

Bridge Blog – 4 May

Bridge Summer Party

It is just four weeks until our summer party and I do hope many of you are planning to come. It is a less formal event than our Christmas party but just as enjoyable with a delicious buffet supper followed by fun Chicago bridge. The evening gets off to a good start with a glass of Pimms outside in our beautiful gardens. I'm confident the weather will be lovely too as we are not planning a BBQ this year! [Click here for more details](#)

Bridge Leagues

I am happy to report the following successes in two of our bridge leagues.

Our new 'development squad' (organised by Fiona Pollard), a scratch team who joined the Surrey Palace Bridge League this year, came third overall, which was very impressive for their first time playing in a league.

In the London Business Houses League, the Diamond team led by Malcolm Bricknell finished in second place in the first division, well done to them for a consistently strong performance.

Wednesday Morning Teaching

The new Wednesday morning teaching sessions are proving popular, and the feedback received is very positive. The sessions are standalone so members can sign up to attend individual classes.

Wednesday, 10am – 12pm £9 per session. Places are limited to 28 so please sign up on the Bridge Board in Reception before 4pm Tuesdays. [Click here for the syllabus](#)

Next Team Practice

Friday 17th May – please sign up on the Bridge Board in Reception.

If you are not glued to all things Coronation this weekend – here is an interesting hand from a Monday duplicate submitted by Danny Gesua.

Roehampton Duplicate: 24 April 2023 (Hand 18: *Hands rotated for convenience*)

4 Hearts by South: Lead: D7

	North	
	A 10 6 3	
	6	
	K Q 10 6 5	
	K 8 3	
West		East
Q 8 7 4 2		9 5
10 5		K J 4 2
7		A J 4 3
Q 9 6 4 2		J T 7
	South	
	K J	
	A Q 9 8 7 3	
	9 8 2	
	A 5	

On the lead of D7, the contract looks impossible. DA and a Diamond ruff and there appear to be 2 Heart losers, even though the finesse of the HQ is right.

However, Double Dummy (ie: seeing all 4 hands) 4H can be made! It is a classic Trump Reduction followed by a Throw-In of East. The sequence of Play is as follows:

D7	>>	DA	D3	>>	H5 (ruff)
C2	>>	CK	H6	>>	HQ (finesse)
CA	>>	C3	D8	>>	DQ
D10	>>	H7 (ruff)	SK	>>	S3
SJ	>>	SA	C8	>>	H3 (ruff)

These are the remaining H key cards:

	East
	K J 4
South	
A 9 8	

South leads the H8 to East's HJ. East is End-Played into leading away from his HK/H4 to South's HA/H9. East/West are held to 3 tricks: DA by East, D ruff by West and the HJ by East.

The interesting point is that the end play is automatic!! The remaining Hearts with East/West are K J 4. The HK is known to be with East (from the successful finesse).

The only options are :

	West	East
1.	J 4	K
2.	4	K J
3.	--	K J 4

So playing the H8 by South cannot cost in Options 1 and 2, and gains the end play outcome in Option 3.

Wishing you all a very Happy Coronation weekend!

Julie Bacon, Bridge Chair