



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

May-June 2012

Vol 26 No 3

From the President



THE Arana Bridge Club continues to thrive with a very active membership. The three new additions to the committee – Bev O’Hara, Ross Shardlow and Jill Warnecke - are very capable and enthusiastic and I am confident that the present committee members will continue the tradition of effectively managing a very successful club.

The first major event of the year, the Arana Teams Congress, attracted a full field and added further to our club’s already excellent reputation for running large congresses. The new air conditioning units made the playing conditions very comfortable for all of the competitors

The GNOT qualifying sessions were also recently held. This was a gold point event and it was good to see some new faces in the teams that qualified. Congratulations particularly go to the leading qualifiers – David Reller, Andrew Sokolowski, Ross Shardlow and Sue Kennard. They have been working very hard on their bridge and the results are there for all to see. The other qualifying teams were:

2. Deidre Taylor, Jim Taylor, Joan Mills and John Scrivens,

3. Barbara Holmes, Warren Holmes, Deborah Dwyer and Janelle Cuffe, and

4. Gary Lynch, Bob Dancer, Liz Marshall, Ailsa Smith, Jenny Lewis and John Nibbs.

Well done qualifiers and I am sure that all of the players who participated in this event enjoyed the experience and the opportunity to win gold points.

The intermediate lessons commence on Wednesday 18 April 2012 and will cost \$5 per session. A very large number of members have expressed a desire to attend lessons of this type and Tony Agar has spent endless hours in researching and preparing appropriate material. All members should be most appreciative of the ongoing contributions that Tony makes to the continuing growth of the Arana Bridge Club.

Finally, I would like to wish all players at Arana a successful and enjoyable bridge playing 2012.

Val Acklin (President)

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31 March 2012

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Graduate Master | Barbara Gannon Richard Grills |
| Local Master | Liane Morris Robert Van Beest |
| *Local Master | Susan Kennard |
| **Local Master | Ross Shardlow |
| Regional Master | Peter Ebert Andrew Sokolowski |
| *State Master | Lyn Hayson |
| National Master | Penelope Barrs |
| *National Master | Rosemary Matthew |
| Life Master | Barbara Holmes |

Robert Matthew (MP Sec)

Director's Corner

ALTERING INCORRECT SCORES AFTER END OF PLAY.

New Ruling By The Committee.

From this date forward, incorrect scores will not be altered once the Director has left the building on the day of play. So ensure you carefully check that correct scores have been entered into Bridgemate during play.

EAST/WEST PLAYERS WAITING TO MOVE TO NEXT TABLE

While waiting to move, if that table is still playing, please step well away from that table, or any other table which is still playing until after the table has finished scoring. This way, you cannot be accused of taking advantage of anything you may see or hear.

BOARDS DURING PLAY.

North is the only person at the table who should place or remove a board from the table. During play, a bidding slip covered over, may not be looked at by any player. After each player has turned over his card to the first round, the bidding slip should then be covered.

During play though, Declarer or either defender, at his own turn to play, is entitled to ask what the contract is and whether, but not by whom, it was doubled or redoubled.

ARRIVAL TIME.

Players should ensure that they are seated 15 minutes prior to play. If you know you are going to be later than that time limit please ring the Club House so the Director can be informed.

Val Cran Director.

Tony's Tip

The following is an extract from an address by Paul Lavings – "Opener's rebid".

PAUL addressed the most common of all bidding errors, namely the opener's rebid. And perhaps the worst practice of all is to rebid a minor suit at the two level with a minimum semi-balanced hand.

Example

♠ K2 ♥ J3 ♦ AQ1072 ♣ KJ64
14 points & semi-balanced

Hand is opened 1♦. Partner bids 1♠. Most openers would rebid 2♣ to show a minimum 5/4 hand. But if partner is also weak, 6-10 points and no support for ♦ or ♣, where to now? The usual response is a hopeful 2NT.

It is Paul's view that a contract ending in 2NT is the worst of both worlds. Either you are missing a NT game or going down 1 or 2 tricks. Both are terrible results.

Paul's answer to this common problem is simple. In the above hand opener should have rebid 1NT and avoid the 2 level. No great harm will befall you if partner passes. You have accurately described your hand - a minimum with no real shape. It is much easier now for partner to assess his next bid or pass at the one level. Also you can be reassured that your left hand opponent does not have a biddable ♠ or ♥ suit otherwise he would have done so.

