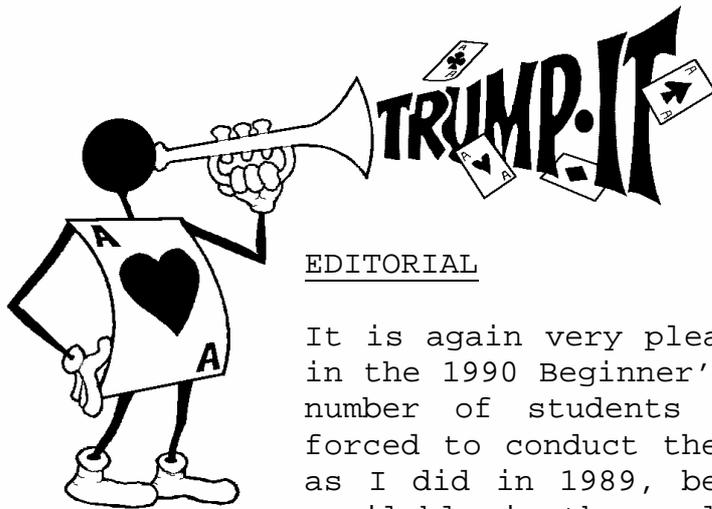


ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB



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EDITORIAL

It is again very pleasing to see many new faces in the 1990 Beginner's Classes. Due to the large number of students on Tuesdays, I have been forced to conduct the classes in the main hall, as I did in 1989, because the restricted place available in the small craft room. I thank club playing members for their patience where the noise factor must be, at times, disturbing. Unfortunately, there is no other solution as the craft room is now too small for the club playing members. Many from the new student group have joined because club members have recommended our club as a quiet haven for them to learn. We are now offering students a new format for classes - a much slower process to learn the game. The course now consists of twelve (12) lessons, with twelve (12) weeks of card play slotted in between. This means, one week a lesson is given, the next week they play the hands relevant to the previous lesson. The course will therefore end after 24 weeks. For the remainder of the year, apart from the normal help with play sessions, I will be repeating some of the more difficult lessons and conducting a couple of bidding seminars at the beginners level. If you know of anyone wishing to learn contract bridge, then the next beginner course will begin the first week in March 1991. At this point, I am not taking any new students into the group. I will, of course, accept any student who has already finished a beginners course with some other teacher.

Judy Valentine(Editor)

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QBA HISTORY (1961-1970)

There was an upsurge of interest in bridge which started its momentum after the Australian National Championships of 1959 (Brisbane) and the spearhead was Dr. George McCUTCHEON of Toowoomba. His contribution was important from the tournament point of view and he was solely responsible for putting Queensland in the forefront of other states as far as tournament organisation was concerned. He pioneered three very popular congresses: Toowoomba (1960 - the oldest in Australia), Brisbane (1961) and the Gold Coast (1962). He was instrumental in the re-introduction of State Championships in 1960.

By the end of 1960 the Northern Suburbs Bridge Club had become affiliated with the Q.B.A. and clubs had been established in Toowoomba, Dalby and Gatton (Lockyer).

Acting on an idea put forward by E. (Bill) GROOM whose knowledge of the game was born in New Zealand, where he had been involved in the administration of the New Zealand Bridge Association, the Q.B.A. decided to become a governing body only - club activities, together with the 'property, assets, funds and membership' were transferred to the Brisbane Bridge Club.

A meeting of delegates of clubs was held on 17th January 1961. Those present were - W.F.R. Boyce, A.D. Hoffman, A.R. Dennis (Chairman), G. McCutcheon, M. Gillespie, J. McLaney, E.W. Hiley, D.G. Neill.

It was resolved that the council members of the newly formed Brisbane Bridge Club would be an interim committee of Management pending the adoption of a new Q.B.A Constitution.

The Association continued to conduct State Championships for Pairs and Teams; the Queensland Women's Pairs Championship was initiated in 1962 and was conducted for the Association by the Northern Suburbs Bridge Club. (In 1975 rising costs forced the Club to withdraw as convenor and the organisation for this Championship passed to the Q.C.B.C.). State representatives for the A.N.C. were still selected by a Tournament or Selection Committee and, through Dr. D.G. NEILL had suggested that these representatives should earn their places in competition, it was not until 1966 that regular trials were introduced. Trials for entry to the Australian Teams Trials were added in 1967.

