

April – June, second quarter 2018
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WHAT'S TRUMPS?

INTERCLUB VICTORY!

Each March, clubs in the area meet on one Sunday in a friendly battle for the Sydney North Interclub Shield. One of the great things about this event is that equal weight is given to placegetters in all four grades. This year Trumps and North Shore were engaged in a tight tussle all day, but when the results were tallied, Trumps finished narrowly ahead, for the second consecutive year.

Our other big interclub tournament is the Sydney North Pairs. Last year's winners, Peninsula, will host this year's event on Sunday 15 July. Our Wednesday afternoon and Wednesday night events in the main room during June will select many of the pairs who will play for Trumps.

Read on for lots more that is happening at Trumps!



Special Events

Red Points

There are **Red Masterpoints** (or Gold points) each **Wednesday at 1.30pm**. Most are walk-in duplicates but please book for teams. (Also, some multi-session events such as Teams may require you to play each week.)

Easter Festival

This newsletter goes to print at the time of the **Good Friday Pairs 30 Mar, Easter Swiss Pairs Saturday 31 March**, and **Easter Sunday Teams 1 April**. All are 10am - 5.15pm, **red points** and cash prizes, \$35 per player incl lunch. No other games on Good Friday, but bridge runs as normal on Easter Saturday and Monday.

Day Swiss Pairs

Two Wednesday afternoons, 4 & 11 April at 1.30pm. Swiss means the leading pairs play each other. IMPs scoring. **Red Points**. Winners to the Honours Plaque.

Bridge For Brains

Tuesday 1 May 7.20 for 7.30pm. Red Points. Extra \$7 is the recommended donation to charity; this covers the souvenir booklet with expert analysis.

Day GNOT

1.30pm Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May. Gold Points. Doubles as Trumps Day Teams. \$48 extra per team. Win subsidised entry (\$80/team co-payment, Trumps pays the rest) to the Metropolitan final at NSWBA on 15-16 Sept. The top team with at least 50% Trumps representation wins a spot on the Honours Plaque.

Night GNOT

7.30pm Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 May. \$40 extra/team. Also Trumps Night Teams. Details as for Day event.

Autumn Teams

Sunday 6 May, 10am - 5.15pm. **Red Points** and cash prizes. \$35 per player, includes lunch.

Aust-Wide Novice Pairs

Wed 30 May, 7.15 for 7.30pm. For players Local 2-star or below (under 50 MPs); players above this level join the other room. \$5 extra per player. National comp, booklet etc.

World Wide Pairs

1.20 for 1.30pm Friday 1 June. Just \$3 extra (\$13/\$16 per player) includes booklet, world-wide scoring.

Winter Teams

Sunday 3 June, 10am - 5.15pm. **Red Points** and cash prizes. \$35 per player, includes lunch.

Trumps Day Pairs

Wed 6, 13, 20, 27 June, 1.30pm. We take your best three scores, so no subs. Winners (at least one member) to Honours Plaque, and win Interclub entry 15 July.

Wed nights June

will also qualify pairs to the Interclub (Sydney North).

Holidays

Leura holiday

Waldorf Resort, Tuesday 1 to Friday 4 May. Good food, accommodation and bridge, at a good price – \$534pp twin share, or \$699 single.



Dormie House, Sun 17 to Fri 22 June.

This popular Moss Vale guest house always charms us with their service, delicious country food, beautiful grounds and well-maintained facilities. \$999, + \$250 single.



Rich River (Moama/Echuca), 26-31 Aug.

\$795pp twin or \$1025 single.



Win a book!

These are the questions for the bidding forum in the next issue of *What's Trumps*. A prize will go to "the closest match to Ron's &/or Derrick's answers". Matchpoint scoring. (The opponents are experienced players.)

1) Dealer North, EW vulnerable

♠ 9 7 6
♥ 10 5
♦ 8 6 5
♣ A K J 9 4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Pass	Pass	?

2) Dealer North, Both vulnerable

♠ K 10 8 5 3
♥ —
♦ J 7 4
♣ K 9 8 7 4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♣	2♥	?

3) Dealer North, Both vulnerable

♠ 9 8 5
♥ A 9 7
♦ Q 8 7 2
♣ A Q 7

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♣	2♠	?

2♠ = weak, 6-10 HCP, six-card suit

4) Dealer North, Both vulnerable

♠ A K 9 8 6 5 2
♥ 6
♦ A Q 5 4
♣ 7

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Pass	1♦	?

Month winners

To do this, we take the best three scores by member pairs from the 4 or 5 sessions that make up each monthly event. (**Seven pairs** need to have played three or more for meaningful results)

O = Outright winners (line honours)

R = Rated winners – those who exceeded their Rating (our expectation) by most.

