you win the DA and ruff a diamond low, then play a club to the king to ruff your last diamond, you must then cash dummy's remaining high trump, followed by ace of clubs and a club ruff in hand in order to draw the trumps. The trouble here is that East has a singleton club and will ruff the CA, after which you will eventually lose a spade.

The correct line is to ruff the first diamond high, cross to the CK and ruff the last diamond high again. Then you can come off the table with the H2 and draw the trumps, losing just the one spade.

It's not a particularly difficult hand – so long as you think about it. Those solid hearts, the QJ10983 are the key to the winning line. If you had say, Q108432 you could not afford the luxury of trumping high twice.

*by Jeff Sapire*

# DARLING DAISY'S TIPS FOR BEGINNERS!

---

## 1. DON'T BID YOUR HAND TWICE!

Once you have described your hand, you should usually shut up and let partner make the decisions. While it can easily happen that your partner or the opponents can be in a contract that you don't fancy, there is no reason to show the same features twice.

### **EXAMPLE No 1**

♠ 5  
♥ 75  
♦ A Q 107532  
♣ J84

You would open a pre-emptive 3 diamonds and your partner responds 3 NT, pass. You do not worry about the singleton spade or that you really only have just a long suit. Your 3 diamonds bid showed partner what you have.

### **EXAMPLE No 2**

♠ AJ952  
♥ Q  
♦ AQ107  
♣ 742

With this hand you would begin 1 Spade and when partner responds 1 NT you rebid 2 diamonds, and when partner rebids 2 hearts you pass.. You have already shown 5 spades and 4 diamonds, so partner knows 9 cards in your hand and will not be expecting you to have many hearts.

If you make any sort of a limit bid (e.g. a 1 NT opening bid or overcall), again the onus is on you to let partner make the decision. You have shown your points.

This is a common fault with beginners! They feel the need to 'rescue' partner when the bidding does not go according to their plan and then the contract gets too high and they are down. A further problem occurs when strong opponents realise and double for a penalty!

## 2. PUSH ONLY ONE LEVEL

Bidding is easy when the opponents meekly pass throughout, allowing you and your partner to describe your hands. However this does not often happen! For example, what should you do when you were ready to bid 1 heart but the opponent bids 1 spade in front of you? Furthermore what do you do if the





opposing bid is 2 spades rather than 1 spade

The usual rule is that you should allow the opponents to push you one level higher than you were planning to go - but not two levels!

**Hand 1**

♠ 75  
♥ Q1064  
♦ Q5  
♣ AKJ52

**Hand 2**

♠ 75  
♥ AQ104  
♦ Q5  
♣ AKJ52

**WEST**  
1 Club

**NORTH**  
Pass

**EAST**  
1 Heart

**SOUTH**  
2 Spades / 3 Spades

With Hand 1, you were planning to raise partner to 2 Hearts. If the overcall is 2 Spades, you can raise to 3 Hearts instead, pushing one level. However you should pass if the overcall is 3 Spades.

With Hand 2, you were planning to rebid 3 Hearts. This means that after a 3 Spade overcall you can bid 4 Hearts. If the overcall is 2 Spades, you still bid 4 Hearts - you would bid 3 Hearts with Hand 1

