
CABOOLTURE BRIDGE CLUB

QLD



MAY NEWSLETTER

Editor Derek Stringfellow

President's Message

Dear Members,

Firstly I would like to thank Derek for undertaking responsibility for providing members with a regular Club newsletter. It is a substantial commitment and involves a lot of time and research.

As I have made clear in previous correspondence to members, the Club's dwindling table numbers have been of great concern to the Committee. This concern is always an Agenda item and was discussed again at the May Committee meeting. Various suggestions were talked through to look for ways to increase membership and to encourage members to regularly support our weekly Club sessions. The viability of Saturday sessions is certainly under discussion and we will be asking members for opinions within the next couple of months.

I would therefore like to give you an update on table numbers for the period Monday 4th May to Saturday 25th May.

There were a total of 38.5 tables. There are 10 playing days in this period, which gives an average of 3.85 tables per session for this period.

However, 4 playing days were cancelled. Two for insufficient player numbers, and 2 because there were no Directors available to run the event. Therefore, the average number of tables for the 8 sessions available to members was 4.8. This is a disappointing statistic. Small numbers discourage some players who then turn to other clubs in preference to a small field, severely impacting the Club's finances and affecting the standard of Bridge available at our Club.

Although the numbers are certainly well below our averages last year, we are very happy to see that the support for sessions in the last 2 weeks has shown a slight improvement. It is very important that this trend continues, as the viability of our much loved club depends on it. Again I ask, if members have ideas about how players can be encouraged to play more Bridge at our Club, please share them with a Committee member.

Some Club members have had a very busy couple of months. Holidays have been enjoyed and a lot of very competitive Bridge has been played and Gold Points earned at our Zone Clubs' GNOT Heats. These competitions offer great social interaction with our Zone friends and certainly raise the bridge bar to bring out the best in players. I would really encourage some of our newer players to consider competing next year.

Please refer to my recent "Coming Events" email. The Club's Championship Pairs Competition will be played on Saturday 8th June. This will entail a morning and afternoon session with lunch provided, drinks and nibbles at conclusion of play and Steve Murray Directing!

More registrations would be ideal for this annual Honour Board event. If you haven't registered, please speak to your partner and be in it!

The Committee continues to attend to Club business. Repairs and maintenance are ongoing processes. The outside walls of the Clubhouse will be cleaned in the near future. This is very bad news for the spiders who have made themselves at home recently and invited all of their friends! Air conditioners, lights and fans are all on the list for attention.

You may have noticed we are mindful of catering for our members with disabilities. The Club has recently acquired two comfortable armless chairs for those who are having difficulty moving from an armless chair.

Happy bridging everyone and look forward to seeing you at the Bridge table.

Noreen Weyling

President

MEMBERS' CORNER

It was great to welcome Robyn back to bridge after her cruise to Fiji with Ron. It should have been a wonderfully interesting and relaxing trip. Hopefully Robyn will give us a summary of their trip highlights for inclusion in our June newsletter.

We will miss Judy Gallagher's wonderful company at the Club shortly as she has an operation on both knees (at separate times), and progresses through the difficult rehabilitation sessions. We hope it is not too long before we welcome Judy back to bridge and enjoy her smiling wonderful company again.

Another travelling overseas next month is Rhonda Niven with her family to Bali. Some years ago, Rhonda visited Bali with her family and enjoyed the trip greatly. We hope Rhonda enjoys this trip and hopefully gives us a written account of the highlights of their trip which we would like to include in our July newsletter.

Irish Intelligence Test

- 1 Complete the following series –
S M T W _ _ _
- 2 Draw a rectangle with 3 lines.
The answers are at the back of this newsletter.

Marriage is like a deck of cards....

In the beginning all you need is two hearts and a diamond ...

In the middle it can be mixed up with lots of different numbers ...

Sometimes by the end, you wish you had a freakin' club and a spade...

Bridge Notes for Improving Players

When to make a trump lead

Beware of absolute “always” or “never” rules in bridge like “when in doubt lead a trump”.

You should lead a trump not when in doubt, but when you have a good reason for it. Confidence as a defender in making an opening lead, or a careful one, comes from logical thinking which takes account of information gained from the bidding and from the opening leader’s own card holding.

In general, when the bidding has revealed that the dummy hand has a short holding in an outside suit, a trump lead is usually appropriate. By beginning to remove dummy’s trumps, you will be diminishing an important value in dummy’s hand – namely its trumping power. In the following a number of situations are identified where an opening trump lead is called for – assuming of course that the opening leader’s holding in the trump suit is appropriate.