DECEMBER – Open

Tuesday afternoon

O/R Jacque Hayden & Bob Clayton

Tuesday night

O/R Kevin Ellwood & Michael Kidd

Wednesday morning

O Michele Taylor C & Winsome Johnston

R Peggy Dalby & Trixie Murray-Jones

*Wednesday afternoon
reds*

O Aleks Milovanovic
& Alessandro Gado

R Meg Sharp &
Barbara Gassmann

*Wednesday afternoon
intermediate*

O Barbara Huber &
Andy Allen

R Anna Carlborg &
Lale Williamson

*Thursday morning in-
termediate*

O/R Megan Donelly &
Maureen Punch

Friday afternoon

O Rob Holgate &
Neil Williams

R Joy & Geoff Thomas

Neil Williams



Alessandro Gado



DECEMBER - Supervised

Tuesday morning super

R Toni Barry & Susan Jones

JANUARY – Open

Monday night

O Michael Oei & Anthony Pearce

R Beryl & Denis Cubis (pictured)



Tuesday morning

O Chris Golis & Hanlon Chiddy

R Peter & Jenny Reeves

Tuesday night

O/R Baz Neil &
Anthony Pearce

*Wednesday
morning*

O Gwen
Cordingley &
Anne-Marie
Hazell

R Sonia
Asman & Bill
Byrnes

Sonia Asman



Wednesday afternoon intermediate

- O Gwenith Stephenson & Usha Modi
- R Anna Carlborg & Lale Williamson

Wednesday night intermediate

- O Clifford & Louise Keen (pictured. Their team also won the Interclub D Grade)



- R Pamela Veillard & Marcel Weyland (pictured)

Thursday morning intermediate

- O/R Jenny Harley & Margaret Scott

Friday afternoon

- O/R Alice Taylor & Tim McCarthy



JANUARY - Supervised

Tuesday morning super

- R John & Elena Halbwirth

FEBRUARY – Open

Monday afternoon intermediate

- O Lesley & Kevin Murray

- R Jillian Raymond & Barbara Millhouse

Monday night

- O Colleen Kelly & John Martin
- R Margaret & Bob Gates

Tuesday morning

- O/R Pat Blair & Yvonne Le Fort



Judy Oliver (centre) with Kevin & Lesley Murray

Tuesday afternoon

- O Judith Oliver & Cia Benecke
- R Diana Lindsay & Neill Giffin

Tuesday night

- O/R Baz Neil & Anthony Pearce

Wednesday afternoon intermediate

- O/R Pam Pritchard & Enid Murphy

Wednesday night intermediate

- O/R Gordon Parker & Alison Beazley

Thursday morning intermediate

- O Isabel Masterton & Felicity Duivenbode

- R Robyn Peutherer & Jenny Kidd



Thursday afternoon

- O/R Anne Cook & Joan Salmon
- Thursday night*
- O Colleen Kelly & Eva Bitel (r)

Ratings: Margaret & Bob Gates (left)

Friday afternoon

- O/R Joy & Geoff Thomas
- Saturday afternoon
- O/R Marika Kruppay & Patricia Gordon

FEBRUARY - Supervised

Monday morning super

- R Clare Stockdale & Avril Ridley

Tuesday morning super

Preempts

Derrick Browne

In the modern game, players love to preempt. A high level suit opening or jump overcall shows a weak hand with a long (and preferably strong) suit.

When is a call a preempt?

Any opening of 3-of-a-suit, 4-of-a-suit or 5-of-a-minor is preemptive.

Most players also use weak twos, as mini-preempts. Another popular preemptive opening is the Gambling 3NT, showing a solid seven-card minor.

If the opponents open, you can make a preemptive overcall. Traditionally, a preempt skips two levels of the overcalled suit, e.g. (1♥) : 3♠ or 4♦.

Jumping just one level e.g. (1♥) : 2♠ or 3♦ is nowadays also usually played as preemptive, though may be commonly described as a “weak jump overcall”.

One area to discuss with partner is the meaning of a jump overcall in an enemy suit. A common method is:

- a jump in opener’s minor e.g. (1♦) : 3♦ = natural
- jump in opener’s major e.g. (1♥) : 3♥ = stopper ask
- if opponents bid two suits, bidding one of their suits is natural, e.g. (1♣) : P : (1♥), now 3♥ = hearts.

