



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

March 2004

Vol 18 No 2

An Address from our newly elected President

TO ALL MEMBERS ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB

This is written in advance as I am now in NZ with my beautiful daughter and grand children. It is indeed an honour to be designated as your President for 2004 and certainly a privilege.

I look forward to your help and assistance particularly in areas that I am not familiar with, eg congresses, QBA and ABF. With the depth of expertise in our Club I hold no fear.

I ask you to look around our Clubrooms and take in what has been achieved since the inception of ACBC. Past stewardship has given us all a facility that is second to none and I personally give gratitude to all those past and present.

The last three years under President Bob has been most satisfying. Your Committee has worked damn hard and decisions regarding all administration matters were discussed in depth before implementation.

We on the Committee have been going through growing pains as the management is vastly different with your Clubrooms rather than rental premises. All operations of our Club must be in accordance with standard accounting procedures, as not are we only under auditor instruction but also with the impost of GST, under the eye of the Tax Department. Our Club will remain just that and our reputation as the "friendly club" retained.

However we must run it as a business for the good, not only for the present, but the future.

We have been most fortunate in receiving two windfalls from the Gaming Grants Commission which has allowed us the luxury of equipment that was only a dream of the future.

The strength and liability of any organisation is on membership and with your help a target of 300 is not that far away.

I would like to personally thank President Bob for his leadership over the past exciting years and I look forward to your help as a 2004 Committee member.

To the new Committee, I look forward to your commitment and input as a President is only as good as his troops.

To Geoff and Anne Gulley, Warren and Barbara Holmes, only a few of us know how hard and how many hours you have contributed to the Club. Don't think you can rest as I will be drawing on your valuable advice and help.

I will leave to Bob the praise to all the many helpers and much appreciated assistance to the smooth operation of our Club.

In passing, we are the "friendly club". Above all remember it's only a game.

Neil E Hamilton

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held on Tuesday 17 February 2004 The following office bearers were elected:

President:	Neil Hamilton
Vice President:	Val Acklin
Secretary:	Tony Agar
Treasurer:	Gay Hull
Committee Members:	Helen McLauchlan
	Barry Mitchell
	Ray Cowie
	Bob Dancer
	Liz Marshall
	Val Cran

BRIDGE ADDICTS ANONYMOUS ♠♥♦♣

Vonnie Hoo

Bridge is a partnership game, so says Author Eddie Kantor in "Introduction to Defence Play".

One of the best methods of conveying information to your partner is by way of signals, such as the "Count Signal".

♠ 7 6 3

♥ 7 2

♦ K Q J 10 4

♣ 9 4 3

♠ Q 9 4 2

♥ J 9

♦ 6 3 2

♣ J 8 6 5

♠ J 10 8

♥ Q 10 8 7 6

♦ A 9 5

♣ 10 9

♠ A K 5

♥ A K 5 4

♦ 8 7

♣ A K Q 2

South is in 3NT. West leads a low spade, won by Declarer. Declarer leads a Diamond to Dummy's King and West plays the 6, which is a very important card to give the correct message to his partner East.

A "high card" tells his partner he has an ODD number of cards – such as 3 cards.

A "low card", in this case the 2 or 3 would convey the message of an EVEN number.

So East knows to play the Ace precisely on the second round. Holding up to the third round enables Declarer to make his Contract and as Defenders we don't want that. Which of us likes to see a happy opponent.

There are other methods of getting your message across and that must be a partnership arrangement.

(Psychologists tell me I have to admit I have an addiction before they can cure me. Let them wait.)

♠♥♦♣

ARANA

1 – Day Swiss Teams

9:30 am Sunday 14 March 2004

Entry fee: \$22 pp (\$88 per team)

Entries close: Monday 7 March 2004

Entry forms in brochure rack

2004 GNOT – ARANA CLUB HEATS

At 7:30 pm on Friday nights

Session 1 – 12 March

Session 2 – 19 March

Session 3 – 26 March

Entries close: 7:30 pm Wednesday 10 March

Table fees: \$8.00 per session

Entry Forms available in the brochure rack.

Entries and enquiries to Helen McLauchlan

Phone: 3263 9024

Email: rmclauch@bigpond.net.au

Copies of the **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting** held on 17th February 2004 are available in the pamphlet rack for Club members. A copy is also pinned to the notice board.

MASTERPOINT RANKINGS

for month of December 2003

Graduate Master	David Backstrom Keith Howman
Club Master	Kathy Burgess
Local Master	John Black Mary Carton
*Local Master	Ray Cowie Carmel Steer
**Local Master	Caroline Black Neil Hamilton Barbara Holmes
Regional Master	Joan Mills
State Master	Peggy Whittaker Tony Agar

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By Deslei Den Haan



Towards the end of last year this old photo of club members playing bridge in a tent was displayed on the notice board. Did you wonder about the tent? The reason is simple!

