

NEWSLETTER



31st December, 2019

SUNNYBANK BRIDGE CLUB INC.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's great to see the refurbishment of the clubhouse completed. To me, the most important improvements are to the drains in the kitchen and disabled room; these were very dangerous and I am so pleased that nobody went over on an ankle and ended

up in hospital. Removal and replacement of the carpet is second-most important. After sixteen years, the build up of skin follicles and bacteria would have been horrendous and this is despite the fact that the carpet was cleaned thoroughly every year.

My thanks go out to the many helpers. I will not name any individual but you can be proud of the contribution you made to improving the environment of the clubhouse

- to the many volunteers who visited carpet suppliers and collected samples
- to the many volunteers who contacted painters and brought in colour cards
- to the extraordinary effort of the volunteers who dismantled the clubhouse after bridge on the afternoon of the 18th of October
- and then returned on the morning of the 27th to reassemble the clubhouse in readiness for play the next morning
- to the helpers who cleaned the honour boards, the television and every other fitting
- and finally, to the volunteers who cleaned the kitchen, inside every cupboard drawer and surface.

Thank you one and all.

This Newsletter should be available before Christmas, so on behalf of the Committee, we wish all members and their families and friends a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year and a prosperous and joyful 2020.

Kenneth Clem, President.



WHAT IS FULL DISCLOSURE?

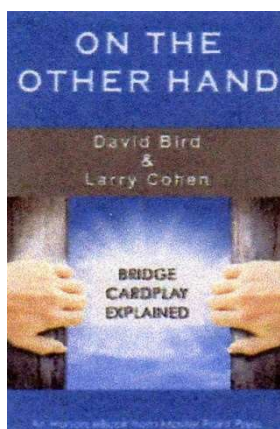
You're bidding along and all of a sudden you get a question from your opponent: "What does your bid mean?" What does he want? Your bid means what it means, right? Well not always. Although it may appear to you that they are asking you something that is none of their business, actually it is. The opponents are entitled to the very same information that your partner has. If you have an agreement with partner about a certain bid, the opponents are entitled to know what that agreement is, and it's your responsibility to tell them. For instance, it may surprise you to know that not everyone has heard of, for instance, the Flannery convention or knows what it means. But it's true. So when you're questioned about your 2D bid, "Flannery" isn't the right answer. And although there's not a whole lot of room to explain, it can be done just by saying "11-15, majors."

This is what Full Disclosure means. If you have an agreement with partner, the opponents are entitled to that information also. This is not the time to be coy or to give bits and pieces of information, this is the time for Full Disclosure!

But what if you make a bid and you have no agreement with partner? Do you still have to explain your bid and more or less tell them what you hold in your hand? Of course not. If you have no agreement with partner on a bid your answer to your opponent's question is No Agreement. It's really just as simple as that!

By answering your opponents quickly and completely when questioned, your game will go faster, smoother and give YOU a reputation as a Bridge player in the know.

NEW BRIDGE BOOK



“ON THE OTHER HAND” (Bridge Card Play Explained)

Paperback
March 2019

\$US 18.95

In this unusual book, David Bird and Larry Cohen combine to present card play instruction in a new way. 100 pairs of deals are shown – one described by David and the other by Larry. The deals look similar (in some cases very similar) but an entirely different line of play is necessary to make each of the contracts. Only by clearly understanding the techniques involved will you be able to tackle such deals when you encounter them at the table.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣



"How about a game of cards?"

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

BRIDGE JARGON

ADVANCE SACRIFICE

A sacrifice bid made before the opponents have had an opportunity to determine their optimum contract. For example: 1♦ - (1♠) - Dbl - (5♠).

IS IT A GUESSING GAME ?

NORTH

♠ 8763
♥ AJ4
♦ A632
♣ 73

WEST

♠ AKJ94
♥ Q2
♦ JT
♣ Q962

EAST

♠ T5
♥ 965
♦ Q985
♣ T854

SOUTH

♠ Q2
♥ KT873
♦ K74
♣ AKJ

Vulnerability was E/W. Dealer was South and opened 1♥ then West overcalled 1♠. North bid 2♥ and East passed. South bid 3♥ and North had no hesitation in rounding off with 4♥. West led A♠ and followed with K♠ and then switched to J♦. With a certain third round Diamond loser, Declarer seemingly had to guess which opponent to finesse for the Queen of trumps. Or did he? (Answer on Page 7).

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

ANAGRAMS

Who are these three members of our Bridge Club?

