



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

August 2004

Vol 18 No 6

From the President

The Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 13 July moved through smoothly with all points covered in just over one hour.

The handicap system is continuing to be revisited as the system seems to be flawed and does not give a fair and weighted outcome.

We have eight new members and as President I personally welcome you all. Members are reminded to greet them well and don't be afraid to assist them in their early learning period.

Congress 2004

This event was most successful with 28 Pairs on the Saturday and full house for the Teams on Sunday. Naturally top players took out the major prizes. The Novice section was won by Gay and Josephine – great work!!

Where do you start to thank people? Pam - our Convener – you have not lost your touch. To the kitchen hands – floral arrangements – all who supplied never ending food – to all unsung volunteers who quietly and efficiently worked to make 2004 a success. Above all, to all members who participated in the games. This is your success. As President it was gratifying at the end of the day to have visitors come up and shake my hand and say Arana puts on the best congress!! To Reg and Joan, Director and Scorer, quiet, efficient and unobtrusive – my personal gratitude.

QBA & ABF Loans

Having paid off the QBA loan (by the way we received commendation from the President of the QBA as a success story), we know tackle the ABF loan. We are to double our repayments as

at today and will review from time to time with the view to increasing in lump sum payments.

We have three trainee directors in Geoff, Gary and Barry – augers well for the future.

We need computer literate people to learn the mysteries and secrets in scoring and Masterpoint administration.

Attendances continue to hold up well. This time last year we averaged 283 seats per week – we are now running at 320.

New Purchases

We hope to have our new photocopier very soon. Cost approximately \$4,000. Under pressure, three new teapots were purchased, I believe the tea is good. An additional paper towel dispenser and bracket will be installed in the ladies WC.

Barry Mitchell is in the process of making a "mail box". This is for entry forms, suggestions etc. It will be a locked box. Courteous suggestions and constructive criticism are always welcome but consider not what is good as an individual but what would benefit the Arana Club as a whole.

Retain the reputation as the friendly Club.

Remember bridge is only a game!!

Neil E Hamilton

Important Phone Numbers

Clubhouse Phone Number: (07) 3851 – 0299

Email address: aranabridge@netspace.net.au

President: Neil Hamilton 3300-4840

Vice-President: Val Acklin 3851-3059

Secretary: Tony Agar 3851-1362

Treasurer: Gay Hull 3300-2050

Partner Contact Carol Wilson 3353-2297

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By Deslei Den Haan

I'm sure you all read in last month's Trump-It about the 5 (only) courageous members who followed this year's Director Training Course. Since we moved into our new building the membership has been continually growing – hence more sessions – hence the need for more Directors. The club's Chief Director, Bob Pearce would like even more members to do the same next year. Bob suggests that if you are interested you might like to "job shadow". This means that each time there is a problem you could accompany the Director to the offending table or if you prefer, you could part direct for a session. Bob is only too happy to talk to anyone interested.

The following piece written for the February 1993 Trump-It by Noel Haysom (no longer a member) illustrates just what great FUN directing can be!

REACTIONS OF A NOVICE DIRECTOR

D.Day arrives. I rise early, full of confidence about control of the movement side of things, having written down a pre-planned arrangement covering every conceivable number of contestants up to a total of 14 full tables. As H-hour minus 10 approaches, my complacent confidence erodes rapidly as contestants continue to pour through the doors, including a number of Judy's neophytes, one of whom confesses that she has no pre-arranged partner!

To cope with what is rapidly developing into a record-smashing Tuesday crowd, I realise that I will have to change from my proposed single Mitchell movement of 14 tables to two movements of as yet uncertain size and shape. I proceed to shift a peripheral table as part of these re-arrangements but am told in no uncertain fashion by a veteran member of the club that she and her fellow table-mates have specifically chosen this table for its ventilation advantages on this boiling-hot morning. I adopt the coward's way out and shift another table which is temporarily unattended except for a couple of handbags on the seats!

Several adjustments later, Pam tells me that one of my proposed movements is wrong. Having based my proposed movements on Judy's divine words, I have doubts! I seek comment from two other veteran Directors – neither is certain, but both tend to favour Pam's views. I go along with them

without further argument – Thank God! My misinterpretation of Judy's notes was the problem!

