Ipswich Club Newsletter March 2023

Hello Club Members,

It's been a hotter-than-Hades summer but the cooler weather is just around the corner. News from the Ipswich Pipe Band hall is that the air conditioning arrived a bit late so the work will take an extra week. It is expected that the first day back for us will be Thursday, March 30th. Garry will keep us updated.

Here is a flyer for the Gold Coast Bridge Congress for 2024 for those organised people who plan ahead.



I have emailed members an entry form for the congress below...

QBA NOVICE CONGRESS 2023 MATCHPOINT SWISS PAIRS being held at Sunnybank Bridge Club (An approved QBA red point congress played under QBA Regulations) Sunday 7th MAY 2023 (9am for 9.30am start).

... and here is a flyer for the QBA Festival of Bridge.



ABF ENDORSED

QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

2023 QBA FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE



SATURDAY 7TH -**MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER**



[for the Reg Busch Trophy] THREE SESSIONS OF SWISS TEAMS





THREE SESSIONS OF SWISS PAIRS

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

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Here is a defence to 1NT you might find interesting and useful. (Taken from https://www.bridgebum.com/meckwell_defense_to_1nt.php) I've only copied the defence to a strong 1NT opener because that is what most people play in our club. Just click on the link if you would like to look at the weak NT defence.

Meckwell Convention - Defence to 1NT

Experts Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell invented the following defence structure against 1NT. It differs from other popular defences in several ways, notably by:

Accounting for both weak and strong 1NT openings.

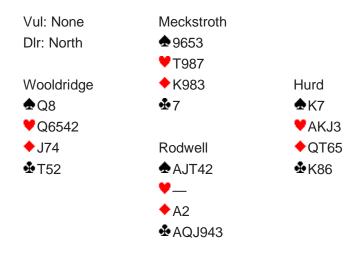
 Using 2♥ and 2♠ as entirely natural. Evidently Meckwell prefer the competitive value of showing major single-suiters immediately rather than employing these bids as two-suiters.

Against a Strong 1NT

Overcall	Meaning
Double	One of the following (relay to 2♣): Clubs Diamonds Both majors A good 2♠ overcall or other good hand¹
2♣	Clubs and a major. Advancer can pass or correct.
2◆	Diamonds and a major. Advancer can pass or correct.
2♥	Natural.
2♠	Natural.
2NT	Both minors OR a strong hand with both majors. Presumably advancer normally picks a minor, and overcaller can correct to 3♥ with the majors.

Examples

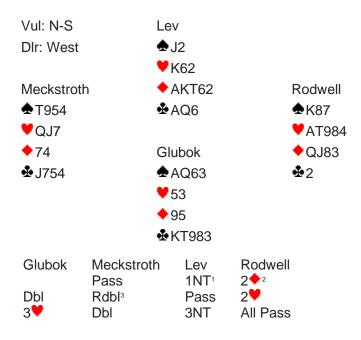
The following examples illustrate Meckwell playing their own invention. These first three deals come from the 2012 Grand National Teams.²



Rodwell	Wooldridge	Meckstroth	Hurd
		Pass	1NT¹
Dbl^2	2♥	Pass	3♥
4♥ ³	Pass	4♠	All Pass

- 1. Strong 1NT
- 2. A "good" hand that's too strong for a 2♣ overcall, which could get passed
- 3. Presumably Michaels

Meckstroth ended up making an overtrick.



- 1. Strong 1NT
- 2. Diamonds and a major
- 3. SOS, denying diamond tolerance

3NT went down one for -100.



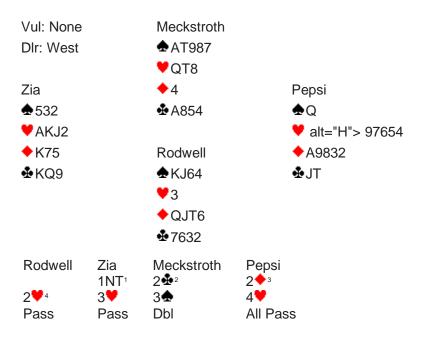
♣AKQJT

Compton	Rodwell 2 ⁴ ·2	Bramley	Meckstroth
1NT ¹		Pass	2♣³
3 ♣ All Pass	4♠	5♣	Dbl

- 1. Weak 1NT
- 2. Spades with either clubs OR hearts
- 3. Correcting to spades

Chris Compton attempted an offbeat 1NT before clarifying his hand later. This left Bart Bramley with a difficult decision at favorable vulnerability. 5♣-X went down 3 for -500.

This last deal comes from the 2018 United States Bridge Championships.3



- 1. Strong 1NT
- 2. Clubs and a major
- 3. Transfer to hearts
- 4. Some type of fit-showing "cue-bid"

Against 4♥, Meckwell took one trick in each suit for +100.

References

- 1. ClaireBridge. Meckwell Convention Card.
- 2. ACBL. 2012 Grand National Teams Results.
- 3. USBF. 2018 United States Bridge Championships Results.