



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

October-November 2013

Vol 27 No 5

From the President



SINCE my last report there have been several excellent competitions at the club. Congratulations to all those who have performed well. Probably the most prestigious event was the club pairs championship. Congratulations to Helen and Richard McLauchlan for their win in that one. We should also give a very special note of thanks to John Martin who gave up his Sunday to act as non-playing Director. Lots of thanks also to those who provided such excellent snacks during the day.

I have written before about the trials faced by our directors and those manning (or womanning) the Bridgemates. However, there are some wretched souls in our midst whose lot is a hundred times more taxing than those. These poor unfortunates wander the clubroom unloved, the target of scorn and vilification, victims of the ultimate lose/lose situation. I refer of course to the custodians of the air con controls. Given the dynamics of the room, the vagaries of the weather, and the vast range of personal preferences involved, it will never be possible to please everyone. If you are one who is often discomforted by the temperature in the clubhouse please try and dress in a manner that

affords you the maximum flexibility to deal with the prevailing conditions.

Our new Wednesday daytime sessions are coming along very nicely. By all reports they are providing a very relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Do try and get along sometime. Remember you don't need a partner.

Happy bridging

Allan McIntyre (President)

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31st August 2013

Club Master Raymond Gledhill
Dianne Swift

Local Master Russell Skennerton
Trish Waters
Margaret Corley

*Local Master Sally Cox

**Local Master John Spencer

Regional Master Dawn Benes

*Regional Master Beth O'Reilly

National Master Alan Norman

Robert Matthew (MP Sec)

Wednesday Bridge

Remember, Wednesday Morning Open Session – no partner required. Still on during the school holidays.

A spouse is someone who'll stand by you through all the troubles you wouldn't have had if you'd stayed single!

Author unknown

Director's Corner

Sometimes there is an issue over whether a card has been "played" or not. The following item has been prepared based on advice from Jan Peach, QBA Director Accreditation.

Card Played From Declarer's or Defender's Hand

LAW 45A sets the correct procedure for playing a card. Each player except dummy plays a card by detaching it from his hand and facing it on the table immediately before him. Just to be clear, "hand" is defined as "the cards originally dealt to a player, or the remaining portion thereof" and is not the hand that has fingers and a thumb. Law 45C goes on to deal with the times correct procedure is not followed.

A player must play a card from his hand if it is (a) held face up, touching or nearly touching the table; or (b) maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.

If a player gets a face up card close to the table and all he hasn't done is place it on the table then such a card is usually considered played. Some players will hold the card face up about 15-20 cm from the table, making no effort to place it on the table. Such a card is regarded as played. Some players will produce a card with a flourish and maintain it nowhere near the table. The card is regarded as played.

The difficult areas are where a player detaches a card from his hand, moves it towards the table, then changes his mind. A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face, must be played to the current trick. A declarer's card is as stated as per Law 45C above. The director might ask the player to demonstrate his action with some other object.

Then there are the grey situations where the director cannot ascertain the facts, such as when NS and EW have different recollections of what happened. The director must make a decision so that the game can continue.

From Dummy

Law 45C4b caters for an unintended designation. This caters for a slip of the tongue

not a change of mind. The director must be certain that the player intended to play some other card but by some turning away of the mind from the job in hand named an unintended card. Certainly the quickness of the change has no relevance. There may be no change of mind after naming or otherwise designating the card to be played from the dummy.

In finessing situations, perhaps when a card is named before the size of LHO's card actually registers with declarer, we would essentially never allow an unintended designation because there is just such a large element of doubt.

Note that declarer touching a card in dummy (as in "Play this one") is treated separately in 45C3. There may be no change. Similarly if declarer picks up the card himself to play it then there may be no change.

Profile - Allan McIntyre



A wise man once said "you are what you is"; well I guess he wasn't that wise, his grammar was terrible! Nevertheless it is a maxim by which I have tried to live my life.

I was born in Winnipeg in Canada in 1946. My father was Canadian and my mother was English. When I was 3 my father died and Mum returned to England. I grew up in London. From an early age I always had a fascination with those faraway places with the strange sounding names. As soon as I left school and had a bit of money coming in I started taking holidays in Europe, but at age 23 I decided it was time for a real adventure. And

so I found myself in Melbourne, with no friends, no family, no job, and no money. The friends and the job were soon taken care of, but the money remained a problem for several more years. I lived in a succession of run down old houses all around Melbourne, with an ever changing motley crew of similarly young singles. Life was a blur of parties, girls and beer. Sadly this was all brought to a grinding halt when I met a lovely young Melbourne girl named Margery. Marriage soon followed as did 2 kids, Denis and Louissa, and a mortgage the size of the GNP of a small African nation (and at an interest rate of about 17% - kids these days think they have got it tough!) My remaining years in Melbourne were thus among the more sedate of my life.

Everything changed in 1976 when my employer at the time, Mobil Oil, was looking for someone to take on an admin role in Papua New Guinea. PNG had a seriously bad reputation as a place to live and the company were prepared to throw money at anyone prepared to go. The fact that I was frantically jumping up and down crying "pick me, pick me" was only partly due to the money. The same need for adventure that brought me to Australia in the first place was also a major factor in my leaving.

