



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

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Editor's desk

PLENTY of animated discussion abounded at the special general meeting to discuss a club house and the BCC's proposals for the Ferny Grove tip site. While the initial plan for joint-shared facilities was not everyone's cup of tea, negotiation with the interested parties is continuing. Stay tuned.

Sunnybank kept the home ground tradition alive with a tidy win over Arana in the annual teams match in September.

Errors on the travelling scorers are increasing again. Some computer numbers are regularly misquoted, *eg* 263 instead of 236. Some are too large, maximum at Arana is about 360, so 500 and something is a Toowong or Northern Suburbs number. Visitors will have a number if they have played at Arana – check the notice board.

With summer approaching fast, the good news is that we have been given a key for the air conditioner. The council couldn't decide on a fee for use so it is included in our normal rent. Temperature will be set around the 23 to 24°C mark which is not overly cold but – AC air is dry which makes it feel colder than it is, especially in the drafts. A light shawl or similar will help if you are one of those who feels the cold drafts.

Due to an administrative mix-up, we will not be playing the Australia-wide pairs on 28 October but a normal club session will operate.

Richard McLauchlan

Management committee

POINTS of interest from the management committee:

Minutes from 1 September meeting

The main item for discussion was the proposed building site at Ferny Grove. The Brisbane City Council and other interested sporting clubs were anxious for a commitment from Arana as to our

plans to proceed with negotiations. The Committee decided that it was vital to poll the membership via a questionnaire as to their wishes in regard to a building.

Given the date of the next Ferny Grove meeting and adhering to the guidelines of the Constitution, a Special General Meeting was called for 16 September at 7 pm. The questionnaires were copied and numbered, to assure that each financial member received one.

The result of the questionnaire would serve as a guideline for the direction the club would take: to build or not to build.

Minutes from the Special General Meeting

President Val Acklin called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Present were 36 financial members; 5 apologies were received. The Secretary read out the results of the questionnaire-

- 158 financial members received a questionnaire
- 114 were returned
- 102 voted in favour of our own building
- 70 voted to proceed with negotiations with the BCC about the Ferny Grove site
- 32 voted against the BCC - Ferny Grove site.

A lively discussion followed both for and against the proposed site.

A building sub-committee was formed to continue negotiations about a building site. The final committee is: Val Acklin, Bob Dancer, Peter French, Gary Lynch, Helen McLauchlan and Merilyn Wright. The meeting closed at 8:00 pm.

Minutes from 6 October meeting

As always, the main item on the agenda was 'the building'. The building sub-committee attended two meetings, one with the Brisbane City Council and one with the Pine Rivers Shire.

For the Ferny Grove site, we are waiting for soil test results. The council gave advice on several grant options for which we can apply.

Masterpoint movements

NEW masterpoint rankings for members whose home club is Arana include:

Graduate

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Judi Sunman | Kerry Malt |
| Lynn Free | Edna Miscamble |

Club

Jill Ray

Local

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Don Smith | Marie Harvey |
| Darlene Smith | |

Local*

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Frank Hoult | Sylvia McCutcheon |
|-------------|-------------------|

Local**

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Mary Wilson | Joan Hill |
| Henry Polt | |

Regional

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Deslei Den Haan | Margaret Welldon |
|-----------------|------------------|

State*

Bob Pearce

National

Rita Wood

National*

Helen McLauchlan

National**

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Pam Horton | Joyce Rosser |
|------------|--------------|

It's not often that one of our members appears in the ABF's McCutcheon standings, but as at the end of September, Helen McLauchlan is the sixth best performing State* master in Australia.

Jenny Lewis (mp sec)

Sunnybank shemozzle

TWENTY brave souls ventured into the never-never regions of the southside to tackle Sunnybank in the annual teams match. With Darryl Cullen driving the bus, yours truly navigating, and neither totally sure where we were going, getting there was our first (and only) achievement. We were to play 5 x 5 board matches straight through in a twinned Mitchell.

For E-W, the night was somewhat depressing as we had virtually no cards. Scores were tallied during supper and the end result was not so good either. Small wins and big losses don't help; ask the Yates team who had 4 small wins and one large loss for a net -3 imps on the night.

Sunnybank eventually ran out convincing winners. Their No 1 team also took the top team prize. So they hold the 'Auld Mug' (keeping the home ground advantage alive) until next September when we get to play at home.

Richard McLauchlan

Festival time

QCBC's Festival congress replaced the old Warana event with a swiss pairs on Sat and teams on Sun. We get used to seeing the same old faces, but the wet weather must have killed someone's golf game as Bob Dancer and Gary Lynch entered the pairs. They not only entered but also spent most of the day in front of us. We were all in the top half at lunch and assumed we would be playing in the championship section.