In 1992 the Pine Shire asked the club to put on a "display" for the "Hill's Expo" which was being held in the Lesley Patrick Park (beside the Arana hall), on Saturday the 15th June. President Bob Pearce borrowed a tent from the local S.E.S., whose members kindly assisted with putting it up. Bob also made a special paper banner (which kept tearing in the wind) and information sheets created by Vice President Richard McLauchlan were available to the public. Fifteen members relaying each other, played informal teams throughout a fun filled day!

PS The club these days has a "proper" banner!

The History of the Club is available for borrowing, and our Librarians, Jan and Kath will be pleased to organise this for you.

BRING & BUY TABLE

The "bring and buy" table is situated in the back left hand corner of the clubhouse. Take the time to browse. All proceeds go to the Club.



LIBRARY LINES

Helen McLauchlan has donated a book to the Library called "**Competitive Bidding at Duplicate Pairs**" by Peter Hall. Helen recommends it as a useful book for intermediate players interested in understanding when to compete, when to double, and when to pass, in particular in a competitive auction which will be played in a part score. It is especially helpful for people who are used to playing rubber or social bridge or a lot of teams bridge where the scoring and the goals are different.

Good complementary books are by Marty Bergen and Larry Cohen.

"BOOKLOOK"

by Alan Rae

'CONVENTIONS AT A GLANCE' by Pamela & Matthew Granovetter

As the title states this is a compilation of more than 120 bridge conventions ---- from the "common" to the "exotic".

It is a "palm sized" publication, which claims that it contains, "The most popular duplicate conventions and treatments and how to defend against them" and is "a must for any serious student of the game".

It is interesting for the intermediate or advancing bridge player to review their own favourite conventions and to further examine the breadth and mechanics of a great range that can be employed. There is no evaluation or criticism of the usefulness of any of the individual conventions that is up to the reader.

I found it useful to confirm and clarify the mechanics of the more popular conventions.

Unfortunately I could find no reference to, or explanation of, the "**Frank & Val** " system a serious deficiency!

Verdict a useful book to consult.

This book is available for borrowing from the Arana Club Library



The Director's Chair

This is the first article in what will be an on-going series from the Directors of the Club. The aim is to inform players of some of the procedures that must be observed when an error occurs at the table, as well as hopefully avoiding some of the more common transgressions that require the Director's attention.

In this edition we will review what to do, and what **not** to do, when such a mistake occurs at your table.

DO ...

- Stop the bidding or play.
- (Next player to bid or play) Raise your hand and call the Director.
- Keep your hand raised until the Director arrives.
- Wait patiently!
- Explain clearly what has happened. Be factual!
- Ask for your options.
- Request a clarification of them if necessary.
- Ask for the appropriate Law to be stated if you are uncertain
- Accept the Director's ruling (but see '**APPEALS**' below).
- Remain calm and objective.

DON'T ...

- Delay calling the Director.
- Continue bidding or playing.
- Attempt to correct the error.
- Try to advise others what to do.
- Make statements about your cards/bids that may assist your partner with later play.

- Re-arrange or change the cards or the bid.
- Try to tell the Director what to do.
- Show dissent at the ruling.
- Use emotive language about opponents.

Remember that the Director is there to restore balance to the situation – not to give you an unfair advantage over others. If you think that the Director's decision is incorrect or unfair then you do have the right to appeal. However you should not appeal simply because you don't like the decision, but because you think it is in error, or does not provide you with adequate compensation.

APPEALS

You should notify the Director that you intend to appeal the decision. The Director will organise for a couple of competent players to review it at the end of play, and to pass on their decision to you. Please note that any appeal may be made up to 30 minutes after play ceases, but not later. You are expected to accept the result of the appeal with good grace.

Please keep in mind that Directors are fallible, and certainly can make mistakes, but that they do not do so intentionally or out of spite. It is worth remembering that in Club events the Director is also a player and has to try and please his/her partner as well as everyone else! This is not always easy when distracted by calls to other tables.

Finally, the Club is growing fast and is bound to need more people who are willing to direct in the future. There will be courses organised by the QBA shortly for those who intend to become qualified as club directors. Please give some thought as to whether you would like to be one of them.

Bob Pearce

Pearls of Wisdom (from our Pearl)

Tw'as the night before Christmas
Two guests in our house
Had started to play bridge
With me and my spouse

Please tell me she shouted
'Why don't you double?
Tw'as plain from the start
That we had them in trouble'.