The new family home was in Lae PNG. Lae at this time was very much a frontier town. The area was prone to frequent sizable earthquakes, the electricity supply was irregular and the roads had potholes in which a small car might easily vanish. There was no television, in fact very little entertainment available at all, so the expatriate community made their own. They drank hard and played hard, I was in my element! I also worked hard. After a few years I was promoted to Administration Manager for the whole Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands region. It was in Lae that I was introduced to the Hash House Harriers. This is a club that has chapters worldwide. We like to call it a social running club. Others describe it as a drinking club with a running problem. I have run with them continuously to this day. As well as PNG and Australia I have run with hash clubs overseas including Thailand, The

Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vanuatu, Nepal, and The Solomon Islands. Whilst we were in Lae, Mobil Oil would pay return airfares for the whole family each year back to the city of recruitment (in our case Melbourne). The beauty of it was that you did not have to go to Melbourne, you could go anywhere up to the cost of the Melbourne fare. We were therefore able to fly every year to places like Honolulu and Singapore for little or no cost. From there we had access to the much cheaper airfares available overseas to take us further afield. I had always had the travel bug, but this opportunity only exacerbated it.

My wife, my kids, and I all have nothing but fond memories of Lae, but all good things must come to an end, and in 1983 Mobil told me I had a new job in Melbourne. I told Mobil thanks but no thanks, came to Brisbane, and bought a music business in Brookside shopping centre. During the Brookside years we were living on acreage at Bunya Downs. I had that business for 11 years.

When I sold up I had my first flirtation with retirement. It was in 1995 that I decided to learn bridge and signed up for classes with Judy Valentine at the community centre on Dawson Parade. I am hoping I will get the hang of it soon. Among my classmates at the time were Lorraine Steele, Jacqui Carbone, Carmel Steer, Joan-Anne Crank and the late Frank Hoult. Our return to Australia also gave me the chance to indulge my lifelong passion for all things football. My wife and I have been full members of the Brisbane Lions and Brisbane Roar since both clubs inception. We rarely miss a home game and travel interstate frequently to watch them (including all four of the Lions grand finals in Melbourne).

We were still travelling all over the world so I decided either my dear wife had to get a second job, or I had to get one. No prizes for guessing which way that one went. I decided on another change of direction and went into property management. I bought the management rights for firstly an apartment complex in Spring Hill, and later a townhouse complex in Kedron. I finally retired about 4 years ago in order that I could concentrate on

the important things in life, like playing bridge, running hash, cycling, watching football and chasing around after the four granddaughters that I adore.

A few of life's highlights in no particular order: climbing Mt Kilimanjaro, at 20000 ft the highest mountain in Africa (see photo at head of article) - finally running a marathon in under 3 hours - exploring ancient ruins in Mexico and Cambodia - climbing to Annapurna base camp in the Himalayas - every one of the grand finals that my football teams have won - tracking mountain gorillas on the Uganda/Rwanda border - the births of each of my two children and four granddaughters - and of course discovering Arana Bridge Club.

Vale - Bill McLauchlin

Bill played with Jean Stone until about March this year, and was recently killed in a car accident. He was an Agronomist and came from Canada about 45 years ago. Lorraine Steele spoke of him as being a perfect gentleman.

Tony's Tip

Forgoing a fatal finesse

The following is taken from a recent press article. It highlights that not all finesses are the winning line and more often than we think, a more successful play is available. However, it is not always as clear.

N Dealer, all vul. Lead DQ.

	♠ T542		
	♥ 8762		
	♦ A54		
♠ K3	♣Q5	♠ 75	
♥ T54		♥ AJ93	
♦ QJT9		♦ 872	
♣ K984	♠ AQJ986	♣ JT62	
	♥ KQ		
	♦ K63		
	♣ A73		

West	North	East	South
	pass	pass	1S
pass	2S	pass	4S

There is a potential loser in each suit but all will be well if the SK is on side and finessed. If it loses then one down. However pause and study dummy's cards. There is a clue to an extra chance. Note the ♣Q5. You hold the ♣A so if the missing King is with West you can develop an extra trick and discard a losing D in dummy. You have nothing to lose by trying as you have a loser in the club suit no matter how you play it.

Win the opening lead with the DK and immediately lead a low club towards the Q. West is obliged to rise with the K or it will not take a trick. Win the DJ return with the DA and play CQ. Now the challenge is to return to hand to discard D5 on the CA. Your only safe return is the SA so you must forgo the finesse, it is now no longer required to make your contract. So cross to SA and discard D5 on the CA. Only HA and SK remain for the defence.

Often times we should carefully consider if a finesse may prove fatal. One that occurs frequently is when you suspect that a singleton is being led. Say the person on your right bids but the opening lead by your left hand opponent is another suit. If both you and dummy have length in the suit led it is possibly a singleton lead. If you hold, say, AQxx in dummy, forgo the finesse (K is bound to be with the opponent who bid) and start drawing trumps, even if it means leading an Ace followed by small one if you don't hold the K. The object is to draw two rounds of trumps immediately to avoid possible cross trumping against you.

Tony Agar

Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common?

A. All were invented by women.

Editor: Michael Walker ph 3359 8907

Email: mandjwalker@tpg.com.au

Contributions may be by email (preferred) or by placing a note in the ideas box at the clubhouse