



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

October 2003

Vol 17 No 10

From the President 18.10.2003

The club has been devoting considerable effort to helping out inexperienced players during those first terrifying weeks when they come out of supervised play and join a circle of tables for a normal play session. Initially they are under considerable pressure in every direction - the time for every hand is too short, they are pretty hazy on the rules, and sometimes they play in the North-South positions, which involve additional duties and more time pressure.

There are many options to reduce this pressure - for example they can call the director and ask to be placed East-West, they may be able to be split up and play with two experienced players to see how it is done in practice, and they quickly learn that picking up hands and bidding rapidly means a lot less pressure on speed of play.

There are a few key concepts in the rules which are not obvious, even to players who have played quite a while. Two of them were the subject of dispute in the recent past, and it is worth describing here both for new players and long-term players who have not kept up-to-date with alerting regulations.

One was the case where a partnership had an agreement that a one notrump overcall did not imply a stopper in the opponents suit. The current alerting rules on this are clear. As it is an unusual use of a widely-used bid, the bid must be alerted to direct the opponents' attention to the unusual bid. If this is not done, the opponents may be entitled to a penalty if they make false deductions from the bid. It is worth noting that there would be no question of penalty if no partnership agreement existed, because then the notrump bidder's partner would be just as much in the dark as the opposition.

The other issue was the question of hesitation in the bidding, when a significant hesitation is followed by a no-bid. The partner of the person who hesitated then bids strongly to game. If this happens, the person who bids to game must be able to justify his bid without any implications he might draw from the hesitation. These rulings have been confirmed with the QBA, and on reflection the reasons for them are obvious.

Directors have a particularly difficult time when relatively inexperienced players break rules of which they may be totally unaware. On one hand they have a clear responsibility to ensure rules are understood and followed. On the other hand, they should be aware that less experienced players under all sorts of pressures are not always going to be receptive to having every infraction pointed out. My suggestion to directors is to point out the most important ones, but remember that pointing out all of them may well be counter-productive. I might add that our Arana directors rarely impose penalties for the offences described above, but penalties are common in all QBA events, even Novice ones.

Air-Conditioning

Air-conditioning is one of those vexed topics because while everyone wants an 'ideal' temperature, everyone has a different idea of what the ideal temperature should be. This means we can simultaneously receive requests to cool the room down from one table and warm it up from another only a short distance away. Now that we have installed wall air-conditioners to eliminate the 'dead spot' on the far wall, no further changes are intended. We intend to publicise the temperatures on which the units will be set, and invite everyone to dress accordingly. Please bear in mind the following:-

- Many of us become more sensitive to air movement as we grow older. As good air distribution is essential to maintain a healthy environment in the hall, the answer is not to restrict air distribution, but for those of us who are sensitive to breezes to wear more clothing. Many of the committee wear long trousers or slacks and some wear long-sleeved tops.
- The committee will review the temperature settings of the hall at the next committee meeting, in the light of two years' experience. Input from players may be sought.
- Whatever the outcome of this review, it is inevitable that some members will find the hall settings on the cool side when the fans switch in. We invite these members to consider wearing long-sleeved tops to play sessions.

- At times in spring and autumn many members find it very pleasant to turn off the units and open all the windows for ventilation. Please note that this solution is a bit under-ventilated if no breeze is present. Closing the windows is downright dangerous from a health point of view. If too many people are cold when the windows are open, the only solution is to close the windows and also turn on the main air-conditioning units.

Hall Ownership

There seems to be a little confusion about legal ownership of the building. The final position, confirmed by all parties, is :-

- The building is built on land owned by the council and leased to the club on a 20-year basis. There is no absolute guarantee of extension of the lease but council advises us that their normal policy is to extend the lease as required, if the club has met its obligations under the lease and is financially viable.
- The building is owned by the bridge club, but under binding legal agreements, the football and cricket clubs have rights of access and use. These rights have almost no effect on the potential growth of the bridge club.
- Under some circumstances, and with council approval, it could be possible to sell the building. The rights of the other clubs would need to be protected under such a sale.
- We have a clear right to borrow against the value of the building with the approval of the council.

Novice Teams

Congratulations to all the Arana teams who competed in the recent Novice Teams event, as described elsewhere in this 'Trumpit'. Our teams performed extremely well, including 1st Outright, and all had a exciting day.

Bob Dancer President

ARANA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Only 10 teams contested the championship on Sunday the 28th of September. The Director was Henry Jackson from Caboolture. The event was played as 6 - 10 board rounds. The results were:

First: Helen and Richard McLauchlan, Peter Gill and Margaret Ann Welldon.

Second: Carol Wilson, Penny Barrs, Ray Cowie and Peggy Whittaker.

Third: Anne Gully, Irena Hall, Judy and Gary Mitchell.

Congratulations!

NOVICE TEAMS

On 12 October a contingent of 10 teams arrived to compete in the ARANA NOVICE TEAMS competition. It was a small field, but thoroughly enjoyed by all of the players.

