



THE QBA BULLETIN

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From the President



Keith McDonald

I HAVE been pleased to receive some very positive comments on the QBA Bulletin. It is never too late to make comments and suggestions. The Editorial Committee is interested in club news that may assist other clubs in any aspect of administration or bridge matters.

The partner in bridge that is often neglected is the sponsor. The sponsor comes in many forms and is essential to the success of many clubs and events. Many congress events have a valued sponsor who is always thanked at the end of the event. Perhaps when sending the Bulletin an article on your local congress you could advertise the main sponsor. In attracting sponsorship the clubs do an excellent job. As a member and player do you know who assisted your club in the last 12 months. Ask your Committee? A sponsor can never be thanked enough. A letter from a club member to personally say "thanks" is always appreciated. ■

ANC Darwin

THE 2003 ANC has come and gone, and while the Qld teams performed creditably again, the spoils went to NSW, SA and VIC. In the Open we had 2 bad matches in the first round robin, so only finished 6th, but improved our position to be 4th at the end, only a few VPs off of WA in 3rd. Victoria, who were the only team to beat us twice, won the final from South Australia, with whom we had a draw and a 1 IMP victory. We had a win and a loss against NSW and WA, 2 good wins against ACT and Tasmania, but only a 9 IMP win and a draw against the Northern Territory.

The Women's team also finished 4th, after finishing the first round robin in that position, and managed to beat every team at least once. The Seniors' team finished the first round robin in 1st place, but found the going harder in the second round robin and finished 3rd. The Youth played a triple round robin against the other 5 teams, and gained a great deal of experience in finishing 5th.

Each match was of 24 boards, and the maximum win at full IMPs was 35, with any Imps over 35 being divided by 10, up to a maximum win of +37.5, or a maximum loss of -40.0. Since Therese and I only played 9 of the 14 matches, I will confine my commentary to those matches in which we were involved.

M 1	♠ Q5
Bd 11	♥ J92
Dlr S	♦ KJ5
Vul None	♣ AKJ65
♠ AK10982	♠ 743
♥ AQ874	♥ —
♦ 3	♦ Q109862
♣ 4	♣ Q1082
	♠ J6
	♥ K10653
	♦ A74
	♣ 973

On board 11 against NT in the 1st match Therese, South, passed and West opened 1S. I overcalled 2C, East bid 2S, and Therese bid 3C, over which West bid a very reasonable 4S.

The lead of the CA to inspect dummy showed the great ruffing potential, so I led a trump in spite of the possible loss of one of our trump tricks, and declarer could only come to 9 tricks for +50 to our side.

At the other table, Neville and Janine had no trouble in taking 10 tricks in the same contract when the trump switch did not come. Note that in ruffing hearts it is essential not to cash the HA, otherwise my hand is able to ruff in front of dummy and lead a trump to deny the 10th trick.

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If serenity is one's major ambition, perhaps bridge should be avoided.

Charles Goren

M 2	♠ 107
Bd 16	♥ 852
Dlr W	♦ AK54
Vul EW	♣ AJ83
♠ AKQJ43	♠ 96
♥ 9	♥ AQ103
♦ J6	♦ 832
♣ 9652	♣ KQ104
	♠ 852
	♥ KJ764
	♦ Q1097
	♣ 7

On this board against SA in the 2nd match West opened 3S, which was raised to game by East, and I was on lead.

Looking at all 4 hands it is obvious that an initial club lead will enable South to get 3 ruffs for 3 off, but I made what was a normal lead of the DA and followed up with 2 more diamonds, West ruffing the third and drawing trumps.

When West now led a heart to dummy and ruffed a heart, the distribution was clear, and I ducked the next club lead (won in dummy with the CK), and ducked again when West returned by ruffing another heart to lead a second club. After some thought West played the CQ, and had to concede 1 off.

At the other table I am not sure if Mike Robson ruffed a heart to reveal the distribution, but when he led the second club towards the table, North obligingly rose ace to give the marked finesse.

Our system was very informative on board 7 against NSW in the 4th match and kept them out of a bad game.

M 4	♠ A10
Bd 7	♥ A843
Dlr S	♦ AK109
Vul Both	♣ 975
♠ 8	♠ QJ75
♥ Q75	♥ J1092
♦ Q65	♦ J84
♣ AQJ832	♣ K10
	♠ K96432
	♥ K6
	♦ 732
	♣ 64

After I opened 1C as West and North overcalled 1D, Therese made a negative double, which showed both or neither major, and South played in a simple 2S since he knew he was getting a bad break in trumps, making 9 tricks, for -140.

At the other table the auction was less informative and Mike and Betty got to game for -200 and 8 IMPs away.

Against Tasmania in the 6th match I tempted fate on my shapely hand and met a very suitable hand with Therese for a 6 IMP gain.

M 6	♠ J543
Bd 1	♥ K108
Dlr N	♦ Q65
Vul None	♣ K108
♠ 7	♠ A986
♥ 63	♥ QJ94
♦ AJ1082	♦ 973
♣ J7642	♣ A5
	♠ KQ102
	♥ A752
	♦ K4
	♣ Q93

After two passes, South opened 1NT (12-14) and I bid 2C, which has multiple meanings, one of which is both minors. Hoping I had 5-4 in the majors, Therese inquired with 2NT, and converted my 3C reply to 3D, passed out.

This made comfortably for +110, and Janine and Neville also made +110 in 2S at the other table.

Board 5 against NSW in the second round robin was very odd.

M 8	♠ KQ107
Bd 5	♥ AQ98
Dlr N	♦ J1094
Vul NS	♣ J
♠ A6	♠ 98
♥ 107652	♥ 4
♦ —	♦ AKQ8763
♣ AQ6543	♣ K82
	♠ J5432
	♥ KJ3
	♦ 52
	♣ 1097

North opened 1H (he said after the hand that he meant to open 1D) and Therese bid 3H, suggesting a solid minor and asking for a heart stop, and South doubled, presumably to show hearts. I thought that it was likely that my heart holding would prevent NS from running 5 heart tricks, so bid 3NT, passed out. North had a surprise for me when he led the SK, but I had a surprise for him when I won the SA and cashed 6 club tricks and 3 diamond tricks for +430!

At the other table EW played in 5D for 1 off and +50 to us.

Opposing bidding systems are
not grounds for divorce
- a judge's ruling

On board 11 against WA in the second round robin Therese gained 10 Imps by making 3NT while the declarer at the other table went off in the same contract.

M 9	♠ KJ652
Bd 11	♥ A53
Dlr S	♦ 82
Vul None	♣ K63
♠ AQ10	♠ 9874
♥ K109	♥ 74
♦ A95	♦ K64
♣ QJ87	♣ A952
	♠ 3
	♥ QJ862
	♦ QJ1073
	♣ 104

South opened 2H to show less than an opening hand and hearts and a minor, and Therese bid a natural 2NT to show 16-18. North raised the ante with 3H, and since I did not have any way to invite, or ask about spades, I bid 3NT with a hope that she had a good fit. North led the H3, and Therese ducked the HJ but covered the next honour, and won the 3rd trick with the HT. The CQ won the next trick, and after some thought she led the CJ, which was covered, and Therese was pleased to see the fall of the CT. It now only required spades to be led from the table to make sure South did not get in, and the S9 was the 9th trick.

In a good competition, just because you win the trick when you play towards a King, does not mean that the ace is not lying over the king! Defenders often like to lie doggo and catch you unawares.

