



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

October - November 2015

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From the President



THERE are a couple of issues with which we are currently dealing that may be of interest to you.

A number of people have approached me and other committee members with concerns about problems with the clubhouse. In particular there are cracks appearing in walls, and doors that are becoming increasingly difficult to open and close. These problems all arise from the fact that the land on which we have built has shifted, hardly surprising given the fact that we have built on an old tip site.

What has to happen is that the land has to be surveyed to record the changes, then the building will be raised or lowered at various points so that it sits correctly on the current levels of the land. Until this has happened it would be a complete waste of money to affect any repairs.

We are attempting to get BCC to carry out this work. We have had some progress in that they have sent out an engineer who has confirmed the nature of the problem and the

required solution. We are expecting a surveyor in the next couple of days. Unfortunately trying to hurry up the council is a fruitless task, but you may rest assured we are working on it.

The other issue we have been addressing is an occasional shortage of parking spots. We have had a couple of meetings with the local councillor and more recently, I also met with the BCC superintendent of parks for the area. The point we have made is that whilst we applaud the excellent development of the parkland, it is not practical to encourage more and more people to use the facility without a commensurate increase in parking spaces.

The solution we have proposed is that the disused area at the far end of the football oval be developed as a second car park with a footpath leading to the clubhouse. This they have promised to do if funds can be found for the project. That of course is a very big if, but at least they now understand the problem. The proposal is that if the new car park should eventuate, signage will direct the footballers to the new car park leaving the old one for us. This may be difficult to enforce, but as long as the total parking spots are adequate, then there should be no further problems.

Happy bridging

Allan McIntyre (President)

Vale Penny Barrs

PENELOPE (Penny) Field, born in Dalby on 10 Sep 1927, died on 19 Aug 2015. After WW 2, Penny completed her schooling in Brisbane, her father encouraging her to train as a kindergarten teacher. After graduating, her

first teaching job was in Townsville, her second in Redcliffe.

In 1958, she moved to Melbourne teaching English to newly arrived migrants. In 1951, she was offered a position at the Canberra Girls Grammar school, later becoming an early education supervisor overseeing pre-schools in the ACT.

Penny was a passionate skier and on a trip to Mt Franklin, she met Henry Barrs. Soon after, Penny and Henry were married in Canberra. Henry was a scientist with CSIRO, his research taking their growing family to Griffith and on many overseas trips to England, Europe and the USA, Penny absorbing culture, history and art.

Back in Griffith, she worked as an early childhood educator on a UNICEF program with children on an aboriginal reserve. When her kids were in high school, she returned to work as a pre-school director in East Griffith.

Penny took up bridge in later life, helping to form a bridge club, despite an initial rebuff by a local church body who refused to host bridge meetings on the grounds that a pack of cards was the devil's bus tickets.

After Henry's retirement, they moved to Brisbane to be near their son Peter and his family. On moving into Keperra Sanctuary, Penny kept up her bridge, joined a book club and an art appreciation society. She will be much missed and always loved.

Extract from her eulogy by her children.

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members:

Grand

Val Acklin

National

Terry Nowitzki

*State **

Dawn Benes Gary Ypinazar

Regional

Russel Skennerton

*Local ***

Perry Morgan

*Local **

Peter Sanders Michael Walker

Robert Matthew (MP Sec)

Fifty Shades of Natalie

FOR 12 years, I have been in love with a gorgeous, funny, clever & very handsome boy. I have been sharing him with my friend Jan. No competition, we were not jealous; 3 days with her, 3 days with me and one day of rest.

When he passed away last November, we were both with him. We had known for some time it was the end so we were ready. We had a wake where we remembered fondly all the fun we had, but being practical girls, we talked about the next one. We mourned him but we thought the best way to get over it was to start dating straight away. This we did after the Xmas break, our new adventure starting in February.

Jan was in love immediately, but I could not. I was still mourning. It was an arranged marriage and I was waiting for love to come. I did not feel like kissing him and I don't think he liked being hugged. And I kept calling him by the wrong name, a bit embarrassing. So I told Jan I wanted a separation from our three-some arrangement. She suggested a one month conciliation. I tried, to no avail. I "divorced", and went straight to the web.

One Sunday a few weeks later, I had a first date and my heart started to flutter again as I felt like a 16 year old girl falling in love. He is lovely, very tall, very calm, uncomplicated. On Tuesday, my bridge partner said I twice entered wrong results into the BridgeMate, apparently costing us a few points. My head was somewhere else.

The second date was on Thursday and he moved in the following Saturday. It was a very short dating period, but life is short. We kiss a lot and he seems to like being hugged, which is great. The kissing and hugging are as important as the rest, as far as I am concerned.

Then last week, we met a very old friend of mine. She also fell in love with him! He is truly irresistible. So here we are again, entering a new three-way relationship.

His name is Pavel. My husband Ibrahim came with me for the first date. He liked him too (who would not!) and he offered me Pavel as a 60th birthday present.