Everyone starts about 10 minutes late without any signal from me. I am tied up trying to conjure up a second pack of cards for a table which has a card missing from one of the boards. Just as I sit down, another table reports that it has a board with one card too many! While this is being fixed a strange man appears at my elbow, says he is from the local council and asks if he can replace a pane of glass. Remembering the jack-hammer interlude, I cross my fingers and I say "Go ahead!"

Later I dealt with an insufficient (but conventional) bid, an established revoke, a mix-up of hands at my own table, and another half dozen or so minor recording errors.

I survived the experience and thoroughly enjoyed the challenge. The start was certainly a shambles, but I am sure I can improve on that with experience.

However, one of my pet theories (that slow players should not be hassled or put under pressure EARLY in the piece) certainly paid off. I quite deliberately allowed more than enough time for play and writing-up on the first round of boards. Later I was able to speed up the play rate without any problem and finished on time.

We want more recruits to the pool of Directors. Be in it. You won't be shoved off the deep end – if you do you can always call for help when you need it. The other Directors will always happily respond.

The Club History Book is available for loan from the Library.

Shoes Blues

Yes bridge is, sadly, not for those
Who have to count using their toes
Nor does it help if memory banks
Are riddled through with useless blanks
In any case what guy would choose
To bear the smell of empty shoes?

Rab Wright



LIBRARY LINES

Librarians Jan Rae & Kath Rooney

Another \$200.00 has been raised from the "Bring & Buy Table" and will be used to buy new books.

At last our illustrious President has got himself together and bought 10 metal book dividers for a total cost of \$22.00. Much much cheaper than Officeworks so we are told.

BOOK LOOK

Michael Staley is our guest book reviewer again this month. Michael takes a look at the second of Marty Bergen's books.

More POINTS SCHMOINTS

In the last edition of Trump-It, I reviewed Marty Bergen's first book, **Points Schmoints**. It appears that the first edition was so successful, Marty was encouraged to write a sequel, which was published in 1999. He christened this book "**More Points Schmoints**", the title lacking a little in originality. However, be assured, that Marty's personality still comes through and he still injects originality into the structure and content of his book.

The book is written as the first, with lots of personal experiences and examples. Marty starts by developing and testing the reader on some of the themes that he introduced in his first book. He emphasizes the simplicity of the rule of 20 for openers as it requires nothing more than arithmetic (and the appropriate number of fingers and toes). The simplicity may be irrelevant if the rule is flaky but Marty asserts that it does hold true (particularly if you add the refinements that he recommends in this edition). This is where my problem begins - remembering the refinements!

Marty stresses the importance of preparation and he emphasizes the moment of truth when your partner responds. He suggests a series of conventions, which indicate the fit of the hands and the benefits of a partnership. His chapter on 'Exploding Popular Misconceptions' conveys some tidbits when a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. This leaves me with the question of who should I believe? - which is exactly Marty's point!

He introduces the Stayman family as Regular, Garbage, Puppet and Crawling and suggests that it is possible to incorporate all four type into your system (he does), which makes me wonder how your partner knows which one you are using. I guess this is where experience and 'the meeting of minds' can never be replaced by Marty's books.

Marty also makes much of the LAW. Not to be confused with those who protect our society, the LAW asserts that you are always safe bidding to the level equal to you and your partners number of trumps. This is fine as long as you know exactly how many trumps your partner has.... And this, I think, is where his Bergen raises fits in.

The beauty of this book is that it contains interlinking solutions to a wide range of concepts in one sitting. This however is also a problem in that it requires a high degree of concentration and as such, I think Marty's second book is very much for digesting in small pieces to do it justice.

More Points Schmoints is packed with conventions, each accompanied by lusty examples. I have tried to use some of the concepts and I blame this book for inflicting some of Marty's ideas on my unsuspecting Monday night partner. It is, I think, a bit much to expect him to understand the interrelationship of concepts that Marty introduces in his book without reading it for himself. This is a problem as I have the only copy of Marty's book in our library... but I will return it soon.