M 10	♠ J1094
Bd 11	♥ J54
Dlr S	♦ 952
Vul None	♣ AJ9
♠ 876	♠ AK2
♥ 972	♥ K86
♦ 43	♦ AKQ1086
♣ KQ542	♣ 10
	♠ Q53
	♥ AQ103
	♦ J7
	♣ 8763

I opened the bidding as East with 1D after 3 passes, and over South's 1H and Therese's 2C, I jumped to 3NT, which was passed out.

South avoided the heart lead which would have given me my 9th trick, and led the S3, which I won in hand to lead the CT to dummy's king. Luckily for me, North was one of the cunning defenders, and he ducked, whereupon I took my 9 tricks for +400.

At the other table the defence was more accurate, and the contract went 1 off for 10 IMPs.

M 12	♠ J2		
Bd 9	♥ KJ74		
Dlr N	♦ Q2		
Vul EW	♣ K10976		
♠ A105		♠ 63	
♥ A10		♥ Q952	
♦ AJ10986		♦ 743	
♣ 42		♣ QJ53	
	♠ KQ9874		
	♥ 863		
	♦ K5		
	♣ A8		

On board 9 against TAS in the second round robin we comfortably stayed out of game when Therese rebid her spade suit after West bid 2D, and there the bidding stopped.

At the other table NS got to game and went 1 off so we gained 6 IMPs. However, Therese showed how to make 10 tricks in spades.

West led the DA, and continued diamonds, and then after winning the SA he led the HA and the HT. Therese rose with the HK, and ran all of her trumps. On the last trump she could throw the HJ from the table and East was squeezed between hearts and clubs.

M 14	♠ K9876		
Bd 23	♥ 4		
Dlr S	♦ 105		
Vul Both	♣ Q10983		
♠ A10		♠ Q	
♥ Q10732		♥ AKJ96	
♦ 862		♦ AK3	
♣ 752		♣ KJ64	
	♠ J5432		
	♥ 85		
	♦ QJ974		
	♣ A		

On board 23 against ACT in the second round robin South opened with 2S, which showed a weak hand, with 2 suits, either spades and diamonds, or hearts and clubs. I passed, as did North (which suggested spade support), and Therese doubled for takeout, over which I bid a simple 3H, raised to game.

North got us off to a good start by leading a small spade, and the queen won on the table. I was now able to guarantee the contract by eliminating all other suits and leading a club from the table. When South actually won with the singleton ace, he was end-played so I made 12 tricks.

■ Richard Wallis

From Overseas

2003 World Junior Pairs

THE location this July for the Fifth World Junior Pairs was Tata, in Hungary, 50 miles outside Budapest. The venue was an Olympic Sports camp - excellent facilities and very comfortable surroundings. The organizers had endeavoured to ensure that everyone who wanted to could afford to play, by holding the event in a relatively inexpensive locale in a country that was easily accessible from most of Europe, and as a result there were nearly 200 pairs participating. Scoring was by Barometer, so everyone played the same deals at the same time, and the updated results were available after every four deals.

The USA had sent five of the six players from the team that will be the odds-on favourite in the World Junior Teams in Paris in August, and two of the partnerships (Mignocchi-Bathurst and Kranyak-Grue) went quickly toward the head of the table. Here are some of the more stimulating deals from the event.

Dlr W	♠ K1072		
Vul None	♥ 102		
	♦ AK98		
	♣ 854		
♠ Q		♠ 98643	
♥ Q8763		♥ AJ	
♦ 43		♦ QJ102	
♣ AJ1096		♣ Q2	
	♠ AJ5		
	♥ K954		
	♦ 765		
	♣ K73		

Kranyak as West opened 2H (hearts and another, weak) and played there on the lead of a top diamond, on which South, Lo Presti discouraged with the six. When Sbarrigia continued with a second diamond, declarer was back in control on the hand. The spade shift came now, and Kranyak ruffed the second spade, lead a heart to the jack and king, ruffed the next spade, crossed to the heart ace, and advanced the CQ, covered all round. He led out the HQ, leaving Lo Presti with the master trump, and ran the clubs. When Lo Presti ruffed in he had no spade left to lead, so declarer had eight tricks.

The most challenging defense is to play spades at tricks two and three. When declarer ruffs, his only chance to make the hand is to play a diamond himself, not to take the trump finesse. If he plays a heart to the jack, South wins his king and plays a third spade. Declarer can ruff

and unblock the HA then start running the clubs. But at some point South can ruff the fourth club, and lead a diamond to his partner to let him cash the fourth spade, on which South's diamond loser goes away.

The Americans continued their fine form towards the end of the session.

Dlr S	♠ Q52		
Vul EW	♥ K1096		
	♦ J1073		
	♣ 76		
♠ A97		♠ 83	
♥ Q753		♥ AJ82	
♦ Q85		♦ A94	
♣ A92		♣ KQ84	
	♠ KJ1064		
	♥ 4		
	♦ K62		
	♣ J1053		

It appears impossible to stay out of trouble with the East - West cards here; 4H looks down at least one trick, does it not? Well, Kranyak passed the West hand, and that apparently got his side off to a good start against Katerbau and Rehder of Germany, who at that point were in third place. But Grue as East opened 1H in fourth chair, and now when South over-called 1NT (modified Michaels) Kranyak jumped to 4H. On a low club lead Grue put up the CA, ran the HQ, covered all round, then led a low diamond from hand to dummy's queen (good!) and tried a heart to the eight (better!). Now he had ten tricks by simply arranging a spade ruff in hand, and virtually all the matchpoints.

To set the hand, South had to win the DK at trick two. Once he ducked, even if North had split his heart honors at trick four, Grue would simply have won, cashed the CK, and then gone to dummy with the SA to lead a third club, after which the defense are helpless.

When North discards, Grue can win, then cash the DA for his side's eighth trick, followed by ruffing the fourth club with the H7 to ensure two more trump tricks for his side.

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The following deal gives plenty of scope for interesting play both by declarer and the defence.

Dir E	♠ K62		
Vul None	♥ K9876		
	♦ Q843		
	♣ 3		
♠ A1095		♠ Q874	
♥ QJ2		♥ A43	
♦ KJ5		♦ A62	
♣ A82		♣ K75	
	♠ J3		
	♥ 105		
	♦ 1097		
	♣ QJ10964		

W	N	E	S
X	P	3NT	All pass

East reached 3NT here, having carefully avoided the four-four spade fit. In 3NT, it looks right to win the first club for fear of a red-suit switch and guess the spades well.

In fact, declarer ducked the first club, won the next, then misguessed spades reasonably enough by winning the SA and passing the ten. When the defence mistakenly pressed on with clubs, declarer won and played the third spade to North. Back perforce came a heart. Declarer let this run to dummy and cashed the fourth spade, reducing North to the king, nine of hearts and the queen, eight, four of diamonds. Now ace and another heart endplays North to lead diamonds into the tenace, for nine tricks.

By contrast, at another table West played 4S, on an unopposed sequence, on the lead of the singleton club. He won in hand and sneaked the HJ through, then led a second club towards the king. North ruffed, but found himself endplayed, so hoped for the best by exiting with the HK.

Declarer won in dummy, cashed the SA, then played a third heart, ruffed by South with the now-bare SJ.