The first Brisbane Congress was held at Lennon's Hotel, George Street in 1961; the organisers were Dr. G. McCUTCHEON and A.D. HOFFMANN. Initially the Brisbane Bridge Club conducted the congress for the Association - in 1966 it became a Brisbane Bridge Club (now Q.C.B.C.) Congress.

The idea of a week's congress at the Gold Coast was mooted in October 1961 and the first Gold Coast Congress was held at the Chevron Hotel, Surfers Paradise in April 1962. The organisation was in the hands of George McCUTCHEON - entries were 22 pairs and 8 teams. Also in 1962 the N.S.B.C. held its first congress, the North Brisbane Pairs Championship, which attracted an entry of 16 pairs. The first Dalby Congress was held in 1963.

An important decision by the Australian Bridge Council (now A.B.F.) in February 1962 was the approval of a National Master Point Scheme - certificates were first issued in July 1962 with awards retrospective to January 1961.

The A.N.C. was held in Brisbane in 1965 at Lennon's Hotel and clubs affiliated with the Association made very generous contributions to enable the championship to be staged. The organiser was Arthur HOFFMANN and the Tournament Director George STEPHENS. The then President of the Q.B.A., Dr. D.G. NEILL, was

responsible for the introduction of the Convention Card on the Queensland scene at this time.

After the A.N.C. a big boost to bridge in Queensland was a series of lessons by R.E. (Bob) WILLIAMS, organised by James O'SULLIVAN. Membership of the N.S.B.C. and the Brisbane Bridge Club increased: the latter club became merged in the new Queensland Contract Bridge Club (which was formed as a company and purchased its own premises in 1966). New clubs were formed in the Brisbane metropolitan area, at provincial centres and, by the end of 1970, there were thirteen clubs affiliated with the Association.

Mrs. W.S. (Barbara) NEILL and Mrs. J. (Gray) REYNOLDS became the first Queensland women to play an international event when they earned a place in the Australian Women's Team which visited New Zealand in 1969. The following year Mrs Ivy DAHLER and Mrs. Gray REYNOLDS were in the Australian Women's Team when a New Zealand Women's Team visited Brisbane during an Australian tour.

Well-known American players, Dorothy Hayden, R. Jordan, R. Robinson, W. Root and A. Truscott were other visitors in 1970. On the first night of their visit they played in a whist-type teams match against teams formed from general club members; on the afternoon of the second day an interesting lecture was given at the Q.C.B.C. rooms by Dorothy Hayden, assisted by Alan Truscott - in the evening a teams match between the visitors and the 1969 Queensland Open Team Champions (Mrs. I. DAHLER, A.P. Jackman, F. JARVIS, M. ROBSON and T. LANDY) was watched on Vu-Graph by a large audience.

Finance: In 1967 all states were set a quota for the Olympic Fund (to subsidise the Australian Teams to Deauville 1968) and Queensland was committed to the extent of \$750; of this amount \$400 was allocated from Association funds with the remainder donated by affiliated clubs.

The Association had always been struggling financially and had never been in a position to subsidise State Teams to any great extent, apart from entry fees and function expenses. Team members in 1963 (Adelaide) were given a subsidy of 10 pounds each; with one exception (1967, when the Association paid entry fees for Queensland players to the A.T.T. and did not subsidise team members) this was the norm until 1970.

At the Annual General Meeting in 1969 Capitation (Membership) Fees were increased from 3/- to \$1 per member p.a. and Table Levies from 6d to 10c per player. The resulting improvement in income enabled Queensland to become the first State to provide return economy airfares for team members to the A.N.C. in Perth 1970; partial travel subsidies for entrants to the Australian Team Trials were added in 1972 (Canberra) and full travel subsidies for non-playing captains were added in 1973 (Hobart).

In 1969 the Association approved financial assistance for an official team to compete in the Australian Youth Championships in Canberra and has continued to make subsidies available for any team of suitable standard.

Three Honorary Life Memberships were granted during this period.

George R. STEPHENS - Harold W. RILEY - Kivas H. TULLY

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

I intend to start with some of the most common laws where infractions occur. Firstly, I should clarify the meaning of a word which causes confusion to bridge players. The word is "call".

A "call" is either a pass or a bid.

A "bid" is a suit or NTs.

A "pass" is a No bid.

SECTION FOUR - CALL OUT OF ROTATION

Law 28 - Calls Considered to be in Rotation

A. RHO Required to Pass

A call is considered to be in rotation when it is made by a player at his RHO's turn to call if that opponent is required by law to pass.