AN OLDEN RAID
CLAP BRINY DOLPHIN
COERCE IN PROBE

(Answers on Page 7)

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

BEGINNERS - The next Beginners classes for 2020 will start on 29th February, 2020. For 6 weeks. Saturday afternoon from 1-3 pm. Initial cost \$20.00 which includes a Beginners book, 'Introduction to Bridge' by Paul Marston. Table fees of \$7.00 each week thereafter. Contact Janet on 3341 2951 to register please.

DIRECTORS' CORNER

What would you say were the five most common Director calls?

Think about it and then go to the foot of the next column to see if you were right.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 1st January – Wednesday Eclectics begin. Thursday, 2nd January – Thursday Eclectics begin (both am and pm). Friday, 3rd January – Friday Eclectics begin. Friday 7th & 14th February – Summer Pairs. Saturday, 8th February – AGM. Friday, 21st February – Moore Trophy begins. Monday, 2nd March – Monday Evening Eclectics begin. Tuesday, 3rd March – Tuesday Eclectics begin. Sunday, 15th March – KISS Trophy (red points).



MYSTERY PERSONALITY



Who is this happy little boy who is a regular at our Bridge sessions?

(answer on Page 6)



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE PLAYERS WHO HAVE GAINED RANKING PROMOTIONS

Silver Life Master: Jim Taylor

Bronze Life Master: Bernadette O'Connell

National Master:** Judy Heck

State Master*: Kevin Lethlean, Kath Seefeld, Kay Mukai, Brian Macmahon

State Master: Michael Fox

Regional Master: Jane Whelan

Local Master:** Robbie McMullen, Robyn Chippindall, Carolyn North, John Bowen

Local*: Judith Anne Grebert

Local Master: Sonya Gambold, Barry Watters, Alice Edwards

Club Master: Gale Jamieson, James Yee



THE FIRSTS

The **first** book describing the game of Bridge was called *Biritch, or Russian Whist* by John Collinson on 14 July 1886,

The **first** article in the world describing the laws of Bridge was in "*Le Gaulois*", a French newspaper, in a lengthy article on the 15th November, 1890, in Paris [and two other articles also in other newspapers at the end of 1890].

The **first** Bridge magazine was called simply **BRIDGE**. It was a monthly publication and, in their words: *For lovers and students of the game*. It was first released in New York City in 1906.



ALMONER'S REPORT – Karen Leitch, and Margaret Oakhill are both recovering after sustaining injuries after falls. We hope to see them back very soon



THE FIVE MOST COMMON DIRECTOR CALLS ARE FOR:

Insufficient Bid

Bid out of turn

Lead out of turn

Exposed Card During Play

Revoke

TOP SCORES OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER: 71.25% - Sheila Parsons & Tomasina De Luca – Thursday (pm), 17th October.

NOVEMBER: 72.50% - Lyn Crookall & Derek Morris – Monday (pm), 19th November.

DECEMBER: 72.81% - Donald Patterson & Bernice Cooper - Thursday, 12th December (am).



LOOKING BACK TEN YEARS

Long standing foundation member Anne-Marie Ashton died. She was always proud to be Club Number 1.

One of our top players at the time, Bruce Johnson, died at the age of 67.

Janet Price and Jeanette Brine won \$100 for being the highest finishing pair holding between 50 and 100 Master Points in the Queensland Wide Pairs.

May Moffat was promoted to Life Master and Di Robinson to National**.

Narelle Close and May Moffat won the Moore Trophy.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE COMPETITION WINNERS

October Tuesday Eclectics over 5 weeks: **Brian Fawcett & Anne Lovett**. October Wednesday Eclectics over 5 weeks: **Sue Holburt & John Blyth**. October Thursday Evening Eclectics over 5 weeks: **Brian Macmahon & Xiaomin Zhang**. October Thursday Morning Eclectics over 5 weeks: **Diane Arnold & Robyn Chippindall**. Saturday, October 12th – Club Championship Teams**: **Jim Taylor, Cora Taylor, Philip Chang & Weiping Xie**. Thursdays, 7th & 14th November – Evening Teams **: **Jim Taylor, Cora Taylor, Martin Qin & Charlie Lu**.