(If declarer had drawn a second trump before playing the third heart, North would have won, but would have had a safe heart exit.) As it was, all that South could do was to exit with a diamond; declarer ran it to the ace in dummy, cashed the CK, and played a third trump. North won his SK, but had to lead into the diamond tenace. Would you believe you could make 4S by losing three trump tricks - but no trick in clubs, hearts or diamonds!

■ Barry Rigal
International Bridge Press Assn.

Cuppaidge's Column



George Cuppaidge

PLAYING as an add-on to the Campbelltown team in the NSW finals of the GNOT, several interesting situations arose; here is one.

Dir S	♠ A93		
Vul Both	♥ —		
	♦ K10953		
	♣ J9853		
♠ 107		♠ 52	
♥ K10972		♥ AJ8	
♦ AQ642		♦ J87	
♣ A		♣ 107642	
	♠ KQJ864		
	♥ Q6543		
	♦ —		
	♣ KQ		

As South, I opened 1S, heard double from West, 3S from North and pass from East. My 4S concluded the auction.

A trump lead or a heart lead from West will defeat 4S but West led the CA and switched to a trump. I won in hand and played the CQ noting that West ruffed with the S10. A heart was now played which I ruffed in dummy. I was able to cash the CJ and take the marked ruffing finesse against East's C10. Still with with a trump outstanding, I re-entered dummy with a further heart ruff to cash my fifth club. My hand was now high having ruffed two hearts and discarded two on the club suit. How unusual; to cash a fifth-round winner before drawing trumps! 5DX by West in the other room was not a success. ■

George's 'New Defensive Bidding System' is available on page 13 of the web version of the Bulletin. Go to the QBA website at www.qldbridge.com

What a Sport!!

IN the rough and tumble of tournament bridge, so much focus is placed on winning, that good old-fashioned sportsmanship is often forgotten. Volumes have been written about how clever a declarer has been or how the "killing" defence to slay the unbeatable opposition contract was made, but when was the last time you recall anything about how sporting the opponents were?

Playing in the Barrier Reef Congress in Cairns earlier this year with my wife Suzie and a team with Bronwyn Macleod and Terry O'Dempsey, I happened to be unwell, feeling 'rotten as a chop' and my bridge judgement displayed it. Having gone all that way, I wasn't keen to toss in the towel and unfortunately for my team, decided quite selfishly to box on. Playing in a match against Alan and Diane Maltby, I managed to blow around 50 IMPS on the first six boards. My regular partner Richard Touton may think I was doing better than my average, but it was obvious to Alan and Diane that I wasn't well. They very generously, and in the highest traditions of sportsmanship, offered to have the match cancelled. I did manage to bat on to complete that match, but much to Suzie's relief and the team's progress, an able-minded replacement was found for the next.

I congratulate Alan and Diane and thank them for their real sportsmanship. On a less lofty note and just in case John Summerhayes missed telling someone in Brisbane, a further indication of how I was feeling in Cairns was the result of a dinner I prepared for him and bridge partner Susie Stevens along with my hapless team mates. I managed to buy several kilos of the finest coral trout in Cairns and being the restaurant guru I'm supposed to be, set about preparing a feast. The only minor problem with my culinary creation was that I managed to 'flour' the coral trout with dishwashing powder! To now say it looks like my restaurant career is all washed up is somewhat of an understatement.

■ Larry Moses

QCBC

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Qld Graded Teams - Sunday 26 October - \$20 per player
Melbourne Cup Day - \$7 per player and bring a plate
New Years Eve Teams

Sunshine Coast One-day Teams

There are no bad 6-6 shape hands

Dir N	♠ 952		
Vul EW	♥ KJ106		
	♦ Q		
	♣ A8643		
♠ AJ743		♠ KQ1086	
♥ Q		♥ 85	
♦ A1083		♦ 64	
♣ K107		♣ QJ92	
	♠ —		
	♥ A97432		
	♦ KJ9752		
	♣ 5		

W	N	E	S
	P	P	2H*
2S	P	4S	P
P	5H	P	P
X	All pass		

*Two suits of the same colour, weak
When short teams matches start with a wild board and result, they have a habit of generating a tempo which the pair on the wrong end have difficulty in breaking. Such was the opening board of our top of the table clash at the recent Sunshine Coast Teams. South couldn't resist opening the hand with our pet CRO bid. With no gadget available, many prudent players chose a 1H opening! After it became clear that partner held the red suits, the favourable vulnerability made the 5H bid a no-brainer. Who could blame West for electing to defend? Would a 5S bid have found South bidding the cold slam?

At the other table 5S, was the final contract. +750 combined with -100 was sufficient to help us over the line in an enjoyable well-organized day.

■ Ken Dawson

Ipswich

THE Ipswich Contract Bridge Club held their Inaugural Congress on July 20.

This was a Novice Swiss Pairs event, directed by Alan Gibson, who did his usual professional job.

The event was opened by the Deputy Mayor of Ipswich, Mr Paul Pisasale, whom I would like to thank for all his assistance with our club. I would also like to thank Tony Jackman, Kim Ellaway and the QBA, QCBC, Toowong BC and all the other people and clubs for their assistance.

Forty pairs from Toowoomba to the Gold Coast turned up.

This board saw some pairs reach the cold grand slam.

Dir N	♠ Q2		
Vul NS	♥ K94		
	♦ AK8		
	♣ QJ743		
♠ 1075		♠ 984	
♥ J108632		♥ 7	
♦ 65		♦ Q10732	
♣ 106		♣ 9852	
	♠ AKJ63		
	♥ AQ5		
	♦ J94		
	♣ AK		

B Carroll and A Smith led for the morning with the lead changing all afternoon until the second last round when David McAdam and Robert Fraser took the lead on the second last round and stayed there to take out first place.

David and Robert had a highly competitive auction to reach 4S on Board 1 after lunch.

Make point count your servant,
not your master
Terence Reese

Dir N	♠ K543		
Vul EW	♥ J764		
	♦ —		
	♣ AJ986		
♠ A8		♠ 762	
♥ Q983		♥ K52	
♦ AQ752		♦ K643	
♣ Q7		♣ K52	
	♠ QJ109		
	♥ A10		
	♦ J1098		
	♣ 1043		

W	N	E	S
	P	P	P
1D	X	2D	2S
3H	3S	4D	P
P	4S	All pass	

A small heart was led, low from dummy, to the king and ace. Dave then led the H10, won by the queen, then a small heart was led to dummy's jack, on which Dave discarded a small club. A small spade was led to declarer's S10; ducked by West.

The C10 was led to the queen and ace followed by the C9, taken by the king with a small club return ruffed by declarer, overruffed with the ace. A heart was returned; ruffed in hand. Dave played another round of spades, ruffed a diamond in dummy, drew the last trump and clubs are good.

Thanks to the Booval Bowls Club for the use of their excellent facilities and their professional catering.

■ Jim Evans



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Sunnybank

SUNNYBANK'S Open Swiss Pairs was just as popular this year as last (the club maximum of 34 tables was reached well before the cut-off date) and I believe some 10 pairs had to be refused in the week leading up to the congress. Sunnybank will have to follow Surfers Paradise and knock out a wall. As Max and Joyce Worthington walked in the door I couldn't help thinking back to 1981 when the club used to meet in the old church hall on the corner of Mains and Beenleigh Roads. Max was inaugural president at that time (an old partner of mine from Proserpine days) and we were lucky to get 4 tables; what a change. Sixteen clubs were represented, with Jan Peach and Geoff Slack-Smith directing. The field was diverse with rankings ranging from Nil Masters to Grand Masters and two Youth players.