Example:

♠ 7 ♥ QJ2 ♦ AQ1082 ♣ K1092
12 points

Opens 1♦, partner bids 1♠, rebid 1NT. Don't be concerned about the singleton spade. Partner has 4+. He now knows that you are minimum and can take the appropriate action.

Example:

♠ A93 ♥ 9 ♦ KJ984 ♣ AJ62
13 points

Opens 1♦, partner bids 1♠. In this case rebid 2♣. You have a singleton heart so there is ruffing power with your two small spades as trumps. Even if you settle in a secondary 4/3 fit, the hand should play well.

The advantage to bidding 1NT as shown is you limit your hand as a minimum.

Bear in mind that:-

- * when you bid 1♦ and rebid 2♣. you should have either a good hand 15+ or 5-5;
- * when you rebid a suit you should have 6 cards; and
- * when opener raises responder it is either 4 card support or 3-card support with a singleton.

Rebidding 1NT on a semi balanced hand with minimum opening points also makes it easier for partner to investigate game (or even

slam) depending on the strength of his own hand.

What if opener's hand is stronger or six carded?

Example:

♠ K10 ♥ J3 ♦ AQ1072 ♣ AQJ6
17 points

Open 1♦ and then bid 2♣. This shows a good hand (can safely compete at the 2 level) and has the immediate advantage of distinguishing it from the weaker 1NT bid. Partner may then further describe his hand or pass.

If you hold a 6-carded suit and a minimum point count, rebid the suit. Paul emphasised the advantage to partner knowing that any rebid suit by opener is guaranteed 6 carded and in the 12-14 point range.

Finally, an author's comment: if you want to play more hands, be first to bid NT.

Tony Agar

The 2012 Gold Coast Bridge Congress

LATE in February, two thousand or so enthusiastic Bridge players descended on the Gold Coast for the 51st congress. This was a very well organized event with a big WOW factor for two first time attendee novices such as my partner Bev O'Hara and me! For six days we were totally saturated in Bridge play and this was in itself a fantastic experience for us.

The sessions were intensive with no breaks. Dummies were very active in their turn getting water and taking other forms of relief when necessary. Good coffee could be ordered, paid for and brought to your table and this excellent service was taken advantage of by those amongst us with strong bladders. The rest of us availed ourselves of the free stuff provided when the time was right!

The many Directors, identified by their blue polo shirts were friendly and helpful, as were the caddies and other staff.

Outside in the foyer were Bridge goods that were available for sale, featuring books /cards /socks and much other Bridge paraphernalia.

There was always a great atmosphere in the conference centre on all of the days.

Sunday night was a 'black and white' night, with prizes for the best outfits. There were some sights to be seen, believe me.....

The Coast seemed to be totally imbued with 'Bridgies' (as I heard us called...). No matter where you went, whether you were walking along the streets or around the restaurants or shops, there were Bridge players everywhere! Every day at the hour of our calling we could be seen in our hundreds traipsing to the Conference centre like 'Brown's cows.'

Our apartment block was booked out by Bridgies and a very sociable time was to be had after sessions, with many an exchange of views, systems, laughter, a bit of Bridge poetry and also quite a bit of wine and cheese.....!

It was great to meet and socialize with other players, some of whom had travelled from overseas and other distant places.

We fronted up each day at the designated hour along with the other 1,998 players to pit our wits and practice our Bridge skills. After the qualifying rounds Bev and I were placed in the novice B grade section. However, that first night of play it appeared that our wits were in the pits, either from tiredness, excitement, or the fact that the cards *just did not suit our bidding style!* We played quite well in the two subsequent sessions, but were unable to claw our way out of the bottom third of the field.

We did a lot better in the teams, the aforesaid wits now being quite warmed up and with our team mates Neville Williams and Ross Shardlow, we came 10th in our section of thirty with five wins, two draws and five losses.

We did experience a poignant moment or two whilst in teams, as the team at the table right next to ours would have contained our friend and mentor the late Ann Wood, so this gave us pause for a silent thought about her..

The Arana Club was well represented also by Val Acklin, Jo McKitrick, Judy Carr, Kath Rooney, Barry Williams and a few others. And it is always wonderful to see our own members in a sea of strangers!

I would certainly recommend a visit to the Gold Coast Congress next year for all players, novice or champion. The Bridge experience is great and the social life is fantastic. A great time is to be had and a lot of Bridge is waiting to be played.....what could be better!??

Sue Kennard

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

Congratulations for GNOTS



Pictured above are (from left to right) Ross Shardlow, Sue Kennard, Andrew Sokolowski and David Reller; the top qualifiers in the recent GNOTS - as mentioned in the President's report.



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