The Fairmont Hamilton Princess Bermuda

The Bermuda Regional Bridge Tournament, 2026

Sunday, February 1st

Editor: Janet Evans

Bulletin No.2

ANOTHER SWEET CHARITY WIN FOR PEERLESS PAIR OF GREENBERG AND HAND

In what can only be described as yet another Opening Night triumph, Gail Greenberg and Jeff Hand produced a virtuoso performance, trumping all others to become the very first Toast of the Tournament, thereby claiming the coveted Ernie Owen Memorial trophy for a formidable fourth time.

This is the magnificent trophy which Gail and Jeff won last night. Perhaps they should try filling THIS with fizz?

"There were no first night jitters," admits Gail, "because we did what we tell all our students to do – lay your cards on the table and play them right!"
"Some première performance!" exclaimed Jeff jubilantly, in a rave review of their game.
A spectacular curtain-raiser, indeed, deserving of waves of applause and a standing O for these oh so stand-out showstoppers!

Today's Programme

Sunday, February 1st

9:30 A.M.
Swiss Teams 1 (Session 1 of 2)
(finishes tomorrow morning)
Open Side Game – Pembroke Series – (Game 1 of 3)
(continues this afternoon)
199er Game (0-199 Masterpoints)

12:30 P.M.
Hand's On
Play These Trump Contracts with Jeff Hand

2:00 P.M.
Championship Bracketed Round Robin Teams
(Session 1 of 2)
(finishes this evening)
Open Side Game - Pembroke Series (Game 2 of 3)
(continues this evening)
199er Game (0-199 Masterpoints)

4:45 P.M.
Tea in Trudeau

7:45 P.M.
Championship Bracketed Round Robin Teams
(Session 2 of 2)
Open Side Game - Pembroke Series (Game 3 of 3)
(New Open Side Game Series begins tomorrow)
199er Game (0-199 Masterpoints)
CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT IN BOLD

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FASHION ICONS FROM OPENING NIGHT

See also “Putting on the Ritz” on the next page

Co-Chairs Lisa Rhind and Steve Cosham led by example last night embodying all the glitz and glamour of the Opening Night Charity Game.

This well-dressed quartet shone brightly amidst the other gliterrati at the game. They are (L to R) Anna White (Canada), Anna Yates, Colin James, (Bda) and Jane Palmer (Canada)

And their shoes were even more spectacular- see below!

Colin’s shoes were especially glittery!

INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES TO TRY FOR THIS WEEK

Yesterday’s winners and anybody else who played well last night have made an excellent start in pursuit of the Bermuda Regional’s spectacular individual trophies, to be awarded at the end of the week.
Feast your eyes on these and start tweaking your systems!

The Norman Bach

The Norman Bach Trophy is named for a legendary bridge player in the local community, who was instrumental in setting up the very first Bermuda Bowl Competition, and is awarded to the LOCAL player who gains the most points during the week IN CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

The Maude Lines

The Maude Lines Trophy is also named for an illustrious local bridge player and is awarded to the VISITING player who gains the most points during the week IN CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

The Karl Stanley Hicks

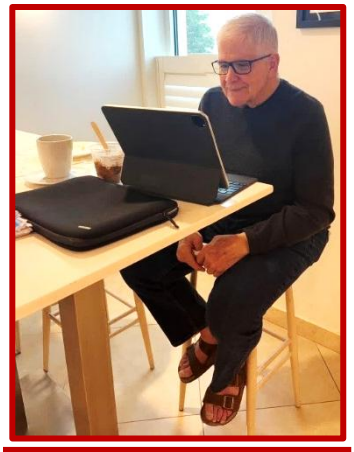
The Karl Stanley Hicks Trophy is named for a Canadian Director who was a great friend to Bermuda’s Bridge community and is awarded to the JUNIOR LOCAL player who begins the week with 20 points or fewer and who gains the most points in eligible events during the week.

The Longtail

The Longtail Cup, named for one of Bermuda’s most beautiful birds, is awarded to the JUNIOR VISITING player who begins the week with 50 points or fewer and who gains the most points in eligible events during the week.
GOOD LUCK, EVERYONE!

The
Bermuda Bridge Community would like to thank the Bermuda Department of Tourism,
BERMUDA
GoToBermuda.com
for its very generous and continued support
of the Bermuda Regional, 2026.

EARLY BIRDS WATCH THE BIRDIE



We are so sorry that so many of our visitors have been delayed because of atrocious weather and assure them that the party won't start properly without them.
Safe flights here, everyone;
we can't wait to greet you.

Arriving on THURSDAY and snapped up by the Bulletin Ed as he eagerly devoured the first online bulletin on Saturday morning is Allan Chernov from Texas.
This is Allan's third visit to our Tournament and "It's great to be back", he enthused.
Bermuda certainly agrees with Allan and his bridge as he did very well in the Opening Charity Game last night.
Or perhaps all those useful tips in the bulletin helped?!

Arriving on FRIDAY, and adding her usual glamour to our gathering is an old friend of Bermuda Bridge, Heather Birling from Toronto.
Heather has been visiting Bermuda since she was 16 years of age and she is now, if you can believe your eyes, over 80.
However, her love affair with the Island continues strong as does ours with her.

Jo Exum managed to escape the storm ravaging North Carolina yesterday and arrived here safely for his third visit to our Tournament. You can tell that he is no stranger to the Bermuda Regional as he wasted no time in getting into the spirit (geddit?) of things at the hotel bar.
"We love Bermuda and we love the King's English", Joe announced, so the Bulletin Ed will be checking the rag once and checking it twice to avoid being taken to the Tower for poor grammar.

