

AUCKLAND BRIDGE CLUB

Bulletin

No.1
APRIL 1961

FELLOW MEMBERS,

I know you will join with me in congratulating our Publicity Sub-Committee on the enterprise and enthusiasm show by them in the production of this BULLETIN, and trust it will be the forerunner of many interesting contributions to follow.

Through this medium we hope to keep every Member of our Club up to date with the various activities of the Club, our hopes for the future, and also some of our problems.

T. Farrell. PRESIDENT.

FINANCE

J.W.S. Dodd, Treasurer

In the near future the Club will be called upon to repay the amount loaned on first mortgage, namely £4,000.

Your Committee is of the opinion that it would be preferable to raise, if possible, this amount from our members.

We are grateful to all those members who have already subscribed to our early appeal, but as we have some one hundred and fifty new members, we feel that some of these may like to contribute in one or other of the following ways:-

- (a) Lend the Club £75 on deposit repayable on demand at the end of a financial year. For this loan each subscriber would be granted free subscription. This would be advantageous to both the subscriber and the Club.
- (b) Lend the Club on debenture, repayable on demand, any sum from £25 upwards at 6% interest.

Any member interested in either of the above schemes would they please speak to the Secretary or Treasurer.

BIDDING QUIZ

by Eileen Taylor

What does South bid on these hands?
You are South in all hands.

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|
| (1) | S. K X X X X | S. W. N. E. |
| | H. A K Q 10 | 1S 2D P P |
| | D. X | ? |
| | C. A J X | |
| (2) | S. A Q 10 X X | S. W. N. E. |
| | H. X X | 1S Double 3S P |
| | D. K Q X | ? |
| | C. K X X | |
| (3) | S. K J 10 X X X | S. W. N. E. |
| | H. Q 10 X X X | ID IS |
| | D. X | ? |
| | C. Q | |

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS:

Put your solutions to the Quizzes and Problems, addressed to the Publicity Committee, in the suggestion box. Those giving correct answers will have their names published in the next issue.

ETHICS

Condensation of an address by BRUCE BELL and extracts from the "Bridge Magazine" Eng.

Some players, otherwise beyond reproach, breach the ethics of Bridge quite unconsciously, so it is well for all of us to keep in mind some simple precepts lest we, too, offend.

Perhaps the most common fault is hesitation or emphasis in bidding. The 'Slow Pass' is to be avoided. The inflection of the voice should not be varied. Care should be taken to see that there is no note of finality in any bid, especially when signing off after asking for Aces, with or without putting one's cards together, an unconscious defect in some most meticulous players.

It is a breach of ethics to comment or to make any inference-drawing remark on the bidding, or the cards, when dummy goes down, or during the play of the hand.

Don't play a card in an ostentatious manner so as to draw attention to it, or have a card out ready to play before your turn. Cards should be played at a uniform speed and there should be no hesitation when there is nothing to hesitate about.

Any published bidding system may fairly be used, and deviations from the system are permissible, provided that the system and deviations are clearly explained to the opponents before the bidding starts. The obligation to explain the system and deviations rests wholly on the users. It is not sufficient to tell the opponents to ask if they do not understand the bid.

The Director must be called if there is a breach of ethics, - a call made out of turn, a card played out of turn, a card exposed, or if there is a defect in the hand.

"PASS" OR "NO BID"

Although "Pass" is recommended in International Tournaments and by some National Associations, most players in New Zealand say "No Bid" which is probably less confusing with our pronunciation. Whichever you use, don't vary the formula or the intonation.

LIBRARY:

Donations of books have been made by Mrs. A. Meltzer and Mr. J. H. Thickett to form the nucleus of a library. You can help by donating those books on Bridge which you have read and which are now collecting dust on your shelf. You'll be helping other players, and the Club, YOUR Club.

DID YOU KNOW that the lunch-time money goes towards a Piano fund?