The club received strong support from members, with about 40% of the field being made up of Sunnybank players. Behind the scenes, members supported the club with generous donations of food and their time in assisting to run the congress.

So to the fray: having been beaten by the Stringfellows last year, Paul Gosney and I wanted a second go at it. We started off with Steve and Barbara Stening, who got the better of us. We went tables 5, 17, 17, 10 & 13 so we were not exactly setting the place on fire. However, my young partner played consistently well all day, and coming up to the last round we were within striking distance of the lead. One lucky board on the last set meant we had our noses just in front when the music stopped.

There were many interesting hands; here are a few.

You, as South, have

♠AKQ5 ♥K753 ♦A ♣AQ102

and are considering what to open when East opens 3D. Double and 4D are the obvious choices. You choose to bid 4D and partner replies 4H. What now; if anything? How do you say to partner, "Have you got a little something extra over there?"

At the table, South bid 5H. The only other choice, 5D, would, surely, also be an invite to 6H. Are they effectively the same? Silly to have two bids meaning the same thing. Let's have a look at it.

Mind Games A History of Old Bridge

Dir E	♠ J83
Vul NS	♥ QJ984
	♦ 87
	♣ K83
♠ 10742	♠ 96
♥ A6	♥ 102
♦ J106	♦ KQ95432
♣ J974	♣ 65
	♠ AKQ5
	♥ K753
	♦ A
	♣ AQ102

Over 5H North passed. Why? Are five hearts with QJ and the CK not extras? Of course they are. Why pass then? Many regular partnerships play that a free raise of an agreed major to the five level asks for control of the "danger" suit; in this case diamonds.

South could have had

♠AKQxx ♥AKxxxx ♦xx ♣—

and 5H is just the ticket.

Sitting North, you have

♠A542 ♥KJ4 ♦64 ♣QJ62

and your partner opens 1D. You respond 1S and the uncontested auction continues 2S - 2NT; 3NT. The H3 is led.

Dir N	♠ Q106
Vul EW	♥ 72
	♦ A10853
	♣ AK7
♠ KJ73	♠ 98
♥ A863	♥ Q1096
♦ Q97	♦ KJ2
♣ 95	♣ 10843
	♠ A543
	♥ KJ4
	♦ 64
	♣ QJ62

Partner's a pushy little devil; but then you play the hands so well! RHO plays the queen and you win the king. Oh dear, things are not so rosy. However, they don't know that. Let's say you play a small spade towards the queen, LHO plays small, you put in the ten and it wins! One big hurdle over; what now?

Watch Paul in action. In normal tempo, he pulled a small diamond. East played the two and West won the seven. West now exited with the H6. Certainly he could have found a better card but that's not Paul's fault. Paul won the jack, played the CA & K, the DA and a small club to hand. After the CQ & J he led the H4.

West was down to the SKJ and HA8 so after winning his hearts had to give Paul 3 spade tricks for a total of 10, and a clear top.

We all know that Defence is a hard part of the game. I seem to remember a **BOLS TIP** from some years ago which said, "As a defender, don't be in a hurry to relinquish control of the trump suit." Paul has maybe read the book or perhaps it just comes naturally.

Dir N	♠ K8532
Vul NS	♥ Q
	♦ A973
	♣ 743
♠ AQ6	♠ 1097
♥ A54	♥ J9873
♦ 5	♦ KJ84
♣ KQJ852	♣ 10
	♠ J4
	♥ K1062
	♦ Q1062
	♣ A96

After three passes West opened 1C, East responded 1H and 3C by West closed the auction. I was North and led the HQ.

Now, my leads are legendary, but this one was really not all that bad. There cannot be many entries in the dummy. Paul encouraged with the 2, West won and played a small club to the ten and Paul ducked. Declarer now hooked the SQ to my king. Noticing Paul's 4 (reverse count) I sent back a spade and, as well as our other tricks, we scored a ruff and a 2 trick set.

There are many ways the defence can go at trick 2 including giving North a heart ruff, but I like the duck.

Let's finish with a laugh and a very easy **BOLS TIP** for newer players.

Going to the Gold Coast next year?
The Gold Coast Booking Centre manages 15 properties. The properties in Surfers are
Moroccan
Crown Towers
Chevron Renaissance
(opened 20/1/03)
Imperial Surf
St Tropez
Aloha
Enderley Gardens
Equinox

Our website is
www.gcbc.com.au
and this will give you an idea of the properties. Our number is **1300 553 800** and this is a local call cost.

Dir S	♠ K
Vul None	♥ AQJ9832
	♦ K9
	♣ Q96
♠ Q10865	♠ A973
♥ K64	♥ 5
♦ J65	♦ Q10873
♣ 43	♣ 1085
	♠ J42
	♥ 107
	♦ A42
	♣ AKJ72

	W	N	E	S
	P	1H	1NT ¹	1C
	3S ³	6H	All pass	P ²

¹ 5-4 either way in spades and diamonds

² Denies 3 hearts

³ Pre-emptive

Even though partner had denied 3 hearts, I felt I had too much for 4H as partner had, after all, opened 1C, so I bid 6H and eagerly awaited the dummy.

Richard Ward led the SA and was not displeased when my king fell. He led another spade which I ruffed. I went over to the DA and ran the H10 - winning. Now the H7 to my queen. East showing out. Too bad, Barry Kempthorne had started with Kxxx. Not dead yet so I embarked on a trump coup! Over to the CJ, ruff a diamond, over to a second club, ruff the last spade, over to another club and Barry ruffed. I thought the offer of a Casket ticket would have been fair under the circumstances but Barry and Richard were no doubt considering which mental institution they could recommend to me. Oh yes, the **BOLS TIP**, "Count trumps - there are usually 13"

■ Andrew Pryde

DID YOU KNOW?

A response of 1NT which, by partnership agreement, requires opener to bid again, must be alerted.

Declarer Play

J x

A 9 x

West leads small - your play.

You hope the lead was from K Q. If you play low from dummy, no combination of the outstanding cards will give you more than one trick.

Surfers

The Pain of Holding a Nine

ON a Sunday morning when I picked up my cards and arranged them in order I paid no attention at all to my 3-card diamond holding which was J94. We were playing against Mike Robson and Betty Lee in the sixth round of the Surfers Paradise Bridge Club congress.

Dir S	♠ A942
Vul NS	♥ 1072
	♦ 10752
	♣ 103
♠ K765	♠ 108
♥ A865	♥ KQJ
♦ J94	♦ Q
♣ 86	♣ AKJ9754
	♠ QJ3
	♥ 943
	♦ AK863
	♣ Q2

Playing Precision South opened the bidding 1D and, after 2 passes, my partner doubled. When South passed I had a sneaky feeling that we might pull off a game on this board; is it going to be in the majors or will it be in no-trumps? Because of my losers in the minors that precariously lie on the wrong side of the opening bidder, I decided that the best chances of a game must be in 3 NT. If this is the case then I wanted to deviate from my natural 1H response and bid 1S in order to thwart an attack in spades, as my SK looked rather lonely! My partner bid 3C over my 1S, and I locked onto my favourite spot of 3NT.

When Mike led the D2 and my partner exposed the dummy, I realised that I may have dug my own grave with my 1S bid, for on a spade lead the contract will be cold. South won with the DK and played a low diamond. Oh god, who is holding the D10? Where is my crystal ball!