** = red points.



BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU BRING TO BRIDGE FOR A SNACK

It's not the first "sport" that comes to mind when thinking of banned substances but the world's No.1 Bridge player has been suspended after failing a drug test! Geir Helgemo, a Norwegian, but he represents Monaco, tested positive in a world event at Orlando last year. Officials admitted that it was not performance enhancing but as Bridge is recognised by the International Olympic Committee it has to abide by the World Anti-Doping Agency rules. Helgemo was suspended for a year and all his titles, medals and points from the 2018 World Bridge Series were also revoked. Bridge was recognised as a "mind sport" by the IOC in 1995. The drugs in question are synthetic testosterone and Clomifene, a female fertility drug.



DID YOU KNOW that – if Declarer leads from his/her hand when the lead should have come from Dummy (or vice-versa) then the opponents can accept that lead if they so wish? There are many players who think that Declarer can do no wrong and quite often they accept the lead out of turn without question. Any lead out of turn can be treated as a correct lead by either Defender or Declarer by making a statement to that effect and it becomes the correct lead if the next player plays to the irregular lead.



NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome Dianne Jackson, Lilly Jia, Jennifer Bleier, Jenny Thompson and Thais Morgan-Pertus to the Sunnybank Bridge Club and hope that their stay will be a long and happy one.



It was with great sadness that we heard that both **BOB CALLAGHAN** and **SANDRA HAMILTON** passed away in October. They were very popular members of our Club and will be sorely missed.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE SUNNYBANK MEMBERS who have been

successful in tournaments held at various Clubs in the area –

- Toowoomba Queens Birthday Congress Teams – B Grade - Second Jan Argent & Ian Argent.
- QBA Open Pairs in October - Charlie Lu & Martin Qin – third.
- BBC Novice Congress in October - B Grade - Jane Whelan & Robyn Chippindall – second.
- Surfers Graded Swiss Teams B Grade in October - Richard Spelman, Janet Price, Cora Taylor & Jim Taylor – first.
- QCBC Restricted Teams B Grade in October - Barry Koster & Kiku Mukai.- second.
- Nationwide Pairs in November - Loretta Lovett & Ismail Meman – fourth.
- Toowoomba Swiss Teams B Grade in November - Ian Argent & Jan Argent – first.
- Noosa Imps Pairs A Grade in November - Charlie Lu & Chuan Qin – second.
- Brisbane Interclub Teams: B Grade in November - Sue Holburt, John Blyth, Barry Koster & Kiku Mukai - first and in the C Grade - Debbie Hoogerdyk, Richard Tarnawski, Melly Lim & Willi Lim – second.
- Toowong Graded Teams C Grade in November - Barry Koster, Kiku Mukai (part of the winning team) and Kevin Hamilton- Reen (part of the runner –up team)/
- Redlands Open Teams A Grade in December - Louise Collins & Terry Collins – second.



FAMOUS PLAYERS

NICOLA SMITH - Nicola comes from a strong



Bridge family; her parents, Pat and Nico Gardener both gained representation for their country at International level. She was born in 1949 and is a Champion English player, playing for her country for more than 30 years.

Currently she ranks first among Women World Grand Masters. For many years after her father's death Nicola continued to run the London School of Bridge in the King's road, Chelsea. In 1995 she was awarded the MBE for her services to Bridge and in 2015 she was inducted to the English Bridge League's Hall of Fame.

AMBRAS COURT PLAYING CARDS

1455/60, German



The deck has four suits numbered 1 to 10 in Roman numerals, with two court cards – King and Queen. The suits are distinguished by the arms of four countries: Bohemia (white lion on red), Germany (black eagle), France (fleur de lys), and Hungary (horizontal red and white stripes). Each card depicts an occupation that would support a noble household like Barber, Chaplain and Falconer. The occupation is hand lettered on the cards in German gothic script. The first card in each suit is a Jester. The original deck is hand-coloured woodcut, but the work is so fine the cards look like miniature paintings. Cards illustrated here: One (Jester) from the suit of Germany and Six (Harpist) from the suit of France.

Ambras Court Hunting Deck, 1440/1445, Swiss; now in the Vienna Museum of Art History. Hunting must



have been a popular theme for playing cards as several decks with this theme

still exist. This deck, illustrating heron hunting, is attributed to the workshop of Konrad Witz of Basle. The cards were not block printed, like most tarot and playing card decks at that time. The images were drawn with pen and ink then painted. The deck has four suits: white hounds, white herons, white falcons and brown lures. The ten suit cards do not have numbers. The “tens” are illustrated with a flag containing the suit symbol.



