



NEWSLETTER

August 2005

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Two very successful free sessions of Mini Bridge were conducted by Chris Woolley during July. The participants were very enthusiastic about the concept and most returned for lessons. I hope that more free sessions of Mini Bridge will be offered later in the year.

Practice your butler skills prior to the Queensland Butler Pairs or just play in something different for the fun of it. There will be a green point Swiss Butler Pairs on Saturday afternoon 13th August starting at 1pm. Five 7 board matches will be played using average butler scoring.

Please be security conscious. Leaving valuables on display in your car or handbags unattended may be an invitation to thieves.

We are very fortunate to have four members newly accredited as QBA Club Directors. I congratulate Maurie Cullen, Jann Thatcher, Carolyn Woolley and Chris Woolley for passing the exam.

Congresses aren't judged by the food alone but I know by the number of appreciative comments that the home made goodies have been noticed. Please bring a plate if you can to the QBA Butler Pairs on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st August

Jan Peach

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CONGRATULATIONS

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE QUEENSLAND TEAMS WHO PLAYED SO WELL AT THE ANC IN SYDNEY

LAWS TIP

The opening lead is placed face down on the table in case partner needs to ask questions about the auction. It is also a way to avoid facing the opening lead out of turn. This is an infringement that usually gives an advantage to declarer because he now has the choice of a number of options.



So! – now I know about Forcing 10's, Menacing 9's and Flirting 8's.

QCBC SHOW DAY RED POINT EVENT WEDNESDAY 17TH AUGUST. Includes illustrations of a black cat, a tiger, and a striped cat.

JULY ECLECTIC RESULTS

Table with 2 columns: Monday AM, Wednesday AM, Monday PM, Thursday AM, Tuesday AM, Friday AM, Tuesday PM, Friday PM, Saturday. Lists names and scores for various events.

Green Masterpoint BUTLER PAIRS 1pm Saturday 13th August. Includes a green bear illustration.





SPECIAL OFFER FROM ARMSTRONG HOLDEN

A \$200 donation to QCBC
for every new car purchased
by a QCBC member or associate.

Please introduce yourself to Warwick Morrison
(New Vehicle Sales Manager)
or ask Toni for a copy of the offer.



INAUGURAL
QUEENSLAND
MIXED TEAMS

HOSTED BY **QCBC** FOR QBA

7 pm: Friday 26th August
Friday 23rd September
Friday 21st October
Friday 2nd December

QUEENSLAND
BUTLER PAIRS

HOSTED BY **QCBC** FOR QBA

9-30 am Saturday & Sunday
20th & 21st August



Our final 1 pm Sunday Session
was held on 7th August.
QCBC thanks the many people who
kept the session going over the years.



LAWS TIP

Your opponents are entitled to know everything about your auction that you do. When your partner makes a conventional bid or pass you are required to circle the call and say the word, "Alert". Bids must also be alerted if they have a meaning which your opponents might not expect.

Some calls are considered to alert themselves. These are bids at the 4 level and higher, all doubles & redoubles and cue bids of a denomination bid by an opponent or shown by an opponent's bid. Do not alert these calls.

Alert partner's calls immediately. Don't wait until it is your turn to call.



Winners:

Graded Pairs

- A - D Anderson E Spiro
- B - L Ranke J Rohde
- C - G Roberts K Dean

Ascot Trophy - K McDonald J Phillips

Brisbane Cup M Millar G Tucker

Handicap Cup C Hyne G Reynolds



One of our members is looking for a cutting of the pale lemon coloured crucifix orchid. If you have some you can spare, please contact the office.



A Happy Group of Supervised Player



MINIBRIDGE IS NOT JUST FOR KIDS

Children love Minibridge. At least this was the conclusion of a pilot study commissioned by the English Bridge Union into the value of introducing Minibridge into the school curriculum in the UK. There were benefits in relation to maths, non-verbal reasoning, short-term memory, problem-solving, but most important of all, the students involved enjoyed the experience.

But it's not just children who like Minibridge. Prior to commencing the most recent series of bridge lessons for beginners, we offered a couple of weeks



of Minibridge to anybody who thought they might 'come and try bridge' prior to starting lessons. Everybody seemed to have a good time. The two sessions of Minibridge laid a firm foundation for the lessons that followed.

Minibridge is bridge without the bidding. The cards are dealt in the same manner and players count their points and announce them in turn around the table. The partnership with the most points plays the hand and the partner with the most points becomes declarer. Dummy's hand is displayed and declarer then decides whether to play the hand with a trump suit or with no trumps. Declarer also decides whether to play in a game contract or in a "part-score" where the rules of Minibridge require that declarer win only seven tricks. Scoring is as for nil vulnerable.

It's a lot of fun. In this era of DVDs and computer games it's a great way to involve the non-bridge playing members of the family in a fun activity. Why not try it next time you go on holidays, if not before?

And by the way, a big thank-you to all those club members who passed on the flyers or who otherwise encouraged friends to attend the Minibridge sessions. Almost everybody who came heard about it from someone in the club. We'll be doing the same thing again in September and we'd appreciate your support then too.

Chris Woolley.



