



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

February-March 2018

Vol 32 No 1

From the President



All welcome to 2018. I wish everyone an enjoyable bridge year too. After coming back from the cold in Europe the heat here is much better.

2017 was the year where we started to make some changes to the inside of our club house. The biggest change was the aircon which now does a terrific job in this heat. We are now 15 years in this building and that means we have to update our inventory. We have applied for a grant to assist us in the outlay of those improvements.

The AGM was held on Tuesday the 13th of February and 9 members of the old committee were re-elected. Dawn Benes and Vad Furminger didn't re-nominate. I thank both for their time and input the past year. I also thank all other committee members for their time and input running our club. I am very pleased that they chose to continue for another year. Robyn Grills nominated and will be our 10th committee member. I look forward to another

successful year. At the AGM the members voted to increase our table fees by the first of January 2019 to \$6 for members and \$7.50 for visitors. The extra income as a result of this (the first increase since 2008) will assist us to update the facilities at our club.

We had on Sunday the 11th of February our Arana Swiss Teams Congress which was well attended including several international players. Alan Norman did a terrific job in organising the event with a team of volunteering members. A special thank you goes out to Marianne McPherson and family (what a cake that was!) for being the leading member with organising the food.

Our free lessons start again on the 3rd of March. Please ask around for new players to attend. Our membership total is in need of a boost. .

Michael Walker (the editor of the Trump-it) wants ideas and input from members in giving the Trump-it a lift. I also encourage members to assist him in producing the Trump-it. I have decided on only 4 editions a year instead of 6.

The new committee has another challenging year ahead. I thank all members for trusting the committee to bring your club forward.

I wish everyone happy bridging.

Robert Van Beest (President)

Further to the above

Congratulations to the Bellis team (Carol Bellis Yvonne Howman, Cynthia Sharpe and Jenny Walker) for their win in the C Grade of the recent Arana Swiss Teams Congress.

Welcome New Members

The following are new members to the club. A warm welcome is extended to you all.

Barbara Moni, Maree Huxley,
Marcia Applegate, Warren Applegate,
Arthur Ponting, Ghislane Green,
Heila Wentzel.

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31st January 2018

Graduate Master	Ray Derbyshire Bernie Englert
Club Master	Willemina Hendriks Yvonne Stalling Rod Thomson
Local Master	Willy Kranenberg
*Local Master	Barbara Gannon
**Local Master	Ben Ludik
Regional Master	Trish Waters Jan Powell
*Regional Master	Marie Hogan Alan Rae

Robert Matthew (MP Sec)

Safety Plays

Safety plays are not difficult and do not require any special knowledge of card distribution. As stated in "Watson on Play of the Hand" a safety play is not *card sense* but *card common sense*. You can always recognise the place for a safety play if you merely learn to count cards.

E.g. refusing a trump finesse.

♠ K	
♥ J762	
♦ K43	
♣ AK3	
♠ 1062	♠ QJ98
♥ K5	♥ 92
♦ QJ	♦ 1098765
♣ QJ10974	♣ 8
♠ A43	
♥ AQ1083	
♦ A2	
♣ 652	

South is declarer in 4 hearts; West having overcalled a non-vulnerable 2 clubs.

Opening lead of the club Queen is won in dummy and heart 2 led. South makes the safety play of the Heart Ace -refusing the finesse. South's reasoning is:

With the club AK in dummy, East's over call must be based on length rather than high card points, probably a six carded suit. This would leave East with just one as you and dummy have six. West would also be expected to have an outside entry so as to return to hand and continue to draw trumps at some stage. This entry is surely the heart K the only king missing. Therefore South cannot afford the finesse thus risking a second round club ruff by East. He would then lose 4 tricks (1 heart, 2 clubs and 1 spade).

Even if East did hold 3 hearts to the K the contract is safe as West would have no entry card to give East a ruff so the play of the heart ace secures the contract.

Tony Agar

Call the Director

MINOR PENALTY CARDS

It is always somewhat surprising when a player accidentally drops a few cards while sorting them into suits, smiles *sheepishly*, 'Silly me!' and proceeds to put the cards back into their hand. Meanwhile, everyone has managed a take a good look at them! Game proceeds.

A card which has been **accidentally** exposed could become a penalty card. This could occur during the auction period, or during the play of the cards.

The card is placed face up on the table, and the director should then be called. The card remains face up on the table for the remainder of the auction. Information from that card is available to the non-offenders, but NOT to the offending side.

If the exposed card is a **single card, and not an honour card**, then, once the auction is completed, this card will become a Minor Penalty Card. It will remain on the table during the play should the player of the card become a Defender.

A minor penalty card does not need to be played immediately. There are no lead restrictions. The single requirement is for the 'owner' of the card **NOT TO PLAY ANOTHER CARD BELOW 10** before playing their Minor Penalty card.

However, if, during the auction, there are **more than 1 exposed cards**, or if a **single exposed card is an honour**, then the card[s] remain face up on the table while the auction continues, **BUT THE OFFENDER'S PARTNER MUST PASS WHEN IT IS HIS NEXT TURN TO CALL.**

At the completion of the auction, should the player of the card[s] become a Defender, then all of these cards will become **MAJOR PENALTY CARDS**.

Should the player of the card[s] become Declarer, or Dummy, the cards are simply restored to the owner's hand.

During play, should a card become accidentally exposed, by being dropped, or by playing more than one card simultaneously, then the above criteria apply to these cards in deciding if they are minor or major penalty cards.