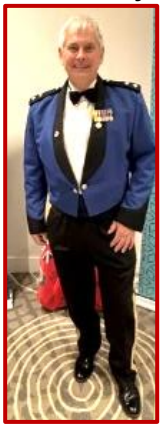
BRIDGE OVER BERMUDA WATERS: A PARENT AND CHILD REUNION

Howard and Carole Berman (on the left of the pic) from Boca Rotan, Florida are attending our Regional for the first time this year and decided this would be a fantastic time and place to reunite with their daughter Michelle Segal (next to Howard) and her friend Paulette Sachon, from London, England, allowing us the perfect opportunity to channel Paul Simon and two of his greatest hits into our headline.
Welcome, Transatlantic Bermans, and we hope Bermuda turns out to be a top ten hit for your family and friends.

And a very hearty welcome to everyone else who managed to weather the turbulence and arrive over the last few davs.

PUTTING ON THE RITZ AT THE PRINCESS

Well, we suggested that you style it out for the Charity Game and these pics below show that you answered the call and delivered a truly red-carpet look.
Thank you to everyone who gussied up good and supported our time-honoured sartorial Opening Night tradition.



No record of last night's chic would be complete without saluting Bermuda's very own Rhapsody in Blue, Co-Chair Steve Cosham in full ceremonial uniform.

Jessie Macdonald and Stephen Poirier from Nova Scotia came dressed in the finest of fineries and did our Tournament proud.

Tournament fave Robert Todd and local glam girl Desirée Woods cut quite a dash in their evening splendour.

Looking impossibly suave and distinguished, local Des Nash set hearts a-fluttering in his finest bib and tucker.

THIS YEAR'S COMMITTEE:
IN SOME PLACE ON THE CASE WORKING AT PACE FOR YOU

If you survived the swizzle and stormy soirée last night, and you a) are still standing and b) can remember anything at all, you will already know that every member of ACBL Unit 198 will do whatever it reasonably takes to ensure that your visit to our tournament is a memorable one.
In Bulletin 1, you were introduced to Steve Cosham, Lisa Rhind and Tracy Nash all of whom you probably met in person last night, but featured below are the remaining On the Casers, this year's Committee, with their special areas of responsibility.

THE ON THE CASE GALLERY

Judy Bussell

John Glynn

Sharon Shanahan

Lisa Ferrari

Judy King

Stephanie Kyme

Betsy Baillie

Judy Bussell and John Glynn have for many years formed the Bustle and Muscle of the Regional's matchless matchmaking team, and will continue to do their considerable darndest this year to connect you with the partner or team-mates of your dreams. Despite their many hugely successful introductions over the years, however, this Partnerships Partnership cannot always guarantee the greatest availability or standard of others, so if you are a PSP (player or players seeking a partner or partners) for a DBG, (Decent Bridge Game) it might help to have P&U (patience & understanding) not to mention a GSOH (good sense of humour) just in case your hoped-for match made in heaven turns out to be a union forged in the fires of that other place.

As Tournament Treasurer, Sharon Shanahan never cooks the books but has been known to mix a marvellous Margarita. This combination of keeping a secure grip on the Regional's finances while enabling our Tournament to loosen and let its hair down guarantees a week of shining opportunities that will allow us to paint the town red without actually going into it – the red, that is.

Lisa Ferrari, as her name suggests, is all about glitz, glamour and the fast set which is why she has been appointed Guardian of the Regional Trophies and Disco Diva in charge of the end of the tournament extravaganza, in the promotion of which she coined the jaunty tagline "Celebrating Success, Survival and You". Her top of the line approach to both jobs will ensure shining silverware ready and primed to be filled with champers, and a cork-popping, heights-hitting, classic knees-up for all at the end of the week.

Judy King is royalty by name and royalty by appointment as the Tournament's Cyber Queen, keeping us all firmly in line and online during the week. She is also one of the Regional's It Girls so can be spotted at the Tournament's hospitality events bringing fizz and sparkle to every occasion for she is all that and more besides.

Stephanie Kyme, an experienced Tournament administrator and a past local ACBL President, and Betsy Baillie, a fresh face on the Committee this year, will work together to distribute Section Top and Event Prizes (see page 14 to learn more about these). Kyme and Baillie will each be toting a bag labelled "Swag" to their Regional work as they are both keen and successful bridge players and hope to be carrying away much of the fabulous loot in their charge for themselves. Don't let them get away with it – win as much of it for yourselves as you can.

THE WORD FROM THE METAPHORICAL MOUNTAIN TOP

In the beginning of the tournament is the word of the Prophet Ezekiel who, moving in mysterious ways, hath metaphorically descended from the metaphorical mountaintop into the metaphorical depths below to instruct us in the ways of a successful tournament for all who hath ears to hear – metaphorically. Amen.

Thou shalt have
no other prophets before me
even though other prophets from
distant lands have shone with a
blinding light at the panel shows
and other Regional presentations

Thou shalt not kill the Prophet's
punch lines even if thou hast
heard them oft before
since time immemorial

Thou shalt not steal the Prophet's
thunder or anything else which
belongs to him

Remember the panel show day
on Wednesday to keep it holy and free

Thou shalt not take the names of
the Directors in vain for thou will
be cast out into the outer darkness
where there is a great wailing
and gnashing of teeth and
endless panel shows even unto
eternity

Honour thy partners that
thy points may be multiplied and
become as numerous
as the stars in the heavens and
the sands on the seashore

Thou shalt not commit to
play in any game for which thou
art not eligible

Thou shalt not bear false witness
in thy bidding nor in the
explanation of thy bidding

Thou shalt not covet
thy opponent's scores,
nor his partner, nor his pro,
nor his convention card,
not anything that is your opponent's

Remember these commandments and
keep them in thy heart that thy days
may be long and prosperous in this
game which
Harold S Vanderbilt hath given thee.

