



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

June - July 2007

Vol 21 No 5

From the PRESIDENT

Our June congress is over for another year, and again Arana excelled itself as a congress host. 42 pairs and 34 teams participated, a total of 220 players over the two days. We should all feel proud of our club, and in particular Barbara Holmes and her willing band of helpers. This was Barbara's first attempt as congress convenor and judging by the compliments we have received during the congress and since, she did a first class job. This year we had a sponsor and our thanks go to Marilyn Davies of Aveo for their sponsorship of \$1100.

On the subject of Aveo, our recent visit to their Albany Creek centre was again well supported with over \$220 raised for a charity of our choice. I will report further on how this was distributed in a later issue. Our relationship with Aveo is a good one thanks to Marilyn (who is a member of our club), and I expect the Aveo day will become a popular, well supported annual event.

Our next round of beginner lessons start on 12th July and I ask that you promote them among your friends and neighbours so we can get a good roll up.

The club teams championship is scheduled for Sunday 1st July. Please get your team together and support this event.

I have noticed a recent trend of the return of post mortems after each hand and an increase of talk at the table during play. Whilst I don't want to see our play sessions sanitised, could I please have your co-operation in eliminating post mortems and minimising the chatter.

DEADLINE
JULY 23 2007

Editor

Ph: 3359 6262

Email: dandm31@optusnet.com.au

AVEO BRIDGE DAY

On the 24th of May, 34 pairs arrived to play a rousing game of bridge at the AVEO residence at Albany Creek. This is the second year the event has been hosted by AVEO. The job of director and scorer was valiantly handled by Val Cran. The entry fee was a gold coin of choice with the total takings to be donated to a charity of Arana's choice. The field was divided into two sections. After 3 rounds we adjourned to a lovely roast lunch in the Dining Room.

Play was completed and while Val attended to the scoring, everyone was invited to a tour of the residence. The two sections were joined and the overall winners North/South were Peggy Whittaker and Irena Hall, and East/West Jenny Lewis and Pam Horton. Their prizes were lovely gift baskets. The door prize, two theatre tickets to Birch Carroll and Coyle, was won by Darlene Smith. It was a lovely day, at a lovely venue, and everyone is encouraged to participate next year when I am sure it will be held again.

D. Smith.

♣ ♦ Important Phone Numbers ♥ ♠

Clubhouse Phone Number: (07) 3851 0299

Email address: aranabridge@netspace.net.au

Results:

<http://aranabridge.customer.netspace.net.au>

President: David Lehmann 3205 7276

Vice-President: Barbara Holmes 3300 6654

Secretary: Tony Agar 3851 1362

Treasurer: Jan McRobbie 3355 2425

Partner Contact: Betty Willson 3355 2519

ETIQUETTE

1. Courtesy at the table means doing nothing to discomfort others.
2. Greet your opponents on arrival at the table.
3. Make new players and visitors welcome. Wearing of name tags at all times is very helpful.
4. Do not make any remark to embarrass or discomfort your partner or opponent.

2-DAY SWISS PAIRS & SWISS TEAMS CONGRESS SATURDAY 2 JUNE 2007 - SUNDAY 3 JUNE 2007

Convener's Report

Wait while I step down from the roller coaster and what a ride I have had. What an experience and learning curve and how rewarding was the outcome.

It was two months of anxiety and trepidation leading up to the last week, the deadline for the entries and then the actual Congress days. The last couple of days saw some changes in the pairs and teams due to illness but these were overcome quite easily. Forgetting to order the "boards" was quite dramatic but I was able to call up Kim Ellaway (QBA) who mobilised her troops and all was ready on the Friday morning for pick-up. Our wonderful sponsor, AVEO represented by Marilyn Davies, funded the Congress to the tune of \$1,100 (including GST) and Arana is most grateful for their support.

Under the Directorship of Trevor Strickland the Congress was a winner with all running very smoothly. There were 42 Pairs and 34 Teams. I understand that this was on par for last year. The stand-by pair of Pauline Ford and Beth O'Reilly was called on to play and at the last minute we were able to organise a team to make up an even number for the Sunday. This team consisted of Blanche Slaughter, Betty Willson, Lyn Haysom and Geoff Doyle. A big thank you to these people who made life easier for the Director (and me).