[See page 5 for Natalie's new love: Ed].

Natalie Bloch

Signals

HAVE you ever been sitting over Dummy's KJ97, holding AQ108 and wishing partner would lead that suit and they don't? All partner can see is a probable source of tricks for declarer and is reluctant to lead that suit. In fact, there is only one trick for declarer if partner does leads it.

What you and partner needs is a signal which says "Lead that suit". Signals are a silent conversation across the table between you and partner. As defenders, your signals **must** be specific because you may not get a second chance. Signals begin during the bidding:

1. Firstly, an overcall should be lead encouraging, so don't overcall with a poor suit.
2. As defender, your second signal is the lead. Are you playing:
 - Top of a sequence
 - High card followed by a low card = doubleton
 - Middle-up-down (MUD) – low card followed by a higher card, shows 3 or 4 small cards
 - Fourth highest from longest and strongest suit – against NT. Partner can use the rule of 11

In two of these cases, partner must watch for your second card to determine if you are leading from a doubleton or MUD.

3. The third chance to signal is your play on partner's lead. Are you playing high or low encouraging? I would recommend **high** because it's better to "shout than whisper" and partner is more likely to notice a high card.

On the reverse side of you system card are the headings:

Signal on Partner's Lead

Signal on Declarer's lead

Discards (which are also signals)

Before you start play always check the opponents' system card to check what signals and discards they are playing. Of course, you (and they) do have a system card on the table and not in a pocket, handbag or glove box!

Signal on partner's lead

If you can't beat dummy's card always give a signal, "I Like" or "I Don't Like", depending on whether you play high or low encouraging.

Discards

The combination of high encouraging and McKenney discards when unable to follow suit gives any partnership the tools it needs for effective defence.

McKenney Discards

When unable to follow suit, the suit you play is **not** the suit you want partner to return when next on lead. This leaves partner 2 suits to choose from. If you discard a **high** card, you want the **higher ranking** of the 2 remaining suits. If you discard a **low** card, you want the **lower ranking**. McKenney works well against Suit or NT contracts.

Note: Concentrate carefully on partner's first and second discards. A 7 followed by an 8 is obviously low, a 4 followed by a 2 is high.

Finally, a simple example using high encouraging signalling in defence:

Dummy

K 3 2

Partner leads J

You hold A 7 4

Declarer plays the 2.

What should you play?

Partner has lead from J 10 9 or J 10 8 so does not hold the Q, which must be with declarer.

If you play low and declarer wins with the Q, partner still does not know where the A is. If you play the 7 (I like), partner will have no hesitation in playing the 10 when next on lead and declarer can only make 1 trick (the Q). If you play the A, declarer will make 2 tricks - the Q and K.

Jim Taylor

Tony's tips

Declarer Play: coping with bad breaks

* Recognize that you are competing for match points against the pairs sitting in your direction (say NS) not the opponents at the table. The hand will be played by the other NS pairs in due course and they will face the same problem.

* If the contract is doomed to failure, your best outcome is to minimize losers. This will

determine the match points (tops & bottoms). So if you can lose one less trick than the others, it is a top board for you even though the contract fails.

* At No Trump especially, be slow to cash obvious winners unless the opponents can do the same. You need to keep control for as long as possible. Once control is lost the opponents will cash the balance of tricks.

* Often it is better play to let opponents take a trick, even though you hold a winning card, to put them on lead. They then have to lead up to you.

* Use deep finesses in the hope they may promote an unexpected trick. Holding AJ95, insert the 9. It may force the K or Q.

* Try to count cards in vital suits, particularly the trump suit. It is easy to lose track when one opponent holds 4 or more.

* During play, if no obvious line occurs to you, put the opponents in with a small/medium card and see what happens, especially if there is a danger hand that you need to guard against. Say you know your LHO holds the Ace in a suit that you hold the King. Play so as to keep your LHO on lead. It may cost 1 trick but gain 2.

* Once you discover a bad trump break, 4/1 or worse, 5/0, it often pays to discontinue trumps and establish winners in side suits. If the opponent trumps in, you may be able to over trump or discard a losing card.

Tony Agar

Bits 'n' Pieces

New ABF Card

THE ABF have updated their simple system card which is available at the club. The latest version, 2015 PDF form revision 15F06 and its Usage Guide can be downloaded from the ABF web site (a link is on our Contacts page).

Recent Winners

FRIDAY pairs

First: Gayle McCarthy, Joan Mills
 Second: Joyce Rosser, Carol Vardy
 Handicap: Jill Warnecke, Julie Gibbens

MONDAY (am) pairs

First: Julie Cutmore, Richard McLauchlan

Second: Natalie Bloch, Ross Shardlow
 Handicap: Jacqui Carbone, Marj Ryder

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

First: Helen & Richard McLauchlan
 Second: = Bev Quine, Alan Norman
 = Sri Sriprakash, Lorraine Steele
 Handicap: Sri Sriprakash, Lorraine Steele

BrigeMates

SAVE time by entering data as it is available. New board on the table, enter the board number. Auction complete, enter the contract. Play complete, enter the number of tricks made.