This is not, I repeat not,
a convention card!

THINGS WE NEVER SAY

As we begin our week of Bridge competition,
here is a selection of things you will NEVER hear ANY Bridge player say ANYWHERE!
However, if you DO overhear any of these comments this week,
please let the Ed know and she'll duly pass on
the unexpected but glad tidings to the Faithful.

Don't be ridiculous!
The tournament fees certainly aren't too high.

No gossip, please.
I'm just not interested.

Hurrah!
A four board sit-out!

Yessss! More new alerts!

I can ALWAYS count on my partner to remember EVERY convention on our card.

FREE COFFEE?!? No thanks!

It's an absolute miracle.
No matter which direction we sit, the cards always go our way.

My goodness, how DO they do it?
This tournament playing area is always at JUST the right temperature – never too hot and never too cold!

Sorry, but we don't feel like bridge today.
We'd much rather jog and work out.

One thing you can always say about bridge players – they sure know how to dress.

EAT, DRINK AND BE RIGHT ROYALLY MERRY AT THE PRINCESS

Dinner reservations as soon as you can make them are **STRONGLY ADVISED AT ALL TIMES for most food outlets, and ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL** for the Intrepid.
Being a hotel guest does not automatically qualify you for a reservation.
This does not require a master plan – simply press the In-Room dining button on the hotel phone or press 0. . If you are intending to play in the evening game, notify the maître d' and/or his staff that you must be finished by 7:15 p.m. to make the 7:45 p.m. game on time or the Famous Five Star Directors will eat **YOU** alive!!
Fortunately for us all, this week is one of the Bermuda Restaurant Weeks when you can request a special two-course lunch from the Crown and Anchor for $39 + grats or a three-course dinner for $59 + grats
Please note also the Seven Eleven below and, if you decide to step out of the hotel to the Great Metrop, be sure to ask your restaurants of choice about their own Restaurant Weeks options.

I forgot to make reservations! What am I gonna tell Marge?

FROM INTREPID WITH LOVE

Open Monday – Saturday
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Cocktails 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Fine Dining Option – Dress: Resort Smart

RESERVATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL.

THE DUCHESS CAFÉ AND GELATERIA

Loiter in the lobby,
gaze at some greats of the art world
and visit
the Hamilton P's Hot, Hot, Hot Coffee Shop
Open daily from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

MEET, GREET AND EAT IN THE CROWN AND ANCHOR

This is the quintessential cocktail corner and the perfect place for discussing those cards at any time of the day.
Full buffet, à la carte, or continental breakfast from 7 a.m. to 10;30 a.m. daily.
Lunch/Dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. daily

Enjoy the Legendary and Lively Bermuda Brunch
ONLY ON SUNDAYS
~~(Following prices exclusive of grats)~~
from 11:00 a.m.to 4:00 p.m. ~~$78~~
ALSO, ONLY ON SUNDAYS FROM 5 P.M.
The Crown and Anchor Roast Dinner (2-course: $52; 3-course: $64)
RESERVATIONS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED.

IN ROOM DINING

This option is available from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Scan the QR code in your room for menus and press the -er- In Room Dining button or 0 on your hotel phone to order.

THE HASTY TASTY, our EXPRESS LUNCH SPECIAL (Sunday to Friday) BEGINS TODAY
See back page for today's lunch pick-up info and for tomorrow's menu.

SEVEN ELEVEN HEAVEN - OTHER NEARBY EATERIES

If, at some time this week, you fancy a stroll out of the hotel into Hamilton for a change of gastronomic scene, here are SEVEN HEAVENLY restaurants within an ELEVEN-minute walk of the Princess in order of distance.

Huckleberry – sea and farm to table - 2951640 – www.huckleberryBDA.com – situated opposite the hotel entrance

The Cloud – eclectic mix of cuisines – 299-0620 – www.waterfrontcloud.bm – turn right outside the hotel entrance - walk until you reach the first turning right (opposite the Bacardi Building) - walk to the top of the slope and find the Wellesley Building at 2 o'clock – the Cloud is on the 3rd floor

Harry's at the Waterfront – fine dining – 292-5533 – www.harrys.bm – turn right outside the hotel entrance, walk until you reach Waterloo Lane on your right- the restaurant is situated at the bottom of the slope

Dèjá View – Asian delicacies with an international flair – 261-7354 - dejaviewbermuda.com/contact/ - turn right Outside the hotel, walk past Waterloo Lane on the right and Dejá View is 100 yards further on the right.

Porto Fino – Italian comfort food – 292-2375 – www.portofino.bm — turn right outside the hotel entrance, walk until you reach Bermudiana Road on your left – the restaurant is situated halfway up this road.

Little Venice – Bermuda's first Italian restaurant – 295-3503 – www.littlevenice.bm - see directions for Porto Fino above – Little Venice is situated further up this road.

The Lobster Pot – renowned for seafood – 292-6898 – www.lobsterpot.bm – see directions for Porto Fino and Little Venice above – the Lobster Pot is located near the top of Bermudiana road.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

SAT EVE CHARITY PAIRS
27.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
10.79	1			Gail Greenberg - Jeff Hand, New York NY	69.17%
8.09	2	1		Allan Chernov, Irving TX; Heather Woolf, Paget Bermuda	62.46%
6.07	3			Barbara McLendon - Radu Nistor, New York NY	61.13%
5.42	4	2	1	Jerry Woodard, Wilson NC; Joe Exum, Kinston NC	59.96%
4.06	5	3		Jeannie Exum, Kinston NC; Heather Burling, Newmarket ON	59.34%
2.56	6			Sheena Rayner, Wk 09 Bermuda; Bill Souster, Newport Gwent United Kingdom	58.29%
3.41	7	4	2	Carole Berman - Howard Berman, Boca Raton FL	58.22%
2.56	8	5	3	Betsy Baillie, Warwick Bermuda; Lisa Ferrari, Smiths Fl08 Bermuda	57.29%
1.94	9	6	4	Desmond Nash, Sn 02 Bermuda; Tracy Nash, Sn02 Bermuda	56.20%
1.94	10	7		Miodrag Novakovic, Pembroke Bermuda; Margaret Way, Paget Bermuda	55.66%
2.77			5	Stephen Pescatore, Revere MA; Bari Boyer, Edgartown MA	52.91%
1.40			6	Susan Jones, Naples FL; Maureen Pechacek, Las Vegas NV	52.43%

