

## Novice News by Stephen Bennett

Last weekend, at the Toowong Novice Imp Pairs, QCBC swept the board with wins in all categories.

Debbie Carroll & Jacinta Lee won the under 10 points category.

Chris Bolger & Lorraine Moulds won the under 50 points category.

Jane Whelan & Robyn Chippindall won the under 100 category.

Congratulations to all our winners.

One of the more interesting boards from the event came just after lunch;

BOARD 3					
BD: 3	♠J432				Dir: S Vul: E-W
	♥T987				
	♦96				
	♣JT8				
♠AKQ9					♠
♥AKQ542					♥J
♦T					♦AKQJ852
♣93					♣AKQ65
	♠T8765				
	♥63				
	♦743				
	♣742				
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	7	7	7	5	7
W	7	7	7	5	7
					2
				18	20
					0

The first challenge for West was to decide between opening 2 clubs or 1 heart. Clearly 2 clubs was the better bid with only 3 losers in hand. East then had to decide how to respond. I heard at one table

their response was 7 diamonds after partner opened 2 clubs. How simple bridge can be at times. Most pairs made much heavier weather of the bidding. One example of this was West opening 1 heart, East responding 2 diamonds, West deciding to show their hearts again bidding 3 hearts and East bidding 5 diamonds. Of the 15 tables, 2 found grand slam in diamonds, 5 found slam in diamonds, NT's and hearts and 8 tables only managed to find game on this beautiful hand.