



NEWSLETTER

Illawarra Bridge Association

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DECEMBER 2019

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In October members were invited to complete a survey on a number of IBA matters including the need to continue with the regular newsletter and what its content should be. A significant majority of members said they did read the newsletter and would like it to be continued. There were suggestions regarding content which will be considered in future newsletters. At the end of a successful year for IBA members we should again reflect on how fortunate we are to have a team of great directors and a very efficient and active Committee.

Due to circumstances this newsletter has been prepared in haste to meet a printing deadline before the Xmas shut down and may contain some inaccuracies and does not include items which have normally been there.

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Jottings from the Committee Meeting 30 November 2019.

Contributed by Marie Pickering

Office manager report by Ken:

Ken was away on holidays but had all things organised including the drain in the ladies toilet repaired.

Tournament Committee

Rob reported that the changes to the pairs and teams championships will go ahead in 2020.

Members can collect a copy of the information sheet for this changed format at Figtree.

Members should also note that all night time bridge sessions in 2020 will commence at 7.00pm with a roving supper so that play ends at 10pm.

The IBA calendar of events for 2020 is now available and can be picked up at Figtree.

Financial Report

The President thanked Ngaire most sincerely for the completion of the Annual Financial report presented at the AGM. Ngaire reported that we have money in the bank from the card club which can be spent on maintenance/repairs. Cheryl suggested that perhaps we could investigate tinting for our windows which would provide: Solar heat reduction between 73%-79% visible glare reduction of between 85%-93% and UV protection of 99.9%. We will get some quotes and discuss the matter with the Council.

Business Plan:

The committee received an analysis of the survey of our newsletter and IBA Congresses which had been completed by our members in October.

Newsletter responses: Approximately 76% of respondents did read the news letter and would like it continued. They liked content including details of upcoming events and information on bridge rules and procedures. There were some suggestions about other content that could be included and these have been passed on to Dave.

Congresses: We had 37 responders regarding the June Chris Diment Pairs, 36 responders for the Chris Diment Teams and 33 responders for the Swiss Pairs in September. Not one person said they did not enjoy their bridge experience at these events. Common positive responses about the events were that they were efficiently organised and run, Directors did a great job, meeting other people in a friendly atmosphere and were challenging.

Regarding the catering 75% was happy with the sandwiches/fruit and slices provided whilst 92% were happy with the chicken/salad/fruit and slices.

The management Committee will continue to discuss the list of suggestions from members on both improvements to the Congresses as well as more general comments offered on the running of IBA.

Next Committee meeting Saturday 8 February 2020 at 10am.

RULES CORNER

Law 16 Authorized and Unauthorized Information.

In the previous newsletter Jeff provided us with information regarding proper procedure for bidding so as not to transgress in this area. It is important that we all devel-

op a knowledge in this area and endeavour to apply it in our regular bridge sessions.

As a follow up, Jeff has now provided a resume on 'unnecessary questioning of opponents bidding' which can be seen as providing unauthorized information.

UNNECESSARY QUESTIONING OF OPPONENTS BIDDING

Contributed by Jeff Carberry

Now let's consider unnecessary questioning of opponent's bids. Players have considerable rights to know about opponents bidding under Law 20, however some of them impinge on law 16. Let's have a look at what Law 20 states (in part):

1. "During the auction and before the final pass any player may request, at his own turn to call, an explanation of the opponents auction. He is entitled to know about calls actually made, about relevant alternative calls available that were not made, and about inferences from the choice of action where these are matters of partnership understanding..... The partner of a player who asks a question may not ask a supplementary question until his turn to call or play. **Law 16 may apply.....**"
2. "After the final pass and throughout the play period, either defender at, his own turn to play, may request an explanation of the opposing auction. At his turn to play from his hand or from dummy, declarer may request an explanation of a defender's call or card play understandings.....
3. **Under 1 and 2 above a player may ask concerning a single call but Law 16B1 may apply.**

Let's look at the implications of all this. First of all we can only ask at our turn to

call or play, we can't ask supplementary questions until it is our turn to call (play). Also (not covered here) we can't ask questions for the benefit of our partner. Now let's look at the implications of Law 16. This example happened recently.

South opened 1C, west passed, North bid 1S*= unalerted.

Everyone at the table (including West) knew that East probably held more spades than North. This is a clear case of unauthorised information under Law 16, and director will take action if NS are subsequently damaged by the infraction. Whilst you have a right to ask questions under Law 20, it is suggested that you follow these guidelines to avoid falling foul of Law 16.

'Don't ask about an unalerted bid even if you think that it should have been alerted, don't ask-you have rights if it should have been, you will risk an infraction if indeed it did not have to be alerted. Avoid asking questions during the auction if you have no intention of bidding. You can always ask for a review of the auction when it is complete.

Bridge Etiquette

Notes on 'Dummy'

Dummy should only touch the cards when playing nominated card.

They should not play any card until it is nominated by declarer even if it is obvious e.g. singleton

Dummy can attempt to stop declarer from committing an infraction e.g they may ask declarer (but not a defender) when he has failed to follow suit whether they have a card of the led suit.(No more Hearts

partner) but if an infraction has been committed they cannot call Director.

Dummy may not call attention to any irregularity during play.

Dummy may not initiate a call to Director.

Dummy may draw attention to any irregularity after the hand is concluded.

RANK PROMOTIONS FOR NOVEMBER

Ruth Neild has suggested that the IBA rank promotions be included in our regular newsletter. It is a great idea and I am sure that members will be generally interested in the progress of others, particularly those newer members at the beginning of their bridge careers.

Graduate Master: Master points

Lucy Cowen 2.91

John Rankin 2.22

Jack Regan 3.01

Club Master:

June Ingleton 5.14

Local Master:

John Kilgower 16.94

Regional Master:

Sue Bochan 50.94

B Rewers 50.13

State Master:

Pranati Basu 64.53

Ngaire Meehan 51.15

***State Master**

Kay Snowden 100.08

National Master:

Lily Gulati 157.71

Barbara Overington 222.68

***National Master**

Peter Graham 270.51

IBA 25th ANNIVERSARY

Contributed by Carol Jeffs

SATURDAY 16th MAY 2020.

Save this date for the 'Grand Slam Party'

We celebrate 25 years with afternoon bridge followed by an evening feast, cabaret and dancing for members and partners.

More detailed information will be provided soon.

2020. His team of Gabi Lorentz-Stephen Burgess, Georange Kozakos –Paul Lavings will represent Australia at the World Bridge Olympiad in September 2020.

To qualify they had to win 3 matches of 128 boards each match played over 2 days. In the first match they trailed by 40 imps at end of day 1 and ended up winning by 20 imps. In the second match against Ron Klinger's team they were 80 down at the end of the first day and again ended up winning by 20 – a mighty comeback. The final match was close after day 1 but then the Lorentz team pulled out and was 75 imps ahead with 16 boards to play, eventually winning by 50 imps.

Paul is making a significant contribution to IBA, particularly with his regular review of hands played at the Saturday bridge sessions and his recent lessons on 'Defence' which were extremely well attended. Thank you Paul.

KAYE HART – NSWBA APPOINTMENT

Kaye has recently been appointed to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for the next 3 years.

We congratulate Kaye on the appointment to this important body and appreciate the manner in which she represents the IBA within the NSW bridge community.

Well done Kaye.

PAUL LAVINGS – AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE BRIDGE PLAYER

Congratulations to Paul Lavings on making the Senior Australian team for