Winners were: Robert and Rosemary Matthew, Peggy Whittaker and Peter Van Eden . (From Arana)

Congratulations.

- COMING EVENTS

- **ARANA - 2003 PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP**
- Sunday 30th November
- If entry numbers are sufficient, this event will be divided into sections according to Masterpoint Rankings.
- The number of divisions will be dependent on the number of entries
- Prize money will be paid for each division.

Club Rules regarding Etiquette and Alerting as per Members' Booklet.

- ❖ **Courtesy at the bridge table means doing nothing to discomfort others. (This includes snapping and/ or slapping cards and/ or signifying disapproval by body language.)**
- ❖ **Greet your opponents on arrival at the table.**
- ❖ **Make new players and visitors welcome. (Introduce yourself and/ or your partner if opponents are unknown to you and/ or your partner.)**
- ❖ **Do not make any remark to embarrass or discomfort your partner or opponents. (Partners and opponents have feelings too.)**
- ❖ **Do not discuss hands or waste time with post mortems between hands. (Short discussions while scoring is being done are acceptable.)**

Law 74 - Conduct and Etiquette [The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 1997]

- Etiquette

As a matter of courtesy, a player should refrain from:

1. Paying insufficient attention to the game.

2. Making gratuitous comments during the auction and play.
3. Detaching a card before it is his turn to play.
4. Prolonging play unnecessarily (as in playing on although he knows that all tricks are surely his) for the purpose of disconcerting on opponent. **A claim of all remaining tricks must include a line of play, e.g. "I will draw remaining trumps and then do blah, blah, blah." Simply laying your remaining cards on the table and saying "the rest are mine" is not an acceptable claim. If a claim is disputed, the director MUST be called. Once a claim is made you must not play the remaining tricks out even though requested to do so by your opponents.**
5. Summoning and addressing the director in a manner discourteous to her/ him or other contestants.

Alerting - Remember, there are no "secret bids" in Bridge.

Any conventional/ systemic bid which the opponents **may** misinterpret, **must** be alerted and quickly circled by the bidder's partner up to (and including) 3NT.

Conventional/ systemic bids/ calls are bids and calls that convey a meaning other than, and additional to, a willingness to play in the denomination named, or high-card strength or length (three cards or more) there. (As in a 2D response to a 2C opening which merely says "I have less than 8 points partner".) Any bid that shows the denomination named and another denomination also, is conventional. All opening bids and overcalls that show two or more suits, even if one of the suits is named are conventional.

The following are examples of popular bids that are alertable (A more comprehensive list is available on the QBA's web site, of which there is a print out on the notice board):

- An opening bid which may contain less than 3 cards in the suit.

- An overcall of 1NT that does not promise a stopper in the suit/s overcalled.
- A pass that conveys a meaning other than "I don't have anything to say partner".
- Stayman - both simple and extended.
- A 2D response to simple Stayman.
- All responses to extended Stayman - this is because the bids also show point count.
- Overcalls that promise 2 suits - eg. Brozel, Pottage over a 1NT opening; 2NT over any 1 level opening bid.
- Transfer bids after a 1NT opening and the responses to the transfer request.
- A non-forcing response by a non-passed hand, with or without interference.
- Fourth suit forcing.
- A 1NT rebid by opener which may contain a 4 card major.
- Multi 2D/ H/ S

Self-alerting bids and calls (eg: doubles, re-doubles, cue bids of the opponents' suits) are excluded.

MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS AS OF 30 September 2003

<i>Graduate</i>	John Martin Gary Musgrove Trevor Parkes
<i>Club</i>	Heather Salzgeber
<i>Local</i>	Alan Rae
<i>Local *</i>	Anne Harris Fred Hoult
<i>Local **</i>	Mary Gillies
<i>Regional</i>	Tony Agar Judith Homan Beverley Quine
<i>State *</i>	Penny Barrs
<i>National</i>	Vonnie Wallace
<i>National *</i>	Gary Lynch
<i>Silver Life</i>	Jenny Lewis

Well Done!

LIBRARY LINES

By the Arana Club Librarian
Ilene Bishop

Sister Colleen entered the room and bowed her head as a mark of respect. "I was sent to you by Sister Thomas, Reverend Mother," she said. "I'm ashamed to report that I opened an 11-point hand in last night's pairs."

The Mother of Discipline, who was seated behind a large desk, glared at the novice. "Presumably you're aware of the rule that novices may not open on fewer than twelve points?"

"Yes, Reverend Mother, but I was in the third seat and I held six hearts to the..."

"Be silent!" cried the Mother of Discipline. "You youngsters of today don't realise how lucky you are. When I first joined St. Hilda's, novices were required to hold a full 14 points before opening the bidding."

This excerpt from "Having Nun, partner?" (H4) by David Bird is only one of the many pertinent comments made by the members of the convent. Hands are played, discussed, dissected and confessions made in this humorous book donated by Pearl Cowie. Following is another extract:

The Mother superior retrieved the leather bound book and inscribed the novice's appointed name in it. "Now, on to other matters," she said. "How is your bridge, my child?"