I can't thank enough the members who when asked to assist were only too happy to do so. To have responsible and dependable people in charge of the kitchen (Anne Tennock and Gay Hull) and a wonderful provedore (Irena Hall) who purchased, cooked and prepared food for the two days was such a bonus. Thanks to Jan McRobbie in her capacity as Treasurer and official "sounding board". Kath Rooney made a great success of the raffle and Don Cutmore was in charge of the wine purchases. Gordon Broadley and his workers did a magnificent job on the grounds. They looked superb. Ailsa Smith's floral arrangement and Allan Box's roses and gerberas made a fine display. I had an able and willing team who worked hard and long and there are too many to mention here but so many were always there to assist wherever possible and did it in a quiet and efficient manner. On behalf of the Club I am still receiving compliments from bridge players (even at the recent Mackay Barrier Reef Congress), regarding the high calibre of our Congress and the delicious food that was served.

I have given a full list of helpers etc to the President and I understand that David has thanked each of these people individually.

ARISING FROM THE CONGRESS

I would like to see the Club purchase new tablecloths to be used for Congresses and a new batch of table number cards (at least 1-40). I would also like the Committee to consider commencement time for the Saturday Pairs being brought forward to 9:30am. Quite a number of people turned up expecting a 9:30 start which is widely accepted in the bridge world. The day did not finish until approximately 5:15, which makes it a late day particularly when people have evening engagements.

Thank you to the Committee and the Club for allowing me to "learn" the ropes of convening a congress. It is has been something I have wanted to do for some time and I am grateful to have been given this opportunity.

BARBARA HOLMES

Convener

Arana 2-Day Congress 2007

CONGRESS RAFFLE WINNERS

Saturday - Zelma O'Connor
Kath Downs
Irena Hall

Sunday - Meta Goodman
Elsie Anders
Dick Trollope
Betty Willson
Jenny Lewis

Congratulations to these lucky winners.

Our special thanks go to all those who contributed items for the magnificent hamper – and to Kath Rooney for her organisation – the result - \$1090 to the club!!

BOOK REVIEW

SQUEEZES MADE SIMPLE

By Judi McKee

Just in case you are wondering - this review **IS** about Bridge or more specifically about a particular aspect of the playing of the hand – the **SQUEEZE** plays.

This little book (only just over 50 pages) is really helpful in the way it explains the needs and methods for setting up a successful squeeze play. That's not to say its "real easy" to understand and unfortunately understanding is one thing - to recognise that the possibility of a squeeze play exists and then do it is another !!

The book first explains what is required for a squeeze play to be setup and successfully executed and then goes on to give examples followed by an explanation of the steps required and finally some sample hands for you to test and sort out your own understanding.

The different types of squeeze plays are pointed out and explained and finally ways of combating a squeeze play are also pointed out with, again, sample hands and tests being given.

The types of Squeeze discussed are:-

- Automatic - the defender will be squeezed regardless of table position;

- Positional – the defender will be squeezed only if in a certain table position;
- Double – both defenders will be squeezed

The Techniques discussed are:-

- Rectifying the Count – losing tricks early in the play
- Isolating the Guard – ruffing out one defenders card(s)
- Vienna Coup – Cashing the Ace when needed
- Playing a simple (automatic) squeeze as a double squeeze
- Defending against squeezes

Using the print-outs to test yourself is possibly one way to learn but I'm finding it hard to recognise a squeeze situation in the printouts – they don't occur too often. Hopefully practice at the table will be rewarding but I suspect also frustrating when you do it wrong or it fails anyhow (as it surely will). **HOWEVER** its only a game after all and **SUCH** good fun !!!

Next time I get you in a squeeze - will I get a kiss ?? - **NO** not you Arthur !!!!

Happy Bridging – Cheers, **John Martin**.

A FRIENDLY REQUEST

As we have a number of medically vulnerable members in the club, please consider staying at home when you have a cold or the flu. Your thoughtfulness in this regard would be appreciated.

Liz Marshall - on behalf of the Committee.

Masterpoint Movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 30th May.