SAT EVE 199ER PAIRS
5.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
1.86	1			Peter Adhemar - Susan Adhemar, Flatts Fl Bx Bermuda	60.00%
1.43	2/3	1/2	1/2	Tim McKittrick, Smiths Parish Bermuda; Keri McKittrick, Hamilton Parish Bermuda	55.83%
1.43	2/3	1/2	1/2	Julia Tadman - Joshimar Hussey, Hamilton Bermuda	55.83%
0.92	4	3		Tracey Pitt, Paget Bermuda; David Leach, Hamilton Bermuda	52.50%

THE DAILY BULLETIN

In line with other tournaments, and in support of sustainability,
the Bermuda Regional Daily Bulletin is now only available in cyber space on your digital devices.
So, when you wake up in the morning and even before grabbing that reviving brew,
be sure to log in to www.bermudaregional.com for your daily glut of gossip, results and other edifying bits.

At the risk of indiscretion, it can be revealed that the Hotel Management is mightily relieved at this development as it was long felt by those in HP high places that the paper bulletins, tastefully scattered about the lobby, totally eclipsed all the other works of art on display there.

In the unlikely event that you have left all your devices at home, there is a hotel public computer on the mezzanine floor.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

SAT EVE CHARITY PAIRS 1 OF 1 SESSION

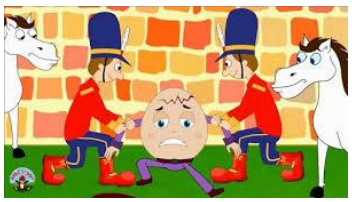
NORTH-SOUTH				SECTION A	EAST-WEST			
A	B	C			A	B	C	
1	1	1	Jerry Woodard, Wilson NC; Joe Exum, Kinston NC	59.96%	1			Gail Greenberg - Jeff Hand, New York NY	69.17%
2			Sheena Rayner, Wk 09 Bermuda; Bill Souster, Newport Gwent United	58.29%	2	1	1	Peter Bonk - Heather Overland Bonk, Toronto ON	52.20%
3			Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL; Judith Bussell, Devonshire Bermuda	55.61%	3	2		Gail Klevay, Pompano Beach FL; Ann Goldberg, Fort Lauderdale FL	51.20%
4	2		Gertrude Barker, Warwick Bermuda; John F W Glynn, Bermuda	52.60%	4	3		Elizabeth McKee, Devonshire Bermuda; Rachael Gosling, Bermuda	51.17%
	3	2	Katrina van Pelt, Stgeorge Parish Bermuda; Carol Jones,	52.13%					

NORTH-SOUTH				SECTION B	EAST-WEST			
A	B	C			A	B	C	
1	1		Allan Chernov, Irving TX; Heather Woolf, Paget Bermuda	62.46%	1	1	1	Stephen Pescatore, Revere MA; Bari Boyer, Edgartown MA	52.91%
2	2		Miodrag Novakovic, Pembroke Bermuda; Margaret Way, Paget Bermuda	55.66%	2	2		Edith Walker, Nashville TN; Polly Arnold, Raleigh NC	52.19%
3			Peter Clark, Ottowa ON; Brian Savill, Kanata ON	55.59%	3	3	2	Myung Bondy, Summit NJ; Lynn Goldberg, Morristown NJ	51.24%
4	3	1	Susan Jones, Naples FL; Maureen Pechacek, Las Vegas NV	52.43%	4	4	3	Anna Yates, Venice FL; Jane Palmer, Ottawa ON	50.16%
		2	Goldie Trager - Morris Trager, Halifax NS	50.02%					

NORTH-SOUTH				SECTION C	EAST-WEST			
A	B	C			A	B	C	
1	1		Jeannie Exum, Kinston NC; Heather Burling, Newmarket ON	59.34%	1			Barbara McLendon - Radu Nistor, New York NY	61.13%
2	2	1	Desmond Nash, Sn 02 Bermuda; Tracy Nash, Sn02 Bermuda	56.20%	2	1	1	Carole Berman - Howard Berman, Boca Raton FL	58.22%
3			Brenda Fortunate, Grand Blanc MI; John Rayner, Hamilton Bermuda	53.23%	3	2	2	Betsy Baillie, Warwick Bermuda; Lisa Ferrari, Smiths Fl08 Bermuda	57.29%
4	3	2	Lisa Hadar, Woodbury NY; Jeffrey Bennett, Jericho NY	48.96%	4			Nirmala Shevde - Ketan Shevde, Great Neck NY	53.53%
		3	Claude Guay - Sharon Shanahan, Hamilton Bermuda	45.61%					

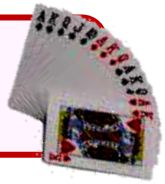
SAT EVE 199ER PAIRS

NORTH-SOUTH				SECTION J	EAST-WEST			
A	B	C			A	B	C	
1			Peter Adhemar - Susan Adhemar, Flatts Fl Bx Bermuda	60.00%	1/2	1/2	1/2	Tim McKittrick, Smiths Parish Bermuda; Keri McKittrick, Hamilton	55.83%
2	1		Tracey Pitt, Paget Bermuda; David Leach, Hamilton Bermuda	52.50%	1/2	1/2	1/2	Julia Tadman - Joshimar Hussey, Hamilton Bermuda	55.83%



Hmm, looks like he had one too many swizzles at the soirée last night!
I'm not sure we can do much for him in this condition.

