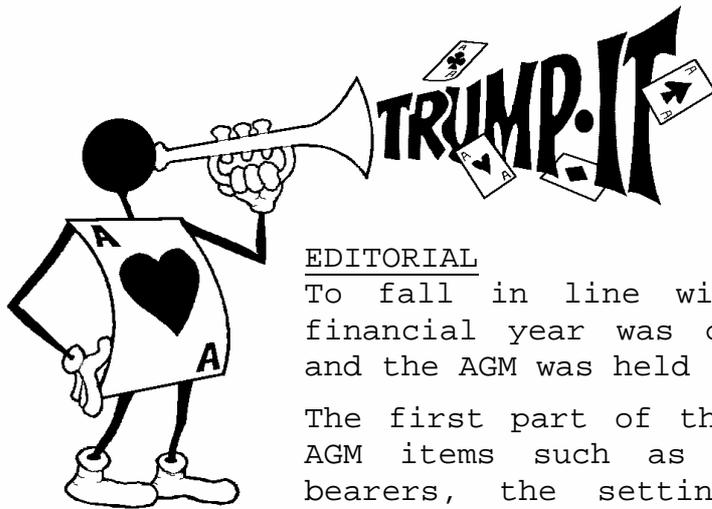


ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB INC



FEBRUARY, 1993
VOL. 7 ISSUE 1

EDITORIAL

To fall in line with the QBA, our club's financial year was changed to 31st December and the AGM was held 3/2/93.

The first part of the meeting covered proper AGM items such as the election of office bearers, the setting of subscriptions and table fees. The official part of the meeting was then closed and members were given the opportunity to raise questions, offer suggestions or put forward motions.

At this meeting, the following were elected to the Management Committee for the 1993 year.

BOB PEARCE	PRESIDENT
RICHARD McLAUHLAN	VICE-PRESIDENT
PETER NOTTINGHAM	TREASURER
JAN RAE	SECRETARY

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

TREVOR CULLEN	MARIAN RICHARDSON
PAM HORTON	JUDY VALENTINE
TED McGRATH	

HONORARY AUDITOR:	KEVIN SIMPSON
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Subscriptions and fees remain the same as last year. \$10 Joining Fee, \$15 Membership Subscription and \$3 [members] - \$4 [visitors] for Table Fees. The QBA and ABF Levies [\$8 and \$5 respectively], are also due. In accordance with our Constitution, subscription and levies are to be paid by the first week in March to avoid membership being lapsed.

A motion to discontinue biscuits at morning tea and supper time was discussed in length and defeated.

Our club calendar seems to grow busier each time another year comes around and this year is no exception with the addition of our Inaugural Congress. Although still a few months away (June 5th - 6th), I have prepared a budget that has been submitted to the Management Committee and I am now finalising food details and job planners. We are limiting the size of the Congress to 30 tables to ensure player comfort. We do not anticipate any problem in filling this field. Shortly, I will be calling upon members to volunteer for the various jobs entailed. I hope you will all lend your support so that we can stage a Congress to be proud of.

JUDY VALENTINE (Editor)

REACTIONS OF A NOVICE DIRECTOR by Noel Haysom

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 complaisant 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-arrangement, 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 in plenty of time. If I may quote from Larry Harris' "Bridge Director's Companion" -

"In (some) groups, the focus might be towards sociability, as opposed to timeliness" and -

"Less experienced players may take up to 10 minutes per board and feel pushed even then."

Without going to extremes, there are certainly some elements of similarity between our Tuesday group and the groups Harris was referring to.

We want more recruits to the pool of Directors! Be in it. You won't be shoved in off the deep end if you do - you can always call for help when you need it. Judy, Pam, Jenny, Bob, Muriel, Ted and others will always respond!

CLUB MASTERPOINT STATUS

The following members received their "Master's" Certificate for the quarter ended 31/12/92. Congratulations to all.

JUNIOR MASTER

MARY CRAIG	NEV DIXON	DIANA FALCONER
PAT DIXON	ALISON FULWOOD	CAROLYN GARDEN
JUDITH HENDERSON	ANITA HILLIER	FRAN HUSBAND
LILLIAN KEMP	PETER NOTTINGHAM	JEAN PARRY
KAY PAULL	KATH ROONEY	JOHN WILLSON
RAYMOND WILLSON	PAUL YATES	

CLUB MASTER

HAZEL BITOMSKY	DARRYL CULLEN	TREVOR CULLEN
WELLA HOOPER	RICHARD McLAUHLAN	MURIEL MILLER
BOB PEARCE	JUDY PERKINS	AILSAS SMITH
RITA WOOD		

STATE MASTER PAM HORTON

A REFLECTION ON THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS by Judy Valentine

As it is Gold Coast Congress time again, I reflect on the year 1990 when Pam and Jenny joined Jessica and I, for the first time, in the Swiss Teams Event, starting Tuesday evening, finishing after the Friday afternoon session. I remember this Congress quite clearly. Pam and Jenny were both very nervous (quite a natural reaction when it is your first Congress) and all the words of comfort fell on deaf ears. I was clucking around in my normal manner, like a hen protecting her chicks, to ensure that every match was pleasant. After a shaky start, our team, seeded 35 out of 100 teams present, dropped to the bottom. From then on, it was one of the most exciting events I have ever played in. We won all our matches to claw our way to the top of the field, meeting teams of considerably higher standard than ours. Our winning streak ceased, of course, when we reached the top of the field, but we finished 20th, a very commendable effort. Jessica convinced me to write a poem for the QBA Bulletin but I never sent it in. As a light-hearted

item in our first Trump-It, I give you "The Charge of the Fun Foursome" with a sincere apology to Alfred, Lord Tennyson who wrote the wonderful poem - "The Charge of the Light Brigade".

I

Half a row, half a row,
Half a row forward,
Towards the top half of the field,
Charged the fun foursome.
"Creep" the Valentine team,
"Slowly we go", I said.
Towards the top section,
Charged the fun foursome.

II

"Slower" the Valentine Team,
As on and on we thundered,
"This is Contract Bridge we play.
Not !!!@@*?? 500".
Now you've gone and done it,
Every match you've won it,
Now we're all in for it,
Up to the top section,
Charged the fun foursome.

III

Top teams to the right of us,
Top teams to the left,
Top teams in the front of us,
We're going to meet the best.
Psychs in nearly every match,
Steadily we played and won,
Into the back wall,
Into the Jaws of Strength,
Charged the fun foursome.

IV

Flash as the cards came down,
Not an expression on face to be found,
No word to disturb the stillness around,
Playing to win,
While all of us wondered,
How we managed to get there,
and managed to stay there,
IMPS to VPs,
It all was to much,
So down we did drop,
Out of the top section,
Charged the fun foursome.

V

Too short did our glory last,
And now that the time has past,
We really do wonder
How we rose to the task,
The Valentine Team,
Fun-loving foursome.