



# ARANA

## *Contract Bridge Club Inc*

---

August 2002

Vol 16 No 8

---

### **From the President....**

At the last committee meeting, there was a general feeling that the club is doing well. Finances are healthy, attendances have been very strong, and membership is growing at a solid rate. We are all very pleased with the attendance of 41 at the latest beginners course, and with the number of people who volunteered to act as dealers for the new dealing machine. The property management function is settling down well. However, as always some new issues continue to arise:-

The committee was confronted with the unpalatable fact that the final result for the congress was a significant loss. While this loss was more than covered by the healthy profit from the associated raffle, most of the raffle tickets were sold to members who did not attend the congress. Basically, congress competitors were being subsidised by non-competitors. Initially, when we had early estimates of a razor-thin congress profit the committee thought that we could run the risk of trying the current format for another year. When confronted with the loss, the committee voted unanimously to change the format for 2003. The new format will have a pairs tournament on one day of the weekend and a teams event on the other.

Reasons for the demise of the old two-day format, which has been abandoned by nearly all clubs, include:-

- The entry cost of \$96 per pair is regarded as too high, and would probably have to increase for next year.
- Country competitors are confronted with accommodation costs.
- Many experts dislike the two-day format, with a qualifying round, as a waste of time.
- Entry cost can be reduced if a BYO lunch option is available.

The other issue concerns the implementation date for the dealing machine. There have been three separate issues affecting this implementation date:-

- While we originally planned to implement the dealing machine at least six months after starting up the clubrooms, there were GST advantages in buying the machine before 30<sup>th</sup> June.
- It was becoming difficult to buy Windows 98-based products, but there was doubt that the dealing machine would run on more current operating systems such as Windows 2000-Professional and Windows XP. Eventually the agents for the dealing machine advised that their software would run on anything but XP. (They did not realise that 2000 Professional was very similar to XP). We bought our new computer with 2000 Professional installed and found the dealing software will not run. It has since been established that a modernised version of the dealing software will be available within a matter of months, and the simplest method of dealing with the problem is to borrow an old Windows 98 machine in the interim. Robert and Rosemary Matthew have kindly lent us their old computer, and the dealing software runs perfectly on it. We may have to borrow or buy another - for about \$250-\$400 if the upgraded software is delayed.
- The dealing machine under test worked intermittently but would not feed the cards reliably. It has been fixed by the agent in Sydney, and is being returned with details of the 'glitches' involved. In the meantime, we have withheld payment for the machine.

These issues have resulted in some interesting email exchanges between us, the Sydney agent, and technical support from Jannersten in Sweden, the dealing machine manufacturer. While the machine may well be working under test within a



them be able to overruff and return a trump, that reduces South's trump holding by only one.

Let's continue with South trumping a heart. Both follow and then a spade is played from the dummy. South ruffing with the ♣9. Even if West does overtrump and return a club, South still has sufficient trumps to complete the crossruff.

If South plays a trump at the interval, West can win and return a second trump. In a matter of seconds, four of declarer's trumps will have been played and it doesn't matter how South continues, he will be short of winners.

High-card crossruffs can function when one is missing the ace of trumps as long as declarer can afford one trump return. Here, should South play a club, the contract will fail whether clubs divide 5-0 or 4-1.

It is true that the lead of the ♣A and another club lead would have defeated the slam.

### ***SENIORS MOMENT***

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards. One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said "Now don't get mad at me... I know we've been friends for a long time... but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is." Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"



### **LIBRARY LINES**

by Ilene Bishop

Arana Bridge Club Librarian

According to Bridge Plus, "The ability to reconstruct the hidden hands is one of the main differences between the ordinary player & the expert." Thus, Albert Dormer in his book "**Dormer on Deduction**" (D14) works to this end.

He is convinced that deduction ie. the process of working out what must logically follow from facts already known or assumed, is what gives bridge players their greatest satisfaction. The

following is quoted from Part 1 of Dormer's book.

To profit from our deductive powers we must constantly ask ourselves why the other players have done what they have done or not done what they might have done. This book is designed to encourage such an inquiring habit of mind.

