



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

June-July 2016

Vol 30 No 3

From the President



HERE we are already in June. Our 30th birthday party has been and gone when you read this (more on p3 - ed). In June we had a successful congress and Sunday play began in May.

Again the congress was very well organised and well supported by donations of baked sweets and cash to buy tasty goodies, which were all very much appreciated by players who attended the two days. I thank everyone for their efforts and support. I make a special mention of Rosemary who has put in so much effort, time and passion in organising the congress.

The Sunday play is struggling to get enough players. We have set ourselves a year to get sufficient numbers. I thank Dawn for giving her time and passion to be the Director on Sunday and Lorraine for her assistance.

We celebrated Sid Cantamessa's 90th birthday in June with a cake. We wish Sid a healthy and happy Bridge time for the future. We hope to see Sid still around for a long time playing Bridge for free.

I would like to remind all members that one of the requirements for playing bridge is to have a

system card. Blank cards can be purchased at the club or printed out from the ABF website.

We had our entry door fixed by the BCC so we can enter the building again freely and in case of emergency leave out the back doors. We are still waiting for a date when the building itself will get levelled. Our parking problems will continue when more clubs attend at the sports-fields at the same time. I will try to get in contact with the council ward representative to discuss this issue.

Sponsors are important for our club. I ask anybody who has ideas about getting sponsors to get in contact with the committee. We have a donation of 200 ballpoint pens from The Professionals real estate company which will give us a start using those for bidding instead of pencils in the near future.

If someone knows how to get free advertising or publicity please contact Phil Chappel.

On Saturday 7th of July we start our free lessons again for 9 weeks. If you know someone that might like to learn, please have them contact one of the committee members.

I wish you happy Bridging and if you have anything you wish to discuss with me please get in contact.

Robert van Beest (President)

Director's Corner

REMOVING AND REPLACING CARDS

CARDS should not be removed from the board until at least one player from each side is present. This also applies to a sit-out pair – they must not remove the cards from boards on the sit-out table.

Cards must be shuffled before being returned to the board.

CLAIM BY DECLARER

When a claim is made by Declarer, they must state their proposed line of play.

This should make mention of any outstanding trumps (e.g. “drawing trumps”), and how they plan to travel between hands if relevant.

A careless or incomplete claim may cost you tricks that you would otherwise make.

Claims should be made where possible – it is discourteous to continue play when the outcome is certain.

SECRET AGREEMENTS

Your systems and methods must be transparent. Your opponents are entitled to know everything about your bids and plays that you partner does.

This includes system agreements as well as matters of style, and also any agreed temporary departure from the system.

All players must have systems cards, and opponents are entitled to ask questions of the player’s partner about bids or plays, and are entitled to a full answer.

DECEPTION

You cannot attempt to deceive an opponent except in your bids and cards played.

This includes things like deliberating for a few seconds before playing a singleton to make an opponent think you have a choice of cards to play, or hesitating when an opponent is finessing through you in order to make them think you have the missing honour.

Bridge is not poker – bluffing is not allowed.

EXPLANATIONS

When explaining a bid, explain it fully. Don’t just state the convention name.

e.g. don’t just explain a Michael’s bid as “Michaels”. State “Michaels, showing 5/5 in the other major and a minor, less than an opening hand”.

Don’t explain your partner’s bid unless asked by an opponent.

Val Cran (Director)

Tony’s Tip

(Responding To Partner's Overcall by Using a Cue Bid)

A note about cue bids generally.

Bidding the opponents' suit is a useful bid. Most are familiar with Michaels cue bid. A cue bid can

also be used to indicate a strong hand asking partner to continue to further describe his hand.

Bidding the opponent's suit can also be useful after the opposition have overcalled your bid, and you would like to know if your partner has a stopper in the opponent's suit enabling the bid of No Trump.

Partner's overcall and your response

Given that an overcall may range from 8 to 16 points you have little to go on to make a proper response.

Generally overcalls are weakish (8-11) with only one biddable 5-card suit. If you support the suit you are merely offering 3-card support but no indication of strength.

However if you are reasonably strong (a good 10+ points) a game is possible if partner is in the higher range 14-15 or weak 16. So you need a bid that will indicate to partner that you have some strength and force him to bid again to indicate if his hand is weak or strong.

The solution is to bid the opponent's opening suit- a cue bid. This forces partner to further describe his hand. Even if this takes the bidding to the 3 level your combined strength should be sufficient to play there. If not it may cure partner from making ridiculously weak overcalls.

Say partner overcalls:

Op 1...Partner	Op2	You
1♥	1♠	pass
		2♥

Your 2♥ cue of the opposition's suit tells partner you have 3 card support for spades and a good 10+ points. Forcing him to further describe his hand.

There is an exception to having 3-card support (there are always exceptions in bridge!).