If North held the longer diamond suit, then why did South not play the DA or the D10 on trick 2. It looked as if South had the length in diamonds, and if South also held both the honours then why did South not play the DA on trick one and then play a low diamond in order to mislead me into guessing the DK with North. On the other side of the coin I was dreading the possibility that our team-mates may be defending a 5C contract which cannot be defeated if the SA was onside. I could hear my heart pump. I never imagined that the Nine of Diamonds could cause so much pain!

Upon completion of all the analysis, my computer flashed, "Say your prayers and lay the jack". North showed what a gentleman he is by playing the D10 on my jack, to let me know immediately that he was holding that crucial card I was looking for! I rattled off the rest of the tricks for +490.

This went well with the +100 from our teammates where the contract was 4H going two down. It is anyone's guess whether South would have switched to the SQ at trick 2 to defeat the contract, if I had not bid 1S during the auction. South later clarified that the DA and a low diamond play at trick 2 would have tricked me, but by the same token it would have misled her partner also into thinking that declarer held the DK.

Here is another one from the same match, for the no-trump lovers!

Dir S	♠ Q74
Vul Both	♥ J2
	♦ 75432
	♣ A109
♠ K863	♠ A5
♥ 1097	♥ KQ8543
♦ A86	♦ 109
♣ Q87	♣ K63
	♠ J1092
	♥ A6
	♦ KQJ
	♣ J542

Once again a precision 1D opening from South was passed around to East who bid 1H. I supported with 2H and partner raised to 3H. I was told that it is not good manners to decline invitations, but I was cautious. My hand was flat and therefore decided that prospects will be rather bleak at the 4-level. So I bid 3NT and my partner Tony Berger graciously accepted my decision.

North led a low spade, and I knew that the spade attack would continue. So despite the precarious diamond holding I ducked the opening lead to end up in dummy with the SA, on trick 2. The HK was overtaken by South, and the anticipated spade attack continued. I was now able to make 10 tricks for +630.

At the other table the best contract as recommended by the computer was played for -140. The gain on these 2 boards was 21 IMP, but the number one team still beat us by 4 IMP overall.

■ Kamal Sanmugarasa

One should always play fairly
when one has the winning cards
Oscar Wilde

Lockyer

SUNDAY July 13 saw a capacity crowd of 60 pairs from far and wide turn up at the Laidley Cultural Centre for the Gatton Bridge Club's annual Swiss Pairs and a very nice lunch, including their famous soup.

Reg and Joan did their usual expert job of directing.

Here are a couple of the more interesting boards. Board 5 saw my partner, Pamela Evans, playing in 3 NT.

Dlr N	♠ 10432		
Vul NS	♥ —		
	♦ AJ8642		
	♣ Q42		
♠ KJ8		♠ 97	
♥ AQ9643		♥ 102	
♦ —		♦ KQ10953	
♣ AKJ7		♣ 1063	
	♠ AQ65		
	♥ KJ875		
	♦ 7		
	♣ 985		

W	N	E	S
X	P	P	1H
3NT	All pass		P

After a small diamond lead, she made her contract by eventually endplaying South, who had to lead a heart, ducked around to dummy's ten.

Dlr W	♠ 872		
Vul Both	♥ AK8		
	♦ K432		
	♣ A96		
♠ AK103		♠ Q	
♥ 7532		♥ Q94	
♦ QJ107		♦ A985	
♣ 4		♣ KQ875	
	♠ J9654		
	♥ J106		
	♦ 6		
	♣ J1032		

W	N	E	S
P	1D	P	P
X	P	2C	All pass

Board 20 raised the problem of whether it is better to pass 1diamond or make a reopening double, luckily for me they chose to make the reopening double, which eventually went our way for 2 down.

■ Jim Evans

Sunshine Coast

Is There a Bridge God for Me?

THE scene: Buderim, Sunshine Coast Bridge Club. One Day Teams. It is late in the afternoon. The sun on the horizon is blocking my view. I, Rosa Lachman, am getting very tired. I pick up:-

♠K2 ♥KQJ109432 ♦2 ♣A6

My partner, Sue Mabin, was dealer and I thought she had passed first to speak. I saw my right hand opponent pass and over to me. What to do with this good looking hand? Open 2C? Nah. 1H? Nah. Let's get it over and done with; open 4H. Pass by my left hand opponent. Now partner makes a bid and as I lean forward to see this bid, it is 5D, but wait, there is something in the first part of this bidding sheet! Oh no, it was not a pass but 1S! Holy Dooley, what have I done? My 4H bid now shows a maxi splinter (void) and spade support aiming for slam. My partner must have asked herself, "A void opposite a void???" Then who has those 13 hearts? Anyway, knowing that the wheels have come off, decide to take the bull by the horns and bid 6H. "Double!" says my left hand opponent. Partner, now totally bewildered, passes and leaves it to me to sort this mess out; all pass.

	♠ AQ10976		
	♥ —		
	♦ AQ76		
	♣ 432		
♠ —		♠ J8543	
♥ A8765		♥ —	
♦ K965		♦ J1087	
♣ QJ107		♣ K965	
	♠ K2		
	♥ KQJ109432		
	♦ 2		
	♣ A6		

The CQ is led.

Exchange courtesies with partner, thank you, nice hand. But how am I going to make this contract? If my left hand opponent had led a spade, a low heart or a diamond I would have been much happier. Oh dear, I have to drive home with Bill Hunt, my life partner and teammate. There is always a lot of traffic coming back from the Sunshine Coast on a Sunday night. I am looking at two hours minimum with Bill in the car! If I don't make this contract I can expect to be walking home (joke, I hope). But how, how? Only the HA to lose. Lots of other tricks are available. How many options do I have? If I lead the HQ and my left hand opponent

ducks this – nah, no good. What about three rounds of spades (no good – not enough spades in the opponents' hands)? I have to get rid of this losing club before I touch trumps. So, there is only **one** chance and you **must** take it. You mean you want me to take the diamond finesse (???) to get rid of my losing club? As I had broken into a cold sweat by now I led the diamond, my left hand opponent played low, I shut my eyes and called for the queen and waited for someone to say, 'Rosa, it is **your** trick'. Now throw the losing club away on the DA, back with a club ruff, HK and claim. When the smoke had cleared that was +1660 to the good guys.

Yes, I do believe there is a Bridge God looking after me. Happy bridging to you all.

■ Bill Hunt

Notices

Congress Directors' Exam

October 25

Advertising Rates

Affiliated clubs

\$200 per page or pro rata

Other bridge related ads

\$300 pp or pro rata

All other ads

\$400 pp pro rata

Declarer Play

Q 10 x

A x x

West leads low - your play

without giving you two more tricks. unable to lead the suit again hold the trick and West will be was from K J, however, the 10 will play the queen or the 10. If the lead sure to win two tricks, whether you are between the two hands, you are if the opposing honours are divided

DID YOU KNOW?

If partner regularly forgets your system, frequently making calls that deviate from it, then the opponents are also entitled to this information.

Letters

PLAYING in the final round of the Swiss in the GNOT Metropolitan finals in Sydney Don Evans and I faced this problem.