Michael Staley

Masterpoint Movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the month of June 2004:

Graduate Master

Carmel Noakes Raymond Rooney

Margaret Wright

Club Master

Barbara Hopley John Hull

Christine Noakes Murray Perrin

*** Local Master**

Neil Orford

****Local Master**

Ray Cowie Frederick Hoult

Arthur Pomery

Regional Master

Peter Van Eden

State Master

Irena Hall

Helen McLauchlan (MP Secretary)

Arana Winners

Young Guns Perform Well at Redlands Novice Pairs Congress

On 29 May Christine Noakes and Murray Perrin were in for a number of surprises. The first surprise was Murray's navigating which managed to get them lost. On arriving they found they were not registered, even though they had sent their form and entry fee a month earlier. The third surprise? They came 10th out of 32 pairs (after being ranked 31) and to top it off won the plate section. Well done.

Arana 2004 Tuesday Teams

The winners of this event were Judy & Gary Mitchell and Geoff & Anne Gulley. The handicap winners were Fred & Frank Hoult, Margaret Welldon and Val Cran. Congratulations to all.

Barrier Reef Gold Congress – Mackay - June

Two teams ventured to Mackay this year. Lorraine & Peter Fredericks, Val Acklin & Lil Harris (Val's cousin); Rosemary & Robert Matthew and Barbara & Warren Holmes. No joy in the Teams event however, Rosemary and Robert performed well in the Walk In Pairs on the Friday; and Warren and Barbara won Best Novice Pairs overall in the Open Pairs event.

Positions Vacant - Scorers & Deputy Masterpoint Secretary

It has become evident with the absence of Richard and myself during May and June (the holiday was fabulous by the way in case you haven't heard) that an increase in the number of people who are able to score is needed. Also someone to deputise as the masterpoint secretary in case of illness or holidays.

To score sessions you need to have some computer skills. You do not need to be able to score manually and you do not need to be a director. The main skills needed are: familiarity with a keyboard and some typing skills; ability to send emails and attach files to same. The ability to find your way around Windows is a big advantage but not essential. Scoring can be done by a single person or in pairs. It can be done at the club house (first preference) or at your home.

To become the masterpoint secretary, you need all of the above plus some ability with spreadsheets. You need to have a fairly new computer with Excel plus internet access or you need to be willing to do the accumulation of masterpoints in conjunction with the principal scorer on the club house computer. If there is someone out there somewhere who is willing to take on this job I would willingly be the deputy masterpoint secretary and spend as long as necessary in training.

Helen McLauchlan
Masterpoint Secretary

Bribie Island Congress

Four Arana pairs played in the Bribie Congress on the weekend of 24 - 25 July. Unfortunately none came into the money however Murray and Christine came in slightly below Helen and Richard and well ahead of Val, Betty, Liz and Barry. Liz and Barry, Val and Betty came 2nd in the Teams.

Val Acklin



THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

So, you wanna' be a director??!!

This quiz is based on my articles over the last few months. See if you have what it takes to be a Director!

1. What should you do when an error occurs at your table?
 - a. Correct it
 - b. Call the Director
 - c. Ignore it
 - d. Advise the offender
2. When can you appeal a decision?
 - a. Anytime
 - b. Before the end of the session
 - c. Before the move is called
 - d. Up to 30mins after play ceases
3. True or false – after an opening lead out of turn Declarer can become Dummy?
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. When must a penalty card be played?
 - a. When a trump is led
 - b. At the first legal opportunity
 - c. Immediately
 - d. When declarer says so
5. What happens if there is a penalty card on the table and Declarer tells the offender's partner to lead that suit?
 - a. The card is picked up
 - b. The card remains on the table
 - c. The card must be played
 - d. It's Declarer's choice
6. What is the first option available after an insufficient bid?
 - a. The offender can correct it
 - b. Offender's partner can accept it
 - c. The opening bidder can accept it
 - d. The next player in rotation can accept it
7. After an insufficient bid of 1♦ (not accepted) the offender jump bids to 3♦. What next?
 - a. Everyone bids normally
 - b. Offender must pass at the next turn to bid
 - c. Offender's partner must pass for one round
 - d. Offender's partner must pass from then on
8. When an insufficient bid (not accepted) is *Conventional* offender's partner must ...
 - a. Pass for one round
 - b. Pass from then on
 - c. Make only one bid
 - d. Bid normally
9. When is a 'revoke' established?
 - a. Immediately
 - b. At the end of the play
 - c. When the offending side plays to the next trick
 - d. When the non-offending side plays to the next trick
10. After a revoke (not won by the offender) the non-offending side wins all the remaining tricks. What penalty applies?
 - a. None
 - b. 1 trick
 - c. 2 tricks
 - d. An adjusted score
11. A player revokes on the 12th trick. What happens?
 - a. It is corrected without penalty
 - b. It can not be corrected
 - c. Play continues without penalty
 - d. A 1 trick penalty is given
12. True or false – after failing to follow suit Declarer must leave the card on the table as a penalty card
 - a. True
 - b. False