Say you hold a very good hand of your own with stops in the opposition's suit and are thinking of No Trumps. You might have a chance of game if partner is at the higher range 13-15. So cue bid first, then bid NT at the appropriate level depending if he is weak or strong.

Responding to partner's cue bid.

When partner makes a cue bid after your overcall it is 100% forcing on you to respond. Show your strength as follows:

Weak (8-11)

- * bid at the lowest level in the suit you overcalled or

- * bid a second suit *provided* it is below the overcalled suit. e.g. 1♠ - 2♦.

Strong (12-15)

* with a second 4-carded suit, jump bid that suit

* with **no** second 4-carded suit, and **with** stop(s) in the openers suit, bid NTs at the lowest level. The NT bid by itself denotes a strong hand.

* with **no** 4-carded suits and **no** stop(s) in the opponents suit, jump bid your overcalled suit.

Example

The dealer on your left opens with 1♣.

Partner overcalls 1♥. Any of the following hands could have made such an overcall:-

1. ♠ J83 ♥ AQ865 ♦ J10954 ♣ 2 (8HCP)
2. ♠ AJ2 ♥ KQJ93 ♦ K3 ♣ 853 (14 HCP)
3. ♠ 8 ♥ KQJ52 ♦ K964 ♣ A52 (13 HCP)

The first hand is typical for a one level overcall in hearts.

The next two hands are nice but the wrong shape for a take out double.

Response by overcaller to partner's cue bid of 2♣:

With hand 1 bid 2♦ (weak with a second suit ranked below the overcalled suit).

Hand 2, bid 3♥. No second suit, strong. We can venture 4♥.

Hand 3, jump to 3♦ (5,4 and strong). Partner will sign off in 4♥.

Tony Agar

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31st May 2016

Graduate Master	Trevor Gynther Olivia Jackson
Club Master	Yvonne Zande Margaret Gagen
Local Master	Penny Baker Mike Le Voi
*Local Master	Norma Hansen
**Local Master	Marian Arnold Maureen Pascoe
Regional Master	Janet McPherson Odette Valmas Robert van Beest
State Master	John Hull
Bronze Life Master	Barbara Holmes

Robert Matthew (MP Sec)

Arana's 30th Birthday

MEMBERS packed the clubhouse Saturday morning for a lavish morning tea, followed by Bridge. Around noon lunch goodies were available and players could graze between table changes. After play ended, wine and beer joined the food and punch, and the party atmosphere resumed. A large birthday cake was cut and a 30th birthday display table was at the back of the room.

President Robert thanked all those who had helped make the day, notably Lorraine Steele for her organisation and all those members who had brought so much lovely food and nibbles.

Judy Valentine was a special guest and Neil and Frances Orford were also present. See the article below for Neil's memories of the club beginnings.

Some photos from Saturday's party are on the following page. Owen Marks took many photos on the day and these will be on the club's Facebook page. Look for them! There was a great photo of a table groaning under the load of copious goodies, but it would have needed a full page pic to do it justice.

The Beginning – Some Recollections from Neil Orford, an Inaugural Member of the ACBC

The evening classes at Stafford Heights State School were twofold in purpose for me. Firstly to take that next step beyond being complete beginners (my wife Frances and I had sat and read a Bridge for Beginners Book together!) and secondly to find others with whom we could establish a regular social game of Bridge in order to improve.

Judy Valentine was the teacher. The name meant nothing to me then! Towards the end of the classes Judy suggested that 3 or 4 of us progress from the school sessions to her house for some extra play and this became regular, with a neighbour Kevin Simpson joining us too. It wasn't long before Judy suggested, what I suspect had for some time been formulating in her mind, that we start a club. I'm sure it was partly to get us out of her lounge room every Tuesday night since none of us would miss the opportunity to play or benefit from more of her Bridge wisdom each week. We were hooked!

Bob Scott, a lovely man was nominated president, myself secretary and so we began in 1986. We found the old Memorial Hall at Enoggera was available for play and Judy got her lounge back but not her time.

The hall was noisy and old and while great as a starting point was not going to be suitable long-term. At this time the Pine Shire was building a community centre at Lesley Patrick Park and we were eventually allocated one night a week to play there and a storage cupboard in the lock-up garage underneath, to put tables, cards etc in. Each week we would arrive and set up the club and tidy it all away at the end of the night. Lessons from Judy continued, membership grew and we were allocated cupboard space upstairs and extra time-slots in the hall for play. Our lives took another turn and for many years we did not play but each year for the past thirty I did endeavour to pay my membership and now we are back playing fairly regularly again in the best club in Brisbane. The rest as they say, is history.

Neil Orford



Judy Valentine at the Party



The Birthday Cake

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 Contributions may be by email (preferred) or by placing a note in the ideas box at the clubhouse

From Our Sponsor

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