



SABF NEWS

May 2006

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Australian National Championships in Adelaide

Adelaide is hosting the Australian National Championships in 2006. The events will be held at the Holiday Inn Adelaide in Hindley Street from Friday 21 July until Saturday 5 August.

Alongside the Championship events there will be a series of Congress events including pairs, Swiss pairs and teams, with some events being graded. This is your chance to play in pairs and/or teams events at a 'national' level without having to travel interstate to do so. Prizes will be awarded for all Congress events. Entry forms will be distributed to all South Australian clubs shortly. Why not get a group together and make a day of it!!

If you would like to defray the cost of playing at the ANC, the organising committee is looking for volunteers to help with caddy and recorder tasks. If you are interested in earning a little 'bridge pocket money' (age is no barrier) then please contact Alison Fallon on 8269 7734 or Dianne Marler on 0414 689 620 and they will give you more information.

ANC information is available via the SABF website.

How Times have Changed

I've been thinking about how bidding has evolved over the past 20-30 years. Back then, doubles of pre-empts were penalty. The take-out bid was the cheaper minor (i.e. over 3C, 3D was a take-out bid; over 3D/3H/3S, 4C was the take-out bid!). About 25 years ago CMOBDOR was introduced - what a mouthful. It consisted of cheaper minor over blacks (3D take-out over 3C, 4C over 3S), and double over red suits. Thankfully it's much easier now - double is take-out.

During the second week, our State teams will be vying with other State teams for the Interstate Teams titles. Our State representatives are:

SA OPEN TEAM

David Middleton - George Smolanko

Guy Markey - Phil Markey

Jesse Chan - John Zollo

SA WOMEN'S TEAM

Carmel Kain - Barbara Travis

Wendy Andrews - Sue Phillips

Heather Motteram - Prudie Wagner

SA SENIORS' TEAM

Roger Januszke - David Lusk

Peter Chan - John Puskas

Bob Clarke - Peter Colmer

SA YOUTH TEAM

Andrew Brady - Freya Wilson

Joel Gue - Alex Lockwood

William Jenner-O'Shea - Andrew Morcombe



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**WHEN A BRIDGE PLAYER MAKES A MISTAKE, IT'S NEVER REMEMBERED.
WHEN THEIR PARTNER MAKES A MISTAKE, IT'S NEVER FORGOTTEN.**

Some Hands of Interest

As it happens, both my husband Jeff and I always sit West or South when we play. This can provide some interesting conversation on the drive home. On a recent Thursday night Jeff asked how I'd bid the following hand:

♠AQ1087x ♥AKQ10 ♦void ♣AKQ

- not a bad hand...

Our bidding was really quite similar, allowing for the fact that my partnership was relatively new with few trimmings, and his partnership with Russel Harms goes back many years.

My auction: 2C - 2D - 6S.

Jeff's was more long-winded and the opponents showed diamonds, so he had a cue bid available, but essentially he bid to 6S on his own.

Dummy was somewhat disappointing:

♠9 ♥xxx ♦J10x ♣9xxxxx

The ♠9 was probably the biggest card in the hand, giving the contract one small chance.

Since the opponents have six spades, you need to find the ♠J doubleton (finding a doubleton king won't work because then the other opponent has Jxxx). Putting my rose-coloured glasses on firmly, I led the ♠A, followed by the ♠Q - and watched my LHO's ♠J fall! When hearts also broke the contract was home. Of course, Jeff played exactly the same way!

This hand really reinforces that you should never give up on your contract. Think about

Alerting

When your partner makes an artificial call or bid, you are required to 'alert' the opponents. You do not then explain the bid; they have the option to ask you what the bid means.

Alerting is compulsory.

To alert, you circle the call or bid on the bidding pad and/or say "Alert". (Pointing at the bid, waving your pen in the air, tapping the table are not sufficient actions to constitute an alert.)

You must alert all agreements that the opponents may not fully understand, including natural bids which contain extra information - 2-suited bids, non-forcing bids etc.

You may ask the opponents about alerted calls only when it is your turn to bid.

what you need to make, and play accordingly.

I was recently asked whether it is better to play in a 5-3 fit or a 4-4 fit when you know you have two 8-card fits in the majors. My reply was that the 4-4 fit is normally superior because the outside 5-3 fit will provide discards. The following hand demonstrates this situation perfectly:

♠ K32	♠ QJ1087
♥ AKQ7	♥ 10983
♦ A82	♦ 10
♣ 873	♣ AQ5
WEST	EAST
1NT	2H (transfer)
2S	3H
4H	Pass

East is somewhat unexpectedly playing the hand, but the club lead is advantageous. Three rounds of hearts removed the opposing trumps, and now the spade suit provided discards. Declarer made 12 tricks for an outright top.

A corollary is that it is usually better to play in the 4-4 fit even with an outside 5-4 fit in the other major - the fifth card gives a discard.

Furthermore, a 4-4 major fit should be preferred to a known 6-3 major fit; again the 6-card suit provides plenty of discarding potential.

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When you are declarer you should offer the opponents a full explanation of the auction including any alerted or self-alerted bids.

Some bids are considered to be 'self-alerting'. You do not have to alert these bids because they are already considered unusual.

Self-alerting bids are:

- All doubles
- All redoubles
- All cue bids of suits opponents have bid
- All bids higher than 3NT

However, if you are the declaring side, you should explain these bids at the end of the auction.

Favourite Joke

A retired corporate executive decided to take a vacation. He booked himself on a Caribbean cruise and proceeded to have the time of his life... until the ship sank! He found himself on an island with no other people, no supplies, nothing, only bananas and coconuts.