From the 2018 Australian National Open Teams finals:

RHO	YOU	YOUR HAND (opps vul)
1♣	?	♠ —
		♥ 10 6
		♦ J 10 4 2
		♣ A Q 10 8 6 5 4

Despite the enemy 1♣ opening, one player overcalled 3♣ and the other ventured 4♣, both natural preempts.

Requirements for a preempt (opening or overcall)

Normal range for a preempt is 6-10 HCP, but don’t quibble if the playing strength is there:

- ♠ 7
 - ♥ K Q 10 9 6 5 4
 - ♦ 4 3 2
 - ♣ 5 3
 - ♠ A
 - ♥ 10 9 8 2
 - ♦ A
 - ♣ Q 8 7 6 5 4 2
- 3♥ is attractive with the first hand’s potent suit.*
- The second hand prefers 1♣: it has defence (rarely preempt with two aces), four hearts (preempting may lose a major fit), and poor clubs.*
- A game preempt may be stronger; in the 2011 Bermuda Bowl Final, one player opened 4♠ while the other bid 1♠ on the last hand.*

As for length of suit, the rule of thumb is that a weak two needs a six-carder, a 3-level preempt contains a seven-card suit or 6-4 shape, and higher preempts are even more shapely. However, vulnerability is another key factor.

Vulnerability and the rule of 2 and 3

If you are vulnerable and doubled, a two trick defeat loses you 500 points. If not vulnerable, you would have to go down by three tricks, doubled, to lose the same 500 points.

The rule of two and three states that when vulnerable, you should bid two tricks higher than you expect to make. When not vulnerable, bid three tricks higher than you expect to make.

Charles Goren cited

this example:

- ♠ K Q J x x x x x
- ♥ x
- ♦ x x
- ♣ x x

With its expected seven spade tricks, Goren suggested this hand is worth a 4♠ opening not vulnerable, but only 3♠ if vulnerable.

Such accuracy aids responder in deciding level, but the modern tendency is to follow this traditional rule loosely, if at all. For one, the opponents’ vulnerability is also important.

Impact of vulnerability of opponents

Be especially bold when the opponents are vulnerable, for they have a hefty game bonus on offer if they make game:

- if you are not vulnerable and the opponents are vulnerable, three down doubled shows a profit against their vulnerable game
- at equal vulnerability (both vul, or neither side vul), two down doubled beats them making game
- but if you are vulnerable and they are not, you can afford to go only one down doubled and still do better than allowing them to make a game

For the keen student: some other “rules” have been devised to take into account the above information.

Rule of two, three and four. According to this rule:

- bid for two tricks more than you have in hand when you are vulnerable against non-vul opponents
- bid for three tricks more than you have in hand at equal vulnerability
- bid for four more tricks than you have in hand if you are non-vulnerable against vulnerable opponents.

Rule of one, two, three and four advocates varying your preempts even more according to vulnerability:

- bid for one trick more than you have in hand when you are vulnerable against non-vul opponents
- bid for two tricks more than you have in hand when neither side is vulnerable
- bid for three more tricks than you have in hand if both sides are vulnerable
- bid for four more tricks than you have in hand if you are non-vulnerable against vulnerable opponents.

On the other extreme, some players advocate the **Rule of three**, bidding about three tricks more than you have in hand, taking little heed of the vulnerability.

If you skipped the italicised section, you are in good company: most experts are not bound by any “rule”. A typical approach would be along these lines:

- tend to bid to your length: 2-level = 6, 3-level = 7; but
- upgrade for: extra shape e.g. 7-4; good suits; etc
- tend to overbid by two if vulnerable, three if non-vulnerable; but
- be willing to bid even more, e.g. if opponents are vulnerable.

Consider these ideas on the following three hands from the 2017 Bermuda Bowl final. In each case the hand shown was the dealer:

♠ 5
♥ K Q 10 6 5 3 2
♦ J 9
♣ Q 9 4

Both vul. 3♥ is normal with this 7-card suit. More subtly: in hearts you lose at least the ♥A, but with the ♣Q you have say six tricks, and vul should bid at least two more – and with opponents also vul, could upgrade to 3♥.

Actual: one Bowl finalist treated this as a weak two, but the other opened 3♥ (and so did all in the Women’s and Seniors).

Your side vul. A six-card suit bids 2♠, but a decent suit and 6-4 shape suggests 3♠. More subtly: you have at most four spade tricks and three clubs (if the ♣K-Q and the long club all win) but say six tricks – and at this vul, don’t push.

Actual: all players in the three finals opened 2♠ (or Multi 2♦ equivalent).

Other side vul. Surely an easy pass, especially as there is no weak two available in clubs. More subtly: at favourable vulnerability, push harder than usual – but even so, this hand is short on suit quality and tricks.

