

June 30, 2018  
 Courier-Mail Bridge Column by Tony Jackman

Much major bridge action recently has been out of town. Two weeks ago, the Mackay Bridge Club celebrated its Golden Anniversary with an open teams event. A good field entered with plenty from all over the state coming to join the celebration – and share the spoils. Victory - and a good unbeaten one – went to a mixed local and Brisbane lineup – V. Holbrook N. Bugeia and P. Collins/ I Afflick. A Rockhampton team (M. Allan, D. Cameron, K. Cupples/ M. Duggan) took silver while the bronze stayed at home with A&F. Brown, J. Hansen/ P. Morgan. Gold Coast Congress convenor Tim Runting took a team up and (discreetly? ) settled for the B grade trophy.

Then, not quite as far – but perhaps almost – was last weekend’s Goondiwindi Open Pairs. Again, a diverse field, from all over the south – east, lined up. This time too, there was a big victory Alison Dawson/ Elizabeth Zeller finished well clear of B&J. Whitmee then C. Snook/ B. Hartwig. Here, B grade honours went to V. Davidson/ R. Weinand. Congress distances are shortening – next Sunday the Lockyer will host its annual Open Pairs. It’s always a great event – well worth the trip.

E Dealer, N/S Vul

	<b>NORTH</b>		
	a QJ76		
	© Q1074		
	.. A76		
	§ Q5		
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
a A1082		a 943	
© 6		© 5	
.. KQ1082		.. J9543	
§ KJ10		§ 8432	
	<b>SOUTH</b>		
	a K5		
	© AKJ9832		
	.. -		
	§ A976		
<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>
		Pass	1H
Pass	2NT	Pass	6H (ends)
All Pass			

Today’s hand is from ‘Planning the Play’ a great new Seagram/Bird text aimed at post-beginners keen to improve. North’s 2NT was Jacoby, showing four trumps, and game-forcing values. ‘Enough for slam- 6H’ said South. DK was led. Those declarer’s who grabbed DA found no way home. Duck in dummy and ruff in hand. HA then S5. West is now caught in a ‘Morton’s Fork” Whatever he does is fatal. If he ducks, SQ wins and SK is discarded on DA leaving only one club loser (the others are ruffed in dummy). If West rises SA, later SQ, SJ and DA allow all the small clubs to be pitched from hand – beautiful.