



Tuesday Night Tips

The Sydney Bridge Centre mini lesson

The Tuesday Night at City has developed its own vibe – a group of bridge enthusiasts playing a friendly competitive game with Phil Halloran and Martin Clear as the hosts. Phil organises the session to make sure there is no sit-out, and Martin continues to lead the group for bridge discussion after the session. He will pick an interesting hand from the face-to-face session for the Tuesday Tips column.

A Little Light Card-Reading

F2F at City – Tuesday Night 28th June 2022

1	♠ J765	Dir: N
	♥ 94	Vul: Nil
	♦ T54	
	♣ K653	
♠ A83	♠ KQT4	4
♥ KJ	♥ Q732	17 8
♦ Q976	♦ J3	11
♣ AQJ7	♣ 942	
	♠ 92	
	♥ AT865	
	♦ AK82	
	♣ T8	

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	2	1	1	3	3
W	2	1	1	3	3

Board 1 of the 28-June Tuesday night face-to-face game at the Sydney Bridge Centre saw an excellent example of how card-reading helps in Pairs play. South opened 1♥, a bid I approve of because it has the quick defensive tricks that some light openings lack, and which may cause partner dismay if the auction ends in no-trump or defence. West bid 1N, the Pairs bid - have stopper, bid no-trump. There was no further bidding, and North, having no good suit of his own, had no trouble finding the lead of the 9 of hearts.

South wanted to make sure his Ace fell on an honour, so he ducked; and declarer won the King. Declarer crossed to the ♠K and led ♣2. South wanted to show count, but it's a small mistake here: playing the ♣10 on the first round prematurely untangled the suit for declarer. North won ♣K, and led his other heart, and South was able to confidently play ♥A knowing the ♥J would drop under it. He then led ♥10 to knock out ♥Q, the final stopper in the suit (West and North each shed a diamond). Clearly to all at the table, South had set up two heart winners ready to cash.

Declarer now cashed the other three clubs (first the 9, then the Ace, then the Queen, discarding the heart from dummy), and South threw his two small diamonds. Declarer then tabled ♠A and (at trick 10) led a spade toward the Queen-Ten combination, with the option of finessing the Ten or going up with the Queen. Let's look at the consequences of getting this right or wrong.

Declarer has 7 tricks already in the bag (2 spades 2 hearts, and 3 clubs), and he has lost 2: a club and a heart. Once he loses the lead he will not regain it, as the opponents must be able to cash red winners for the remainder of the tricks. So if he chooses to rise with ♠Q to ensure scoring it, he makes nine tricks if it drops the ♠J, and eight if it does not. If instead he finesses ♠T, he makes 9 tricks if the finesse works, but only SEVEN if it fails. So there is a slightly greater potential loss for taking the finesse. Is there enough evidence for the finesse to outweigh this? There is indeed.

Is it as simple as "South had most of the hearts, so probably North has most of the spades", which works on the given lie of the cards? No, there's a much more certain result from counting. South has shown 5 hearts, 2 clubs, 2 spades and 2 (discarded) diamonds, but do his other two cards include the Spade Jack? Well, would YOU choose to make an opening bid with Jxx-AT8xx-Axx-Tx ... a fairly flat-shaped 9-count? To open the bidding, South's two unknown cards MUST have been the Ace and King of diamonds.

Declarer finessed and made 9 tricks, scoring 11 of the 12 matchpoints.

Martin Clear (SBC Tuesday Night host)

Australia Wide Open Pairs on Monday 29th August 2022



Our players really enjoyed the Australia Wide Novice Pairs held earlier this year. Here comes the Open Pairs version! The **SBC Australia Wide Open Pairs** will be held on **Monday 29th August** at **both City and Canada Bay**. Double masterpoints – **GREEN** for sessional results and **RED** for the nation-wide ranking.

\$18 for members (\$15 for concession members) / \$22 for visitors. A souvenir booklet of hand commentaries included.

No need to book in. Walk-ins and visitors are welcome. If you are looking for a partner, please contact office for match making.

F2F Friday Workshop is back!

We are as pleased as you are that Will is running his Workshops again. The Friday Workshops are filling up! Please book in early to avoid disappointment. The next workshop will be held in the City on:

- **Friday 9th September:** No-Trumps Systems and Bidding
- **More are being scheduled:** please keep an eye on the Sydney Bridge Centre website.

\$50 for member (both Sydney Bridge Centre and Strathfield Bridge Club members can enjoy the special rate) / \$55 for visitors. Please find the [details](#) on our website. [Booking](#) essential for catering purpose.

Sunday Funday on 14th August 2022



Our first Sunday afternoon game went well with 10.5 tables! We hope you enjoyed the classic cucumber sandwiches, cheese platter and everything makes a Sunday great. As requested by players the club will now run two Sunday Fundays each month, whenever the venue on Goulburn Street is available. The next few Sunday Fundays will be held on:

- Sunday 14th August 2022, 1.30pm - 4.30pm
- More are being scheduled! Please keep an eye on the SBC website

You don't need a partner. No need to book in, visitors and walk-ins are welcome. \$18 member (\$15 concession member) / \$22 visitor. Refreshment throughout play and join us for a glass at the end of the session.

Regular F2F and Online sessions at 3 venues

- F2F @ CITY -

- Monday morning 10.00am – 1.15pm, Open Inclusive
- Tuesday morning 10.00am – 1.15pm, Two Tiers Open Inclusive
- Tuesday night 7.15pm – 10.00am, Open Inclusive (booking in advance required, please contact office)
- Wednesday morning, 2 separate sessions – Intermediate/Open (9.45am – 1.15pm with a 15mins pre-game talk) and Beginners Supervised (10.00am – 12.30pm)
- Wednesday night 6.30pm – 9.30pm, Beginners Supervised
- Thursday morning 10.00am – 1.15pm, Open Inclusive

- F2F @ CANADA BAY -

- Monday morning 10.00am for 10.15am start – 1.30pm, Open Inclusive
- Wednesday afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm, Intermediate Supervised (1-hour lesson plus 2-hours game)
- Thursday morning 10.00am for 10.15am start – 1.30pm, Open Inclusive

Please find the details of [the session timetables](#) and find out [more about our venues](#) on our website.

- ONLINE @ BBO -

If you prefer to play online, there are regular club sessions on Thursday afternoon (1.45pm) and Saturday afternoon (1.45pm) on BBO. To join our online game, please follow this [step by step guidelines](#). BB\$4 for 24 boards.