PAST HANDS – YESTERDAY'S BEST
BY ROBERT TODD



Judgment is Key – Not all HCP are Equal Opposite a Preempt.
Dealer: East
Vul: E/W

	♠ QJT6 ♥ K6 ♦ AJ95 ♣ K32	
♠ 93 ♥ QJT932 ♦ 8 ♣ A964		♠ K74 ♥ A874 ♦ Q743 ♣ QT
	♠ A852 ♥ 5 ♦ KT62 ♣ J875	

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
	P	P	2♥
X	3♥	All Pass	

This was another frustrating hand that I played against Gail Greenberg and Jeff Hand (winners of the Saturday Charity Pairs). In the 3rd seat Jeff opened a nice 2♥ preempt – 6/4 hands play extremely well, even when vulnerable.

I was sitting North and made a Takeout Double of 2♥. Gail was East nad could have used the Law of Total Tricks to bid 4♥. But opposite her partner's preempt she knew that her ♣Qx and ♦Qxxx were not good holdings. So instead, she simply raised to 3♥. This gave my partner a problem. Should she compete to 3♠, I could have had only 3-card ♠?

This was excellent judgment by Gail, not to get too high and to give us a difficult decision. Eventually they bought the contract in 3♥ and make it on the ♥ finesse.

I really appreciated Gail not getting too carried away and just bidding 4♥. No shortness, bad honors, and a decent hand, this was a good hand for trying to buy the contract in 3♥.

Well judged! This is the kind of "good bridge" and leads to winning an event…. Congrats!

Sometimes I think I'm a really good Bridge Player; other times I'm sober.

A day without bridge wouldn't KILL me but why take the risk?

THE BACKHANDER – YESTERDAY'S BEST
BY ROBERT TODD

Don't Let Them Play 1NT?!?

Dealer: North — Robert S. Todd

Vul: N/S

	♠ KJ ♥ KJT ♦ A643 ♣ Q765	
♠ 8642 ♥ AQ985 ♦ J7 ♣ 98		♠ AT9 ♥ 742 ♦ K952 ♣ A42
	♠ Q753 ♥ 63 ♦ QT8 ♣ KJT3	

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	P	1♠	P
1NT	P	P	2♥
P	P	3♣	AP

On this deal, Board 5 from Saturday Evening, I was North and I did battle against the winners of the *Saturday Charity Pairs* – Gail Greenberg and Jeff Hand. This deal is a good lesson for players about picturing partner's hand and good balancing.

I opened the bidding with 1♣ (I could have opened 1♦) and partner responded 1♠, I rebid 1NT and when the auction passed around to West (Jeff) he quickly took action. He knew that I had 12-14 points and that partner had 6-9 points… That meant he knew this partner had values – as he held only 7 HCP.

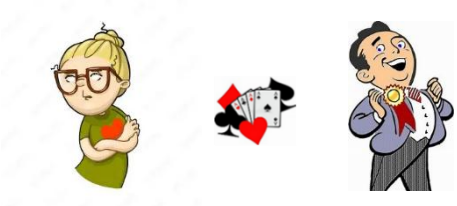
Jeff bid 2♥! My partner competed to 3♣, but it was too late. Even if I made 3♣, many players made 8 tricks in NT – for +120. So, +110 would not have been a good result. *Letting your opponents, especially strong ones, declare the hand in 1NT is not usually winning bridge.*

In the end, I misguessed the Diamond position and went down in 3♣, which was even better for them.

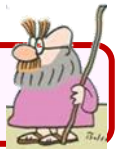
I will also note that Gail practice restraint to not raise to 3♥. She knew that her partner was already "bidding her cards" when he Passed and the balanced back into the bidding.

This was good bridge by both of them, and they earned their great result.

Behind all "great" bridge players are partners rolling their eyes.



THE WORD OF THE PROPHET ON … CONVENTIONS



Bridge players love Conventions - the only thing they like more than conventions are finesses! I'm also a fan of conventions as they make bidding a lot easier when the right hand comes up - the danger, however, is when partnerships overload themselves with conventions and then often lose their way in the bidding, So, if you have the ability to learn and remember a bunch of them you should go ahead, but if your head gets too cluttered with them you need to perhaps get rid of a few. The list below is my suggestion of "must haves" for a beginner or intermediate pair, then a list of 'should haves" which more advanced players should add based on what they think they can cope with and finally a list of "maybes?" for general consideration.

MUST HAVE at any level

STAYMAN – learn how to use it – after an opening bid of 1NT a response of 2 Clubs promises at least one 4 card major and asks opener if they have one - don't bid Stayman to gain comfort in a major suit where you have shortage, as partner won't know that!

ROMAN KEY CARD BLACKWOOD which asks for 5 key cards (4 Aces and the trump King) - decide whether 1430 or 0314 – Queen showing- if you have supported with 5 small, show the queen of trumps. What does 5NT mean after response to 4NT? Asking for number of Kings – 5NT confirms that the side has all 5 Key Cards.

FOURTH SUIT GAME FORCE- usually asks for a stopper in that suit – forcing to game or 4 level in the minors,

NEGATIVE DOUBLES- a double over an opponent's overcall shows the other suits – double of a major suit overcall nearly always shows the other major

SHOULD HAVE for experienced Intermediate / Advanced

BERGEN RAISES – various responses when partner opens 1 of a Major – really useful
LONG SUIT GAME TRIES- very useful as it also allows a pre-emptive raise. After 1H(1S) – 2H(2S) by partner, a new suit by opener asks partner to bid game if they have help (honours or shortage) in that suit. So, after 1 Major-2 Major a bid of 3 Major by opener is preemptive and designed to block the opponents from entering the bidding – it is NOT invitational

GAMBLING 3NT- An opening bid of 3NT shows a solid 7 card Minor – no other high cards outside. Responder passes or bids 4 Clubs and opener can correct.

