



# ARANA

## *Contract Bridge Club Inc*

August 1996

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### **Editor's desk**

ALL of our results are mailed religiously to the Sunday Mail every week. Unfortunately, the paper seems to publish bridge results from any club in a totally random fashion, not at all most weeks lately. Maybe a phone call or letter from irate readers to the paper might help get the results printed on a regular basis.

The finals of the gold point teams were a bit of an anti-climax for Arana. All teams won 3 to 5 of their 9 matches without ever being a threat to the winners (Jackman & Kempthorne) who go to the national final in Sydney in September.

Plenty of teams practice with gold point heats, finals, and the club teams championships. And its not over yet. Sunday 1 September is the InterClub Teams at Northern Suburbs while the annual grudge match against Sunnybank has been changed to Monday 9 September, so stay teamed.

**Richard McLauchlan**

### **Management committee**

ITEMS of interest from the 15 July management committee meeting include:

Various clubhouse sites have been proposed by local BCC councillors but none stand out. Most committee members prefer to remain fairly close to our current playing site.

Sites include Gibson Park (next to the bowls club, Stafford City); Hickey Park (Wilston Grange AFL club); between bowls club and tramway museum Ferny Grove. We would like as many members as possible to look at each site and give us some feedback.

The ABF levy has been \$5 pa since 1990 and will rise to \$7 next year.

The QBA suggests members write to the Sunday Mail complaining of the non-publication of bridge results.

We have \$6000 on hand and \$105000 invested.

Welcome to new members Terry and Margaret Woodroffe.

Interclub teams are on 1 September at Northern Suburbs Bridge Club. Cost is \$10 per person including lunch. Grades are: A open; B state and below; C local and below.

Our Sunnybank teams match is now on Monday evening of 9 September. Six teams are required. We will try to obtain the Pine Shire bus for transport to Sunnybank.

### **Masterpoint movements**

NEW masterpoint rankings at the end of June for members whose home club is Arana include:

#### *State*

Ailsa Smith

#### *Regional*

Margaret Joyce

#### *Local\*\**

Gary Lynch

Kath Rooney

#### *Local*

Anita Hillier

#### *Club*

Sue Balthes

Hubert Diddams

Rob Dancer

Sommie MacKay

#### *Graduate*

Lorna Bowd

Allan McIntyre

Milt Bowd

**Jenny Lewis (MP sec)**

### **Club teams**

Our club teams championships were played during July with 19 teams in the Tuesday swiss and 12 in the Wednesday championship. An odd number of teams on Tuesday made for a messy draw which was not helped by the swiss format. The 12 team championship was able to be played as a complete round robin (each team meets every other team)

over the allotted 3 weeks. Maximum possible scores were 120 (Tue) and 275 (Wed). Results:

Tuesday		Wednesday	
Team	VPs	Team	VPs
Gross			
1 Wood	91	McLauchlan	197
2 Horton	80	Miller	194
3 Fulwood	79	Rae	192
Handicap			
1 Fulwood	63.9	Rae	149.5
2 Wood	64.5	Miller	144.3
3 MacKay	57.5	McLauchlan	143.2

Congratulations to the winners: (Tue) Rita Wood, Betty Willson, Julie Cutmore, Gary Lynch (gross); Alison Fulwood, Deslei Den Haan, Mary Wilson, Ilene Bishop (hdcp; sorry Rita, you can't win both gross & handicap); (Wed) Richard McLauchlan, Bob Pearce, Val Acklin, Betty Willson (gross); Jan Rae, Paul Yates, Carol Wilson, Judy Perkins (hdcp). Thank you Pam Horton and Trevor Cullen for directing the events.

### He who hesitates...

MAKES life very difficult for partner. Paul Yates stood in for Bob Pearce in week 1 of the gold point teams finals. We were playing one of the better teams in the 3rd round when board 19 arrived.

