



Caboolture Bridge Club Newsletter

Issue 30

Presidents Report

Hi to members

Whilst the President is away, visiting South Australia, I have compiled this report on his behalf.

The modernisation of the club house continues as follows:

- ♣ The first lot of chairs (25) are currently being re-upholstered.
- ♣ The external building lighting has been replaced by new LED lighting and fittings and a new floodlight is in place facing the main gate. These two initiatives will improve visibility at night and also improve security for members.
- ♣ The internal fluoro lights have been found to be deteriorating and causing shutdown of the internal lighting system. Consequently the committee is seeking quotes to replacing these lights with new LED lighting which will prove cost effective in the long term.
- ♣ Due to a leak in the internal hot water system, the adjacent cupboards and flooring will be replaced, with the majority of these costs being covered by our insurance.

Club members continue to attend various congresses and competitions with success. There are a lot of bridge competitions for various experience levels from Novice to Open and I would encourage all members to go out and have a go. Invariably our people do well at these events and it is a great way to improve your bridge and socialise with like minded people.

One of the month's highlights was the Beryl Cramb competition held at Moreton Bribie Bridge Club on Sunday 23rd September. It was a very enjoyable day with plenty of friendly rivalry, great food and some good bridge. Whilst the number 1 spot went to Moreton Bribie, Caboolture was well represented with Derek Stringfellow and Finn Nielson running second and Jenny Hays and John Reiter taking third spot. A great effort in a large field.

We are close to finalising arrangements for the inaugural Stringfellow teams event to be held on Saturday 13th October in honour of Derek and Eunice Stringfellow. It will be a full day, red point Swiss Teams event with 20 teams, and we are fortunate to have Trevor Strickland directing this event for us.

Don't forget if you have any questions or suggestions regarding the club speak to a committee member.

Gary Gibbards



Happy Birthday

To someone who can teach a 20 year old how to play bridge

We hope to see you at the bridge table for many more years to come
Derek



We decided to tick another item off our bucket list and ventured up to the Territory Gold Congress.

Though bridge was enjoyed by all, I cannot say the same about the heat.

We left Brisbane with a cool 10 degrees and, as expected, arrived in Darwin to be greeted with 32 degrees! We had previously been there and experienced several tourist attractions. Despite the heat it is still a pretty place to visit.

Our daughter and her friend joined us up therethus the cheer squad sign depicted above (Yes she has a cheeky sense of humour!) (*wonder where that is coming from Deb . M*)

We witnessed some pretty beach sunsets and enjoyed very nice cold drinks.

I would recommend this trip to anyone.

You just need plenty of water, a hat and deodorant !

Thanks for sharing this with us Deb . M.



Team Effort

What would we do without them.

We would all have to play bridge in the dark.

Updates from Charlene

Masterpoint Notes

Congratulations to the following players on their promotion:

Ted McDonald promoted to Graduate

Di Khursandi promoted to Regional

Lessons

Should you know of anyone who is interested in learning to play bridge please let them know that on the 1st Thursday of every month, from 2 – 4 pm, we will run a session for people who are interested in bridge but have not had lessons. They will be playing a game called Mini-Bridge which will introduce them to the game and teach them how to play the cards. They will not need a partner nor will they need to contact anyone to say if they are coming. Encourage them to come along for a chance to try it out and see if they might like it.

Outside the club

We have had quite a number of people 'playing away' at various events and doing quite well. We had players at :

Qld Masters Teams

Bribie Congress

GNOT Redcliffe Heat

Toowong Pairs

Redcliffe Pairs

Moreton Bribie Teams

Territory Gold—Darwin Congress

Zone GNOT Sunshine Coast Final

Noosa Teams competition

Congratulations to all who took part in any of these events.

We recently took part in the Beryl Cramb at Bribie and although a Moreton-Bribie pair took the trophy all of our pairs managed to acquit themselves well.

Inside the club

Congratulations also to Tim and Derek who came 10th nationally and 2nd in Queensland in the Bridge for Brains.

Did You Know That...

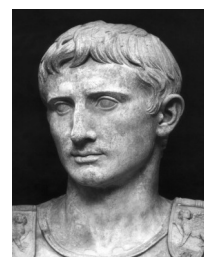
Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

Spades - King David

Clubs - Alexander the Great,

Hearts-Charlemagne, and

Diamonds - Julius Caesar.



ALL ABOUT ALERTS

Alerting is about drawing the opponents' attention to your side's unusual bidding. It is controlled by a set of regulations issued by the Australian Bridge Federation. That document runs for 11 pages (!) so I'll save you some reading here.

