



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

September 2003

Vol 17 No 9

From the President 20.09.2003

We have great news for this month, with the receipt of a cheque for a Gaming Grant to cover the complete cost of two wall air-conditioners. These are intended to improve air circulation at the far end of the hall, particularly when the hall is full in summer. Thanks are due to Ray Cowie and Gary Lynch for their great work on the submission, and to the football and cricket clubs for their support of the submission. With the various clubs having received a total of over \$500,000 in grants for investment on the building and fields, it is now up to the clubs to foster growth by working on membership, promotion and further improving facilities from their own financial resources. We think that our current facilities compare favourably with most other clubs now, but there will inevitably be a trickle of further improvements.

The committee has firmly decided that the old structure of Christmas parties is unworkable. Previously, when we ran three sessions per week, we had three Christmas parties, more than most other clubs. Now we have six sessions per week, are we going to have six Christmas parties? We cannot keep the current three now that Friday's session is about the same attendance as Monday's. The committee was fairly open-minded about having one weekend Christmas party, or having two, one in the daytime and one at night. For this year we have decided to have one on Saturday 13th December, with a good array of prizes and refreshments. The committee would like to hear from people who cannot attend on Saturdays, even with some months of prior notice, so we can take that into account when we review the Christmas Party early next year.

Behaviour at the table continues to be an issue. I notice that Keith McDonald in the latest QBA bulletin points out that bridge is full of eccentrics, and throws doubt on the meaning of zero-tolerance. The problem of where to draw the line on player behaviour is not limited to the current decade, or to bridge. In 1930's chess tournaments, the British teams were renowned for their stiff upper-lip sportsmanship when they lost, shaking hands with their opponent and congratulating him on his play. The great continental Grandmaster Aaron

Nimzovitch preferred to stand on the chess table, kick the pieces off, and shout in German "Why must I lose to this idiot".

The committee generally discussed this issue and found some aspects were clear-cut, and others were not at all. Their general position was that some behaviour at the table is suspect because it can send a signal to a partner of strength of a hand to influence bidding. "My, what rubbish I have." Playing cards with dramatic emphasis at times, and not at others, can easily send signals to partner and is a form of cheating. If this is encountered, the answer is to complain to the director.

There are other areas where many of us can generally improve our behaviour, and some committee members are determined to reduce the level of post-mortems after hands, and reduce or eliminate the habit of snapping cards as they play them. Other members are invited to join in this effort. However, it is very difficult, if not impossible to prevent players acting in a casual manner at the table, and there is usually no evidence that any disrespect to other players was intended.

BOB DANCER

That Monday Arrow-Switch

ON THE last round of both sessions of the Monday pairs, the boards were arrow-switched. That meant that the boards on every table were rotated 90° so that E-S-W-N respectively played the N-E-S-W cards. Now this was guaranteed to cause some confusion, especially during scoring.

Why Arrow-Switch?

A Mitchell movement (which we were playing) produces 2 winners - one from the N-S field and one from the E-W field. We only wanted 1 winner, and with each section and each direction seeded to the same strength, we could have simply ordered the overall results by percentage. Acceptable, but not overly fair, especially if the cards were favouring one direction. Arrow-switching produces a fairer result.

It is far easier to rotate (switch) the board than the people in a Mitchell movement, especially if more than 1 switch is to occur. Note that a Howell movement is essentially a perfect arrow-switch. Players (apart from

the stationary pair) play half their rounds at N-S and half at E-W, maximising the comparisons of scores.

How does it work?

With the boards rotated, N-S become part of the E-W field who become part of the N-S field on one round. There is thus a wider comparison of scores on the switched rounds. While this occurs on the same round at each table, it is on a different set of boards with different N-S/ E-W pairings.

How many switches?

The number of rounds that should be switched is debateable but latest theory says: on the last round with less than 11 tables; rounds 7 & 12 with 12 tables; and rounds 9 & 13 for 13-14 tables.

How to score.