In most of my hands the reader is invited first to make a suitable deduction, which is usually the more challenging part of the problem, and then to act on it. When a principle of wide application arises, this is stated in italic type.

Everyone agrees that in bridge, concentration is the name of the game; and yet, in the process of looking for clues and drawing deductions, a certain random quality of mind can be an asset. The grey cells ought not to be directed too narrowly before all the clues have been assembled. The person whose mind nibbles at everything and masters nothing is the target of advertisements for self-improvement courses, but he is also the person who, when faced with a bridge problem, may hit upon the needle of relevance in the haystack of useless information.

Bridge should be played for enjoyment and I hope this book will enhance the reader's pleasure in the most cerebral part of this fascinating game. But winning is more fun than losing, so the book is strongly oriented towards advice of practical value in common situations.

Well, I certainly have that random quality of mind, some days more than others, but I am still searching for many of those needles of relevance. Hopefully, this book might assist me and perhaps you.



### **"Unmistakable Hesitation"**

As used in Law 16A, suggests a clear distinction from situations in which a player has taken time to consider his options, perhaps in a complex or unusual auction, before taking decisive action, even if that action is to pass.

It's not just a question of there having been unmistakable hesitation (UH or perhaps Uh!), it needs to be an UH that "may suggest a call or

play” eg slow penalty doubles which suggest bidding (their first cousins are emphatic or fast take out doubles that scream “pass”).

There is a third component to redress after UH. Partner may not choose from among logical alternative actions one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the UH (demonstrable: capable of being shown or logically proved).

It is important to realize that bidding skill or partnership understanding may not be sufficient to justify a call. Claims along these lines may be seen as self-serving. Directors will consider what the majority of people playing in the event would call in an even tempo auction using the same methods. They are encouraged to consult with others to get as accurate a ruling as possible so if you see a huddle of directors this may be what they are discussing.

**Jan Peach - QBA Bulletin May - June 2002**

*All in the Same Breath*

Declaring a notrump contract, Jim received a helpful spade lead from his LHO and called for a low spade from the dummy. The king appeared on his right covered by... the queen? In a flash, aghast at his mistake, Jim scooped up the lady, put her back in his hand, and played the ace. The director was called, but Jim was ready for him. Questioned about his delayed play of the ace, Jim coyly declared “But I played it in the same breath.”



**Queensland  
Government**  
Getting more people  
active through sport  
and recreation

The **Queensland Government** provided \$263,900 to the Arana Contract Bridge Club for the development of the Ferny Grove Sports and Recreation Centre to get more Queenslanders active through sport and recreation.



**Important Phone Numbers –**

**Clubhouse Phone Number (07) 3851 - 0299**

President – Bob Dancer – 3300-3414

Vice-President – Gay Hull – 3300-2444

Secretary – Geoff Gulley – 3851-3687

Treasurer – Warren Holmes – 3300-6654

Partner Contact – Betty Willson – 3355-2519



**Important Dates**

- 25 Aug – Sunday BBC Swiss Pairs
- 31 Aug – Saturday Warwick Spring Pairs
- 1 Sept – Sunday Sunshine Coast Teams
- 2 Sept – Monday Arana Pairs (wk 1)
- 7-8 Sept – Sat/Sun Toowong Teams
- 9 Sept – Monday Arana Pairs (wk2)
- 14-15 Sept – Sat/Sun QCBC Festival Congress
- 15 Sept – Sunday Townsville Teams
- 16 Sept – Monday Arana pairs (wk3)



**MitchellBrandtman**

Quantity Surveyors & Construction Cost Managers

*...is pleased to be involved in the development of the*

**Ferny Grove Bridge Club**

Mitchell Brandtman has 31 years experience in providing innovative cost solutions to the construction industry.

Mitchell Brandtman's Asset Services Division advises investors on maximising returns on property investments using effective **tax depreciation schedules**.

For information on how you can maximise the return on your property investments contact Maoibh Cumming at Mitchell Brandtman on

**1800 808 289**

Email: [bne@mitbrand.com](mailto:bne@mitbrand.com)

Internet: [www.mitbrand.com](http://www.mitbrand.com)

BRISBANE  
MELBOURNE  
PERTH  
SYDNEY  
BANGKOK