Actual: all passed, bar one Bowl finalist who opened 3♣. Let’s see why this is even a remote possibility.

Positional considerations

Dealer has two opponents who have not called, and an unusually aggressive preempt may put one or both of them in an impossible situation, whereas there is only one (tolerant?) partner to be misled.

Preempting in third seat is even better, for partner is a passed hand and unlikely to be damaged by your antics. You may be weak, or even slightly strong.

In second seat, one opponent has passed and so you are preempting partner as much as the enemy. That is OK, but be disciplined.

In fourth seat the other players have passed so it is unlikely you will have a weak hand and if you did, you would pass; a preempt typically has 9-12 HCP.

Responding to a preempt

Responder should usually bid on if long in partner's preempt suit, else pass unless very strong. With nil vulnerable, partner deals and opens 3♠; your reply?

♠ KQ2	♠ 2	♠ KJ
♥ 32	♥ KQJ5	♥ AK2
♦ A987	♦ KQ42	♦ A976
♣ 10942	♣ KJ32	♣ 6543

With strong spade support, the first hand raises to 4♠ as a shutout – the opponents probably have a game. If partner's non-vul preempts are aggressive (recommended), the second hand passes – opposite the classic K-Q-J-x-x-x preempt, there are four aces to lose (and 3NT would be even worse). The third hand also has 15 HCP but has four tricks; if the preempt contains six tricks as expected at the prevailing vulnerability, game is likely – bid 4♠.

Added considerations apply when the preempt is in a minor. Partner opens a vulnerable 3♦ preempt:

♠ A92	♠ 87	♠ 43
♥ A102	♥ AKJ875	♥ 82
♦ K87	♦ Q42	♦ KQ76
♣ J1042	♣ K2	♣ A5432

The first hand has only 12 HCP, yet bids 3NT – if partner has ♦ A-Q-x-x-x-x this has nine sure tricks. The second hand tries 3♥, which partner raises with a doubleton. The last hand bids 5♦; with 11 trumps (and good ones, and a little shape) this is a normal advance sacrifice.

Defending against preempts

Most principles that apply for interposing at a low level hold good – and you don't need much more strength. Consider your action over a weak 2♥ (nil vul):

♠ KQ1092	♠ A1087	♠ 65
♥ 5	♥ KQ10	♥ 42
♦ AJ107	♦ KQ4	♦ 76
♣ 942	♣ Q32	♣ KQJ9843

Overcall 2♠ with the first hand – the level, suit quality and singleton in the enemy suit are all positives. The second hand overcalls 2NT, showing similar strength to a 1NT overcall. The third hand passes – there are no weak jumps over their weak bids.

This time they open 3♥; again no-one is vulnerable:

♠ 32	♠ AK1087	♠ A1095
♥ AJ	♥ 10	♥ 2
♦ AKQJ1098	♦ KQ10984	♦ AK86
♣ J4	♣ 2	♣ J1093

The first hand tries 3NT – not diamonds. The second hand bids 4♥, a Michaels Cue Bid (if you use this method). The third hand makes a takeout double – it is an attractive minimum, with excellent shape.

This time they open 4♠ (no-one vulnerable):

♠ 2	♠ 7	♠ QJ
♥ AKJ4	♥ 10	♥ Q10
♦ AKQJ	♦ KQ8764	♦ QJ86
♣ J432	♣ AKQJ10	♣ AK876

The first hand doubles, whatever the meaning (expert style is "takeout", but partner passes with nothing dramatic to say). The second hand bids an "Unusual" 4NT as a two-suited takeout (usually for minors, but over 4♠ could be hearts and a minor). Pass with the last hand – it has lots of losers, and nowhere to go.

Bidding Forum

Moderated by Alex Kemeny

You are South in these hands. Choose your call then compare with the experts. Trumps Standard and Pairs scoring in all four.

If you'd like the chance to win a book, next quarter's problems are on page 3.

1) Dealer North, Both vulnerable

♠ 9 6 2
♥ 8 7 5
♦ K Q J 4
♣ K 8 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♣	1♠	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	?

CALL	VOTES
2♠	4
2♦	2
2♣	1

We had a difficult bid already on the first round but chose to pass since no call was perfect. It hasn't got any easier!

Zines: 2♦. Maybe I should have doubled originally, or bid 1NT, although both imperfect. Partner may well be strong, although could be minimum with a spade shortage. Having passed, I am now rather strong in HCP for 2♦ and a club short for 3♣, but will settle for 2♦ as it's duplicate-pairs scoring. May have to bear partner's wrath.