HOW TO LEARN BRIDGE

Leo and Martha Bond

In tennis, golf, and other games a poor play results if you take your eye off the ball even momentarily, and hence the well-known phrase "Keep your eye on the ball".

Similarly in Bridge, if you take your eye or ear off the game, you will bungle your play.

Learn a few simple principles and apply these, game in, game out, until they become second nature.

It is comparably better to learn a few principles thoroughly from one coach than to receive suggestions from here, there, and everywhere and not really, benefit from any of them.

The only vital thing is to lay the foundation firm and true.

Fortunately, it is an easy matter to learn Bridge in this way, and in a short time a beginner's game not only becomes fully, equal to the average, but has greater promise.

The greatest weakness of the average player lies in the disregard of these very principles. Don't change coaches in the middle of your study, and don't let too many teachers spoil your progress. Learn the basic principles and play them time and time again, win or lose until they become instinctive.

Exceptions and fine points will take care of themselves later.

And when you have finished the first stage with us, you can go into the Beginner's Duplicate Tournaments, also held on Monday nights, to get experience for more serious competitive Bridge.

Be seeing you! 7.30p.m. Monday.

THE FRIENDLIEST NIGHT OF THE WEEK

W. Weight.

We welcome the opportunity to introduce Wednesday nighters to their fellow-members.

Wednesday night has an air of its own.

We have all emerged from the guiding hands of Leo and Martha (and their predecessors) sufficiently to wonder how they had patience with us.

The magic word "Goren" is freely handed about, we are very firm about 13 points for our opening bids, although sometimes I wonder if our counting would stand too much enquiry, but it must be confessed that after that all too often it's every man for him or herself.

The inexorable logic of the mathematics of Contract Bridge has not yet fully restrained us so that our natural optimism still tends to influence our biddings.

It is an impressive sight to see two good friends lustily bidding away opposing suits at each other, with results that may be disastrous, but are surely enjoyed by all.

Reference to Wednesday night would be incomplete without tribute to the good people who, by their regular attendance over the years, have ensured its success, a band of ladies too numerous to mention backed up by a few - a very few - male stalwarts.

Mrs. Hall is a good friend to us, long may she be with us. We are very impressed on occasional Tuesday night ventures but not envious - we think we have a lot more fun. Maybe the great "Goren" would not endorse our Bridge but we're sure he'd endorse and maybe envy the good fun we have and the good friendships we've all developed.

THE LIGHTNER SLAM DOUBLE Condensed from an article by Theodore A. Lightner in "The Bridge World", Oct. 1950.

If a broad general principle were to be laid down in regard to doubling slams, it could best be embodied in the single word "Don't". Naturally, this rule would have many exceptions.

This lead-directing double was originated by me some twenty years ago and has long been an accepted convention. The principle is very simple: The double of a slam requests partner to make an unusual or abnormal lead instead of the normal, anticipated lead. Thus, he is definitely ordered not to lead:

- (1) A suit which has been bid either by him or his partner.
- (2) If his side has passed throughout, he is ordered not to lead an unbid suit.

These leads are considered to be normal or expected leads.

Therefore under (2) above, the doubler directs his partner to lead a suit bid by the opponents. Almost always it would be a suit bid by dummy - a lead up to declarer's second suit would rarely be advantageous. The leader is likely to obtain a good clue on the right lead from his own holding. If dummy bid spades and then clubs, and the leader holds six clubs to the jack and three spades to the queen, it should be reasonably clear that his partner can ruff a club. If no clue can be obtained from his hand, the leader should give a slight preference to the first suit bid by dummy. If opponents bid only one suit other than trumps, that lead is specifically demanded.

Under (1) the demanded lead might be either the suit bid by the opponents or an unbid side suit. The leader must determine which from the nature of his hand.

(3) If opponents have bid no suit but trumps, the leader must guess which side suit to open, but must not open a suit bid by his side.

This is my interpretation of the lead-directing double. However, there is a somewhat different version, enjoying fairly wide favour, under which the double calls specifically for the first suit bid by dummy.