Well, how did you go? Look on the back to find out.

- 12 Top of the class!
9 - 11 You're getting there
6 - 8 Better read some more
0 - 5 Maybe next year!

Bob Pearce

Defender Misses Chance To Kill Dummy's Entry

The most important area of card play is not by declarer, but by the *defenders*. One will be a defender *twice* as often as declarer (on the average), so the need for skilful play is evident. Today's deal is from my advanced lesson program.



6♣ by South

Both Vul	♠ 5 3 2			
	♥ K Q 7 6 4			
	♦ A 2			
	♣ 10 7 2			
	♠ 7			♠ 10 4
	♥ 9 3 2			♥ A J 8
	♦ K 10 4			♦ J 9 7 6 5 3
	♣ J 9 8 6 5 4			♣ Q 3
	♠ A K Q J 9 8 6			
	♥ 10 5			
	♦ Q 8			
Lead: ♣ 6	♣ A K			

West	North	East	South
		Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠
All Pass			

South held nine solid tricks in spades – one short of game in his own hand – so he opened two clubs, strong and artificial. North showed his heart suit, South bid his spades, North raised, and South made a slam try by showing the ace of clubs. North cooperated by showing the diamond ace, and South proceeded to slam after checking for aces with Blackwood.

West led the club six to the queen and ace, and declarer drew two rounds of trumps as West threw a club. Declarer's best chance was to establish two heart tricks, so he led a low heart toward dummy. West played the *deuce*, his lowest card, which showed an *odd* number of hearts; declarer played the queen, and East correctly *ducked*. East knew from West's

“count signal” that declarer could not have a singleton heart, so ducking was safe and might be essential.

Declarer returned to his hand with a spade and led another heart; low, king, ace. East knew that declarer could not establish the heart suit (for lack of entries), so he simply returned a club and hoped his partner could win another trick to set the contract.

Oops! Declarer won the club and started leading his trumps — and I mean *all of them*. On the last trump, West had to discard from K-10 in diamonds and the jack of clubs. If he threw his club, dummy's 10 would be high, so he let go a diamond. Declarer then discarded the club 10 and won the last two tricks with the ace and queen of diamonds. Well played, but...

East offered a helping hand. After winning the heart ace, it was essential to return a diamond to knock out the ace – dummy's only entry – then declarer must go down.



New Members

A warm welcome to :

Maurice Booler
 Peter Ebert
 Carla Hynes
 Ann Tennock
 David Lehmann
 Jan Long
 Julie Brook

Did You Know

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.

Clever Declarer Play Would Fool Any Defender

The old proverb that concludes, "... you can't fool all of the people all of the time," is indisputable, but declarer's play on today's deal would come close. I doubt that there is a defender in the world – experts included – who would not be fooled.



4 ♠ by South

E-W Vul	♠ A J 10		
	♥ 8 6 5 2		
	♦ K 3 2		
	♣ 9 8 2		
♠ 6 2		♠ 5 4 3	
♥ Q 10 9		♥ J 7 3	
♦ Q J 10 9 4		♦ 8 7 6	
♣ A 10 4		K Q J 3	
	♠ K Q 9 8 7		
	♥ A K 4		
	♦ A 5		
Lead: ♦ Q	♣ 7 6 5		

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	All Pass	

The bidding was simple. South bid one of his five-card suit, North raised to two, South bid three to invite game, and North took the plunge to four. Fancy bidders take note: Simple bidding is often the winning strategy because it gives away less information to the opponents.