And, yes! It can be so devastating to see your precious Ace having to be wasted when it has been accidentally dropped!

UNINTENDED CALL

If a player realises that he has not made the call which he intended to make, and **providing his partner has not since called**, he is allowed to change his call to the one which he did plan to make. He changes the call immediately, and then calls the Director.

However, the Director will need to be very certain that the mistaken call could **never have been considered**, even as a rebid. The player will be asked to describe his hand, and don't be disappointed if the Director decides NOT to allow the new call.

If the substituted call is NOT allowed by the Director, the player who is next in line to call may still accept that substituted call, should it suit them.

Robyn Grills (Director)

From Director Dawn

Re: Law 18A

In order for a player to make a bid, they need to specify both rank and denomination. Therefore East just writing "3" does not constitute a bid and the player may alter this without any penalty if they wish. However, their actions do amount to very significant unauthorised information being passed to their partner. So in this case West would be significantly restrained by Laws 16 and 73C. If he was to choose an action which could have been influenced by the knowledge that partner held almost enough values to make a bid, the director may award an adjusted score. Law 73C imposes the responsibility on him to carefully avoid taking any advantage of the information he has received.

And continuing the theme of 'unauthorised information':-

Myth Buster

Myth: After a player has thought for some time about his call and subsequently passed, his partner must also pass.

Busted! Not so: How could this be so? All a player would need to do to stop partner competing would be to pause and pass. The obligation on partner is not to base his calls on any unauthorised information that might flow from the pause, nor to derive any comfort from such unauthorised information. His call must not be more attractive with the unauthorised information. While the law book does not mention 75% actions, it is a good guide for partner to choose a call that at least three in four peers in the same situation would make or seriously consider making.

(Directors' Bulletin Issue 50 September 2016
Page 3 Myth Busters)

Dawn Benes (Director)

Silent conversation between partners

One heart, two hearts, why not four?

No, no partner, I'm out the door.

One, two,

That'll do!

One spade, three spades, and one more,

Come on, come on, don't be a bore!

Three, four,

Knock on the door.

One club? three clubs, straight to six?

Slip of the pen, we're in a fix!

Three, six,

Give me the flicks.

Gently, girls, next our best friend,

Mustn't go around the bend.

Just one solitaire

To clear the air.

But don't forget the lovely no-ies,

Three in the pouch, just like joeys.

Did you say three?

Rather you than me.

Morning tea's come none too soon,

Before pard takes me for a loon.

With apologies from Jo Mammen

EVACUATION PLAN

In the event of fire or other emergency the Director will give the ORDER to EVACUATE.

On given the order to evacuate the building by the nominated door, everyone has to leave all personal possessions behind, stand and move into the evacuation isle.

East/West are to make sure chairs are tucked under the table.

Once in the evacuation isle everyone is to move in the same direction, no turning around, no cutting across to another isle.

Once outside make your way to the disabled carpark.

DO NOT LEAVE this area until you have been accounted for by the Director.

Once the building has been cleared by the fire brigade you may return for your personal possessions.

Reminiscences of Kenya

by Phil Saunders....

The whole of the East coast of Kenya is a coral reef stretching out some ¼ to ½ mile from the beach and then there is an abrupt drop off to 20 fathoms plus (35m plus). There are places where there are natural mlangos (doors) in the reef and the good fish are out there. So you can catch some predators at high tide but nothing really edible. Needle fish and small barracuda are most common and they go straight for your legs when hooked. In fact the whole of the coast is almost 90% coral stretching back for well over a mile in places. Bamburi Cement has its factory about 10 miles North of Mombasa and has been in business since before 1946 and just dig and heat up the coral to make cement. There is so much they still have not moved. They export and supply the whole of East Africa too. Unfortunately we have stone fish, a venomous star fish, some deadly cones, sting rays and sea urchins so you have to wear shoes at low tide. There were some natural parks where you can goggle at low tide and see all the usual reef fish, but the place fills with sharks when the tide comes in and they can get over the outer reef. We had masses of crayfish and mud crabs in the creeks, it was absolute heaven.

At Vuma where there are underwater cliffs of coral some 100+ metres high there are really big rock cod. We used to lose know-it-all European scuba divers there every year. A school friend of mine who was in an iron lung (polio) tells of a local who was determined to get a rock cod which hung out under a bambura (coral mushroom) and used a chain around the base attached to a 40 gallon drum and a wire rope with a butchers hook, that was barbed and holding a dead goat. On waking up next morning the drum had gone. Swimming out very cautiously they found the drum flattened on the floor and the butchers hook almost dead straight. Similar stories abound and the native fishermen in their dugout canoes call the place haunted and don't go near it. I caught my first 100+ lb. barracuda there.

Phil

QUOTES FROM THE BRIDGE BUM BY ALAN SONTAG

“Bridge is a dangerous game. Amiability and good fellowship can, within the hour, turn into irascibility and downright animosity. Emotions allowed to run amok are as potentially dangerous as taking your hand off the steering wheel while cruising at 70 miles an hour...”

“Regardless of who was right or wrong, it proved that despite the thousands of hours spent working on our bidding system, we still had not come close to covering every conceivable situation. Nor was this likely to be possible. Let me give an example. This is the number of different hands a player can receive:- 635,013,559,600. Here is the number of possible deals:-

53,644,737,765,488,792,839,237,440,000.”

“George S Kaufman took the game seriously. In one tournament his partner was a woman he had never met. She made an error, and Kaufman asked, “When did you learn to play bridge? I know it was yesterday, but what time yesterday?”

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