With written bidding you alert *your partner's* unusual bid by circling it and saying "Alert". Don't explain anything: wait to be asked.

If using bidding boxes, say "Alert" and optionally fish around in the box in the hope of finding the Alert card.

The definition of an "unusual bid" is somewhat opaque, but the general principle is that, if a bid's meaning is not what it sounds like, then it should be alerted. Usually this involves bidding a suit that does not show length in that suit, or bidding no-trumps when it does not indicate a desire to play in no-trumps. It also includes bids that have an unexpected HCP range. Examples of alertable bids:

- Transfer bids
- Unusual No-trump or Lebensohl
- Multi 2nd opening
- 'Pass or correct' bids
- Weak jump responses
- Inverted minor raises

Self-alerting bids

Some bids are defined as self-alerting, meaning they do not require an actual alert as they are "obviously unusual".

These are:

- *Doubles and redoubles
- * All bids above 3NT (except unusual high high level opening, eg. NAMYATS)
- * Cue bid of opponents' suit
- * 2 Clubs response to a 1NT opening bid

Asking

You can ask about any alerted bid, or un-alerted bid for that matter, but only at your turn to bid or play. Most people only ask if the answer may affect their upcoming bid or play, but it is entirely up to you whether or not you ask.

When asking, ask in general terms, not using leading questions. So say: "what does 2 Clubs mean?", not "does 2 clubs show clubs?" (which could be interpreted as code for 'I have clubs').

At the end of an auction that had multiple alerts, if on lead you should say: "explain the auction please", rather than asking about one specific alerted bid. If not on lead, wait until partner has led face-down and then ask your question.

Answering

You are required to explain your partnership agreements, nothing more. If you're not sure what partner's bid means or have forgotten your agreements, try not to guess. Just say: "I don't know" or "I don't remember". (The director will adjust the result if your opponents are damaged by this failure of memory.)

If you haven't discussed a bid, say: "it is undiscovered". Again, do not offer a possible explanation, or how you are going to take it.

Partner fails to alert, or mis-alerts, or mis-explains

Happens all the time right? You must stay silent for the moment. Then ...

At auction's end, with your side declaring:

Before the opening lead, draw your opponents' attention to the problem. Explain what you think went wrong.

If your side ends up defending:

You can say nothing until the end of play, at which point you should identify the issue.

Pre-alerting

At the start of each round, you should pre-alert your opponents to any unusual convention that they may need to arrange a defence against. Main examples are:

- Switched responses to 1 Club
- * Very unusual 2-level openings (eg. 2NT for the minors) the Multi scheme does not need a pre-alert, as it's so relevant.
- * A system other than some form of Standard American: eg Precision, Acol

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Source: VBA Bulletin, Editor Bill Jacobs

A lady is playing in her first duplicate hears an opponent say: "Alert". The lady says: "I am alert".

Directors Meeting

All the members of the company's Board of Directors were called into the Chairman's office, one after another, until only Ted, the junior member, was left sitting outside.

Finally it was his turn to be summoned.

Ted entered the office to find the Chairman and the other four Directors seated at the far end of the boardroom table.



Ted was instructed to stand at the other end of the table, which he did. The Chairman looked Ted squarely in the eye, and with a stern voice, he asked:

"Have you ever had sex with my secretary, Miss Floyd?"

"Oh, no, sir, positively not...!" Ted replied.

"Are you absolutely sure...?" asked the chairman

"Honest, I've never been close enough to even touch her...!"

"You'd swear to that...?"

"Yes, I swear I've never had sex with Miss Floyd, anytime, anywhere..." insisted Ted.



"Good, Then YOU fire her."

Never anger your nurse.

A bigshot business man had to spend a couple of days in the hospital

He was a royal pain to the nurses because he bossed them around just like he did his employees. None of the hospital staff wanted anything to do with him. The head nurse was the only one who could stand up to him. She walked into his room and announced, "I have to take your temperature" After complaining for several minutes, he finally settled down, crossed his arms and opened his mouth.

"No I'm sorry" the nurse stated, "but for this reading I can't use an oral thermometer."

After more complaining, eventually he rolled over and bared his behind.

After the nurse inserted the thermometer she said. "I have to get something, now you stay just like that until I get back."

She leaves the door to his room open on her way out. He curses under his breath as he hears people walking past his door, laughing.

After almost an hour, the man's doctor comes into the room.

"What's going on here?" asked the doctor. Angrily, the man answers.

"What's the matter Doc? Haven't you ever seen someone having their temperature taken before?"

After a pause, the doctor replies, "Yes, but never with a daffodil"