So it was a bit of a surprise when we were announced as running second in the plate after finishing 14th of 44. Appears the championship – plate division was based on masterpoint seedings. So if Bob and Gary had managed some averages in the last couple of rounds, they could easily have won the plate. As it was, we were pipped by a pair who made the cheekiest bid of the day against us.

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

N opened 1D. Holding 4-2 in the majors, I (E) can't double, so I passed. S bid a very thin 1H - worth a try. With the opposition bidding both her suits, Helen (W) also passed. N bid 1NT and I considered doubling, promising 4Ss, but the S suit was so poor, I opted for a pass. S now bid an atrocious 2S, passed out.

After putting him 2 down, Helen asked 'how many points have you got?' '12, what about you?' '12!' 'Me too' said N exposing S's 4 hcp bid and 2 level rebid. We have mentally noted S's style.

We partnered Nadya and Anthony Tuxworth in the teams on Sun. This was not a day for wimps. In the 56 boards at our table, 42 were bid to game or better, 28 making. No one died wondering if game was on. We managed a top half finish with 4½ wins from 7 matches. If we could only win the last match of the day, we would be a chance.

Richard McLauchlan

It shouldn't happen

EXCEPT maybe to your worst enemy. Playing in a teams match at Caloundra recently, we won 1 match almost entirely on board 22.

| | | |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| 22/ E-W/ E | A 9 7 4 | |
| | 6 5 3 | |
| | 7 5 | |
| Q J 8 6 2 | K 6 5 4 | 5 |
| A K 9 | | Q 8 4 |
| 10 3 2 | | K Q J 9 8 4 |
| 10 3 | K 10 3 | Q J 9 |
| | J 10 7 2 | |
| | A 6 | |
| | A 8 7 2 | |

I (E) opened 1D, S doubled and Helen redoubled, showing at least 10 hcp. N paused for thought and passed. I was totally happy at 1D** and also passed. S's turn to think. After 15-20 seconds, S passed! I duly made 9 tricks for 1030!

So who was at fault? Personally, I don't like first round take out doubles of a minor holding 4-3 in the majors but S's double is reasonable. N's subsequent pass over the redouble is very doubtful. Since S will get another bid, N's pass suggests virtually no points (0-4), his partner has asked him to bid and he does hold 4Ss and 7 hcp, so he should have bid 1S.

Now S was in the proverbial quandary. Has N passed for penalties at the 1 level? If so, would I leave the redouble stand? S really does have to find a bid, either 1H (yuk), 1NT or 2C. His partner should not take any of these bids as showing extra strength and since his pass promised nothing, N is unlikely to bid on.

N has to take responsibility for the ensuing debacle. They have marginally less than half the hcp (19 to our 21), partner asked him to bid, he has a 1S bid, he passed! Game, set and match! At least we didn't have to explain a disaster that just shouldn't happen to our team mates.

Richard McLauchlan

Redlands congress

IT IS always a pleasant day down by the bay at the Redlands swiss pairs in October. Helen's comment on the way there was, 'I have a hunch there is a slam in the first set of boards'. Seeded 16 in the 44 pair field, we drew pair 38 as our first opponents.

Sure enough, this lowly pair bid 7D against us on the second board of the day. After making 13 tricks on a finesse against my CQ (which was dropping to boot), N apologised to her partner for bidding the grand slam. Director Alan Gibson later informed us we were the only top half pair to get beaten on the opening round.

We bounced back against a very much better pair in Toni Bardon and Lindy Vincent. Steady results got us into the top quarter where the opposition was a lot tougher. Helen's luck really ran out against Peter Hainsworth and Ian Halford on board 9 which was our biggest disaster for some time.

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

The bidding was // 1H / 1S // ? Now we almost never let anyone play 1S but what was Helen to bid? With no S cover, she couldn't bid 1NT. Double might be left in for penalties but was more likely to get a D bid. Staying with her own 4 card suit she chose 2C which was doubled by S.

The play was all downhill from there. H lead, H ruff, D lead, D ruff more H & D ruffs. We did end up with 3 tricks for -1400 (ouch)! Had Helen doubled, I would have bid 2D which is still 2 down (4 aces, SK, 2 H ruffs) X for -500. 1NT is not too bad, but I would settle for 1S (N) making 9. What really hurt was that we had gotten into third spot on the previous round and never really recovered from this mauling.

The final caper for the day was Lewis Matthews 'misplacing' his car in a shopping centre car park, but that is another story.

Richard McLauchlan