19/ EW/ S	5 4 3	
	10 6 2	
	A 6 3	
8	Q J 10 6	K J 6
7 3		K 9 8 5 4
K Q J 10 8 7 5		4 2
A K 9	A Q 10 9 7 2	8 7 2
	A Q J	
	9	
	5 4 3	

I opened 1S and W bid 3D. That took the wind out of Paul's sails. He hesitated, just for a couple of seconds, and passed. E passed and I bid 4S. My defence is that with 6 losers, I have 7 tricks plus 3 non-vul for partner, irrespective of his hesitation.

The cards lie nicely for me and 4S made. E complained to the director who suggested that my 4S bid was a bit over the top and adjusted the score to 3DW going 1 down for +100. I appealed. The appeal committee disagreed that my hand has 7 tricks (6 losers) but may have accepted it if I held S A Q J instead of A Q 10. The score was again adjusted to 3SS making 10 for +170. We lost 28-18 instead of 27-24 if the 4S bid stood.

The point is not whether Paul's hesitation - and it was ever so minor, just a couple of seconds - suggested that he did have some values which influenced me to bid 4S, but whether 70% of the field would bid 4S on my hand, with or without partner's hesitation. Both the director and the committee would have accepted a 3S bid from me, a bid which Paul may well have raised to 4. The moral is to be prepared; pass or bid in tempo. If partner does hesitate, you must have the cards to back up any bid you make, so underbid rather than overbid, with pass as the safest option.

After 9 matches over 3 weeks, all of our teams won 3 or 4 matches but were never in any real contention of winning. Top teams to represent the Brisbane zone at the national finals in Sydney were Jackman and Kempthorne.

**Richard McLauchlan**

### Toowong swiss

A STRONG field of 86 pairs contested Toowong's annual swiss pairs, including Arana's Betty Willson & Rita Wood, Joan Sadleir & Muriel Anderssen, Vonnie Wallace & Margaret Joyce, Joyce Rosser (& Joan Sargent), and Helen & Richard McLauchlan.

Ralph Parker (Arana congress winner) complimented us by psyching. Ralph's partner opened 1H. Holding QJxx x AJxx A10xx, I doubled and Ralph promptly bid a very suspicious 1S / 3S / 4H. When his partner suggested the bidding was natural, Ralph squirmed and intimated that maybe it wasn't - he had a singleton S. They made 11 tricks and I reported him to the director who suggested it was such a lame psyche that he should be ashamed of himself. Ralph had every intention of bidding 5H over a 4S bid from me - even though I would be 5 down in 4S.

A mix up in pair numbers on a score sheet saw Joyce-Joan propelled into the top quarter of the field where they hit Peter Hainsworth (5th seed). They survived that, but when the scores were corrected, they dropped 30 odd places into some easier opposition.

Helen & I had 2 good rounds both before & after lunch which pushed us well up the field. With all vul, what do you do with:

A K Q 10 5 4    A K 10    A 6 4    2

and bidding of // 3NT (gambling)? Does it make any difference if it is the 3rd last round and you are at table thirty-something, or you have made it to 5th place at table 2 and E/W are Robert Slobom & Kathy Johnson, 9th seeds, winners of the morning session and current 2nd placegetters?

Well I had the proverbial rush of blood, testosterone and other mind deadening substances and bid 4S! Dumb dumb dumb! I am on lead and can take the first 9 tricks for 5 down and +500. What's that? 4S for +650 or 3NTx for +1400 is worth more?

Darn right, if you are Rita playing at table thirty-something where your 4S bid is passed and you make +650. But you really don't think players of table 2 calibre will pass 3NTx or 4S do you? No fear, Robert bid 5C; so now what do you do?