"At the convent school I was rated B-minus for my bidding and B for my card play, Reverend Mother."

The Mother of Discipline exhaled loudly. It was a sign of modern times that they were having to accept such second-rate material nowadays. B-minus for bidding, indeed! Had the girl not listened to her teachers? "I am in charge of the novices' instruction here," she declared. "You will not find me tolerant of those who score marks such as B-minus in the weekly tests."

The novice blinked nervously. In truth she had received rather more C grades for her bidding. B-minus sounded so much better.

The hands are interesting, the conversations are sharp and the humour is witty. Enjoy!

NEIL'S NOTES

Neil Hamilton reports for the committee that the two additional air-conditioners for the end of the room have been installed and balanced. Trials were run, setting the temperature at a specific level and then testing the balance in the room. Reports are that everything works perfectly.

Also the final coat of the Non-Slip paint has been done on the ramp and landing for the clubhouse. Thanks to GullHam constructors for a job well done.

BRIDGE HAND OF THE MONTH

By Ron Klinger

Vul: Both
Dealer South

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

W	N	E	S
			1♠
P	2♣	P	3NT
P	6NT	P	P
P			

Opening Lead: 4♥

South's jump rebid to 3NT shows a balanced 19-20 points (or a strong 18). North has more than enough to justify 6NT.

Twelve tricks are easy and the only danger is to lose two tricks before your winners are set up.

Win the ♥A and lead a low club at once (not the jack). If East follows, play the queen from hand. If West takes this, you have tricks to burn. If West shows out, take the diamond finesse. If West follows low on the queen, cash the ♣A and concede a club trick if necessary. Again there are plenty of tricks.

When East shows out, you must not play the ♣Q. Rise with the ♣A and continue with a low club toward dummy. If West plays the king, that sets up five club tricks for you, so West has to play low. Your jack wins and you cross to the ♥K to take the diamond finesse. That loses to East who has no clubs to cash. Thus you make five spades, three hearts, two diamonds and two clubs.

Tip: Do not lead a jack for a finesse unless you hold the ten as well.

← TEST YOUR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE →

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) What country do Chinese gooseberries come from?
- 10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane?



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 – Carol Wilson – 3353-2297



Important Dates

- 25–26 Oct – Harvey Bay Pairs & Teams
- 26 Oct – Sun – Qld graded teams (QCBC)
- 29 Oct – Wed – Australia Wide Spring Pairs
- 1-2 Nov – Sat/Sun – Northern Suburbs Butler Pairs
- 2 Nov – Sun – Surfers Novice Teams
- 5 Nov – Wed – Arana Green Point Pairs (wk 1)
- 9 Nov – Sun – QCBC Pairs
- 9 Nov – Sun – Toowong Novice Teams
- 12 Nov – Wed – Arana Pairs (wk 2)
- 15 Nov – Sat – Eastern Suburbs Teams
- 16 Nov – Sun – Gold Coast Novice Teams
- 26 Nov – Wed – Qld Wide Pairs
- 30 Nov – Sun – Arana Club Pairs Championship
- 30 Nov – Sun – QCBC Novice Pairs



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BRISBANE
MELBOURNE
PERTH
SYDNEY
BANGKOK



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.



Queensland Government

Getting more people active through sport and recreation



Answers to "Test Your General Knowledge"

- 1) 116 years
- 2) Ecuador
- 3) Sheep and Horses
- 4) In November
- 5) Squirrel fur
- 6) Dogs
- 7) Albert
- 8) Crimson Red
- 9) New Zealand
- 10) Orange



Questionnaire regarding potential intermediate/ advanced classes for 2004.

Please complete and return to any committee member.
Please feel free to add comments, suggestions, ideas, etc.

1. Are you interested in attending intermediate or advanced classes? (Please indicate which one.) Yes / No

2. If yes, what is your preferred day & time to attend?

3. Are you prepared to attend classes Saturday morning? Yes / No

4. Would Sunday suit you? Yes / No

5. Would you prefer an hour long class or a longer class with play after? (Please circle)

6. If Sunday suits you, would you be prepared to attend all day, with class and supervised play in the morning and a normal duplicate session in the afternoon? Yes / No

7. Would you prefer to be able to attend one or the other, not necessarily both? Yes / No

8. Would you prefer another format? (Please state)

9. Which of the following topics would interest you?

Take out doubles (negative and responsive)	Yes / No
Fourth suit forcing	Yes / No
Conventions for competing over the opponents, 1NT	Yes / No
Roman Key Card Blackwood	Yes / No
Multi 2's	Yes / No
Bergen Raises (showing 4 card support for a major opening)	Yes / No
Jacoby 2NT (showing 4 card support for a major opening)	Yes / No
Easy defence to multi 2's	Yes / No
Michael's cue bids	Yes / No
Lead directing leads and signals	Yes / No
Odds & Evens signals	Yes / No
McKenney discards	Yes / No

Please add any I have missed.

Name (optional).....

Thank you for your time and input.