



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

March 2001

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Now that the new office bearers are settling into their positions, and the first committee meeting has been held, the club is settling down to the many tasks at hand for 2001. Gary Lynch will of course have a very busy time until the Sports and Recreation Centre is up and running, and now Pam Horton is chairing a new sub-committee, staffed with eager volunteers, to make sure the Sports and Recreation centre is properly furnished and fitted out as it is completed. Daphne Buse and Bob Pearce are working with the other directors on an urgently needed upgrade to our rules and regulations. As a result of the hard work put in by these groups, we expect to finish 2001 in very good shape. In the meantime, our first training course for the year has around twenty enrolments.

We all have a pleasant duty to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the club in the week beginning 12th March. We will have minor, low-key celebrations on each day of play that week.

The latest drawing of the Sports and Recreation Centre is on display in the clubrooms, but it raises an important issue – are we designing the Centre for a medium-sized or a large club? To answer this question we should perhaps look at the current profile of our club, an anonymous medium-sized club and an anonymous large club.

OUR CLUB NOW

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Membership | 200 |
| Congress Size | 27 tables |
| Sessions per week | 3 |
| Average tables per session | 18 |
| Competitors per week | 216 |

MEDIUM-SIZED CLUB

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Membership | 250-400 |
| Congress size | 40 tables |
| Sessions per week | 7 |
| Average tables per session | 16 |
| Competitors per week | 448 |

LARGE CLUB

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Membership | 700 |
| Congress size | 55 tables |
| Sessions per week | 11-12 |
| Average tables per session | 28 |
| Competitors per week | 1288 |

Note that our club's figure for tables per session is artificially large because we run so few sessions.

If members draw on a map 5 km or 8 km circles around our current or proposed clubrooms, they will see that much of our catchment area is state forest or acreage. This makes it much slower for us to grow to the size of major metropolitan clubs. For this reason, the current building design is for a medium-sized club, but expansion to the size of a large club is provided in the design and is included as Stage 2 of the development application. The expansion provides plenty of options to increase office space or kitchen space, if ever required, and the increased income of the club would make it easy to fund the extension.

Bob Dancer, President

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 13 FEBRUARY 2001

WEB SITE: President Bob Dancer reports that the QBA are quoting a fee of \$300 to design our page. A member of the Toowong Club, however, has offered to design our page for nil costs. Margaret Dancer will be trained on how to maintain the web page.

LESSONS: A very light response for the lessons has led to several ideas to increase the flow of information in regard to lessons. Daphne Buse suggested that a notice be placed in the local community newspaper. Pam Horton is to make contact with North West News regarding the notice.

ABC: Bob Dancer has been contracted by the ABC who are interested in doing a program on Bridge. Bob has been requested for an interview.

YEAR BOOK: 230 booklets will be produced and distributed to members.

NEW MEMBERS: The following new members were presented for ratification –
Cherry Bennion; Neville Bennion; John Stumm;
Joyce Collins and Evelyn Faulkner.
Welcome to all.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Gary Lynch presented a detailed report on progress to date. In summary: All monies approved; Design signed off on; Development applications submitted; Project plan being developed and provided to the State; Builders still to be selected and cost of building to be finalised; Building Completion – Early estimate 30/9 but more realistically 30/11; Car Park still to be resolved.

DIRECTORS MEETING: Daphne Buse suggested that a schedule of meetings for Directors be arranged. She will work with Bob Pearce in that direction.

IN BRIEF:

- Blind Association is to locate a money box at the Club for 2 weeks.
- Pam Horton to assist with Building Fit Out and form a working group.
- Dealer machine to be purchased after club house established.

- A & B sections to have separate morning teas to avoid congestion.
- A copy of the minutes to be placed on the notice board
- Liz Marshall has accepted the position of Publicity Officer.

Geoff Gulley (Secretary)



LIBRARY LINES by Ilene Bishop

Arana Bridge Club Librarian

Since our bridge club is having its 15th birthday, I thought it appropriate to talk about "Mind Games – a Biographical History of Bridge in Queensland" (M9) edited by Colin Masters, 1999.

Keith McDonald in the foreword writes "the volume contains many biographies and features articles by leading present day players as well as their anecdotes and advice on ways to improve the general standard of play".

The Queensland Bridge Association (Q.B.A.) was founded as a playing club in 1934, but divorced itself from club activities in 1961 and resolved that members of affiliated clubs would pay a capitation fee of 10 shillings (\$1) per annum per member of each club and a levy fee of sixpence (5c) per player in the major weekly tournament of each club. In December 1962 a Constitution was adopted.

Skipping ahead to 1986-2000, individual membership nearly doubled to well over 6000 and the number of affiliated clubs increased to over fifty. Reg Busch and Richard Ward contributed greatly to director education and introduced formal qualifying examinations in 1989. In 1999, there were over 200 qualified club directors in the state and more than 30 at the congress, state or national level.

In the section of the book entitled "Notable Identities of Queensland Bridge" is our own Judy Valentine. Besides her reputation as a player, teacher, and director she also spent five years as QBA secretary, 1976-1981, and during that time created The QBA Bulletin. In 1976 Queensland was host state to the World champions, the Italian team, which included Omar Sharif and Judy was included in the team which played against them. In the article by Richard Ward he describes how Judy and he tried to establish a new Guinness Book of

Records time for non-stop bridge. They played non-stop for a day and a half, which was nowhere near the record – and then fell asleep!

The enjoyable, amusing and informative text of this book will keep anyone from falling asleep. Treat yourself to a bit of bridge history and read “Mind Games” (M9).