It's normal for north to reopen the bidding with a double whenever they are shortish in spades. Because you (south) may have passed 1♠ with a big spade suit, wanting to defend 1♠ doubled

Browne: 2♦. Partner might have (say) a 2-4-3-4 minimum, and has made the normal reopening double. However, I might have found a 2♦ response on the last round, even though that is a bit of an over-reach.

I suspect Derrick and Tina feel that the first round pass wasn't right.

Fahrer: 2♣. While 1♣ may have been short as an opening bid, North's double confirms it was a genuine suit.

Giura: 2♠. Might be an overbid, but partner will be aware I didn't negative double (no 4 hearts), I didn't bid 1NT (no stopper), I didn't bid 2♦ (no 5 diamonds).

I think there is quite a bit of evidence that partner is strong. They are shortish in spades yet West didn't raise spades and East didn't proffer another bid, even though you passed last round.

Klinger: 2♠. As good as I can be, considering that I passed 1♠. With 10+ points and similar shape I could bid 2♦ (4+ diamonds) or 2♠ (4+ clubs). Since I have not raised clubs or doubled 1♠ to show hearts, partner can deduce that I have diamonds.

Hughes: 2♠. Shows a useful hand without four hearts or a spade stopper. I accept last round's pass, but it hasn't worked out well.

Douglas: 2♠. Shows that I didn't want to penalise 1♠, but have a decent hand with no clear suit to bid last round. 3♣ is an option, but partner may have doubled with a strong balanced hand without a spade stop. I want to keep the option of playing in diamonds.

Bidding the enemy suit usually shows strength, which is why four panellists chose 2♠ to tell partner that and also to get one more descriptive bid from partner.

2) Dealer North, NS vulnerable

♠ A J 9 6 2
♥ K
♦ K 9 4 2
♣ K J 4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	2NT*	?

*2NT = 5+ / 5+ ♥ & ♣, usually weak

3♣	3
3♥	2
3♠	1
Dbf	1

You can see how effective the unusual 2NT bid can be. We were all ready to reply 1♠, but east rudely butted in. How to counter it?

Fahrer: Double. A willingness to penalty double at least one of East's suits. Too hard to commit to a strain just yet.

That's a sensible use of double after any two-suited interference (and all later doubles by us are for penalty). But are our clubs good enough to defend when we may have a vulnerable game available?

Zines: 3♠. Without specific agreement, I can surely bid a forcing 3♠ here. Slam is still possible.

Giura: 3♣. Showing a stopper. If partner bids 3♦ or 3♥, I will bid 3♠.

Hughes: 3♣. Intended as a good diamond raise with something in clubs. If I bid 3♠ instead, hard to see partner bidding 3NT, given my holdings in their suits. Expect to be able to bid 3♠ (or 4♠) next time.

Klinger: 3♣. A matter for partnership agreement. We play 3♣ = strong diamond raise, 3♥ = limited, 5+ spades and 3♠ forcing. Others play 3♣ as stopper-showing in clubs.

So although the 2NT bid has robbed bidding space from us, it does provide us with a number of choices, such as cue bidding either of their suits. But partner has to be on the same wavelength as you, so discuss it!

Browne: 3♥. Over their Unusual 2NT, a popular agreement is that a bid of their higher suit shows the higher of the other two suits, in this case spades, and over 10 points. A bid of their lower suit (3♣) would show a good raise of diamonds, but I prefer to seek the major suit fit.

Douglas: 3♥. Intending to pass 3NT. One needs some system agreement here. We have two cue bids available; what do they mean? I like to play the higher cue shows a forcing hand with the higher suit (here the fourth suit, spades) and the lower cue forcing with (here) diamonds, partner's suit.

Derrick's and Richard's approach is a good yet simple agreement. It gives a lot of flexibility and also leaves double to cater for those situations where you want to defend against one or both of the enemy suits.

3) Dealer North, Nil vulnerable

♠ A 3
♥ J 8 7
♦ K J 10 3
♣ K 9 7 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♥	2♦	?

CALL	VOTES
3♦	4
3NT	2
4♥	1

We have a goodish hand with modest heart support. But are we better off defending 2♦ doubled (since if we pass, we expect partner to reopen the bidding with a double)?

Giura: 4♥. Very rarely 3NT would be a better contract.

Fahrer: 3♦. A good raise of hearts. I'd prefer a fourth trump but other bids seem more flawed.

Douglas: 3♦. Showing my heart support.

It occurs to me that here don't seem to be many spades in this deck. Are the opponents even in their best suit?