CARDS IN ART



This painting by Adriaen Brouwer is entitled “Peasants Brawling Over Cards”. Brouwer, sometimes spelled **Brauer**, was born 1605/06, in Oudenaarde, Flanders [now in Belgium] and died February, 1638 in Antwerp,



THE AVERAGE AGE OF BRIDGE PLAYERS

According to the American Contract Bridge League the average age of United States Bridge players is 71 – In a recent article in the New York Times, it was estimated that there were approximately 25 million adult Bridge players in the USA, with 3 million being regular, once-per-week players that played at least once on a weekly basis.



MYSTERY PERSONALITY



Answer -

Peter Heard.

THE WORLD'S OLDEST FULL DECK OF PLAYING CARDS WAS ALMOST LOST TO HISTORY.



In 1983, The Metropolitan Museum of Art bought a 52-card deck of South Netherlandish playing cards. The cards dated from the 15th century and were in incredible condition — but they were almost lost to history. An Amsterdam antiques dealer was sold the pack back in the '70s for \$US2,800. They were said to be a “unique” pack of **Tarot** cards from the “16th century,” according to the Paris auction house that sold them. But the dealer who bought the deck was sceptical. He thought they might be even older and after much research it was found that they belonged to the late fourteen hundreds, circa 1470-1480. After five years of research, he was able to successfully date the cards to between 1465 and 1480 thanks to the style of the paintings, watermarks on the pasteboard, as well as the costumes and hairdos worn by the Burgundian court figures on the cards. The shoes, hairstyles, and clothing worn by the Kings and Queens were going out of style by 1480. The watermarks were also common in Southern Flanders and the Netherlands from 1466 to 1479, according to The Day. The suits were based on hunting symbols. The dates were confirmed by the Central Laboratory for Objects of Art and Science in Amsterdam which dated the paints used to the 15th Century. All of this digging and research paid off. In 1983, the Metropolitan Museum of Art bought the pack for \$US143,000.



ANAGRAMS
(answer)

DIANE ARNOLD
ROBYN CHIPPINDALL
BERNICE COOPER



ELIZABETHAN CARD GAMES – Part 1.

Card games during those times were popular to all, especially to those who loved to gamble and play a game of chance. Some of the more popular card games of this era were the *One and Thirty*, the *Ruff and Honours* and the *Maw*. The card game ‘One and Thirty’ was considered by many as the ancestor of the modern Blackjack that people play now. The ‘Ruff and Honours’ is a card game that was played by teams of four players each. And the ‘Maw’ on the other hand was a 16th century trick-taking game for ten players.

One & Thirty - This card game dates back to at least 1440. During that year Bernadine of Sienne mentioned the game in an anti-gaming sermon. This is one of a number of games dating from the 15th to the 17th Centuries that are ancestors to modern Blackjack. The game was popular in both Spain and Ireland. The game is for two or more players. Each player is dealt three cards, face down. The dealer starts the deal to the player on his left. Starting with the eldest hand (the player to the left of the dealer), a card may be discarded face up by each player. It is replaced by the top card on the deck or the previous card on the discard pile. The player that comes closest to 31 with three cards in the same suit is the winner. Play continues by discarding one card at a time until a player knocks twice on the table. After the knock the players get one last discard. The hands are then shown and the hand closest to 31 wins. A player who hits 31 exactly wins automatically and does not have to wait for the knock or make a knock. Ties are re-dealt.

Scoring is as follows: Aces are 11, face cards are 10 and the rest are their face value. A three of a kind (different suits) is worth 30½ points.



NORTH

♠ 8763
♥ AJ4
♦ A632
♣ 73

WEST

♠ AKJ94
♥ Q2
♦ JT
♣ Q962

EAST

♠ T5
♥ 965
♦ Q985
♣ T854

SOUTH

♠ Q2
♥ KT873
♦ K74
♣ AKJ

Declarer won the K♦ then led another Diamond. This was careful play because if West had a singleton Diamond he could not gain by trumping (he would be trumping two low Diamonds). West followed with Dummy’s Ace then trumped a third Spade, East discarding a Club. He cashed the Ace-King♣, trumped the J♣ then led a fourth ♠. East discarded a Diamond and now, after trumping, Declarer simply exited with his third round ♦ loser. Holding a Jack of trumps in Dummy and KT8 in hand he was guaranteed the last three tricks.



THE ART IN CARDS



These are a sample of Ukrainian playing cards. Over recent years most of Ukraine’s cards have been designed by Vladislav Erko and these are part of a set that feature ancient musical instruments.

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