- 1. When declarer has bid 2 suits and dummy has shown preference for one of them, and you have strength in declarer’s other suit, a trump lead is called for –**

Examples

a				b.			
Opp.	You	Opp	Partner	Opp.	You	Opp	Partner
		P	P	1S	P	INT	P
1S	P	2D	P	2H	P	P	P
2H	P	P	P				

In both cases, you are on lead. You have noted that declarer’s partner (soon to be dummy) has shown a clear preference for the heart suit and, therefore will be short in spades. Suppose you have an attractive spade holding like AQ9, or KJ9, or AJ10 3 or something similar. Then the lead of a trump will reduce dummy’s ruffing power and increase your chances of making tricks in the spade suit.

- 1 When your opponents have each bid a suit and ended in a third suit, a cross ruffing play is likely. The lead of a trump is commonly an effective defence strategy in this situation.**

Example

Opp.	You	Opp.	Partner
1H	pass	1S	pass
2C	pass	3C	pass
pass	pass		

The auction has shown that declarer is short of spades and his partner is short of hearts.

A trump lead will reduce their ruffing assets.

“ The concentration of wealth in this country will never be a problem as long as we have those three great institutions for redistributing it – taxes, wives and children”.

- 2 When you hold good high card values and your opponents have bid to game in a suit, declarer will be relying substantially on distributional values and ruffing power to make the contract. An opening trump lead will immediately reduce declarer's ruffing potential.**

Example

Opp.	You	Opp.	Partner
1S	Dble	2S	pass
4S	pass	pass	pass (or dble)

Your hand	
S	876
H	AQ4
D	AK3
C	A765

At the end of the auction you quickly realize that your partner has a weak hand. You also note the declaring side has no more than 23HCP. Thus declarer will be relying on distribution and ruffing potential to make the contract. In this situation it is a logically sound defensive move to lead a trump (S7).

- 3 When your opponents win the auction with a sacrifice bid and have fewer HCP's than you and your partner have, a trump lead is commonly appropriate.**
- 4 The opening lead of a trump is a good strategy when all other leads are clearly unattractive**

Example

Opp	You	Opp.	Partner
1S	pass	2S	pass
4S	pass	pass	pass

Your hand	
S	974
H	AQ8
D	A765
C	A43

Quite soon in the auction it is clear to you that partner's hand is very weak and almost certainly unable to take a trick. You have 4 possible tricks. Your best strategy is to lead a trump (a positive lead) and await developments.

- 5 When you made a takeout double at the one or two level and your reliable partner passes, a trump lead is compulsory.**

Your ever alert partner has converted your takeout double to a penalty double by his pass and for this unusual auction will have a strong 5+ card holding in the opposition suit and be sure of winning at least 3 trump tricks –eg QJ10984.

Example (dealer W, E/W Vul)

Bidding

W	N	E	S
1S	Dble	pass	pass
pass			

West	
S	A9765
H	KQ2
D	A43
C	32

North (You)	
S	4
H	AJ103
D	KQ98
C	K654

East	
S	82
H	7654
D	652
C	QJ109

South	
S	KQJ103
H	98
D	J107
C	A87

You as opener should lead S4.

This is the one time that a single trump must be led and E/W should only make 4 tricks.

Which Trump Should You Lead?

Having thoughtfully decided to lead a trump for any of the good reasons outlined above, the question arises –which trump?

Lead the top card in a solid 3-card honour sequence, eg KQJ, QJ10, J109

Lead the top card from a rag doubleton or J10 doubleton, eg 85, 76, 106

From the A3 lead the A then the 3, from the A62 lead 2, from the K83 lead the 3.

Note carefully that there are a number of trump holdings which are dangerous to lead from, for example

KQ,QJ, Kx, Qx, Jx

Qxx, Jxx, KQx, AJx, A10x, KJx

Leading from any of these holdings is very likely to cost the defending side a trick. So look for another suit to lead in this circumstance.

NAMYATS?

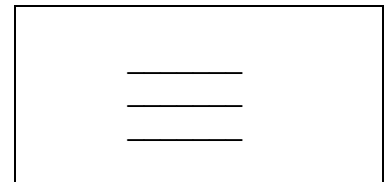
I have been asked: What is the NAMYATS convention? It is an artificial opening bid of 4C or 4D used to signify a good hand with 7+ card length in Hearts or Spades respectively. Opener's hand should hold 8 or 8½ playing tricks in the major suit accompanied by an outside Ace or King. Conversely an opening hand of **4H** or **4S** shows a weak pre-emptive hand not meeting that criteria. Partner's responses to the **4C** or **4D** then stop in game, or describes his hand, or seeks further information, or uses blackwood to investigate slam possibilities. Anyone interested in adding this to their system should check out the full details of this convention

Quiz Answers

1 S M T W T F S

2.

(Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday)



If you think it is hard to meet new people, try picking up what you think is a lost golf ball!!!!

Man blames fate for all other accidents, but he feels personally responsible when he makes a hole-in-one at golf.

Comments heard last week –



He said: "Shall we try swapping positions tonight?"

She said: "That is a great idea, you stand by the ironing board while I will sit on the couch"

He said: "What have you been doing with the grocery money I give you?"

She said: "Turn sideways and look in the mirror"

