



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

December 1999

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Editor's desk

HAVING produced about half of the 13 volumes of the Trump•It, it is time to move on. If anyone wants the editor's job, the committee would be happy to hear from you. Please support the new editor by providing useful snippets of news and bridge articles.

The new year heralds the AGM and the age old request for committee members. Several other jobs – apart from Trump•It editor – need filling. Let a committee member know if there's anything you are interested in.

Given the increasing numbers on Monday, the committee added a handicap winner to the pairs competition won by Peter Van Eden and Bill Law. Results were all very tight with Penny Barrs and Dot Cain (and substitute Carol Wilson) narrowly beating G Cruice & P Smythe and P & J Andrew.

The pairs championships and Aust-wide/ Qld-wide pairs highlighted a shortage of boards (pre-set and/or duplicated). We should have several sets but a couple seem to be missing. If any members have borrowed sets, please return them.

Normally, I wouldn't mention the Northern Suburbs club championship but since it was won this year by Arana President Val Acklin and partner Di Wilkinson, maybe just this once. The Annual General Meeting is now scheduled for 9:00 am Tuesday 1 February 2000.

Richard McLauchlan

Hundred's club

MEMBERS who played at least one hundred sessions this year include:

Jenny Lewis	John Willson
Albert Lewis	Betty Willson
Joan Hill	Margaret Golden

Management committee

ITEMS of interest from the meeting of 23 November:

Arana web site material has been sent to the QBA for approval.

The Committee will ensure that play finishes closer to the race start on Melbourne Cup day next year.

A request to purchase a new set of boards was approved.

A copy of the QBA history *Mind Games* will be purchased for the library.

The general account balance is \$4,345 with the investment account balance at \$176,666.

We have not yet received a reply from the BCC regarding the clubhouse funding application.

The date for lodgement of the State Government grant application has been extended to February 2000. Discussions with Geoff Wilson (State Member), Pauline Shafer (a representative for Bob Gibbs, Minister of Sport) and the manager of Sports and Recreation indicated we should not be concerned that our project may not proceed prior to 30 June 2000 (to minimise GST) as their new funding arrangements should compensate for any price increases.

We would also qualify for a State Government gaming grant of about \$15,000, which could be used for fit out.

Forest Place provided another box of bidding slips.

The 2000 AGM is to be held at 9 am on the 1st February 2000.

A decision about classes/ teaching was deferred until the club house is clarified. The QBA has not fully distributed its teaching grant from the State Government and the secretary is to enquire whether we can participate.

Dates for 2000.

AGM: Tuesday 1 February (9:00 am)

Red Points: Mon-Tue-Wed 6-7-8 March
 Mon-Tue-Wed 21 -22-23 August
 Pairs: Mon 4-11 September
 Tue 10-17 October
 Wed 1-8 November
 Congress: Sat-Sun 3-4 June (Gaythorne RSL)
 Teams: GNOT Wed 3-10-17 May
 Tue 13-20-27 June
 Wed 12-19-26 July

Forest Place Day: Mon 26 June
 Australian Wide Pairs: Wed 25 October
 Queensland wide pairs: Wed 29 November

The Forest Place Club Appreciation Award will be presented to Richard McLauchlan for outstanding service to the club over an extended period of time.

The secretary will take over name tag preparation. Members to be canvassed for a Trump•It editor.

New members: Robert and Rosemary Matthew.
Ernie Harris (sec)

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members:

State

Deborah Dwyer

Jenny Lewis (MP sec)

Etiquette

THE three parts of rule 74 cover conduct and etiquette. Part A is on *Proper Attitude*, part B on *Etiquette*, and part C on *Violations of Procedure*. The following are considered violations of procedure.

1. Using different designations for the same call (eg writing 1N instead of 1NT).
2. Indicating approval or disapproval of a call or play.
3. Indicating the expectation or intention of winning or losing a trick that has not been completed.
4. Commenting or acting during the auction or play so as to call attention to a significant occurrence, or to the number of tricks still required for success.
5. Looking intently at any other player during the auction and play, or at another player's hand as for the purpose of seeing his cards or of observing the place from which he draws a card (but it is appropriate to act on information acquired by inadvertently seeing an opponent's card).
6. Showing an obvious lack of further interest in a deal (as by folding one's cards).

Northern Suburbs congress

MANY Aranans are also members of Northern Suburbs so it was not surprising to find Carol Wilson, Marian Richardson, Barry Mitchell, Liz Marshall, Betty Willson, Margaret Joyce, Val Acklin, Helen McLauchlan and yours truly among the 36 tables at their congress. Qualifying was the usual trauma but two consistent sessions got us into the major final, the other Aranans variously placed in the consolations.

We got away to a shocker on Sunday when I overbid board 1 to 6H (1 off and got clobbered for 500 in 2DX (2 off) so there was a lot of catch-up to be done. Some slow steady stuff got us to mid-field but no real joy. Occasionally forgetting the system doesn't help and this was a classic.