Browne: 3♦. A cue raise; a bid of the enemy suit to show a fit and over 10 points. If partner signs off in 3♥, I plan to bid on to 3NT to offer a choice of games.

Hughes: 3♦. A good heart raise, then 3NT if partner signs off -- in tempo! 3NT straight away might score well but a bit crude.

This sounds like a perfect time to introduce our crude panellists:

Klinger: 3NT. Prepared to apologise if 4♥ turned out to be better.

Zines: 3NT. A crass/pragmatic 3NT. Don't fancy diamond ruffs against us in 4♥.

The vulnerability suggests playing not defending, but with an 8 loser hand, it's possible that game is too high for us.

4) Dealer South, Both vulnerable

♠ K 10 3
♥ 7
♦ A 9 8 7 3
♣ A 10 9 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♦
1♥	1♠*	4♥	?

*5+ spades (negative double with four)
CALL VOTES
4♠ 5
Pass 2

Fahrer: 4♠. They have bid 4♥ to make it seems (they are vulnerable after all).

Maybe, but two off doubled for them turns a profit (-500) if we can make game.

Giura: 4♠. Both sides have a major suit fit.

Zines: 4♠. Maybe 4♥ is not always forcing to 4♠, but I like to support with support.

Browne: 4♠, showing the fit. Too tempting with a singleton in their suit and a fit with partner, including two honours. Of course we may have been stampeded too high; some players may have methods to deal with this hand, but in "standard" double by either of us is penalties, and there is no ideal way to show this hand.

Douglas: 4♠. Sure I don't have a lot of points, but it's normal to bid 4♠ over 4♥ if you have support, and my values are offensive rather than defensive. Let them guess whether it's to make or a save. And partner should know not to get carried away by a 4♠ raise in this position.

Klinger: Pass. Not strong enough to bid 4♠ opposite possible 5-7 points and a minimum (7-loser) hand. Partner should double with decent values and then I will bid 4♠.

Hughes: Pass (in tempo!). Not 4♠, which is an overbid by two. Support doubles don't go this high. If double is takeout, it might take us from an 8-card spade fit to five of a minor. If partner doubles 4♥, then I will bid 4♠.

I thought someone might find a double, which as Nick said, isn't a support double but (if pre-agreed) could say: "bid 4♠ or pass as per your preference".

How the panel voted:

	1	2	3	4
Zines	2♦	3♠	3NT	4♠
Klinger	2♠	3♣	3NT	Pass
Hughes	2♠	3♣	3♦	Pass
Giura	2♠	3♣	4♥	4♠
Fahrer	2♣	Dbl	3♦	4♠
Douglas	2♠	3♥	3♦	4♠
Browne	2♦	3♥	3♦	4♠

♠♥♦♣

ABF Promotions

Here are Home Club members who recently (Dec/Jan/Feb) achieved a new rank in the **ABF Masterpoint Scheme**.

If you're on the list, we have a certificate for you. You may even claim a small reward with it.

Gold Life: Barb Gassman

Life: Trish Armstrong

**** National Master:**

Kerry Boytell

*** National Master:**

Lydia Gibbs (pictured)



*** State Master**

Rob Holgate

Rhonda Langley

State Master:

Margaret Titley

Note: To achieve any of the ranks listed above, you need to play some red point events e.g. Wednesday afternoons, Sunday congresses and our Easter and Summer Festivals.

*** Regional Master:**

Frances Harridge

Jan Marich

Regional Master:

Michael Bergheim

Clare Stockdale

**** Local Master:**

Beth Davis

Geoff Lang

Carole Lye

*** Local Master:**

Sandra Day

Belinda Derrin

Margaret Rouse

Local Master:

Roger Freney

Elena Halbwirth

James Lloyd

Alex Matthews

Dave McLeod

Anthony Pearce

Club Master:

John Boyd

Elizabeth Deveson

Barry Feyder

Di Hunter

Althea Peterson

Trish Berry

Libbie Kelly



Libbie Kelly

Graduate Master:

Nick Armitage (pictured)



Marjorie Gossage

Brett Slater

Geoff Vince

Natalie Weaving

Newsletter by email?

Trumps is progressively moving to electronic delivery of this newsletter and other information.

Give us your name and preferred email address if you are happy to have the newsletter emailed to you. We now also do a monthly e-newsletter, so tell us if you would like that too.

Over the coming years, we plan to reduce the frequency of *What's Trumps* newsletter, and do most by email with just a "legacy" print version with a view to eventually dropping even that.