I should mention that where the bidding has been competitive, a double should not necessarily be considered as lead-directing. This would be true (a) where it was not entirely clear which side had the best hand; and (b) where partner still had a chance to speak and there was danger of his defending further. Where the doubler had the last bid and his side was obviously defending, however, the double would be clearly lead-directing.

AT THE TABLE:

1. Don't remove the travelling sheet or cards from the board until your opponents are seated.
2. Put the travelling sheet under the board, not under the numbered perspex number board.
3. Count your cards.
4. Observe Vulnerability and dealer.
5. Put dummy's trumps on the Right, that is on the left for declarer.
6. Dummy's cards should be placed so that the high cards are nearest to dummy and the low cards nearest to declarer.
7. Don't move the cards on the table until the scores are checked.
8. Count your cards before returning to the board.

COUNTING THE HAND

J.H. Thickett

- N. South is in a contract of 3 N.T. reached without any bids by the opponents-
 S. 10.2 West led 4 Spades taken by South's Q
 H. J.7 Spades. The A. Clubs and K. Clubs
 D. K.J.6.5.2 took the 2nd and 3rd tricks- On the
 C. 9.6.4.3 3rd trick West discarded a heart-
 After glancing for a few moments
 S. South led the 4 of Diamonds to which
 S. Q.7.3 the unsuspecting West played the 3 of
 H. Q.9.6 Diamonds and dummy the 2 of Diamonds,
 D. A.9.7.4 while East discarded a club. This
 C. A.K.Q spectacular win with the 4 of Diamonds

made game certain with 5 diamonds, 3 clubs and 1 spade. What inferences led South to plan his play so skilfully? The answer is that at the 3rd trick he was able to count West's hand. When the 4 of Spades was led originally it was clear that West had only four spades because South could see the 3 of Spades and the 2 of Spades. West therefore did not hold a 5 card suit. The Singleton club revealed at trick 3 showed that West's distribution was 4 - 4 - 4 - 1, and therefore East must be void in diamonds. Had you been in South's situation the simple inferences made by him could just as easily have been made by you. But would you have made them? Laziness in hand-counting leads to the loss of countless contracts.

Here are the 4 hands complete, taken from an old book on Auction Bridge by Hugh Tuite:-

North:			
	S. 10.2		
	H. J. 7		
	D. K.J.6.5.2		
	C. 9.6.4.3		
West:		East:	
S. A.K.9.4		S. J.8.6.5	
H. A.10.4.2		H. K.8.5.3	
D. Q.10.8.3		D. —	
C. 8		C. J.10.7.5.2	
	South:		
	S. Q.7.3		
	H. Q.9.6		
	D. A.9.7.4		
	C. A.K.Q		

TEST YOUR PLAY

- No. 1 North; S. 7
 H. J.7.3
 D. K.Q.10.9
 C. Q.8.7.5.3
- 6 Hearts led South; S. A.K.Q.J.8.4
 H. A.K.5.4
 D. J
 C. A.J

South plays in Six Spades and is favoured by a heart lead, dummy's Jack winning and East playing the 2. How should South continue?

COURTESY:

When you are N.S. welcome the travellers to your table with a pleasant 'Good Evening'. When you are E.W., thank your N.S. hosts when leaving their table.

THANK the player at the next table when the board is passed.

your partner when dummy goes down

your partner for a pleasant evening at the end of the session.

BIDDING CHANGES:

Ten changes in the Standard American Bidding, known in N.Z. as the Goren system were announced in 1958 by A.P. Sheinwold.