UNUSUAL NO TRUMP – RHO opens a suit – a jump by you to 2NT shows length in the minors or two lower unbid suits

MICHAELS (use with care!) - RHO opens 1H (1S) – 2H(2S) shows the other major and a minor; RHO Opens 1C(1D) – 2C(2D) shows the majors. Often gives away too much information- vulnerability is a big factor

JACOBY 2NT- over major opening shows 4-card support and 13 plus HCP – opener jumps to 4 Major with a minimum – bids 3NT with a middling hand – bids 3 of the major with a 16-19 hand – bids another suit at 3 level with singleton or void – new suit at 4 level shows a good second suit and probably 5-4-2-2.

FLANNERY- opening bid of 2D shows 4/5 in Spades/Hearts opening hand, which is a shape that is very hard to bid - subsequent bidding- responder asks with 2NT , opener bids 3D with 4-5-3-1 , bids 3 clubs with 4-5-1-3, bids 3H with 4-5-2-2 minimum and bids 3S with 4-5-2-2 maximum. Bids 3NT 4-5—2-2 honours in both doubletons. After Flannery a bid of 2H/2S by responder is to play

UNASSUMING CUE BID – doesn't really promise anything-asks partner for a stopper in the suit bid by opponents or further hand description

LEBENSOHL after interference over 1NT-there are many levels to this so go to Google - play the simple version – if there is one!

SPLINTER BIDS-You open 1 Major and partner jumps to the 4 level in another suit (or bids 3S over 1H) - shows at least 4 card trump support, 12 plus HCP and a singleton in the jumped suit – play it only with singleton- rule of 28- if you think you have 28 points outside the splinter suit (or 24 points outside if you have the Ace of the Splinter suit) you should be in slam.

MAYBE?

FORCING STAYMAN- my favorite system and, for me, way superior to transfers, but I'm swimming against the tide on this one. I could, and may one day, write a small pamphlet on why I prefer this system as opposed to using transfers.

SUPPORT DOUBLES – useful if used well, sometimes leads to confusion. Most common sequence-you open 1D-Partner bids 1H- RHO bids 1S-DBL by you shows a balanced hand with 3 Card heart support-with 4 card support you would simply bid 2H.

Most important, of course, is that you and your partner agree which of the above you are playing and which you aren't-quite often you will realise that the bidding has gone off the rails and years ago I introduced a new Convention, THE EZEKIEL BAILOUT- any jump to 4 Clubs says 'Partner, I have no idea what is going on, your next bid is going to be the final contract' ! I was tickled when both the late Eddie Kantar and regular Bermuda visitor and expert Zeke Jabbour both mentioned it during a bridge lecture!

OPENING LEADS QUIZ
TEST YOUR WITS BEFORE THE GAMES TODAY

1. Against 4♥, you hold ♠ K-Q-10-7. What is your lead?
2. Against 3NT, you hold ♣ A-Q-8-4-2. What is your lead?
3. Partner opened 1♠, and the opponents ended in 4♥. You hold ♠ J-6-2. What do you lead?
4. Against a 4♠ contract, you hold ♣ A-K-7-3. What is the correct card?
5. Against 3NT, you hold ♦ Q-J-10-9. What is your lead?
6. Opponents are in 6NT. You hold ♠ Q-J-10-7. Should you lead a spade?
7. Against 4♥, you hold a singleton ♦5 and four trumps (♥J-8-4-3). Should you lead the singleton?
8. Against 3NT, you hold ♠ K-10-9-5-2. What is your lead?
9. Against 4♠, you hold ♥ A-8-4-3. Is it wise to lead the ♥3?
10. Partner bid ♦ and opponents are in 4♥. You hold ♦8-5. What is your lead?

ANSWERS

1. ♠K. Leading the top of a sequence (K from K-Q) is the standard aggressive lead to establish winners quickly in a suit contract.

2. ♣4 (fourth best). In NT, you lead low from your longest and strongest suit to preserve communication with your partner and establish the suit later.

3. ♠2. When leading partner's suit and holding three or more cards to an honor, lead low to show interest.

4. ♣K. In suit contracts, lead the King from an A-K combination (or the Ace if that is your particular agreement) to tell partner you have the Ace and to maintain control of the suit.

5. ♦Q. Leading the top of a solid sequence is the best lead against NT to force out the opponents' higher honors (like the Ace or King).

6. A passive suit like a ♣ or ♦ may be more effective. Leading away from a sequence against a slam is often too risky; a passive lead is less likely to "blow" a trick.

7. No. Avoid leading a singleton when you have four trumps, as you may exhaust your own trumps and lose control of the hand. Lead a different suit instead.

8. ♠10. This is an "interior sequence." Leading the 10 helps force out higher cards while protecting your King.

9. No. Never underlead an Ace against a suit contract. If you must lead this suit, lead the Ace itself (though it is usually better to find another suit entirely).

10. ♦8. When leading partner's suit from a doubleton (two cards), always lead the high card first.