Most Improved Rating

Those who boosted their ratings by the most, in the last month:

February

Andrew Parsons	+1.87
Gill Chambers	+1.51
Anne Cook	+1.42

December & January missed

November

Fairlie Ruggles	+1.86
Hilary Shawe	+1.46
Sue Feeney	+1.39

2017 Local Masterpoint Race (MPs won at Trumps regular sessions) Final Standings as at 31 Dec

- 1 Kerry Boytell
(pictured, right)
33.47 MPs
- 2 Eric Lippey
(pictured)
31.57 MPs



3	Judith Oliver	29.13
4	Agnes Szollos	26.93
5	Kevin Murray	22.30
6	Mary Lynch	21.53
7	Vivienne McDonald	21.03
8	Marika Kuppay	20.23
9	Patricia Gordon	20.21
10	Sue Robinson	19.89

Player of the Month

Each month, we take the average of your best **six** scores in **open** matchpoint sessions to decide the month's top achiever

Feb	Judith Oliver	63%
Jan	Eric Lippey	
	Kerry Boytell	65%
Dec	Kevin Murray	63%

Top rated as at 1 Mar 2018

Members who have played 13 times in the last six months are rated.

1	Aleks MILOVANOVIC	63.96
2	Alessandro GADO	63.67
3	Eric LIPPEY	62.96
4	Kerry BOYTELL	62.73
5	John NEWMAN	62.31
6	Agi SZOLLOS	61.89
7	Tony ALLEN	61.69
8	Inez GLANGER	61.24
9	Vanessa BROWN	60.72
10	Tina STRICKLAND	60.61
11	Helena CANARIS	60.56
12	Michael DRAPER	60.39
13	Kelela ALLEN	60.33
14	Robert LAU	60.32
15	Ceiny MAYBURY	60.32
16	Alexander COOK	60.27
17	Barbara GASSMANN	60.02
18	Rob HOLGATE	60.02
19	Lisa RUSH	59.58
20	Tim RICKARD	59.51
21	Alex KEMENY	59.44
22	Mary LYNCH	59.43
23	Sue SCOTFORD	59.41
24	Meg SHARP	59.26
25	Carolyn GREENWICH	59.08
26	Joan SALMON	58.77
27	Michael OEI	58.72
28	Noreen ARMSTRONG	58.69
29	Gordon COSS	58.57
30	Anne-Marie HAZELL	58.52
31	Neil WILLIAMS	58.49
32	Gwen CORDINGLEY	58.38
33	Peter FITZMAURICE	58.38
34	Jan BATES	58.37
35	Anne SALMON	58.29
36	Kevin MURRAY	58.22
37	John GREEN	58.16
38	Trish ARMSTRONG	58.15
39	Robin HO	58.05
40	Sue FEENEY	57.92

Freebies and bargains

In association with Transmission Films, Trumps players are invited to a special advance preview of **LAST FLAG FLYING** at the Cremorne Orpheum 6.30pm Tuesday 10 April, or some other cinema! To download tickets: www.showfilmfirst.com/pin/498333



In line with our forthcoming redecorate, we are decluttering! Old chairs, cupboard, bbq, whiteboard, cards and books are going cheap or free – enquire if you may be interested.



Available at Trumps

Books, flippers and pamphlets	
Beginners' Bridge	\$14.95
Beginners' Play	\$14.95
Improvers' Bridge	\$16.95
Improvers' Play	\$16.95
Intermediate Bridge	\$16.95
Intermediate Play Problems	\$16.95
Advanced: Uncontested	\$16.95
Advanced: Contested	\$16.95
Benjamin Twos	\$9.95
5-card flipper - Benjamin version	\$8.50
5-card flipper - Strong 2♣ version	\$8.50
Modern Standard flipper	\$8.50

Trumps Pamphlets (all \$2)

- 5-card Standard
- SAYC
- Negative Doubles
- Unusual Notrump
- Transfers
- 2♣ Checkback
- Michaels Cuebids
- Jacoby 2NT
- Roman Keycard Blackwood
- Bergen Raises
- Splinters
- Benjamin Twos
- Strong 2♣ & weak twos
- Multi 2♦ and RCO Twos
- Leads
- Counting Losers
- Bidding Mantras
- Card Play Mantras
- and more

Software :

Bridge Baron 28	\$89.95
Jack 6	\$89.95
BridgeMaster	\$69.95
Audrey Grant BridgeMaster	\$49.95

Most of these prices are rounded down if paid by cheque or cash. There is a much larger range of bridge books than can be listed here, so have a browse some time.

Timetable

Open Duplicates

	Morn	Aftern	Night
Mon	10.10	see Dup w-	talk
Tues	10.10 *	1.30 *	7.30 *
Wed	10.10*	1.30	7.30
Thurs	10	1.30 *	7.30 *
Fri	10*	1.30 *	7.30
Sat		1.30	

Red points 1.30pm Wednesdays.