1. Sketchy opening bids are out. No more opening bids with 12-point hands. You open the bidding with 13 points if you have a comfortable rebid. Otherwise, you need 14 points for an opening. (You count high cards and distribution as well).
2. Biddable suits are stronger. You need 4 points in your major suit for an opening bid in a four card suit.
3. No more skimpy raises for partner's suit. You need at least 7 points (up to 10 points) for a raise of partner's suit. With only 6 points respond one No. Trump.
4. A response of 1 N.T. may show as much as 10 points.
5. You need less for game after partner has raised. Remember that partner's raise in your suit now guarantees at least 7 points. You can jump to game in a major if you have 19 points. (Minimum used to be 20)
6. You may rebid 2 N.T. with 15 to 18 points. South 1 Spade, West Pass, North 2 Diamonds, East Pass. South 2 N.T.
7. The Jump Overcall is now a shutout bid; does not show great strength.
8. The Stayman Convention is now used in response to 1 N.T.

South	West	North	East
1 N.T.	Pass	2 Clubs	

This response does not show a club suit, but asks the opener to show a major suit if he has one. If the opener has both majors, he bids spades and may bid hearts later if it seems wise to do so. If the opener has no major suit, he bids 2 Diamonds.

9. A jump to 4 clubs over partner's bid in No Trump is the Gerber Slam Convention.
10. The "unusual" No Trump overcall asks partner to bid a minor suit.

South	West	North	East
1 Spade	Pass	2 spades	2 N.T. or
1 spade	Pass	3 spades	3 N.T.

East's bid of No Trump is a sort of takeout double, asking West to respond in clubs or diamonds - not the unbid major suit.

PROBLEM No. 1

NORTH

S. K
H. A J 9 8 6 4 2
D. A
C. A K Q J

SOUTH

S. A Q
H. -
D. K Q J 10
C. 10 9 8 7 6 5 2

South is in a contract of 7 N T. West leads a small spade.

CARD READING:

It helps your opponents to read your cards and finesse the right way when they can see your cards. Make it hard for them. Don't show them. Let them guess. Hold your cards up.

RUBBER BRIDGE

Harold Fenton

Have you tasted the delights of Rubber Bridge? None of the tension of Duplicate where every board must be a good one, with no bottom scores if you are going to get anywhere in the cut-throat jungle of competitive Bridge. Where every board stands or falls on its own and can never be recovered. At Rubber Bridge if you do call or play one hand badly, well, what of it, you have a chance to recover the lost points next hand and perhaps still win the rubber. It's only a game so what does it matter if you do lose. You can still get the thrill of a well-bid and well-played hand. The free and easy, relaxing atmosphere of Rubber Bridge has to be experienced to be appreciated. There's none of that lying awake at night working out how you should have got a better board, as in Duplicate.

Did you know that the Club Rooms are open for Rubber Bridge every afternoon and evening? You probably won't want to play on Wednesday or Friday afternoons because of the Duplicate Tournaments upstairs, but there are some tables of Rubber Bridge downstairs every afternoon. There are always some set tables but Friday nights and Saturday afternoons are mostly 'Table Up' so that anyone can cut in. Sometimes there are one or two 'Table Up' tables on other days and Saturday nights, but to be sure of a game, it is better to arrange your own game.

And it's better than having it in your own home. The Club Rooms are pleasant, central for everybody, with cards, scorers and pencils found, and supper or afternoon tea provided. You don't have to bother about baking or preparing - everything is done for you. You are asked to pack your cards and leave your table tidy when you leave. All for 2/6 for set tables or 2/- 'Table Up'. Now what about arranging YOUR next Bridge party at the Club Rooms specially provided for that purpose?

That's the tangible way to show your appreciation of the work and sacrifice of the past committees to build the beautiful and modern Club Rooms which are now yours, for your use.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

1. A Librarian to take charge of the proposed Library, and to direct its operation.
2. Ten members, each willing to address about 50 envelopes. The addressing of 500 envelopes is a colossal job for one person but not an onerous task for 10 people.
3. A roster of members who will act as Hostesses for Rubber Bridge on week-day afternoons. Each person would be called on about once a month on a day convenient to the member.

Volunteers are asked to put their names and telephone numbers, together with the job for which they volunteer, in the suggestion box or to give them to a member of the Publicity Committee.

