

Bridge Blog

It's not starting to feel autumnal yet but as we head into the autumn, we look forward to a full programme of bridge events, matches, and teaching. Our big event of the year is the Roehampton Annual Swiss Teams which is always a well-attended and enjoyable event. If you haven't played in this before, do get a team together.

Roehampton Club Annual Swiss Teams – Sunday 23rd October 2023- 1.30pm

[Click here for more information](#)

Contact Belinda Stone to reserve your table at belindadweck@gmail.com

Special calendar events in September / October

Friday 22nd September Golf/Bridge vs Royal Mid-Surrey – Away

Thursday 28th September Bridge vs RAC Woodcote – Home

Thursday 12th October No Fears Handicap Trophy –7.30pm

Monday 16th October Bridge AGM – 5pm

Thursday 19th October Match vs All England for the Irene Hough Cup – Home

Sunday 22nd October Roehampton Annual Swiss Teams – 1.30pm

Thursday 26th October Ladies Match vs Hurlingham – Home

Autumn Teaching

Bookings are open for the following two bridge courses which restart from 11th September and 12th September respectively. Please sign up at Reception.

[Click here for Niall Igoe's classes](#)

[Click here for Tim Chanter's classes](#)

Niall's Wednesday morning standalone session will also restart on Wednesday 13th September and the syllabus has now been posted on the Bridge Board along with the sign-up sheet.

Loulou's supervised practice also returns Tuesdays at 2pm from 12th September.

We are also pleased to announce a new Bridge Beginners' course and a new member to the teaching team. James Thrower is a well-known Bridge professional and teacher, who not only holds a wealth of an experience but more importantly the ability to explain many parts of the game in a clear, understandable, and enjoyable manner. He has experienced various domestic tournament successes, as well as representing England internationally.

Our new course is open to all, with no previous card playing experience needed. The course is due to start on Tuesdays at 7pm from 19th September. [Click here for more information](#)

Here is an interesting hand from Bank Holiday Monday duplicate submitted by Danny.
Hand 1: Hands rotated for convenience.

4 Spades by South: Lead : DA

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

This is an interesting deal involving a squeeze. Usually, it is not clear that a squeeze will be available as it requires certain cards to be favourably placed. On this hand, it is possible to determine with a high degree of certainty where the key cards are and put the defender in question in an impossible situation.

After the DA lead, a switch to Clubs, and the SA by Declarer, it is good play to take an early finesse of the HJ, which is successful. Declarer now knows that the HK and DK are with West, and this sets the scene for a squeeze.

Declarer then finesses against the SQ (a 'restricted choice' situation after the SJ fell on the first round of Spades), draws the last trump, and plays King and Queen of Clubs. He can then ruff a Diamond back to hand and play his last two trumps (Spades).

When he plays his penultimate trump, these are the remaining key cards :

North

S --

H A 9

D Q

C 5

West

S --

H K 8

D K

C 10

South

S 9 8

H Q 7

D --

C --

West is caught in a Triple Squeeze! Declarer has three more winners (2 Spades and HA), and any discard allows Declarer to make a further trick:

If West discards the C10, declarer's C5 becomes a winner.

If West discards DK, declarer's DQ becomes a winner.

If West discards H8, the KH will drop on the HA, and the HQ becomes a winner.

MCC Mixed Swiss Teams Sunday 8th October at 11.15am

This is a 6 x 7-board match event played in two sessions in Swiss format. Each team of four must comprise at least one gentleman and at least one lady. The event is designed for amateur club players, not international experts or those who play at the very highest levels. The entrance fee is £140 per team, and this includes a sandwich lunch followed by dessert along with tea and coffee throughout the day.

Roehampton Club has been invited to submit a team, (possibly two teams), for this event so if you are interested, please e-mail me juliehbacon@outlook.com for further information.

Bridgewebs

In addition to this newsletter our Bridgewebs site includes up-to-date information, including the bridge calendar, duplicate results, teaching schedules, and other information.

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/roehamptonclub/>

The link can also be found under the Bridge section of Roehampton Club's internal webpages.

Julie Bacon, Bridge Chair