



## 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.

### In No-Trumps, Keep Creating Tricks

F2F at City – Tuesday Night 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023

<b>6</b>		♠ K54	Dir: E
		♥ 97	Vul: E-W
		♦ JT43	
		♣ KQ32	
♠ JT973	♠ A6		9
♥ AT2	♥ 863		10 8
♦ KQ92	♦ 865		13
♣ 7	♣ AT854		
	♠ Q82	♠ ♠ ♥ NT	
	♥ KQJ54	N 1 - 1 - 2	
	♦ A7	S 2 - 1 - 2	
	♣ J96	E - 1 - 1 -	
		W - 1 - 1 -	

One of the things I stress the most in discussing how to play Pairs bridge, is that it is never good enough to just cash the tricks that are available to you, unless those tricks are at risk. As long as you are not 'holed' - like a battleship that has been hit by a torpedo - you should be trying to develop tricks rather than cashing them. The bridge equivalent of being 'holed' is when the opponents have established a suit where they can cash winners if you give them the lead. You should try to be aware of how many winners they might cash, and if them cashing those tricks might mean that you don't get your own established tricks, THAT is the time you might have to cash out.

Pairs is different to IMPs scoring in that respect: in IMPs, you play to make the number of tricks required to make the contract, but in Pairs you often simply play for "as many as possible". One of the more common examples is the contract of 1NT. Often a bidding pair will work out they do not have a major fit, and they don't have quite enough points to consider the 3NT game, so an easy 1NT is played and the battle for overtricks decides the scores on the hand. It is in this situation that it is essential to continue developing winners instead of cashing out the 7 or 8 that are available by setting up your long suit. An example came up on Board 6 of the 17-January Tuesday night face-to-face game at the Sydney Bridge Centre.

North ended in 1NT (usual bidding: 1♥ by South, 1N by North) on all tables except the unfortunate pair who decided the 5-2 heart fit was safer (and got a 5-1 split which ruined them). Most Easts led a club to significant disappointment. Declarer should play the 9 from dummy on this lead. At our table, that opportunity was missed, however this at least put declarer on lead toward the ♥K, which won. Further hearts were played to knock out the ♥A, and the ♠J was played to the ♠A, and another spade to ♠K.

Established are 4 heart winners, 2 spades, a diamond and a club on the opening lead. Considering 8 tricks ample for 1NT, declarer crossed to ♦A and cashed out. The opponents took the rest with ♣A and two diamond honours.

When in with ♠K, there was no hurry to cash out the heart winners: declarer had control in every suit, and should simply have established another club trick. 8 tricks scored 120, and 58%; 9 tricks was worth 150 ... and 92% of the matchpoints.

Martin Clear (SBC Tuesday Night host)

### RED City Vs CBC on Australia Day 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 (Thursday)



**Both of our City and Canada Bay venues are open on Australia Day 26th January 2023 (Thursday).**

We are going to have an inter-venue competition that morning 10.00am – 1.15pm, both sessions will play the same hand, and we will combine the scores for an overall ranking!

**RED masterpoints.**

Normal table money fee. No need to book in. Walk-ins and visitors are welcome.