ALSO, TEN BRIDGE CRIMES TO AVOID WHILE PLAYING THE GAME
submitted by the Jack in the Regional's Pack Rhind

1. Underleading an Ace against a suit contract
2. Rescuing Partner from a penalty double
3. Playing too fast to trick the opponents
4. Ignoring the vulnerability
5. Not drawing trumps when you should

6. Blocking the suit
7. Forgetting the opening lead
8. Counting tricks AFTER playing to trick 1
9. Leading away from a King in a slam
10. Blaming the cards

TAKE THE ANNUAL PSET:TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF SECTION TOP & EVENT PRIZES

Every year, there arises some confusion over the difference between **section top prizes and event prizes**, and especially over who qualifies for which prize, so here is the definitive info on these goodies just as you're hopefully beginning to win some of them.

If you come **TOP** of your **SECTION** in any event, you qualify for one of the – er - **SECTION TOP PRIZES, which are fabulous,** and can be collected from the - er - **SECTION TOP DESK before and usually after any game session.**

If you have won the **ENTIRE EVENT**, however, you qualify for one of the – er - **EVENT PRIZES, which are even more fabulous,** and can be collected in the same way as the Section Top prizes and which will also earn you a **blessing from the Prophet** and a **piece of silverware** at the **Prize-giving** ceremony on Friday.

It is, of course, entirely possible to win **both** a section top prize **and** an event prize at the same time or at various different times during the week, in which case you may collect both as described above.

Below is the now annual PSET
(Prizes for Sections and Events Test)
to help you all, especially our first-time visitors,
and those who've simply forgotten it all.

Please note that there is no prize on offer for the most correct answers in the PSET as this would only muddy the waters even more.

1. **If you come TOP OF YOUR SECTION in any event, for which of the following do you AUTOMATICALLY qualify?**
   a) an event prize b) a section top prize c) an Oscar

2. **If you win A SECTION TOP PRIZE, where do you go to collect it?**
   a) the Section Tops/Prizes Desk b) Hollywood c) the hotel's reception desk

3. **If you win an ENTIRE EVENT, for which of the following do you AUTOMATICALLY qualify?**
   a) an event prize b) a Nobel Award c) Bermuda citizenship

4. **If you win AN EVENT, where do you go to collect your prize?**
   a) the Section Tops/Prizes Desk b) Sweden c) Government House

5. **If you win AN EVENT, which of the following will you NOT receive?**
   a) an event prize b) a trophy and a blessing c) a luxury cruise

TRUE OR FALSE?

1. **If you win a section top, you also automatically win an Event Prize.**

2 **If you win an event, you also automatically win a Section Top Prize.**

3 **If you win both, you can collect them at the same time.**

4 **If you win an Event Prize and you're still here on Friday, you'd better dress up in your finery for the Prize Giving.**

5 **If you win a Section Top Prize, you'd better dress up in your finery for the Prize Giving**

6 **If this quiz goes on much longer, I won't make it to the next GAME, let alone to that Prize Giving at then end of the week!**

ANSWERS TO THE PSET

1. **er - duh - b**
2. **actually a, but would have been b if the airlines had been more co-operative!**
3. **a, but Bermuda is gradually relaxing its criteria for citizenship so c could be on the cards in the future**
4. **a but nearly b - those airlines again!**
5. **c - we just couldn't risk the ole Bermuda Triangle!**

TRUE OR FALSE?

1. **False.** If you have played well in both sections, this outcome is more likely, but you may have triumphed in one section and come a cropper in another.

2. **False**. You may have won the event by sizzling in the sections without actually topping any of them

3. **True**. Both may be collected from the Section Tops/Prizes Desk and Event wins will be further honoured at the Prizegiving

.

4. **True**. At said Shindig, you will receive a call from the Prophet to step up into the limelight where you will be handed a trophy by someone worthy and have your photo taken for the worldwide web so that everyone you hold near and dear will see you and applaud and/or envy you no end (much like this sentence!)

5. **True.** This is a trick question as, although nothing that happens at answer 4 above will **AUTOMATICALLY** happen to you, the Prize Giving Bash is usually glamorous anyway and you won't want to look a frump. If, however, you have won a Section Top Prize **AND ALSO** an Event Prize, then the whole dog and pony show described above is, indeed, unleashed upon your glorious self.

6. **Soooo True.** But the Crown and Anchor Bar dispenses particularly stiff restoratives and has been especially trained to deal with the onslaught.

Have mercy on us, Bartender!
We've just finished our PSETs

HOT DESK REMINDER

All Committee desks are located inside the playing area and most are open before each playing session every day.

The Prizes and Section Tops Desk opens tomorrow.

ON THE CARDS FROM THE ON THE CASERS

TOP TALKS FROM TODAY
all in the Trudeau Room

Monday 2nd – 12:30 p.m.
Hot Toddy
"Modern Pre-Emptive Openings"
Tuesday 3rd – 12:30 p.m.
TBD
Wednesday 4th – 12:30 p.m.
The Prophet's Panel Show
Revelations
Thursday 5th – 12:30 p.m.
TBD

Feel free to bring your lunch, but please don't rustle your brown bags noisily, and definitely don't Ask Jerry (or anyone else) questions with your mouth full!

FIVE GO ON ABOUT MULTI 2 AGAIN

The Directors would like to remind you that, in line with the ACBL's own directives …

Multi is only permitted in the top bracket of the Championship KO,

THE TOP BRACKET OF THE ROUND ROBIN TEAMS,

and the A/X Flight of the Stratiflighted Swiss Teams.

END OF REGIONAL PARTY

You are invited to the Regional's glamorous and exciting Prize Giving, Dinner and Disco on Friday.
This fabulous event will begin at 6:30 p.m. over complimentary cocktails in the stunning Princess Rooms followed by a scrumptious dinner, a glittering prizegiving and wild-ish disco dancing.

"Celebrating Success, Survival and You"

You MUST sign up for this event at the Hospitality Desk a.s.a.p.
Organize a table of 10-12 fellow revellers yourselves or pin your hopes on a trusty Excel spread sheet.