- Local Master** Brian Crowd
Merryl Moore
Robin Steinhardt
- *Local Master** Teresa Lehane
Patricial Middleton
Thomas Middleton
Margaret Watson
- **Local Master** Valarie Lane
Roslyn Riley
- Regional Master** Rodney Curtin
Yvonne Tapsfield
- * Regional Master** Marcia Smith
- State Master** Maureen Munro
Allan Wakefield
- *State Master** Margaret Threlfall
- **National Master** Barrie Blick
- Bronze Life Master** Kaye Robertshaw
- Silver Life Master** Terence O'Dempsey
- Gold Life Master** Lynley Jenkins
- Grand Master** John Summerhayes



Michael Corner is having a break from directing on Tuesday for a while and would like to thank the

Tuesday Day players for the gift and the fun and wishes them all the best with their bridge.



Sandy and Michael playing against Robert and Bob

PROFILE OF A PLAYER



Name: Cathy Prime
Childhood: Growing up as a teenager in Holland during WWII was not much fun, instead of going to parties, dancing etc, we had a curfew. No one could leave home after 8 pm. So my card playing family decided they should teach my sis and me that new game "Bridge". Trouble was sis and I did not want to play the new game but in the end we struck a deal – we could keep our winnings and did not have to pay our losses so we learnt the little they knew about Culbertson.
Life: When things settled later on, I got married to a future tennis coach and for years, hubby taught tennis and strung racquets and I managed the tennis courts and - - we joined a bridge club. In Holland every small town has a club and I got really interested in the game, though I have always regretted not having had proper training. We worked and played in several towns, even won a competition in Enschede and had to play the next round in Arnhem.
 In 1956, we migrated to Australia, a move I never regretted. Ten years of hard work, splitting up with my husband, divorced and in 1965 met a lovely Australian man. I was happy until his death in 1990. Naturally life has ups and downs, but playing bridge has always helped me in bad and good times.
Bridge Tip: May I quote a well-known phrase "bridge is an easy game to learn, but oh so difficult to



play”, but please don’t be happy with just learning the beginnings and not how to play. This beautiful game is worth a lot more! Work on it. It can be frustrating, but sooo rewarding after a well played or defended game with the right result.

Another Tip: Stay with one partner as long as you can, work out a system and practice. You will do OK in the end! (Not so easy for some people though)

Tip for Life: Left alone: try to be busy and independent. It can be lonely, but so peaceful.

♣♦♥♠

Hiss and Tell

The late great American player Edgar Kaplan once declared: “There is absolutely no way to play happily with your spouse at the bridge table over a long period of time.”

As he readily admitted, it tends to be the husband who can’t control his temper: he is either sarcastic (Sorry, my dear, my fault, I know you hate to return my suit...) or else bawls out his wife in public, humiliating her and demeaning himself in the process.

Edgar and his wife Betty, frequent partners, got round this problem by devising a system of codewords for Edgar to use at the table. A small mistake he would style ‘reasonable’; a worse one, ‘attractive’; a bad one ‘thoughtful’; and for really a heinous crime, Edgar chose a word he could hiss; ‘scintillating’.

They first put this system into practice at the Bermuda Regionals. On the first hand, Betty failed to return the suit Kaplan had led. “It was very attractive to switch to diamonds, dear,” he said at the end. Later, when Betty switched suits instead of giving him a ruff, he told her, ‘A thoughtful play, my sweet.’ Then came this hand:

♠10 3
♥9 7 5
♦A Q J 10 5 4
♣A 2

♠K J 8 4
♥Q J 10 8
♦6
♣J 7 6 3

♠A 9 2
♥A 6 3 2
♦8 7 2
♣10 9 5

♠Q 7 6 5
♥K 4
♦K 9 3
♣K Q 8 4

Edgar led the ♥Q to Betty’s ♥A. A heart return looked wrong- declarer must have the ♥K and diamonds were running. She decided to switch to spades, and was about to lead the ♠2 when it occurred to her that if Edgar had two honours, her ♠9 would block the suit (Edgar would win with the ♠J and return the ♠4 to her ♠A, but if South then ducked the ♠9, West would have to overtake with his ♠K). So Betty made the brilliant switch of the ♠9. Edgar won

with the ♠J, and after some thought (the ♠9 had looked discouraging), switched to his ♥J. The contract now made easily. Edgar looked as if he was about to burst: “The ♠9”, he began. “You had to lead....” And then he stopped, realising that it was the only switch to beat the contract. Betty had the last word: “SSSSSScintillating.”

(Thanks to Margaret Drake for this excerpt from *The Spectator*.)

♣♦♥♠

A Short Course in Human Relations

The six most important words

- I admit that I was wrong

The five most important words

- You did a great job

The four most important words

- What do you think?

The three most important words

- Could you please

The two most important words

- Thank you

The most important word

- We

The least important word

- I

(Thanks to Narelle Peterson for this quote)

♣♦♥♠

BRIDGE WIT AND WISDOM

The real test of a bridge player isn’t in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he’s in.....

Since the average person’s small supply of politeness must last him all his life, he can’t afford to waste it on bridge partners.....

I’d like a review of the bidding with all the original inflections.

We had a partnership misunderstanding. My partner assumed I knew what I was doing.

If you play bridge with your wife as partner, you need at least 20 points to open, and it wouldn’t hurt to have 25.....

We play forcing hesitations.

♣♦♥♠

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This is a little picture of our granddaughter Hannah Rose (Sorry – I had to fill up the space with something – I’m not one of those proud grandparents.)

♣♦♥♠