9/E-W/ N	A Q 10	
	A K 2	
	A K 9 4	
J 9 7 5 2	K 9 7	K 8 6
Q		10 6 5 3
6 5 3		Q 7 2
A J 10 5	4 3	Q 8 4
	J 9 8 7 4	
	J 10 8	
	6 3 2	

Helen (N) opened 2C (4 losers any suit or 23-24 balanced); that got a 2D negative (less than 8); 2NT (23-24). Now this sequence rarely comes up, so what are we playing over 2NT? Is 3C Baron or puppet Stayman? I think it's Baron but I have 5 Hs so I'll just bid 3H... ALERT (oh-oh, we're playing transfers to the majors)... 3S. Don't know what'll happen if I bid 4H so I try 3NT... 4S. I give up. 4S in a 3-2 fit was not pretty (4 off). 3NT makes and 4H is so-so.

I did get the occasional one right, eg W deals and opens 1NT (16-18) which is passed out. Partner leads DJ to...

8 7 3 2

K4

What is that J coming from? J 10 x (x)? Or do you play Journalist (top of internal sequence)? It just might be from A J 10 9. If the former, declarer has DA-Q and your K is dead anyway. If the latter, declarer only has the DQ. So up with the K... it holds! Return the 4 through declarer's Q for the first 4 D tricks. Too little too late.

The end result was not exciting, Val Acklin (with Di Wilkinson) the only Aranan in the money for a placing in con 1. Championship winners (and Northern Suburbs members) were Arnold Remedios and Robin Knight.

Richard McLauchlan

Queensland-wide pairs

THIS year's event should have been sub-titled the let's-see-who-can-double-the-most pairs. I'm sure we set a club record with 37 doubled contracts (slightly over 1 in 8) on 26 boards at 11 tables. Most (31) were successful but 6 failed.

Just so everyone knows, the friendly ones who did not double and were not doubled were Joan & Zelma, Joyce & Gary, and Cherie & Lorraine. The pairs who were doubled most were Ray & Alan (4), Bev & Beth, Val & Betty, Jan & Lillian, and Frank & Barry (3). The nasty doublers were Richard & Bob, Margaret & Carol, and Val C & Lorraine (4), but the top doublers were Margaret & Helen (6).

With all that action, there were plenty of boards to choose from. On board 6, E/W got clobbered 6 times in 4HW*, S holding HA-Q-J-6, although Tony & Dorothy managed to make. Next best was board 17, with the N/S ♠ bidders getting axed 4 times and E/W copping it once in 5CE* and making once.

My own favourite is board 9 - not because we played it against Pat & Paula who had the temerity to make 10 tricks in 3SE* on board 7 in the same set - but for the rare ACE discard required to make the contract.

9/ E-W/ N	Q J 10 8 7 3	
	K 5 4 2	
	A	
K 6 4 2	A 3	A 5
A 10 8		--
10 5 2		K Q J 9 8 6 4
Q 8 7	9	K J 10 2
	Q J 9 7 6 3	
	7 3	
	9 6 5 4	

The bidding was 1S 2D / 3D 3S 5D. I led the S9-2-3-A; a D went to Bob's A; I ruffed the S return and the CA was 1 down. That can be prevented by winning the opening lead with dummy's SK, leading the HA. and discarding the SA! Now when N is in with the DA, E can ruff the S return high, losing only the 2 minor Aces.

The last time I had a hand like that, I was in no trumps with a long running S suit in hand, one entry, and a bare SA in dummy. The opposition got in and led dummy's short suit. so I called on partner to discard the SA. Partner glared... SA... partner fumed... SA... slowly played. Suit unblocked, 6S tricks, 3NT makes. Hard to let go of aces yet we wouldn't think twice if it had been a lowly 2.

Winners over the 33 boards were Bob & Richard and Bob & Julie. Only the results on the first 26 boards count in the overall Queensland-wide results. Winners there were Ted & Allan and Bob & Julie.

Richard McLauchlan

Eastern Suburbs swiss

EASTERN Suburbs, a small club out Cleveland way, held a 1-day swiss pairs in November. With several top local pairs in Sydney for the GNOT final and the spring nationals, the field was a smallish 11 tables directed by Alan Gibson.

Now Alan hadn't even seen the field before the day so only a rough seeding was done. At pair 7, we had to play pair 18 first up. And who should turn out to be pair 18? The only other Aranans in the field... Deborah Dwyer and Kathy Patrick. They won 61-59. Next round put us against the ultimate winners and occasional team mates Harry Baumanis and Anthony Tuxworth.

7/ All/ S	10	
	J 8 5 4 2	
	10 9	
A K 5	A 9 6 3 2	Q J 9 6 2
9 6		A 10
A J 3		K Q 8 7 6 5
K Q J 10 5	8 7 4 3	--
	K Q 7 3	
	4 2	
	8 7 4	

After S's pass, Helen (W) opened 1NT, X (5/5 in 2 odd suits: C/H or D/S), 2NT* (transfer to Ds), 3C, 3D, /, 3S (second suit, at least 5/4 in D/S, I'm going to bid S again showing 6/5), /, 4D. With a known 6-3 D fit, I didn't want to risk being dropped in 4S so I bid a direct 6D. That made comfortably after the friendly CA lead, but 6S is better. Had I bid 4S, Helen would have bid 4NT and we're in 6S... hard to show the void.