Tickets for everyone cost $135 (incl. grats, two complimentary cocktails, a scrumptious four-course dinner, entry into the Regional Draw (see more info overleaf), and disco dancing to all your faves, and may be purchased either with cash or as a charge to your room.
If you have any special dietary requirements, please make these known when signing up.

"It's the best Bridge party anywhere, bar none!" according to Jay Whipple 111, a former ACBL President.

HOT TODDY RECIPE REVEALED

It was suggested last year that some of our North American friends might not know what the original Hot Toddy was, so read on and imbibe ……

A Hot Toddy is a warm, tasty and spicey potion typically taken to restore calm and equilibrium by reviving the senses.

Which perfectly describes the effect that our very own Hot Toddy has every day on his adoring public.

You may drink him in tomorrow at 12:30 p.m.
See notice opposite.

NO REPRIESE FOR UNPAID FEES

Those who haven't renewed their ACBL Memberships will have to do so at the table before playing in any of our Regional events and may have to pay a renewal fee
If you have never had an ACBL Membership number see one of the Famous Five Star Directors who will help sort you out.

The meaningful Directorial shake of the head is unmistakeable and, if it happens to be you at the end of said shaking noggin, it's always the best play not to shuffle, appeal, or trump up an excuse, but to lay your cards on the table, count the cost with as much finesse as you can muster, and agree not to be such a dummy again. Only payment in cash can be processed, and there is a cash machine in the lobby opposite the Hotel Reception Desk.

BREWS NEWS FOR YOUS

Morning coffee and tea may of course be purchased from the Duchess Gelateria in the hotel lobby or, in a bold new move this year, from outside the playing room from 8-9:30 a.m. for $5:00
This hot stuff option is being trialled today and tomorrow and may be discontinued if proved unpopular, so please help us make it work

Early risers, however, might want to expand their beverage options by patronising one of the following outlets:

In all cases, turn right at the hotel entrance into Pitts Bay Road and keep walking until you find your hot spot.

Miles Coffee Shop – first right off Pitts Bay Road into Waterfront complex- left to Chesney House – down steps on right of Chesney House
L'Artisan Boulangerie – further along Pitts Bay Road on the right just past the distinctive green Bluck's Building
Milan Milan – on the opposite side of the street from L'Artisan

TOMORROW'S PROGRAMME - PLAN AHEAD FOR MONDAY, February 2nd

9:30 a.m.
Swiss Teams 1 (Session 2 of 2)
(finishes this morning)
Open Side Game – Paget Series (Game 1 of 3)
(continues this afternoon)
199er Game (0-199 points)

12:30 p.m.

2:00 p.m.
The Championship Bracketed KO Teams
(Session 1 of 4)
(*continues to Thursday afternoon*)
Open Side Game – Paget Series (Game 2 of 3)
(continues this evening)
199er Game (0-199 points)

4:45 p.m.
Tea in Trudeau

7:45 p.m.
The Championship Stratiflighted Pairs 1
AX/BC (Session 1 of 2*)*
(*continues tomorrow evening*)
The Bermuda Gold Pairs - 0-750 points
(Session 1 of 2 - *continues tomorrow evening*)
Open Side Game – Paget Series (Game 3 of 3)
(new series begins tomorrow)
199er Game (0-199 points)

Senior Trophy Events in Bold

PHOTO CALL FOR EVENT WINNERS!

We would like photographs of all event winners, including Flights B and C winners; unfortunately, however, we may not have room for Section winners but it's always worth asking.
To have your photo taken for the bulletin, not to mention for posterity, go to the Bermuda Tourism banners at the entrance to the playing room where your friendly photographer will be waiting to pounce.

She will attempt to take photos which will highlight all of your best qualities, although, even though it's a Holy Day for some, she respectfully reminds you that she cannot perform miracles in this regard but will nevertheless pull out the stops and apply the filters if you're prompt.

If you miss this opportunity on the night, because you haven't read this notice or because you've lingered too long showboating, you can EITHER send a selfie before midnight to

janetev50@hotmail.co.uk

OR catch the Ed the following day lounging lazily – er - working frantically in some lobby near you.

GOODY BAGS

If you haven't already done so, or if you arrive today, please register a.s.a.p. at the Hospitality Desk (or by using the QR code opposite) and collect your Exceedingly Good Goody Bags from the On the Casers.
The Hospitality Desk is open before every game session.

Please note that some of the products in the goody bags may contain nuts and other allergenics so please check carefully.

Once again, Bermuda Bridge thanks the following generous contributors to those Exceedingly Good Goody Bags and to other aspects of our Tournament:

THE HASTY TASTY EXPRESS LUNCH SPECIAL TOMORROW'S MENU

For maximum speed between games, pre-order a soup and sandwich special combo.
MUST BE ORDERED A DAY IN ADVANCE
Pick up an order form from the Hospitality Desk;
The order will be paid for as a charge to your room.
Non-residents may pay with cash or card.
All prices inclusive of grats

Soup Only	$12.50
Sandwich Only	$13.50
Soup and Half Sandwich Combo	$17
Soup and Full Sandwich Combo	$21

MONDAY'S MENU
Carrot and Ginger Soup OR
Leek and Potato SoupSoup

Turkey, Swiss Cheese and Lettuce Sandwich OR
Egg Salad Sandwich

Gluten-free options are available – just indicate at sign-up.
Pick-up outside Trudeau from 12:15 p.m.

THE REGIONAL DRAW

If fabulous food, complimentary cocktails and lively dancing aren't enough to make the event spectacular on Friday night, the On the Casers have also retained the exciting feature of the Regional Draw for your enjoyment, a chance for you to win a complimentary night at the HP for next year's Regional or two complimentary round-trip tickets from BermudAir. Just when you thought the night couldn't possibly get any better!