Pass and let partner bid, bid 5S or X and hope they might still go 2 down for +500? Trouble is, we like to play rather than defend. I bid 5S which was passed out and went 1 down. Had they led Ds early, I was 2 off. The full board:

13/ W/ All	9 6 3 2		
	J 6 3 2		
	5 3 2		
8	10 7	J 7	
Q 9 8 7 5		4	
K Q J 10 7		9 8	
J 6	A K Q 10 5 4	A K Q 9 8 5 4 3	
	A K 10		
	A 6 4		
	2		

5C(x) is only 1 down but +200 is better than -100. Was it only 2 Trump-Its ago I suggested that *pass* is the hardest bid?

It all got a bit rough here. After we played Ivy Dahler & Adrian Mayers (2nd seeds), we were still a chance for some prizemoney (first 8 places) at 9th. Unfortunately, the last round was our worst and we dropped to 19th, not bad considering we played the 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 8th placegetters.

**Richard McLauchlan**

## Calculating your handicap

THE computer saves your last 8 scores. The best and worst scores are discarded and the remainder averaged. This is divided into 40 to obtain your handicap. If there are only 4-6 scores, all are averaged. If less than 4, the scorer is asked for an estimate.

Score (%)	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75
Handicap	100	89	80	73	67	62	57	53

Since you can't score more than 100%, your handicap cannot fall below 40%. It is generally conceded that 66.7% is about the maximum average likely and this gives a handicap of 60% (=40/.667), so most handicaps will lie between 60 and 100%.

## Bundaberg '96

FIVE Arana pairs ventured north for the 1996 Bundaberg congress: Trevor & Darryl Cullen, Philip & Ailsa Smith, Pam Horton & Jenny Lewis, Rita Wood & Helen McLauchlan, and Bob Pearce & me. The field was down a bit at 19 tables and presented Judy with some seeding problems.

In a total break with tradition, Judy Valentine did not partner Ian Mortess in the annual Friday night grudge match against Jessica Mortess & Peter Young. Ian was breaking in a new partner for the congress so Judy played with another Bundyite. At the end of the session, Ian finished second E/W while Judy came in third and was heard to remark about all the years she had been holding Ian back.

Most were well placed after the first qualifying session, although Trevor & Darryl and Philip & Ailsa still had some work to do. Q2 seemed easier to Bob & me but I felt somewhat aggrieved with S's (over) bidding on board 18.

18/ NS/ E	A 8 5 4		
	--		
	A Q J 10 6		
J 9	J 9 5 4	Q 3	
9 3 2		A K J 10 8 7 6 4	
9 8 4		2	
K 10 6 3 2	K 10 7 6 2	A Q	
	Q 5		
	K 7 5 3		
	8 7		

I (E) opened 1H and S overcalled 1S on a very ratty hand. Bob bid 2H, 2S, 4H; two passes saw N bid 4S, /, / and 5H from Bob; two more passes, a long pause during which S almost passed twice before she bid 5S. What really hurts is that 5S makes easily. Jessica & Peter were the only other N/S to bid game in Ss but their bidding was a little more respectable at 1H (E), /, /, X, 4H, 4S. At all other tables, E/W played in Hs making 11.

Still, we finished second; not quite as good as Rita & Helen who won the Q2 session and scored a bottle of wine. Pam & Jenny, Helen & Rita, Bob & I qualified for the championship; Ailsa & Philip for the plate; Trevor & Darryl for the consolation.

In the first final, we were looking for a tidy start, nothing fancy and no disasters. The cards our way in the first 3 rounds were quite ordinary producing small minus scores. Even when Jessica suicided against us in 5D\* vul going 3 down in round 4, we scored a -4 to put us in last place. At least Helen & Rita were keeping the flag flying and hit the front. Most were reasonably placed at lunch, with Trevor & Darryl finally finding some form and winning their section.

We seemed to score reasonably well against the better rather than the lesser players but small lapses were often punished. We did manage to score on board 6 when N mis-defended.

