



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.

Dead Dummy

F2F at City – Tuesday Night 23rd August 2022

14	♠ A64	<i>Dir:</i> E
	♥ AQ2	<i>Vul:</i> Nil
	♦ KQJ64	
	♣ AJ	
♠ K75	♠ JT98	21
♥ K95	♥ T4	13 1
♦ AT95	♦ 8732	5
♣ K42	♣ 653	
	♠ Q32	
	♥ J8763	
	♦	
	♣ QT987	

	♠	♦	♥	♣	NT
N	4	2	5	3	2
S	5	3	5	4	3
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Bridge is a game that is played by two hands of 13 cards versus another two hands of 13 cards. If one side is forced to play with only half the assets, they are at a severe disadvantage. With the dummy's assets visible on the table, it can pay the defenders - especially the defender sitting OVER the dummy - to examine the possibility of preventing the declarer from getting to the dummy at all. This precludes the declarer from cashing winners in the dummy, and also from leading toward finesse positions.

An example of this opportunity occurred on Board 14 of the 23-August Tuesday night face-to-face game at the Sydney Bridge Centre. At all tables, West opened the bidding with 1♦, but the various Norths used different

bidding sequences after that to describe the powerful 21-count with its length and best values in the suit already bid by the opponents. Double-and-pull-to-NT is a fairly standard system here, promising a balanced hand with a stopper, but stronger than the 15-18 count you should use for a direct 1N overcall (if you say that you use 15-17, I would question that ... you may use 15-17 for opening 1N and 20-22 for opening 2N, but when the opponents open first, you have to "close the gap" at 18-19, so it is best to put the 18s in 1N and the 19s in Dbl-then-NT).

East thankfully passed North's action, and South generally bid Hearts over a double. The bidding threads become murky after that, but the final contracts were usually in NT by North. The bidding to the Heart game requires South having the courage to make two bids on the 5-count, and North to keep the description phase of the bidding open long enough to find South has a fifth heart. Only one pair bid to game ... but in 3NT by North.

Against 3N, the opening lead was a diamond: perhaps not surprising given 4-card support for partner's opening bid, but with such a weak hand, I would prefer the solid ♠J. On the diamond lead, and in this position, it is actually better not to take the ♦A, and West actually found this - the ♦9 was played to the ♦K. North, the declarer, then led the ♣J and overtook with the ♣Q. This was won with the ♣K, and a small diamond was led back, won by ♦Q.

Declarer then led the ♥Q, and it is now that West should think about how declarer is planning to enter dummy to cash any developed winners in dummy's two long suits. If declarer started with AJx in clubs or even Jxx in clubs, declarer can always reach dummy to cash club tricks. But if declarer has AJ or Jx doubleton, the winners cannot be cashed. Declarer cannot enter dummy in diamonds (void), or spades (Queen sitting under the ♠K). So the only way declarer can get to dummy which the defenders can prevent is in Hearts ... and that means through the ♥J. West's ♥K has to be reserved for the trick that has the ♥J in it.

West instead put the ♥K on the ♥Q lead, and led another small diamond back. The roof then fell in as declarer won the ♦J, cleared the ♣A, and ♥A, and crossed to ♥J for an eventual 10 tricks. Ducking the ♥Q would have seen West thrown-in later after ♣A, ♥A, and a heart to ♥K. West should trust the analysis and play ♦A and a Diamond exit. North wins, and can cash all the diamonds, but ends with 1 spade trick, 2 heart tricks, 4 diamond tricks, and a club trick for a total of 8 tricks, falling one short ... while winners in two suits stand cut-off and forlorn in dummy. A

successful defence of the 3N contract would have earned the defenders 100% on the hand, but the 10 tricks actually conceded gave the defenders 0%. If you get the chance to kill the dummy, do so!

Martin Clear (SBC Tuesday Night host)

Sunday Funday on 25th September 2022



Sleep in on a Sunday and enjoy a relaxed game in the afternoon! 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 one, and hopefully two Sunday Funday's each month, whenever the venue on Goulburn Street is available. The next few Sunday Funday's will be held on:

- Sunday 25th September 2022, 1.30pm - 4.30pm

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.

F2F Workshops for different levels of players!

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 7th October:** Playing Easy Hands. Playing Hard Hands.
- **Saturday 8th October (Half Day ADVANCED):** Slam Bidding and Advanced Plays.
- **Friday 18th November:** Improve Your Overcalls and Competitive Bidding

\$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.

Regular F2F and Online sessions at 3 venues

- F2F @ CITY -

- Monday morning 10.00am – 1.15pm, Open Inclusive
- Tuesday morning 10.00am – 1.15pm, 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.