Melbourne Bridge Club

MCC Kew 397 Barkers Rd Kew 3101

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Website: [www.melbournebridge.com.au](http://www.melbournebridge.com.au)

Directors: Ian Mansell Sandra Mansell

Newsletter for week ending 27 Jan 2019

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

Monday Day Janet Reynolds & Peter Cork\*\* Suzy Narita & Deidre Kerr

 Night Susan Moore & Christine Urdevics Julie Wilkins & Lorraine Ellingham

Tuesday Day Margot O’Brien & Mim Blomquist Lesley Johnstone & Ronda Cross

 Night John Barnes & Allan Mawdesley Carolyn Hart & Denise Rozner\*\*

Wednesday Sandra Mansell & John Arnold Radu Bosaru & Lee Tiepermann

Friday Ronda Cross & Jennifer Jones Terry Morrison & Rita Cally\*\*

Saturday Cynthia Brinkman & Tim Angley Sally Marshall & Mary Church\*\*

Hand of the week Friday 18 Jan Board 03 E-W vul Dealer S

**Defence!!!**

 ♠ 1093

♥ K54

 ♦ A2

 ♣ A10852

♠ 7642 ♠ KJ5

♥ 109863 ♥ AJ7

♦ QJ9 ♦ 10854

♣ K ♣ 743

 ♠ AQ8

 ♥ Q2

 ♦ K763

♣ QJ96

 N E S W

 1♦ -

2♣ - 3♣ =

One of the weakest parts of our bridge is our defence! We tend to concentrate on our Declarer play – yet forget that we will be defending twice as many hands as we will play as Declarer.

As a Defender, we should be thinking carefully: what is Declarer planning, what are the honour cards in Declarer’s hand: **and what are the honour cards in partner’s hand; and, as a corollary, how can we avoid giving this information to Declarer?**

The following happened to twice in the last week. I won’t go into the bidding except to say that we *should have been in 3 No trumps or in 6*♣, but weren’t (and no blame is attributable to my partner)!

The 10♦ was led, won by the King in Dummy. The Q♣ was played, followed by two more rounds of clubs. What should West discard? The **correct answer** is two small hearts. The **incorrect answer** is two small spades (as they are useless!). West should stop and think: “With the ♠AQ8 in Dummy, if Declarer has the KJ♠ then they will take three tricks. But what if my Partner has those two cards? Then, by discarding two small spades I have revealed that I don’t have the KJ♠ and therefore Declarer can finesse my Partner for these cards and will end up with 12 tricks. So, in order to NOT REVEAL the whereabouts of the KJ♠ I will NOT DISCARD a small spade!” Is that how you think when Defending?

The next **Red Point events** will be Tuesday 5th February and Saturday 23rd February.

**Beginners Classes** will commence on Thursday 22 February at 12.30 pm. These lessons will be repeated at 7.30pm. The classes last for 9 weeks and cost $180. Contact Ian Mansell on 0417 095 921 for further details.

**Sandra and Ian**