LEADING QUIZ

by Eileen Taylor

You are North. What do you lead?

- | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|
| (1) | S. 73 | S. W. N. E. |
| | H. A Q 8 4 2 | P 1 NT P 2 NT |
| | D. K 10 9 8 5 | P 3 NT P P |
| | C. 7 | |
| (2) | S. K J 7 | S. W. N. E. |
| | H. 6 3 | P 4 H P P |
| | D. A 8 6 | |
| | C. K 10 6 4 3 | |

PERSONAL

Doris Caddy

DECEASED

Mrs. E.J. de Montalk The Committee and Members extend their sympathy to the relatives.

TRAVELLERS

Best wishes for a pleasant holiday to Mrs. A.M. Seaman, Mrs. Roberts, Mr. A. Baird, Mr. and Mrs. Angus Mackie, Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Trayes, Mr. and Mrs. S. Pezaro, and Mr. and Mrs. Hubball, all of whom are going overseas this year.

WANDERERS' RETURN

Welcome home to Miss M. O'Grady, Mrs. V. Don, Mrs. H.M. Rogerson, and Mrs. G. Headland, after their tours abroad.

WORKERS

Seen working around the Club lately; Alex Baird, Leo Bond, Martha Bond, Doris Caddy, Ann Meltzer, Jennie Raynes, Eileen Taylor.

Thanks from the Committee and Members.

NEW MEMBERS

Miss L. Stitchbury	Mrs. M.M. King
Mrs. J. Holder	Mrs. Baeyertz
Mrs. E. Braithwaite	Mrs. E. Crawford
Mrs. Mowbray	Mrs. G.R. Fenton
Mrs. V. Pole	Mrs. S.G. Morgan
Mrs. F. Thompson	Mrs. A. Black
Mrs. L. Grace	Mrs. E.M. Ryan
Mrs. E. Robinson	Mrs. M.E. Clark
Mrs. M. Miller	Mrs. M.D. Hannay
Mrs. A.M. Cox	Miss N.O. Taylor
Mr. L.R. Calvert	Dr. Lewin
Mr. N.H. Young	Mr. C.E. White
Mr. H. Morgan	Mr. A.H. Fenton
Dr. Hannay	Mr. A.S. Cox

A TRIBUTE

Have you ever tried to teach Bridge to people who have no knowledge whatever of the game? Teaching a table of four is a trying job. But to try to impart the basic principles of bidding and play to ten or eleven tables is a prodigious and nerve-racking undertaking.

And that is what MR. AND MRS. L.C. BOND, assisted by MR. STAN MORRISH are doing on Monday nights. The Club is indebted to them for a difficult and trying job well done.

VISITORS

There has been quite a number of visitors from other parts of New Zealand and other parts of the world but, unfortunately, none of them signed the Visitor's Book.

SLAMS

Big slams at Rubber Bridge have been bid and made by the following players:-

Mrs. V. Israel (2)	Mrs. E. Rhodes
Mrs. E. Macky (3)	Mrs. A. Murray
Mrs. M. Hume	Mrs. H.O. Taylor
Mrs. M. Weight (3)	Mrs. A. Meltzer (2)
Mrs. J. McBeath	Mrs. S. Morrish
Mrs. M. Masefield	Mrs. E. Horan
Mrs. A. Baird	Mrs. G.W. Gulson
Mrs. M. Gallagher	Mr. S. Morrish
Mr. H. Fenton (2)	Mr. T. Farrell
Mr. S. Pezaro	Mr. J.H. Thickett (3)
Mr. A. Halstead	Mr. J. Winn
Mr. J. McColl	

Unfortunately, not all had put into the Slam Box so could not draw the Slam Bonus.

DO YOU WANT THE BULLETIN CONTINUED?

Members are asked for suggestions for future issues and comments on this issue of the Bulletin.

Any information regarding members or incidents would be welcomed by the Publicity Committee.