West led the diamond queen. Declarer has nine sure tricks – five spades, two hearts and two diamonds – and the only real prospect for a 10th is to establish dummy's fourth heart, which requires that the outstanding hearts divide three-three. The problem, of course, is that, as soon as declarer gives up a heart, the opponents will be able to cash three club tricks to set the contract. Translation: There is no way to make this bid legitimately.

An average player might win the diamond ace, draw trumps, and play ace, king and another heart. Alert defenders then would see the need to switch to clubs – down one.

A better player would lead hearts deceptively. A good tactic is to draw two rounds of trumps ending in dummy, then lead a low heart and

duck the trick to West. Unaware of the heart situation, West may continue diamonds; then declarer can unblock the top hearts, cross to dummy in trumps, and discard a club on the last heart. But this line of play looks suspicious. A competent West player would see through it.

How then should you play? Decide before reading further.

Take full credit if you *ducked the opening lead*. I defy anyone who tells me that West would shift to a club. He surely will continue diamonds, then it's all over (even for Yogi). Win the diamond ace, two top hearts, two top spades ending in dummy, diamond king (throw a *heart*), ruff a heart, spade to dummy, etc. Easy game.



Increase in Table Numbers

This is an illustration of how table numbers have increased since we built the club house. As you can see, table numbers for 2004 are already nearly as many as for the whole of 2001 (BCH). We now run sessions Monday and Tuesday at 9.30am, Monday and Wednesday at 7.30pm, Friday at 10.00am (BYO lunch), and Saturday at 1.00pm. If you are able to play another session some weeks, Monday evening and Saturday afternoon need support.

Please remember that although table fees have increased, running costs have also risen considerably with a commensurate increase in services to club members and visitors; eg: no more putting out and away of tables and chairs; more comfortable and pleasant surroundings; increased sessions and competitions and therefore increased opportunities for earning masterpoints and free game vouchers; tea lady at the three large sessions; increase in access to, and number of, library books.

Table Nos	2004	2003	2002	2001
1st qtr	938.5	806	677.5	587
2nd qtr	919.0	764.5	738.5	623.5
3rd qtr	265.00	920.5	752.5	555
4th qtr		904.5	791	560
Annual Increase	2122.5	3395.5	2959.5	2325.5
		436.0	634.0	

Management Committee



Ann Pearce
3351 5114 0414 258 116

Lip Balms - Rose Geranium, mint or Lemon Myrtle
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See these products and more at the Ferny Grove Markets on the last Sunday of every month, or why not ask a few friends to your place and have an Aroma Australis party?

Products also on display at my home at Ferny Hills

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BARRY GEORGE

Answers to Director's Challenge

1 b	7 d
2 d	8 b
3 a	9 c
4 b	10 a
5 a	11 a
6 d	12 b

**Copy deadline:
for September issue, 25th August 2004.**

Barbara Holmes – Ed

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Important Dates

August

- **1 (Sun)** – Nthn Suburbs Novice Teams (0-99); Sunnybank Swiss Pairs; Toowoomba Swiss Pairs
- **6 (Fri)** – **Friday Red Point Pairs (week 1)**
- **7 (Sat)** – Mackay Novice Pairs (0-99)
- **7 – 8 (Sat/Sun)** – Maryborough Pairs & Teams Surfers Teams
- **8 (Sun)** – **Arana Club Teams Championship**
Toowong Novice Teams (0-99);
Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs (0-99)
- **11 (Wed)** – Brisbane Show Holiday (EKKA)
- **13 (Fri)** – **Friday Red Point Pairs (week 2)**
- **14 (Sat)** – Townsville Novice Pairs (0-99)
- **14 – 15 (Sat/Sun)** – Qld Butler Pairs Championship; Rockhampton Teams
- **21-22 (Sat/Sun)** – Bundaberg Pairs Congress
- **22 (Sun)** – BBC Graded Swiss Teams
- **24 (Tues)** – **Forest Place Red Point Pairs**
- **27-28 (Fri/Sat)** – Tully Pairs;
Brisbane Zone GNOT Final.
- **28-29 (Sat/Sun)** – Warwick Spring Pairs
- **29 (Sun)** – Sunshine Coast Teams



Mitchell Brandtman

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...is pleased to be involved in the development of the

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Mitchell Brandtman has 31 years experience in providing innovative cost solutions to the construction industry

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