Graduate Master

Mike Haysom

Club Master

William Herron

Ken Mewburn

Judith Nelson

Local Master

Gary Ypinazar

***Local Master**

John Andrew

Patricia Andrew

Robert Matthew (MP Secretary)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sometimes, hesitation on playing a card, even touching a card and then playing another can be seen as a signal.

For example: my partner was playing in a contract situation.

	<u>N</u>	
	K J 10 X	
<u>W</u>		<u>E</u>
X		Q X
	<u>S</u>	
	X	

South led a low Club. West touched one card then played another. North played the King and returned the Jack, East playing the Queen.

Perhaps West thought the hesitation, handling of the cards, was "clever", but it was in fact highly unethical.

As a defender wait until you have made up your mind before playing the card you intend. Don't play with your cards for fear of being accused of something you did not intend.

Val Acklin

Look Before You Leap!

Vul: E/W
Dlr: South

	♠AJ		
	♥AQ9		
	♦A8743		
	♣AKJ		
♠642		♠3	
♥106542		♥KJ8	
♦Q		♦KJ10	
♣10864		♣Q97532	
	♠KQ109875		
	♥73		
	♦9532		
	♣--		
S	W	N	E
3♠	P	6♠	all pass

Opening lead ♣4

Over to Eddie Kantar:-

When a partner puts down a dummy like that, you don't want to disappoint. What is your plan?

Don't look a gift horse in the mouth. With eleven top tricks, why not stick in the ♣J? Players have been known to lead from queens. If the ♣J holds, you are playing for an overtrick; but what if East, that scoundrel, produces the Queen? Discard a diamond!

If East returns a diamond, as good as anything, win the ♦A, discard your two remaining diamonds on dummy's clubs, ruff another diamond, draw the last trump and discard your losing heart on those two good diamonds in dummy. It's a piece of cake providing you discard at trick one.

If you ruff the ♣Q at trick one, you cannot afford to duck a diamond before you draw trumps lest the opponents engineer a possible ruff. If you draw trumps and then duck a diamond, West might win and lead a heart forcing you to decide whether to finesse or play for diamonds to be 2-2. Not pretty! The key is to keep West, the potential danger hand off lead later in the hand when you could be hurt by a heart switch. You can do this by allowing East, the non-danger hand, to win a trick early. East can't hurt you with any play.

IMPORTANT DATES

June		
Sat	30	QBA ANC Teams Day QBA Club Director Exam
July		
Sun	1	QBA Graded Pairs (QCBC)
Sat	7	Caloundra Novice Pairs
Sun	8	Noosa Teams Lockyer Pairs
Sat	14	Ipswich Novice Swiss Pairs
Sun	15	Gold Coast Swiss Teams
Mon	16	Mon PM Red Points
Wed	18	Wed Teams week 1
Sun	22	BBC Graded Swiss Teams
Wed	25	Wed Teams week 2
Thu	26	Council Meeting
Sat	28-9	Moreton-Bribie Pairs/Teams
Sun	29	Nthn Subs Novice Teams Broadwater Swiss Teams

EDITORIAL

How universal is the pastime of playing cards was brought to mind recently. Some years ago, on a trip to Gotland, an island in the Baltic Sea, we bought a pack of playing cards (as one does) as one of several mementos of our journey. They were of course Swedish – a feature which was not realised until we brought them out to use!

No great dramas really – only minor difficulties with the Ace, King, Queen and Jack. The Aces were obviously Aces, but one tended to do a double-take when an “E” appeared in the corner. Similarly, the Queens – from the pictures were obvious, but a “D” in the corner instead of “Q” ensured a quick look at the picture. The Kings seemed straight forward at first – with the expected “K” in the corner. However, some confusion ensued when other picture cards appeared with “Kn” in the corner. These, of course were the Jacks.

Naturally all was explained when an English/Swedish dictionary was consulted. In Swedish “Ace” is “Ess”, King is “Kung”, Queen is “Drottning” and Jack is “Knekt”. “Knekt” can also mean “soldier” but i kort (in cards) means “knave”.

David Backstrom



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CONGRESS PHOTOS



Australia Wide Pairs



Congratulations to Murray Perrin and Alice Brown on their score of 69% in the Australia Wide Pairs on May 23. They finished an outstanding 7th overall.