'Tis futile, my dear'
Said I, taking no stand
'To discuss it with you ---
Let's play the next hand'.

'Just remember next time'
Said she, icing a frown
'To double a contract
That's sure to go down'.

So I dealt the cards
In a downtrodden state
Then I opened 'One Spade'
And awaited my fate.

North

♠ 9 8 7 6

♥ 6 5 4 3 2

♦ 8 7 6 5

♣ - - -

West

♠ - - -

♥ Q J 10 9

♦ K Q J 10 9

♣ K Q J 10

East

♠ A K Q J 10

♥ A K 8 7

♦ - - -

♣ A 9 8 7

South

♠ 5 4 3 2

♥ - - -

♦ A 4 3 2

♣ 6 5 4 3 2

The guy sitting South
Was like I have known
He played and he bid
In a world of his own

'Two Diamonds', he countered
With scarcely a care,
The ace in his hand
Gave him courage to spare

My wife smiled faintly
And tossing her head
Leaned over the table
'I double', she said

And North for some reason
I cannot determine
Bid 'Two Hearts', as though
He were giving a sermon.

I grinned as I doubled,
Enjoying the fun,
And turned round to South
To see where he'd run.

But South undistressed,
Not at loss for a word,
Came forth with 'Two Spades'
Did I hear what I heard?

The other two paused
And in sheer disbelief
I said 'Double, my friend,
That will bring you to grief'.

South passed with a nod
His composure serene
My wife with a flourish
Led out the Heart Queen

I sat there and chuckled
Inside o'er their fix
But South very calmly
Ran off with eight tricks!

He ruffed the first Heart
In his hand right away
And then trumped a Club
On the very next play.

He cross-ruffed the hand
At a breathtaking pace
Till I was left holding
Five Spades to the Ace!

In anguish my wife cried
'Your mind's growing old.
Don't you see, six No Trump
In this hand is ice cold'.

By doubling this time
I had committed a sin
It just goes to prove
That you never can win.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

From the Editor

Following our AGM on 17th February, a new President and team were elected. We are very fortunate that we have members who are prepared to give up their personal time to attend Club meetings, and perform the duties allotted to them. The Executive, Neil Hamilton, Val Acklin, Gay Hull and Tony Agar, individually carry heavy workloads to ensure the successful running of the Club. Arana also manages the Ferny Grove Parklands on behalf of the football and cricket clubs and a great deal of time and care is spent ensuring that the three clubs work together to make this lovely location a better place for everyone.

Arana Directors

Our Directors, Bob Pearce (Head Director), Frank Hault, Val Cran, Colin Anderson, Muriel Miller, Deborah Dwyer, Helen McLauchlan and Richard McLauchlan, freely give of their time as they attend the Directors' meetings and perform Directors' duties. This edition Bob commences a column, "The Director's Chair" and will keep us up-to-date on all matters affecting play.

In future newsletters we'll attempt to outline some of the other jobs our members perform which some of us know little about so that we can all have a better understanding and an appreciation of what is involved in those positions.

Barbara Holmes – Ed

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Mobile: 0411 882 033

Email: wazbarbholmes@bigfoot.com.au

Important Dates: March

- **13 - 14 (Sat)** - State Team Trials (1)
- **14 (Sun)** - Arana Swiss Teams;
- Surfers Novice Pairs (0-99)
- Rockhampton Butler Pairs
- **19 (Fri PM)** Arana G.N.O.T. Heats – Week 2
- **20 (Sat)** – State Team Trials (2)
- Eastern Suburbs Novice Teams (0-99)
- **21 (Sun)** – Sunshine Coast Graded Pairs
- **25 (Thur)** – QBA AGM
- **26 (Fri PM)** Arana G.N.O.T. Heats – Week 3
- **27 (Sat)** - State Team Trials (3)
- **28 (Sun)** – Northern Suburbs Pairs; Townsville Pairs; Toowoomba Novice Pairs

☎ 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 – 3300-2444

Partner Contact: Carol Wilson – 3353-2297



Queensland Government

**Getting more people
active through sport
and recreation**

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.



Mitchell Brandtman

Quantity Surveyors & Construction Cost Managers

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

Ferny Grove Bridge Club

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

Mitchell Brandtman's Asset Services Division advises investors on maximising returns on property investments using effective **tax depreciation schedules**.

For information on how you can maximise the return on your property investments contact Maoibh Cumming at Mitchell Brandtman on

☎ 1800 808 289

Email: bne@mitbrand.com

Internet: www.mitbrand.com

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