Dlr W	♠ A74			
Vul None	♥ J1092			
	♦ A2			
	♣ A763			
♠ 83		♠ KJ92		
♥ 63		♥ KQ75		
♦ KQ10753		♦ 86		
♣ Q105		♣ J94		
	♠ Q1065			
	♥ A84			
	♦ J94			
	♣ K82			

Don, West, passed showing 0-9, I over-called North's 1C with 1NT showing at least 4-4 in the majors. South doubled and West bid 2D and North asked the meaning of 2D. I replied that it requested me to bid my longer or stronger major. North passed and I duly bid 2H. Don stoically passed this but when North's double was passed around to him he removed to 3D. This was passed out for one down. N-S have game in no trumps. The director was called and the score adjusted to 2HX down 500. The director decreed that the information received from my explanation made Don's decision to rescue easier to find. As far as our system is concerned, 2D undoubtedly has the meaning I gave in the absence of a double, Don has the view that it changes after an adverse double. Comments from QBA experts would be appreciated.

In particular, should one hedge one's reply with qualifications? I did not, but I might have added "undiscussed after a double." Obviously I thought the double made no difference.

When the meaning of a bid in a particular context has not been discussed what is the situation? What is deemed to be the partnership agreement? In our case I have absolutely no doubt that the bidding would have proceeded, from our side at least, just as it did in the absence of the opponents' questioning.

More generally must one be forced by opponents to provide unauthorised information to partner only to have future decision-making fettered by the spectre of score adjustment because of this involuntarily provided information? Am I being mean-spirited in suggesting that some pairs actually use such questions to pave the way for an adjusted score?

George Cuppaidge

ARANA NOVICE SWISS TEAMS

Sunday October 12

\$88 per team, 9.30 am start. Contact Geoff Gulley 3851 3687

Brisbane Bridge Centre

104 Frederick St, Annerley. Ph: 3392 7933

Play Sessions

Tuesday	7.30 pm
Wednesday	10.00 am
Thursday	7.30 pm
Saturday	1.00 pm

Coaching Sessions & Beginners' Classes

Monday	10.00 am
Tuesday	7.30 pm

Enquiries for coaching & beginners' classes: 3371 2383

Queensland Bridge Association Inc

The QBA can produce copies of "Bridge Directing Complete" by Ian McKinnon (in its 1979 format)
Cost: \$45.00 (including GST)

This includes a postage and handling cost of \$5.00

Orders and payment details to

QBA Manager, 3 Tristania Street, EVERTON HILLS 4053

Ph: (07) 3855 3331 or Email: qldbridge@ozemail.com.au

Coming Events

Oct	10-12	Cairns Congress
	11-12	Dalby Pairs & Teams
	11	Mackay Teams
	12	Cleveland Bay Teams
		Gympie Graded Pairs
		Arana Novice Teams (0-49 MPs)
	18-19	BBC Pairs (inc Qld Open & Novice Pairs)
	25-26	Magnetic Pairs Congress (Townsville)
		Hervey Bay Pairs & Teams
	26	Qld Graded Teams (QCBC)
Nov	1-2	Northern Suburbs Pairs
		Cleveland Bay Pairs
		Central Qld Teams (Mackay)
	2	Surfers Paradise Novice Teams (0-99 MPs)
	8-9	Bowen Coral Coast Teams
	9	QCBC Pairs
		Toowong Novice Teams
	15	Townsville Novice Teams (0-99 MPs)
		Eastern Suburbs Teams
	16	Gold Coast Novice Teams (0-99 MPs)
	22-29	Queensland-Wide Pairs
	23	Qld Seniors' & Youth Pairs C'ship (Surfers)
		Coolum Graded Pairs
		Mackay Novice Teams (0-99 MPs)
	30	QCBC Novice Pairs (0-99 MPs)

Teacher's Corner



Joan
Butts

HOW do we interest young people to play bridge? To stave off the threat of extinction for the game, we need to encourage them to play.

I believe the only real solution is to introduce bridge to schools on a wide scale, not just in isolated cases, but as an across the board elective subject. And...teachers need to have proper training. Various countries are implementing bridge in schools, and one, Holland, now has the largest number of bridge players in the world per head of population!

Here's an excerpt from *Bridge in Schools*, by Ed O'Reilly, who introduces students to the game in Canada.

"In Canada, as in places like China, Holland and England, the move to bring bridge into schools as part of the curriculum is becoming a reality.

Teaching students the simpler form of the game, eg **minibrIDGE**, seems to be resulting in an increase in interest in bridge, and in Canada, this is how it works.

The ACBL provides

- free textbooks and cards for student and teacher
- all course equipment, teaching materials and a bridge teacher

The school provides

- students for the lessons
- the location for the lessons to be held

There is no charge to schools.

The students do an **8-week introductory course**, and then can follow up with a more advanced set of lessons if they and the school agree.

There is a championship competition between various schools at the end of these, with trophies etc. To **advertise** bridge to students and teachers, it can be seen as a valuable adjunct to the mathematics curriculum. It can offer:

- Improved memory work
- Improved concentration
- Reasoning
- Simple to increasingly complex problems to master and solve
- Work with others to solve problems
- Deductive reasoning

Probability
Number sense

My beginners book, "Play Bridge" starts with mini-bridge (called Starter Bridge). Play, point count and fits are looked at early on, but no bidding. That comes later. If you're interested in knowing more about teaching bridge, come to

My Teacher Accreditation Programme, a one-day, two session workshop **SUNDAY 12th October at the QCBC** at 10.00am. It's free.

Enquiries, phone **3254 4795** or **0413 772 650** Email: joaneb@fox.uq.net.au

Larry Moses is behind a move to have regular youth coaching sessions, probably every second Wednesday night in the cosy back room at Toowong Club.

I will be involved and Richard Touton is the man to contact, if you want to play and discuss. Call Toowong BC on **3870 9620**

Book Review

The Bridge Bum

Alan Sontag (Reprint)

ORIGINALLY published in 1977, this book has been out of print for twenty years. I had heard that it was a much sought-after title, so it is pleasing to see this reprint and update. The author has won three World Team Championships, the prestigious Cavendish Invitational Pairs, and numerous US Nationals. This book is one of those you read when you have some spare time, but don't want to get into any serious bridge study. Of course, there are quite a few hands scattered throughout the book, which made a special impact on the author. What I found when I opened it and started reading was that I was utterly gripped by the verve and excitement the author generates. I have always had a fascination for the history of bridge, and Sontag has met and played against, or with, many of the great players. He gives a good insight into the best and worst traits of some of those characters, but generally without any nastiness or tabloid revelations.

It is difficult to sustain a breakneck pace throughout any book, and this one flags in a couple of places where some hoary old chestnuts which have been published many times are dragged out. However, the final chapter (an obvious addition to this edition) details how Sontag's team won the 1983 Bermuda Bowl from the Italians, including the great Belladonna and Garozzo, and this makes for an exciting finish.

I found it fascinating and recommend it to anyone who loves to read about the

rough and tumble of top level tournament and professional bridge.

The Bridge Bum is available from John Hardy for \$29.70 – phone 0409 786 050.

25 Years Ago

Gold Coast Congress 1978

IN past years, it has not always been clear whether the Gold Coast Congress should be regarded as a Queensland or a NSW event. Players from the south have been ever ready to participate in this week long marathon of good bridge and good fun. Local players for some reason have not been so keen. That is until this year.

Virtually every major country centre was represented. Players came from Townsville, Proserpine, Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Maryborough, Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Caloundra, Gold Coast, Toowoomba and Goondiwindi to attend this premier congress. Even NSW country was represented.

Unlike many other bridge congresses where the standard of play tends to drop below club level, there is no easy win to be had at the Gold Coast. Several players, disappointed to find themselves in the lowest consolation section after the pairs qualifying, were overheard to say, "at least this will be easy to win". It wasn't and they didn't. Everyone left the congress a better player.