This always causes confusion with the Director having to explain – often. On the switched round, (the former) East is now North and responsible for scoring. The score is entered according to the cards being played. If you are playing the N-S cards and make your contract, you score in the N-S column; if you go off score in the E-W column.

Score on the line for the current table number, write the original E-W number in the E-W column and circle both pair numbers (and the table number if you like) so the scorer knows this is a switched round. The ASE scoring program calculates the appropriate match points for the contract then switches them to the correct pairs. The surest way to lose a good score is to put it in the wrong column – and there were a few I had to correct.

Do we really have to?

Our Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri pairs championships have been reduced to 2 sessions as many members were unable to commit to 3 sessions. This makes it harder to generate completely fair movements. The fairest is when each pair plays every other pair, which is just not possible in large fields. So we may end up Arrow-Switching in the Tue pairs. Consider it as a bit like a N-S rover movement – confusing until you've done it a few times after which it becomes routine... or is that just the scorer's wishful thinking?

Richard McLauchlan (Scorer)

MONDAY PAIRS

Played on the 1st and 8th of September the Monday Pairs Green Point event was contested by 30 pairs. The event was played in 2 movements of 7 and 8 tables playing the same 35 hands; the final move was played as an Arrow Switch.

Therefore, there is only one Gross score winner and one Handicap winner for the prizes to be awarded in the Christmas break-up.

The final placings were:

1st – Helen and Richard McLauchlan

2nd – Geoff Gulley and Vonnie Wallace

3rd – Judy and Gary Mitchell

Handicap winner is:

Lorraine Steele and Peggy Whittaker

Congratulations to the winners and to all who played in the event.

FOREST PLACE DAY

For the second time this year, Forest Place has sponsored a pairs event and donated prize money to Arana. It is very generous of them to host this event.

34 pairs arrived to contest the red point event directed by Deborah Dwyer. The hands were a challenge and it was heard often that they must be especially difficult hands since it was for prize money. However, we all know that the dealing machine wouldn't do that to us. While the scoring was being done, we all enjoyed a wonderful "bring a plate" lunch.

The **Winners gross** over the entire field, first and second were:

First: Peter Van Eden and Ron Weinert

Second: Helen and Richard McLauchlan

And **Handicap winners** – First and Second:

First – Mary and David Backstrom

Second – Lorraine Steele and Peggy Whittaker

LIBRARY LINES

**By Ilene Bishop, Arana Bridge Club
Librarian**

Please find listed below the 15 new bridge books for our club library. They may be issued for one month only after signing the appropriate card catalogued by letter and number, ie. B31, F4, etc. and found in the manila index file in the front of the card box in the book cabinet. After signing, please place the card in the appropriate yellow index file in the back of the card box. When returning the book, just reverse the procedure after filling in the date of return. Enjoy!

NEW BOOKS AS OF AUGUST 2003.

1. Bridge: 25 Ways to Take More Tricks as Declarer (B9) - Seagram, B. and Bird, D.
2. Bridge: 25 Ways to Compete in the Bidding (B21) Seagram, B. and Smith, M.
3. Bridge: Below the Belt (B32) Cohen, L. and Davis, L.
4. Count Down to Winning Bridge (C2) Bourke, T. and Smith, M.
5. Card Play Technique (C3) Mollo, V. and Gardener, N.
6. Competitive Bidding with Two Suited Hands (C5) Hardy, M.
7. Defensive Signalling (D1) Bird, D. and Smith, M.
8. Modern Bridge Defense (M1) Kantar, E.
9. Modern Losing Trick Count, The (M10) Klinger, R.
10. Negative Doubles (N2) Bergen, M.
11. Pathways to Better Bridge Defense (P1) Roth, D.
12. Plan the Play (P2) Huggett, D. and Cashmore, S.
13. Power of Shape, The (P6) Klinger, R.
14. Winning Swiss Team Tactics (W1) Feldheim, H.
15. When to Bid, When to Pass (W3) Klinger, R.

**MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS AS OF
31 August 2003**

<i>Graduate</i>	Sid Cantamessa Ian Harris John Hull
<i>Club</i>	Charles Johnson Edna Miscamble Ann Pearce
<i>Local</i>	Ray Cowie Jan McRobbie
<i>Local *</i>	Barbara Holmes Warren Holmes Gillian Lycette Joan Mills Alan Norman
<i>Local * *</i>	Peter French Peggy Whittaker
<i>State *</i>	Frank Hoult
<i>National *</i>	Bob Pearce

Well Done!

The Tricky 6S !!

You've bid all the way to 6♠. Now make the contract! You are South, the Declarer. West leads the ♥K, but be careful, this is not as easy as it looks! Find the results elsewhere in the Trumpit.

Contract: 6♠
Declarer: S
Lead: K♥

	♠ 8 7 6	
	♥ 8	
	♦ A K Q 6 5	
	♣ J 8 5 2	
♠ 9 5 2		♠ 4
♥ K Q 6 5 4 2		♥ A J 10 9 7 3
♦ 4		♦ J 3 2
♣ Q 7 6		♣ K 10 9
	♠ A K Q J 10 2	
	♥ --	
	♦ 10 9 8 7	
	♣ A 4 3	

GOOD LUCK!

NEIL HAMILTON REPORTS

For the Committee

Non-Slip paint and undercoat has been purchased for the ramp and landing into the Bridge Club. First to go on will be the undercoat, and it is NOT non-slip so care will still have to be practiced. Once the final Non-Slip

paint is applied we will all be able to skip up the ramp without worry.

We have been awarded another Gaming Grant and this has covered the cost of the two additional Air Conditioners for the end of the building. These have been ordered and will hopefully be received and installed in approximately 2 – 3 weeks.

Beware the Redouble

WE were travelling moderately well in week two of the Monday Pairs when two boards against opponents who shall remain nameless propelled us forward. Sitting S, you hold –

♠ A K Q 9
♥ Q 8 7 6
♦ 9 7 2
♣ J 7

West opens 1C, pass, 1D, and you make a quite reasonable takeout double, only to hear XX, pass, pass. Partner has very little for the pass over the XX. You expect 1Dxx to make, with non-vul overtricks at 200 a piece. Our S passed and 1Dxx made 10 for 830.

I would have bid 1S in this position. Partner should not take me for a strong hand... just the opening hand I originally promised and not prepared to let them play a low level XX contract.

A couple of rounds later, our opponents held -

(N)	♠ 9	(S)	J 7 6 2
	♥ Q J 6 5		A 9 7 4 3
	♦ K 10 5 4		8 3
	♣ A Q 5 3		4 2

S (non-vul) dealt and passed, W bid 1S, X by N, XX (at least 10 points with 3 card S support) by E. Now what?

Should S bid on her 5 count? She doesn't have enough to stop 1Sxx vul (and 400 per overtrick). A bid should promise some values and S probably has enough for a non-vul 2H. S passed, as did W. What should N do?

Working on the theory that partner's pass showed a weak hand, and probably denied Hs, I would bid 2C (the slightly better minor). Look how much easier it would have been if partner had bitten the bullet and bid 2H. End result was 1Sxx making 10 for 1920.

This was about the fifth or sixth time in the last 5 years we have played 1 level XX contracts. Every single time, it was expensive for the opponents. So the moral of the story is – beware the redouble... do not allow low level redoubled contracts to stand.

Richard McLauchlan

2003 GNOT ZONE FINALS

Arana GNOT teams did us proud this year:

6th place - GULLEY Team - Geoff Gulley, Tony Lye, Val Cran and Frank Hoult. (Beating Reg Busch's team)

11th place - ACKLIN Team - Val Acklin, Betty Willson, Barry Mitchell and Liz Marshall.

17th place - Norman Team - Alan Norman, Warren and Barbara Holmes, and Tony Agar.
A WELL DONE to you all.

ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB INC
Minutes of General Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 9 September 2003
Business arising from the last meeting

Minutes:

- a) There is now peace and harmony with the Cricket Club. A letter of thanks for mediating to be sent to the Federal Minister.
- b) Quote for paint from commercial suppliers is cost prohibitive. Warren and Neil to investigate other avenues of supply.
- c) October Novice Teams entry forms have been sent out. Anne Gulley and Gay Hull to organise the kitchen. Ads have been placed in the QBA Newsletter.
- d) Brochure rack has been ordered,
- e) Margaret Dancer working on correcting errors on Web Site.
- f) 2004 Calendar and booklet being prepared

Matters arising from Correspondence:

- * Joan Mills Letter to be referred to all committee members for further discussion.
- * Vonnie Wallace Letter regarding courtesy at the tables. Helen to instruct Directors to make announcement at the beginning of play, and Helen to write article for Trumpit with rules of courtesy and manner of play.
- * Football club regarding overnight stay and Lease conditions- The situation was not understood and emails will be copied to more committee members to avoid misinterpretation in the future.
- * Letter from councillor Ann Bennison - 20 year lease with 20 year renewal.

General Business

New Members

Ann Eldridge
Ron Heather
New members accepted

Mitchelton State School Demo

Club invited to take part in their education involvement day with a 6 hour demonstration of Bridge. The committee to investigate, at least 12 players will be needed

Advanced Lessons By L. Fredericks

Unavailable on Saturday mornings, but other wise happy to prepare lessons. G. Gulley to create a questionnaire to find out the clubs wishes re: date, time and subject matter.

Christmas Party 13 December 2003

One party for the club, with play to begin at 1 pm and finish by 4 pm, followed by award presentation.

Monthly Masterpoint Award

Award to commence in October under the guidance of Helen. Players to play together on 3 out of 4 occasions on the same day each month to be eligible for award.

End Of Session Play

Helen to instruct all directors that at the start of play announcements should be made with regard to the cleaning up of the club room. Chairs should be pushed into the tables, bins cleaned out, bidding sheets and pencils tidied up, table numbers etc returned to the front of the room. Cups and kitchen utensils used by individuals before play should be washed up and put away.

Next Meeting – 21 October 2003

Solution to ‘The Tricky 6S’

Twelve tricks look easy until you realize the diamond suit is blocked. If you ruff the opening lead, draw trumps and run the diamonds, all you can win are four diamond tricks; after cashing the A-K-Q you will be left with the 10 opposite dummy's 6-5 with no way to reach the fifth diamond. Note that with 10-9-8-7 there is no way to unblock in the usual fashion. The **winning play** is to discard a diamond at trick one instead of ruffing. Then no matter which suit is led, you will be able to draw trumps and run the entire diamond suit on which you will discard your two small clubs.



Important Phone Numbers –

Clubhouse Phone Number (07) 3851 - 0299

President – Bob Dancer – 3300-3414

Vice-President – Gay Hull – 3300-2444

Secretary – Geoff Gulley – 3851-3687

Treasurer – Warren Holmes – 3300-6654

Partner Contact – Carol Wilson – 3353-2297



Important Dates

- 27–28 Sep – Sat/Sun Gold Coast Butler pairs
- 28 Sep – Sun Arana Club Teams Championship
- 28 Sep – Sun Noosa Teams
- 4 Oct Sat - Tamborine Swiss Teams
- 5 Oct Sun - Tamborine Novice Swiss Teams
- 5 Oct Sun - Redlands Swiss Pairs
- 7 Oct Tue – President’s green point pairs (wk 1)
- 10–12 Oct Cairns Pairs
- 11–12 Oct Dalby Pairs & Teams
- 12 Oct Sun – Arana Novice Teams
- 12 Oct Sun – Gympie graded pairs
- 12 Oct Sun – Cleveland Bay (T’ville) teams
- 14 Oct Tues – President's pairs (wk 2)
- 18–19 Oct Sat/Sun – BBC Pairs