* Duplicate with talk

Mon		1.20	7.15
Tues	10	1.20	7.20
Wed	10	1.15	7.15
Thurs	9.50	1.20	7.20
Fri	9.50	1.20	

Supervised

Mon	9.50	1.30	7.30
Tues	9.50		
Wed	9.50 ^{or lessons}		
Thurs	9.45		7.15
Fri	9.50	1.20 ^{or lessons}	
Sat	10am supervised play		

Supervised games start with a talk.

We run normal sessions on most public holidays, but there is a special program at year end and Good Friday / Easter.

Relaxed bridge 10.30am Tues at **RAC**, Circular Quay; 2pm Tues at **Baytree**, 6 Ulonga Rd Greenwich; 2pm Wed at **The Manors**, 6 Hale Rd, Mosman; and 9.30am Thurs at Monash Golf Club, Ingleside.

What's Trumps is mailed to our 1000 members and others four times a year.

Sample advertising rates:

Full page \$200, ½ \$120, ¼ \$75, eighth \$50; Insert (max A5 size) \$175. (10% off for members. Extra charge for colour, or to choose placement position.)

Website

www.trumps.net.au, for results & more.

Benefits

of Trumps membership

- A quarterly bulletin of news, views and tips
- Save \$3 on duplicate sessions at and lessons at Trumps
- Reciprocal membership rights at Social Bridge, Turrumurra, Killara & Narrabeen
- Special events for members
- 10% discount at Taste of India (under new management!)
- Members' phone book
- We pay your ABF fees if we are your home club (\$10 extra).

Rights and duties

- We cater for players of all levels
- Use the suggestion box in the main foyer
- Greet your opponents at the start of the round
- Let us know if you are available as a "fill-in" player, to be called in at the last moment (as our guest) if we are short
- Post mortems should never hold up play
- Support those who support bridge! *Australian Bridge* magazine (also in novice edition), www.RonKlingerBridge.com and the Bridge Shop. We recommend: Bendigo Bank (it supports the community – including bridge), Tran's Restaurant, A Taste of India, Sopranos, Thai Kanteen, Hayes St Wharf Bistro, Hotel Mosman, the Noodle Inn, The Dryleaf Cafe, and Baytree Greenwich.

Lessons

- Beginners' Play** **10am Wednesdays to 11 April.** Basic finesses 4 April; Basic second & third hand play 11 April. \$12/15 each.
- Improver training** **Thursdays 1.30pm to 12 April.** Consolidate with practical play and tips. \$12/\$15 per lesson. Derrick/Helena.
- Intermediate training** **Fridays at 10am 6, 13 April.** Practical play and tips on transfers, doubles etc. \$12/\$15 per lesson. With Derrick.
- Beginner lessons** **7.30pm Tuesdays from 8 May (to 5 June), or 1.30pm Thursdays from 10 May (to 7 June).** You know what a great game bridge is, so please spread the word to your friends. Five two-hour lessons. We run a special offer for beginners: \$99 for the course, including textbook, two free supervised sessions, and the joining fee for Trumps membership. Main teacher Derrick Browne.
- Benjamin Twos** **Thursdays 1.30pm, from 19 April.** Learn to handle your 2-level openings. 19 April = weak 2♥ & 2♠; 26 April = strong 2♦; 3 May = strong 2♣. With Derrick/Helena. Members \$12, visitors \$15 each.
- Improvers' Play** **2pm Wednesdays from 9 May (to 27 June).** Ruffing losers; Leads; Discarding losers; Second and Third hand play; Finessing; Signals; Holdup; Discards. Plus a bidding tip each week. \$12/\$15 per lesson, or \$85/\$105 for all eight weeks. With Derrick/Helena.
- Improver lessons** **Eight Thursdays at 7.30pm from 10 May.** Consolidate the basics and build confidence. Topics include decision-making, Stayman, suit openings and Blackwood; responder shifts; rebids; overcalls; doubles; preempts. There is also a card play tip each week. \$12/\$15 per lesson, or \$85/\$105 the lot.
- Advanced Uncontested** **Eight Fridays at 10am (to 12.30pm), 11 May to 6 July** \$12/\$15 per lesson. Advancing Standard 11 May; Key-card 18 May; Control Bidding 25 May; Jacoby 2NT 1 June; Splinters (8 June), Fourth Suit Forcing (15 June), (no lesson 22 June), Checkback (29 June), Responding to 1NT (6 July). Main teacher Derrick.