B. Call by Correct Player Cancelling Call Out of Rotation

A call is considered to be in rotation when made by a player whose turn it was to call, before a penalty has been assessed for a call out of rotation by an opponent; making such call out of rotation forfeits the right to penalize the call out of rotation, and the auction proceeds as though the opponent had not called at that turn.

EXPLANATION

During the auction, the infraction of certain laws may compel a player to pass either at his next turn to call or whenever it is his turn to call. Just because he and everyone else at the table know he must pass, does not excuse him from 'saying' or 'writing' "pass". Law 28 A simply says that if the player calls before the opponent has time to make the "pass" there will be no penalty.

When a player either passes or makes a bid out of rotation, there is **always** an adjustment to be made by the Director. If the next player to call either passes or makes a bid before the Director has been called or before the Director has instructed the table, then that player condoned the mistake and has no redress. The most important thing to remember is, **never** take it upon yourself to make a ruling at the table when you are a player, or even if you know the rule well. **Always** call the

Director no matter how small the infraction, he/she is there to administer the rules, not you.

Law 29 - Procedure After a Call Out of Rotation

A. Out-of-Rotation Call Cancelled

A call out of rotation is cancelled (but see B following), and the auction reverts to the player whose turn it was to call. Offender may make any legal call in proper rotation, but his side may be subject to penalty under Laws 30, 32 or 32.

B. Forfeiture of Right to Penalize

Following a call out of rotation, offender's LHO may elect to call, thereby forfeiting the right to penalize.

EXPLANATION

I have had to insert this Law into this issue because the player directly after the person who calls out of rotation whether it is a bid or a pass, has the right to accept the call as legal, thus allowing the auction to continue without penalty. Section A of this Law is mainly concerned with bids out of rotation which will be covered in the next issue of the Trump-It. When a player bids or passes out of rotation, you may accept this call, provided you are the next player to bid without having to call the Director to the table. You will do this by either speaking or writing your call.

Law 30 - Pass Out of Rotation

When a player has passed out of rotation (and the call is cancelled, as the option to accept the call has not been exercised - see Law 29):

A. Before Any Player Has Bid

When a player has passed out of rotation before any player has bid (penalty) the offender must pass when it is his turn to call (and see Law 23B when offender's partner was dealer).

EXPLANATION

In most instances this Law is straight-forward. The bidding stops and reverts back to the correct opener. The player who has bid out of rotation must pass at his **next** turn to call. It is not severe when the pass out of rotation was made when it was the RHO's turn to call because the player who caused the infraction has his compulsory pass **before** his partner's turn to call. It can be severe on the partnership when it was the LHO's turn to call or partner's turn to call.

Because there is some information which is known about the hand (i.e. the player who passed out of rotation does not have an opening hand) his partner is not allowed to make any psyche bid in either the first or second position [both these positions are when the partner is bidding **before** the player who caused the infraction and **before** the enforced pass]. He may, in fact, take a view on the hand and bid accordingly provided this bid is

acceptable to the director who has the power to make an adjusted score (under Law 23B). He is not allowed to make an unusual bid that falls outside the system. For example, he would not be allowed to bid 3S with 11 points and a 5 or 6 carded suit in the first or second position. This 3S would be considered a psyche.

Say your partner passes out of rotation when it was his LHO's turn to call. LHO passes. You are looking at 16 points and a 6-carded spade suit. Remember your partner must pass on his **next** turn to call. If you open 1S you could be left there and game could be on. If you bid 4S you could go down. It is a tough decision to make. Because you hold points, you may take a view that game may be making and bid 4S or you may take a negative view that game is not making and therefore open 1S. Whatever action you decide to take will be carefully checked by the Director who must protect the innocent partnership. If I were in this predicament - looking at 16 points with 6 spades and a partner who is forced to pass next turn, I would bid 4S like a flash.

B. After Any Player Has Bid

1. At RHO's Turn to Call

After any player has bid, when a pass out of rotation is made at offender's RHO's turn to call (penalty), offender must pass when **next** it is his turn to call (if the pass out of rotation related by convention to a specific suit, or suits, thereby conveying information, the lead penalties of Law 26 may apply).

EXPLANATION

The section of this in brackets does not concern anyone in our club. This part of the law is for those players who are using a Forcing Pass System which is banned in Queensland in club play but is allowed in National Tournaments. The first part of this law is clear - if you pass out of rotation at RHO's turn to call you must pass (this is what you intended to do anyway).

B. 2. At Partner's Turn to Call

(a) Action required of Offender

After any player has bid, for a pass out of rotation made at the offender's partner's turn to call (penalty) the offender must pass **whenever** it is his turn to call, and Law 23B may apply.