My favourite success story concerns a pair from the bottom consolation section Thelma Tully - Mary Dare from Brisbane. They had been nervous about attending their first ever congress and were not surprised to find themselves near last in this section. They felt they were improving however. The teams helped still further. In the last teams event, the Repechage, they teamed up with Beryl Fry of the Gold Coast and Ruth Munujen of Sydney and won their section. Back in Brisbane, where they play together on Wednesday at the Bridge Centre, they have won every week since.

The only problem lying ahead for the Gold Coast Congress seems to be one of space. Numbers creep up gradually from year to year. A record one hundred and thirty pairs sat down for the first session this year. The Chevron Hotel, much loved venue that it is, couldn't cope with more than one hundred and fifty, a number which is bound to be realised before too long. Disappointingly, the magnificent new Convention Centre has a convention room which is only slightly larger. Still that's our problem. Yours is to make sure you have a partner lined up for next year, The dates? February 18-24, 1979.

George Cuppaige

The QBA Bulletin, April 1978

Results

Noosa Butler Pairs 19-20 July

- 1 R Crowley A Mayers
- 2 D Stagg J Gill
- 3 P Barnett D Harris

Plate

- 1 J Simms J Jessop
- 2=C Reed N Babbage
- 2=S Smith S McCulloch

Consolation

- 1 C & C Woolley
- 2 S Sende K Moschner
- 3 I Brown J Manton

Moreton-Bribie Congress 26-27 July

Butler Pairs

- 1 H & R McLauchlan
- 2 P Porter M Lamont
- 3 M Winch B Featherston

Plate

- 1 G Dyer B Luchjenbroers
- 2 R McKenzie J Halliday

Teams

- 1 R Green L Sanderson
P Barnett D Harris
- 2 A Pryde R Parker
J Mills C Green
- 3 M Ward R Ward
L Vincent M Millar J Millar

Plate

- 1 A & W van Wensveen
T Goedhart M van der Beek
- 2 J Bell K Dakin
A Smith R Rusk

Bundaberg Pairs Congress 25-26 July

- 1 A & D Maltby
- 2 B Raper J Roughley
- 3 M Darley D Ryan

Plate

- 1 D Turner D O'Regan
- 2 G & F Cooper
- 3 E Robson J Marley

Consolation

- 1 J Laws M McNee
- 2 R Benvenuto J Blatch
- 3 M Goodworth K Lawrence

Sunnybank Swiss Pairs 3 Aug

- 1 A Pryde P Gosney
- 2 T Berger S Kamalarsa
- 3 B Kempthorne R Ward

Plate

- 1 N & J Dellaca
- 2 L Eaves P Evans
- 3 D Dwyer V Wallace

Toowoomba Swiss Pairs 3 Aug

- 1 D Cullen S Dean
- 2 A Smith R Clayton
- 3 N Francis B Hunt

Plate

- 1 R & G Weekes
- 2 B Stuart B Gill

Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs 10 Aug

NS

- 1 K Male J Dillon
- 2 H Klewitz I Sanderson
- 3 M Daines H Braithwaite

EW

- 1 D & M Holmes
- 2 A Finney M Vickers
- 3 F & H Killiner

Qld Butler Pairs Championship 16-17 Aug

- 1 R Parker P Hainsworth
- 2 A Remedios A Kelly
- 3 T Bardon S Johnson

<200 masterpoints

- 1 H Brooksbank J Shanahan
- 2 B Carroll J Power

Qld Men's Champions

- R Parker P Hainsworth

Qld Women's Champions

- T Bardon S Johnson

BBC Swiss Teams 24 Aug

- 1 A Remedios A Kelly
I Luck D Levin
- 2 R Wallis T Tully
P Hainsworth R Parker
- 3=A Pryde P Gosney
J Mills C Green
- 3=C Howard T Strong
R Morawiecki J Millar

Plate

- 1 J Leung R McLauchlan
H McLauchlan D Cheong
- 2 B Thornley S Johnson
R Lachman P Rankin

Consolation

- 1 J Williams A Hogan
P Noble I Noble

Restricted

- 1 F Jones V Newman
J Dillon K Male
- 2 P Williams D Murray
T Newnham B Frazer

Mackay Novice Pairs 2 Aug

- 1 A Hird P Brewer
- 2 O Olive M McQuire
- 3 T Wotherspoon R Taylor

Ipswich Novice Swiss Pairs 20 July

- D McAdam R Fraser

GNOT Representatives

Brisbane Zone

- 1 G Gemmell C Daniel
J Hoffman B Luchenbroers
Northern Suburbs BC
- 2 L Moses T Touton
R Lachman B Hunt
Toowong BC
- 3 M Corner M O'Malley
T Young L & K McNeill
QCBC

Northern Zone

- Mann Laws Bowden & Stubbs

Sunshine Coast Zone

- Beil Slade Rogers & Connolly
Green Lynch Barnett & Harris

Wide Bay Zone

- Bonnick Bonnick Madsen & Madsen

Capricornia/Whitsunday Zone

- Morris Bire Hadwen & Pembroke

Gold Coast Zone

- Slobom Johnson Barden & Pritchard

Plenty of bridge players are said to be destitute because they failed to draw trumps promptly. But probably a greater number are in the same unhappy condition because they drew trumps too soon.

Alan Truscott

You should play the game for fun. The instant you find yourself playing the game for any other reason, you should go on to something else.

Charles Goren

**Gold
Coast
Congress
2004**



February 21-28

Directors' Corner

AT a recent Congress I explained to a table that there was no great problem that they had played a board arrowswitched as the computer could easily switch the score. It so happened that a second board was played arrowswitched at the same table after which one player announced that although he had been quite happy to accept the first score (opponents making a game), he certainly wasn't going to accept the second one (opponents going down doubled).

The penny dropped that he believed he got the score the opponents made with "his" cards. When a board is played arrowswitched, pairs become part of the opposite field for that board. Getting a good result with the cards you actually hold is still good news for you and vice versa.

420 1NS 1EW
100 2NS 3EW
450 3NS 2EW

In this example 1NS, 2NS, 3NS get 2, 0, 4, matchpoints respectively and 1EW, 3EW, 2EW get 2, 4, 0 matchpoints. 3EW made a good sacrifice.

Arrowswitched, the pairs become part of the opposite field just for that board. Now real 2NS (with the EW cards) makes the sacrifice so they get the 4 points.

With the switch the real 1NS, 2NS, 3NS get 2, 4, 4 matchpoints, and the real 1EW, 3EW, 2EW get 2, 0, 0 matchpoints.

Problems can arise from the score being put into the wrong column at the table. If the pair holding the East West cards makes a contract the score is entered in the EW column, even though the pair is really NS - they become East West just

for that board. The scorer / computer will do the switching.

Far too often directors find out that a substitution has been made by happening to notice someone new sitting at a table playing cards. This should never happen, because approval to use a substitute must be obtained from the director. There needs to be adequate cause e.g. illness, family emergency and not mere whim or ulterior motive. A substitute should be of comparable standard to that of the player replaced though the director does have discretionary power to protect the integrity of an event. Teams may also add to their number, usually to a maximum of 6, after an event has started and with the approval of the director.

How often do you write something down so that you will remember it? Do you hold up play so that you can record the opening lead on your personal record sheet? Why? The Laws don't permit aids to memory. Being able to remember the opening lead while playing to 13 tricks is an important skill.