Correcting BM data

PLAYERS can correct data at the table if you have not pressed Ok at the 'End of round' message. Check the top right hand button just below the display. It variously shows *Accept*, *Scores*, *Correc(t)*. Scores shows the round scores currently entered (check if you made an error). Correct allows you to delete incorrect data and re-enter the correct data.

Arrow-Switch Movements

THE Monday pairs played standard Mitchell movements with a one (the last) round arrow-switch. Why did we arrow-switch? Because Mitchells are very poor quality movements for determining a single winning pair.

Quality (%) of 1-winner movements

[Ian MacKinnon, ASE Computing: Jeanie 1.0.2]

Tables	6	7	8	9	10
Howell	100	91	100	95	100
*Mitchell	47	47	47	48	48
+A/S	80	92	91	94	90
Skip-M	38	--	41	--	43
+A/S	56	--	73	--	77

*Mitchell: *Standard with odd, Share & bye with even*, numbers of tables.

Note that Howell movements are far superior in quality (90-100%) to Mitchells and skips are inferior to straight/ relay Mitchells. A one round arrow-switch greatly improves movement quality. As a general rule of thumb, one in 8 rounds arrow-switched is optimum.

Advanced Lessons

ANDY Slater's lessons for advancing (those with some experience wanting more from their

game) players are at 2:00 pm Tuesdays 13-20-27 October and 10 November. Cost is \$10 with notes, hand records and analyses.

Intermediate Seminar

ANDY Hung presents a half day seminar on Saturday 31 October from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Improve Your Defensive Play covers correct play technique, formulating a plan, third hand play and helping partner out. The seminar includes an interactive presentation, play of hands followed by discussion and well-presented notes. Cost is \$25 per person.

Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams

A ROOKIE section has been added to this event which now has 4 divisions – open, less than 400, less than 100 and less than 10 masterpoints. It will be held at QCBC on Sun 8 Nov. Arana currently holds the interclub trophy and will call for club nominations soon.

Richard McLauchlan



L'amour nouvelle de Natalie
He loves being hugged, kissed and ridden

WEDNESDAY MORNING BRIDGE

Sessions 9:30am to 1:30pm

For a friendly and relaxed game

Morning tea/coffee provided

NO PARTNER REQUIRED

Phone Dawn Benes 0411 468 722

or

Lorraine Steele 3351 6173

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

Interfering over a strong 1Nt

NOT so long ago, opponents ducked for cover after a 16-18 1Nt opening. Modern theory, deep finesse, hand records and computer analyses have all contributed to defensive bidding after 1Nt.

Mel Colchamiro's [*How you can play like an expert (without having to be one)*] H12 in the library] rule of eight is useful. The main factor in deciding to make an overcall is the distributional feature of a hand, point count becoming less important.

Mel's rule of 8: count the number of cards contained in the longest two suits then subtract the number of losing tricks. If the result is less than 2, defend. If it is 2 or more, then you should compete provided you have least 6 high card points (6+2 = rule of 8). This rule applies to just about every convention over 1Nt out there.

No matter what convention you choose, it's all a matter of the meaning of X and 2-level bids over 1Nt. Some useful conventions are shown in the table (Cappelletti, Hamilton & Pottage are the same thing). Note that most use

2C & 2D but often neglect X, 2H, 2S & 2Nt. See *Useful Links* on our *Contacts* page for bridge convention sites.

Richard McLauchlan

Some conventions for interfering over a strong 1Nt opening

Convention	X	2C	2D	2H	2S	2Nt
Astro	-	5H + 4 lower	5S + 4 lower	-	-	-
Aspro	-	H + other	S + minor	-	-	-
Becker	-	5-4 minors	5-4 majors	-	-	-
Brozel	Single suit	5-4 C-H	5-4 D-H	5-4 majors	5-4 S-minor	Minors
Cappelletti	Penalty	Single suit	Majors	H + minor	S + minor	Minors
CRASH	2 same Colour	2 same RAnk	2 same SHape	Natural	Natural	-
DON'T	Single suit	C + higher	D + major	H+S	S suit	Major + minor
Hello	Penalty	Single suit	Xfer to H	H+S	Spades	Transfer to C
Landy	-	5-4 majors	-	-	-	-
Ripstra	-	4-4 H+S C >= D	4-4 H+S D > C	-	-	-
Roth-Stone Astro	H+S	C+S	D+S	Hearts	Spades	Minors
Suction	-	D or H+S	H or S+C	S or C+D	C or D+H	-
TRASH	Penalty	D or H+S (10)	H or S+C (10)	S or C+D (10)	C+H or D+S (10)	C or D+H (10)
Woolsey	5 min & 4 maj	Majors	A major	H & minor	S & minor	Minors

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