After about four months, he is lying on the beach one day when the most gorgeous woman he has ever seen rows up to the shore. In disbelief he asks her, "Where did you come from? How did you get here?"

She replies, "I rowed from the other side of the island. I landed here when my cruise ship sank."

"Amazing," he says. "You were really lucky to have a rowboat wash up with you."

"Oh this?" replies the woman. "I made the boat out of raw material I found on the island. The oars were whittled from tree branches, I wove the bottom from palm branches and the stern came from a Eucalyptus tree."

"But where did you get the tools?"

"That was no problem," replied the woman. "On the south side of the island, a very unusual stratum of alluvial rock is exposed. I found that if I fired it to a certain temperature in my kiln, it melted into forgeable, ductile iron. I used that for tools and used the tools to make the boat and other hardware." The guy is stunned.

"Let's row over to my place," she says. After a few hours of rowing, she docks the boat at a small wharf.

As the man looks to shore, he nearly falls out of the boat. Before him is a stone path leading to an exquisite bungalow. While the woman ties up the boat with an expertly woven hemp rope, the man can only stare ahead, dumbstruck.

As they walk into the house, she casually says, "It's not much, but I call it home. Sit down, please. Would you like a drink?"

"No, thank you," he says, still dazed. "I can't take any more coconut juice."

"It's not coconut juice," the woman replies. "I have a still. How about a pina colada?"

Trying to hide his amazement, the man accepts and they sit down on her couch to talk.

After they have exchanged their stories, the woman announces, "I'm going to slip into something more comfortable. Would you like to take a shower and shave? There is a razor in the bathroom cabinet."

No longer questioning anything, the man goes into the bathroom. There, in the cabinet, is a razor made from a bone handle. Two shells honed to a hollow ground edge are fastened on to its end, inside a swivel mechanism. "This woman is amazing," he muses. "What next?"

When he returns, she greets him wearing nothing but vines and flowers strategically positioned, and smelling of gardenias. She beckons for him to sit down next to her. "Tell me," she begins suggestively, slithering closer to him, "we've been out here for a really long time. You've been lonely. There's something I'm sure you really feel like doing right now, something you've been longing for all these months?"

She stares into his eyes and takes his hand in hers...

He can't believe what he's hearing. He swallows excitedly and tears start to form in his eyes. "You mean... I can play bridge on the internet from here?"

BRIDGE CHALLENGE:

1. 4 = S I A D O C
2. 52 = C I A D (W J)
3. 4 = P A A B T
4. 40 = P I A D O C

A bottle of wine for one randomly-drawn entry

Example: 13 = C I A S (Cards In A Suit)

5. 42 = E I A D O C (W J)
6. 720 = O N T R (V)
7. 1770 = S H D (N V)
8. 400 = O O T R (V)

- closing date: 9 June (jbtravis@internode.on.net)

Check out the SA Bridge Federation's new website at:

www.sabridgefederation.com.au

for all relevant information about bridge and clubs in South Australia

Recent Results

RESTRICTED PAIRS CONGRESS

- 1st Pauline Harris & Junice Nesbitt
2nd Sharmini Hoole & Nathan Weber
3rd Liz Angel & Kay Bumford

PLATE:

- 1st Betty Halliday & Helen Price

GOLD CUP TEAMS

FINAL

- 1st Peter Chan, Nicolas Croft, John Hewitt,
Roger Januszke
2nd David & Sue Lusk, Maggie & Nick
Truscott, Phil Sellars
3rd Graham & Judy Quinn, Evan & Jill
Allanson
4th Anne & Wayne Holder, Bev Bannister,
Gary Springall

CONSOLATION:

- 1st Susan Emerson, Russel Harms, Jeff
Travis, Justin Williams
2nd Dianne Marler, Linda Alexander, Marie
McMahon, Nicole Thorpe, Maciek
Zurawel

BRIDGE IN THE CITY'S

GOLDEN BUNNY TEAMS

- 1st John Smith, Jan & Shane Harrison, Sam
Schulz

BRIDGE IN THE HILLS'

EASTER CONGRESS

EASTER PAIRS:

ORANGE Section

- 1st Alison & Gordon Fallon
2nd Helga Corbett & June Roden
3rd Joy Myers & Helen Tassie

MAROON Section

- 1st William Keyte & Paul Williamson
2nd Deidre Burnett & Mel Dempster
3rd Judith Castell & Alma de Villiers

EASTER TEAMS:

- 1st Phil Sellars, Hannah Sprod, Jeff Travis,
Justin Williams
2nd Jean Cook, Joan Harris, Frances Berry,
Walter Kuiper
3rd Marie McMahon, Moira Smith, Heather
Braid, Maureen Wilson

Diary Dates

Sunday 28th May

GAWLER PAIRS CONGRESS Contact: Clive Stokes Phone: 8523 4539

Saturday 3rd June

NOVICE TEAMS (limited to players with less than 50 MPs each)

at SA Bridge Association Contact: Alison Fallon Phone: 8269 7734

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th June

ROBE PAIRS CONGRESS

(limited entries, filling fast) Contact: Margie McKay Phone: 8768 2164

Sunday 2nd July

ANC TEAMS' PRESENTATION AND PLEASANT SUNDAY

at SA Bridge Association Contact: David Anderson Phone: 8373 3995

Sunday 16th July

BRIDGE IN THE HILLS' CHRISTMAS IN WINTER CONGRESS

at Mt Barker Golf Club Contact: Barbara Travis Phone: 8339 4723

Friday 21st July - Saturday 5th August

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (see front page of Newsletter)