Gold Coast Pairs

With 325 entries and a new partner (my other half took on a caddy’s job for the week), the open pairs was never going to be easy. Some steady play managed to get us into the E final, a pleasing result. First up in the finals, we hit George Cuppайдge - Jonathon Free.

Now if you have ever had the pleasure (?) of playing George, you’ll know that he plays a highly convoluted system where an opening 1D promises at least 4Hs, 1H promises Ss, 1S used to promise a 1NT hand, now disallowed, so 1S promises Ds. When George’s system works, it looks wonderful but when it fails, it does so spectacularly.

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| 17/ Nil/ N | J 9 7 5 3 2 |
| | 3 |
| | 10 8 3 |
| 6 | 6 3 2 |
| 8 7 6 5 | K Q 10 8 |
| A 9 6 5 | A K 10 9 4 |
| K 10 9 4 | Q J |
| | A 4 |
| | Q J 2 |
| | K 7 4 2 |
| | Q J 7 5 |

George passed; I bid 1H; 1S (alert, take-out); 3C (8-10 and 4 Hs); 4S... WHACK! 5 off for +1100... goodies 1 - silly systems 0. Wish I could say the same in final 3.

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

Playing 4 card ACOL, S opened 3D (!), 3H, 6C, (should have whacked that but someone once told me that when the opposition pre-empt, they may be keeping you out of slam...) 6H. That went 2 off... psychers 1 - goodies 0. We had been mid-field every session, but this helped push us down the field... still the best pair’s result so far.

Richard McLauchlan

ARE YOU A GOOD DUMMY?

(Part I)

Your side has won the contract and your partner is declarer. You might think that you are off the hook and can rest, as your involvement is over and the play is about to commence. However, you can still help your partner in a number of important ways.

Initially you should place your cards correctly and neatly on the table, with the least amount of fussing, so that partner can examine the situation before playing to the first trick. The way you lay your cards down is partly dictated by law and partly a matter of consideration for your partner. Law 41D says that, *“After the opening lead is faced, dummy spreads his hand in front of him on the table, face up, sorted into suits, the cards in order of rank, in columns pointing lengthwise towards declarer, with trumps to dummy’s right.”* This means that each suit needs to have the highest card near the edge of the table, with the lower cards being placed on top without obscuring the rank of the higher ones. Contrary to the law, you probably have seen some dummies spread their cards sideways or in reverse position, so that they get the best view of the cards!

It might be tempting to re-arrange the cards in dummy half-way through the play, when the cards look untidy, but think of your partner. It might be helpful to declarer to see the pattern of the cards, even with the gaps showing. Your hand movements over the cards, if re-sorting, could also be quite distracting, from declarer’s point of view.

Sue Kelso

(reprinted from The QBA Bulletin Jan-Feb 2001)

MEMBERS BOOKLET 2001

Please note the addition in the Members Booklet of the section:

LAW 74 – Conduct and Etiquette (The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 1997)

Please read and abide by these guidelines. They will make every Bridge session more enjoyable for all.

Please note that Margarette Golden is the current Masterpoint Secretary, not Jenny Lewis.

Bridge Hand of the Month By Michael Lawrence

Vul: Neither
Dealer - North

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| ♠ A K 6 | ♦ Q J 4 3 |
| ♥ A 7 3 | ♦ K J 4 |
| ♦ K J 8 4 | ♦ 9 7 6 5 |
| ♣ Q 9 6 | ♣ A 7 |
| ♠ 10 9 7 | ♠ 8 5 2 |
| ♥ Q 9 5 2 | ♥ 10 8 6 |
| ♦ A Q 3 2 | ♦ 10 |
| ♣ 5 2 | ♣ K J 10 8 4 3 |

| | | | |
|---|-----|---|----|
| W | N | E | S |
| | 1NT | P | 3C |
| P | P | P | |

Opening lead 10♠

South's 3♣ bid is often used today as a weak bid. The point of this is that even though North has an opening no trump, the opponents may have a fit. By bidding 3♣ immediately, the opponents will have trouble getting together.

West leads the ♠10. With possible losers in all suits, South has to do some work. One thing South can do is get to his hand in order to lead the ♦10. If he can guess diamonds, he will get a discard for

a heart or a spade and will come in nine tricks. Is this the best way to play?

You will guess the diamonds half of the time and will therefore go down about half of the time. Better is to make a play that guarantees the contract (well maybe 97%). Do it this way. Win the ♠A and lead the ♦4. This odd looking play almost guarantees success. Say West takes your ♦10 with the queen. You win his spade continuation and lead the ♦K. East plays low and you discard your spade loser. Say this loses to West's Ace. That is not wonderful, but you have established the ♦J and you will use it for a heart discard. Later, when you have time, you will knock out the ♣A and make nine tricks. Unless the diamonds divide 6-2, or unless you run into a spade ruff, you should come home.

Just for fun, imagine the diamond honours to be in different places. You will make nine tricks against any of the possible layouts of the diamond suit honours. A cute hand.

Important dates

- 17 – 18 March – Qld team trials (open)
- 24 – 25 March – Qld team trials (open – if required)
- 25 March – Toowoomba novice pairs
- 29 March – QBA AGM
- 31 Mar – 1 April – Qld team trials (women)
- 1 April – Northern Suburbs pairs
- 7 – 8 April – Qld team trials (women)
- 8 April – Coolum pairs
- 8 April – Redlands novice teams
- 8 April – Rockhampton novice pairs
- 13 – 16 April – Cairns Congress
- 15 April – BBC pairs
- 16 April – BBC teams