Melbourne Bridge Club

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#### Newsletter for week ending 24 September 2017

**North - South** **East - West**

Monday Day Sally Foster & Lesley Johnstone Terry Morrison & Elizabeth Neesham\*\*

Night John Osmond & Peter Head Elly Papas & Maria King

Tuesday Day Yvette Walsh & Pia Bengsten\*\* Jane Morris & Jenny Goodey

Night Jeff Pitt & Lester Steele John Enconniere & Mal Ramsay\*\*

Wednesday Betty & Tom Blom\*\* Lucy Zammit & Sandra Mansell

Friday Pippa Thornton & Liz Jones Florence Gibbons & Lesley Johnstone\*\*

Saturday Angela George & Suzy Narita Pippa Thornton & Pamela Hart

Hands of the week Monday 19 Sep Board 09 Dealer N E-W vul

**Decisions decisions**

♠ K52

♥ Q965

♦ 973

♣ 843

♠ 8 ♠ A109743

♥ 7 ♥ 32

♦ AJ1086 ♦ K42

♣ KQJ972 ♣ 105

♠ QJ6

♥ AKJ1084

♦ Q5

♣ A6

N E S W

- - 1♥ 2NT

3♥ ?? ?? =

After two passes South opens 1♥. West has 10 HCP and 5-6 in the minor suits – a perfect opportunity for an “Unusual” 2NT overcall.

North has 5 HCP, insufficient for a response however, with 4 trumps including the Queen, North should bids 3♥ using the Law of Total Tricks. Another reason for bidding 3♥ is an endeavour to intimidate East into not bidding. Therefore should North have raised to 4♥?

East is in a real quandary. They have only 7 HCP which, if West has only 10 means that the opponents hold the majority of the points. However look at East’s distribution and high cards. From the 2NT bid East knows that West has at the most 3 cards in the majors. Having 2 hearts means that West has at the most 1 heart, and the A♠ will cover one of West’s losers in that suit. The other card – the K♦ is invaluable, therefore East should enter the bidding (even though vulnerable against not).

Over 4♦ the next decision is whether or not South should bid 4♥. The answer is probably, even though South can see their hand as having 5 losers (two off = -100 against -130 if 4♦ makes). If South bids 4♥ will West compete with 5♦? Probably not as it is Vulnerable against Not-Vulnerable.

The next **Red point events** will be held on Tuesday 3rd October at 7.30 pm and Saturday 30th September 1.00 pm. All welcome!

NOTE: there will be bridge as usual on Friday 29th September (Grand Final Public Holiday) and Saturday 30th September.

**Sandra and Ian**