There is only one time to be writing information on a personal record sheet, and that is when play of the hand is complete.

It is important, particularly during Mitchell and Howell movements, to keep information on your personal record sheet hidden from prying eyes. We don't tell opponents the results on boards they haven't played yet so don't let them see results you have recorded.

■ Jan Peach

What's Happening at Toowong Bridge Club?

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D E A D

NOV 10 (noon)

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L I N E

Cuppaidge's Column



George Cuppaidge

A New Defensive Bidding System

STANDARD defensive bidding has many fundamental flaws. It is far from effective in dealing, in defence, with the big hands, 16+, and even worse with the very big hands, 20+. What is set out here is an attempted improvement.

Presently we show big hands by doubling first and hoping nothing goes wrong, like a pre-emptive leap by partner in our short suit. An awful lot of weight is carried by one bid, double! Sometimes, instead, we choose to make a simple overcall on a massive collection and hope that someone will keep the bidding alive for us.

The approach is similar with very big hands. As well, we have virtually no means of finding out much about partner's shape if he is very weak. If we are very strong and partner has a long suit, every one of these may be worth a trick, but how do we get him to bid them with a Yarborough? The suggestion here is to put the 1NT overcall to a new use, take-out, showing all hands of 16+. It is completely forcing, with these responses.

2C 0-4 negative

2D 9+ artificial full positive game force.

2H through 3D 5-8 natural, semi-positive, 5+card suit

Cue bid 5-8 balanced, no stopper or three-suited short in opponents' suit.*

2NT 5-8 balanced, half+ stop. 3D/H transfers. Super accept with four.

Where there is further bidding from opponents, pass and double or redouble replace the first two steps respectively. Pass includes the penalty pass.

*Three-suiters containing opponents' suit come out in three steps after the five denominations. Over a major, both minors, clubs only, spades only. Over a minor, both majors, hearts only, spades only.

Over 2C showing 0-4, the 1NT bidder can bid 2D, game force, demanding the same shape responses as the semi-positives, 2H and up, above. Responder must keep

the bidding alive until game is reached. The 1NT bidder can also bid 2H and up, no longer interested in game and looking for a good spot to stop. 2H or 2S may even be a 4-card suit so it should not be passed with a doubleton. 2H or 2S on a flat 20 count may work better than 2N. 2NT will thus deny a 4-card major. Responder should take out to a five-card or longer suit, NF, possibly to a 4-card minor. After 1NT-2C; 2H-2S; three of a minor does not seek preference while 2NT now will be something like 1-4-4-4. These are not constructive auctions.

After the 2D game-forcing initial response, the 1N bidder describes in exactly the same way as the semi-positives also.

Over an adverse opening of 1C, it is simpler and better to play "system on." This means that we play our system in full, even if we play strong 1C. Double of 1C is not for take-out but an announcement that we have a 1C opening in our system. Bids of 1D and higher are system opening bids exactly. We are always in familiar territory. This will be dealt with in more detail below.

The obvious flow-on from this use of 1N is that double will have a much narrower and well defined meaning, 10-15, classic balanced or 3-suited short in opponents' suit. Responding will be much more straightforward, see below. Suit overcalls will be limited too, making it safer to enter the bidding light. It is also much safer to bid pre-emptively in response to both.

What about the loss of 1NT in its traditional sense?

There are few hands where double does not work just as well or better than the traditional 1NT overcall. 1NT is vulnerable to a penalty double, relatively simple to defend against. It inhibits our own suit part score bidding. We can never find a 4-4 heart or spade part-score and it is impossible to play in 2C or 2D. Furthermore it almost invariably "wrong-sides" the contract, putting the opening bidder's partner on lead. AQx opposite 10x, for example, is far better played with opening bidder leading up to the weaker holding. In short, the loss will be largely unlamented.

A penalty double simply does not work against 1NT, take-out. For all the doubler knows, the hand may contain eight running tricks! It also gives our side more room to bid. Pass and redouble replace the first two bids so semi-positive description starts at 2C and not 2H! In fact it takes a bid of 2S or above to reduce our bidding space. Over 2H, pass is either negative or a penalty pass, awaiting a reopening double, double is full positive and 2S is unchanged.

Bidding over 1C.

Using the "system-on" approach, only two areas require a little consideration. Holding a three-suiter, the approach is to double with those containing clubs, as we would open them 1C. So we double with 1-4-4-4, 4-1-4-4 and 4-4-1-4, double is definitely **not** for take-out! Those without clubs, 4-4-4-1, we open (overcall) 1D. The other area is how to rebid after an (effectively) forced 1D/H/S response to our 1C (double). The answer is to treat it as 6+ and natural, problems are more theoretical than real. Opponents will usually solve them for us anyway by bidding over the double. Partner's bids now will definitely show values.

Responding to the double of 1D/H/S.

Since this bid is now very specific, we can be very specific in responding to it.

The cheapest bid including 1NT over 1S (X) is game force. Doubler rebids in response to 1NT along these lines,

2C clubs only, 3-3-3-4 or 2-3-3-5 etc

2D diamonds only, similar

2H/S a four-card suit. Where hearts, could contain four spades or a four-card minor. Where spades could contain a four-card minor.

2NT Both minors

*When the response to the shape ask relay is made in the opponents' suit, it shows a three-suiter with zero or one card in that suit. In the case above 2S shows the 1444 etc.

Whatever the game forcing response, minimum bids in each denomination retain these meanings. Priority is thus always directed to the major suit search. Partner's full shape is available as the bidding will not die below game.

Other minimum bids in an unbid suit will show 0-9. Tactically, we should always raise with 4-card support, showing no more than simply that. We should support double when opener bids again at a level which permits a raise to the 2-level. We will otherwise pass any minimum response but might consider a 1NT rebid, the bid of a five-card unbid minor or 1S over 1H with a maximum and a doubleton-only support. Responder will have a very clear picture of our hand.

The 1NT response should, as always show balanced 6-9, but the stopper need be only notional since doubler will not be relying upon it. It is never a game going situation.

A jump response will promise a five-card or longer suit and show 10-12 points.

A cue bid shows 10-12 with no five-card suit. A 2NT reply by doubler creates a game force situation while minimum suit bids are not constructive at all.

The 2NT response is game forcing, promising half to one stop in the opponents suit, while the 3NT response is not to be disturbed.

It is a matter of partnership style, which balanced hands in the point range you do and do not double on. As a starting point, any hand with 4 cards in the opponents' suit or lacking three cards in an unbid major might well be passed. There is certainly "action" in doubling on all! But a double, vulnerable, on a 4-3-3-3 ten count is not recommended. You **should** double on all 3-suited 10 counts. Partner will always be better placed after a preemptive raise if he knows from your pass that you will not hold this hand.

Responding to a simple overcall.

Since these overcalls will very often be quite light it is important to have a comprehensive set of raises. This is the scheme.

Simple raise 6-9 3-card support

Cue-bid (cue-raise) 10-12, 3-card support

2NT 10-12, 4+card support. Eight losers

Double raise 0-9 preemptive, 4+card support 9+ loser hand.

Cheapest bid 12+, virtual game force.

Partner should show another suit if he has one, rebid NT with 5-3-3-2 or rebid his suit with six or more.

When the next hand bids over partner's simple overcall, double is used for all game going hands and to distinguish the 10-12 three-card raise, which goes through double, from the 6-9 three-card raise. Other bids are the same. ■

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