Anthony's 3C bid was interesting. After the CRO X, he can deduce the suits as C/H because I transferred to D (at least 5), he has 2 and Helen has at least 2, so Harry can't have 5... ergo not D/S... must be C/H. I'd have thought a 3H bid would be more constructive, getting in the way of Helen's simple 3D acceptance of the transfer. Not that anything was really going to stop us.

Annoying when you can beat the winners 71-49 but still finish half a dozen places behind them. Deborah and Kathy had a couple or wins before getting thumped by Harry and Anthony.

Richard McLauchlan

Interclub teams

SEVEN Brisbane clubs competed in this event at Northern Suburbs. Our A team (open) was J Lewis, J Rosser, R & H McLauchlan; the B team (less than 300 mps) was V Cran, M Miller, C Wilson, P Barrs; the C team (less than 50 mps) was D & D Smith, F Hoult, B Mitchell.

The morning session was quite encouraging, Arana holding a handy plus total (due mostly to the Cs). The afternoon was not so kind with the As and Bs running up large minuses and a small minus to the Cs. This board against Western Suburbs was all too typical.

2/ N-S/ E	10 2	
	A Q 7 3	
	K 6 5	
7 5	K 10 7 3	Q J 9 8 4
10 6 5		K J 4
9 3 2		A 10 4
9 8 6 5 4	A K 6 3	Q J
	9 8 2	
	Q J 8 7	
	A 2	

East opened 1S, /, /, X, /, 2NT, /, 3NT. West led the S7-2-4-3 and followed with the S5-10J-A. A quick count showed E-W held 14 hcp. For E's opening bid, W cannot hold the HK, only the CQ, CJ or HJ-CJ. I have to lose the lead in Ds and they will knock out my other S cover so I'm probably down. Pity we can't see through the backs of the cards: E's doubleton C honours provide 3 C tricks by simply playing CA-K-10.

I led a D, E won and returned the S. I led the DQ and J. When they dropped 3-3, I led my last D throwing a H from dummy. Knowing E will win either a H or C if I finesse plus 2 S tricks (down 1), I threw him in with the S to make him lead from Cs or Hs. Good plan, poor execution. On the 4th D and 2 Ss, I have to discard from dummy reducing to HA-Q and CK-10 so E exits easily with the CJ.

E is 5-3-3-2 or 5-4-3-1 (he discarded a H on the 4th D) so I should come down to HA and CK-10-7. E exits with a H; a C to the A drops an honour and I still have to guess the other one... finesse against W (2 off) or play for the drop (making). The opposition only bid 2NT and with no real pressure (rip out CA-K) made 9 tricks!

The A grade was won by BBC; the Bs by Redcliffe (actually a C team playing in the higher division); and the Cs by BBC. Overall winning club was BBC who have a monotonous habit of winning this competition.

Richard McLauchlan

1999 revisited

OUR Club made a major step forward this year with a membership increase and a move towards obtaining our own clubhouse. Thanks to Gary Lynch and Bob Dancer for their enduring efforts in this project.

The AGM will now be held at 9.00 am on 1 February 2000 so make a note in your diary. As some of the committee will not be standing for re-election I urge members to consider taking on this role.

The committee meets every 6 to 7 weeks for approximately 2 hours. Wouldn't you like to be part of the exciting times ahead - a new year, a new millennium, a new clubhouse? Don't be shy. Come forward and give us your ideas of what you want for **your club**.

As we draw to the end of 1999, "thank you" to the many people who enable this Club to function. Thank you to those who organised and assisted with the main events, such as the Congress, Forest Place and Melbourne Cup days, and club championships.

A special "thank you" to all who open, close, set-up, dismantle, direct, score, organise partners, organise lessons, supervise beginner play, provide morning tea, photocopy, set boards, do master-pointing, produce Trump•It, run raffles, do calligraphy, look after library, print booklet, welcome new members and collect money. Apologies to anyone I may have forgotten.

Have a Merry Christmas, joyous New Year, safe driving and happy bridging!

Carol Wilson

Important dates

- Sat 1-3/1 Qld senior teams (Sunshine Coast)
- Sun 2/1 Gold Coast teams
- Wed 12-24/1 Summer festival (Canberra)
- Sat 15-16/1 Tamborine Butler pairs
- Sun 30/1 Northern Suburbs teams
- **Tue 1/2 Annual general meeting**
- Sat 5-6/2 Toowong pairs
- Sun 13/2 Gympie teams
- QCBC novice teams
- Warwick pairs
- Sat 19-26/2 QBA Gold Coast congress

Final word

WISHING everyone a safe and merry Christmas and a happy new millennium (whenever that is). And that's all folks... the last by-line from me.

Richard McLauchlan (Ed: retired)