EXPLANATION

Again Law 23B is present to protect the non-offending side. If the Director considers that they could be damaged by the enforced pass, he may instruct the bidding to proceed normally, this waiving the enforced pass whilst still retaining the right to award an adjusted score if he is not satisfied.

B. 2. At Partner's Turn to Call

(b) Action Open to Offender's Partner

Offender's partner may make any sufficient bid, or may pass, but may not double or redouble at that turn and Law 23B may apply.

EXPLANATION

If this section of the Law which prohibits the double and redouble at this time were not present, unscrupulous players could deliberately bid out of rotation when it was partner's turn to bid to say "Don't bid our suit, double then - I have their suit". Even if they now contemplate such an action, it would do them no good as Law 23B again gives the Director the power to protect then non-offending side and, if necessary, award an adjusted score. Law 23B also stops the psyche bid by the partner of the offender.

B. 3. At LHO's Turn to Call

After any player has bid, a pass out of rotation at offender's LHO's turn to call is treated as a change of call and Law 25 applies.

EXPLANATION

Law 25, in itself, is quite a long Law covering many situations. The part of this law that applies here is because the call was legal, it stands. The partner of the offender must pass when **next** it is his turn to call. Again Law 23 is present - the Director having the power to allow the bidding to proceed or award an adjusted score.

Law 30C - **When Pass is a Convention** is really not worth writing for explaining. This Law is for National Events only.

In May's issue of the Trump-It, I continue with Laws 31 through to 35 which cover "Bids Out of Rotation".

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"THE OTHER DAY, I WAS LEFT IN 1C...."

This statement is being made to me nearly every week with the question "What should I be doing to avoid this?" quickly following the statement. The answer is nothing. Most of the time when you are left playing 1C, you are heading for a top or an above average board. Even if you hold no trump control, you are still going to receive a good result, most of the time.

Why? Suppose you hold a 13 point hand and three little clubs. The bidding is passed out. Partner's pass has denied the holding of 5/6 point. The opponents hold at the very least 22 HCP. If you can't make 1C, then they certainly can make some form of contract. Even down 1 trick vulnerable which will give you a -100 score has to be a better score your way than opponents making a major contract which should score at least 110.

If you think about it you may see that it is not mathematically sensible to allow an opponent to play quietly in 1C. The only time I would even contemplate passing a 1C bid is when I know I could defeat the contract by more tricks than what I could receive by bidding game. To pass, I would hold a long string of clubs and certainly no major holdings. The vulnerability must also be correct i.e. the opponents must be vul. Against our side being non-vul.

When a player opens 1C, he is usually looking for major fit and if that fit is not present the partnership rests in 1NT. Therefore, one should assume that left in the 1C contract, the declarer will play the hand as he would do if playing 1NT. If the cards are sitting right for declarer, then 1C stands a good chance of making via playing the hand in 1NT style. If the cards are lying badly, then 1C will be defeated, but where the cards are lying badly for declarer, they are lying well for the opponents and therefore the opponents should be able to make 9 tricks or more. The other reason for the opponents bidding to steal the contract is, that the missing values in the hand are easy to place. If we could all play a hand knowing where the high cards lie, then it would be an easy exercise for us. When a 1C opening is passed by his partner, then this is the case. The opponents know where most of the values lie and the playing of the hand is made easier.

Never be worried about being left in 1C by the opponents. If you are, then you are probably going to receive a 'top board or near top board'.

A K 5	9 8 6 2	On this hand, playing 1C, you should make at least 2 spades and 2 hearts. The diamond king may give you another trick or you may collect another trick via the long major or via a trump if the opponents fail to find the correct timing on the hand. However, the worst situation is that you will make 4 tricks. Down three, vulnerable would result in a score pf -300 for your side. If you fail by 3, it would mean that the diamond king is badly placed. This being the case, the opponents will have 4 tricks in diamonds, 4 tricks in clubs, plus the heart ace - making 9 tricks in NTs. If the hand were non-vul. Then playing 1C down 3 tricks would result in -150 for your side. The opponents can make game, that is the important thing to remember.
K 8 5 2	Q J 6	
K 9 6	10 7 3	
10 3 2	J 8 7	

In most situations, it is incorrect to allow any opponent to play a contract below 2 of a major. The only time I would not take defensive action by applying a take-out double is when I have the opponent's suit and there is no contract where my side can play in safety. I can honestly say I can't remember **even** allowing an opponent to play any contract at the 1 level, never mind 1C.

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