6/ EW/ E	A J 5	
	K 10 9 8 6 5 2	
	7	
Q 4	6 5	K 10 9 7 6 2
3		A J
A 10 9 6 5 4 3		K J 8
K 7 4	8 3	A Q
	Q 7 4	
	Q 2	
	J 10 9 8 3 2	

We (EW) mis-bid this board to 6S after I showed a 16+ hand. S led a H which I won. I didn't care who had the SA but I had to play N for the SJ if it did not appear on the first S lead. After taking the CA & Q, I led a S to dummy's Q which N won. After some thought, she led a H ruffed in dummy, removing my chance to finesse the SJ. I didn't want to guess the DQ position, so I led the CK intending to discard the D8. N erred by ruffing. I over-ruffed, drew trumps and claimed when the DQ dropped in 2.

With 2 rounds to play, Pam & Jenny were a close second and we were about to play the leaders. We did the right thing taking 2 points off them, while Pam & Jenny also scored to hit the front. They had to play the former leaders in the last round. It was a valiant effort but they overbid board 23 to an unmakeable 6S, but still finished in a very respectable third for a share of the prize money. Trevor & Darryl lived up to their morning form to finished second in F2 and a win in the consolation.

Another pleasant Bundaberg congress with thanks to the Mortess and Young families for their hospitality.

**Richard McLauchlan**

## Colour your system

THE, ABF system card allows you to declare your system as green, blue, red or yellow. Red and yellow systems are often prohibited in short matches as they require elaborate defences which opponents do not have time to discuss. In congresses, they are often prohibited during qualifying but allowed in finals.

So, what colour system are you playing? The following is extracted from the Director's Corner in QBA Bulletin No 4. System colour is based on Opening Points (OPs). OPs are the sum of your high card points (HCPs) and the number of cards in your 2 longest suits.

All opening bids at the 1 level must show at least 18 OPs; at the 2 level 15 OPs; and at the 3 level 15 OPs, or at least 12 OPs with a 7 carded suit. Your system is yellow if it does not conform to these basic requirements. So the minimum hand with 18 OPs is a flat 4-3-3-3 holding 11 HCPs (11+7=18). This system recognises that the more distributional your hand, the fewer HCPs needed to open, *eg* a 6-5-1-1 hand only needs 7 HCP to have 18 OPs and a 1 level opening bid.

There are other restrictions determining your green, blue or red status. In addition to the above, *green* systems require: suit bids must be natural (minimum 4 card suit), but 1C may be prepared, and 1C or 1D may be better minor (3 card); 2C can show any distribution with 25+ OPs; 1NT must be balanced (5-3-3-2 or 6-3-2-2 with a 6 card minor).

*Blue*: 1C or 1D may be artificial; bids may be canapé (4 card before 5 card suit); 1NT need not be balanced if holding 25+ OPs; 2 NT need not be balanced if showing 4+ cards in specific suits or 25+ OPs; opening 2 or 3 suit bids must show 4+ in a suit (not necessarily the one bid) or 25+ Ops.

*Red*: 1 level suit bids must show 4+ cards in a specified suit (not necessarily the one bid); no distribution restriction on bids from 1S to 3NT.

Technically, the multi-2D is red when it shows a weak 2 in either major, but it is so widely used that it was declared blue. If you have an agreement to open third hand light (less than 18 OPs), you are technically playing a yellow system and should alert such bids.

**Reg Busch**

## Important dates

- Sat 10-11/8 Qld men's & women's pairs QCBC
- Sat 17-18/8 Surfers Paradise congress
- Sun 18/8 Toowong novice teams
- **Mon 19/8 Red point session**
- **Tue 20/8 Red Point session**
- **Wed 21/8 Red point session**
- Fri 23-25/8 Rockhampton congress
- Sun 25/8 BBC swiss teams
- Sat 31/8-1/9 Warwick congress
- Sat 31/8-1/9 Maryborough congress
- Sun 1/9 Interclub teams (NSBC)
- Sun 8/9 Sunshine Coast teams
- Mon 9/9 Sunnybank teams
- Sat 14-15/9 QCBC Warana congress