



NEWSLETTER

Illawarra Bridge Association

Edited by Dave Gallagher

August 2019

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The Directors have lately been impressing on members the need to ensure that they are sitting at the correct table, in the right direction and playing the correct boards. There had been recent instances where this had not been done which led to a messy scoring situation that the Directors spent considerable time and effort rectifying. All members are encouraged to get into the habit of confirming these matters with the North/South players at each table change, preferably by viewing the details in the Bridgmate.

Marie Pickering will be away on holidays for a few weeks and hopefully will be having a well earned break from her bridge duties.

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Jottings from the Committee Meeting 10 August 2019.

Contributed by Marie Pickering

Office Manager's Report

Ken reported that the Card Club has booked through Sept, Oct and Nov. He has booked the IPA hall for our 25th Birthday Party on 16th May 2020, The Chris Diment Memorial Congress on the 20th and 21st June 2020 and the Swiss Pairs on Sunday 27th September 2020. During our windy weekend our alarm went off and Ken was called to go and check our premises at 1 am. I'm sure the rest of us were sound asleep in bed. Thank you Ken.

IBand report by Barbara: TRIPS
(Thirroul Railway Institute Preservation

Society) the hall where Thirroul have their bridge sessions will be celebrating their centenary in 2020. Barbara in conjunction with Jeff will be organising celebration bridge during the year.

Table numbers continue to be good.

Business Plan:

Numbers at Tuesday night and Thursday morning supported bridge sessions continue to be very good. There were 9 tables last Tuesday. Awesome.

The Hi-Lo held on 31st of August was really well supported by both our newer players and our well established players. There were 19 very new players and another 19 novices. A big thank you to all who supported and to Rob for setting a great atmosphere for the play.

The Chris Diment Memorial Congress Sat 22nd and Sunday 23rd June 2019

This was fully subscribed on both days. We will be surveying you for your feedback on this later this year. Again, we are very lucky to have directors of Jeff's and Rob's calibre to run these events for us, along with Ken's management and the support of our members who ran the kitchen and provided cakes etc for the 2 days.

25th Birthday Party May 2020

Please note the date (16th May 2020) in your diary, and see Phil, Renate, Carol or Jill if you can contribute to the history of the IBA.

**Next committee meeting Saturday
12th October 2019 at 10am**

Chris Diment

Many of our current members did not get the opportunity to meet Chris Diment but the following article which appeared in the June New South Wales Bridge Newsletter will attest to the esteem that Chris was held in the wider Bridge Community. "Who was Chris Diment?"

Chris was a long time IBPA (International Bridge Press Association) member. He died in 2012. Chris worked in a lot of National events since 1980's. A very close friend of Sean Mullamphy, one of only 4 International Directors in Australia (even though he no longer actively directs in tournaments described Chris as a director who had eyes for detail. Find out more about the person we pay tribute to from the remembrance of Chris Diment by Sean Mullamphy on page 18 of the IBPA Bulletin issue 557.

Results of IBA events

Hi-Lo event

- 1st place N/S Graham Jones-Steve Hurley
- 2nd place N/S Warren Parker/David Ling
- 3rd place N/S Robyn Wilson/Marie Pickering
- 1st place E/W Roger McNee/Glenda McNee
- 2nd place E/W Ruth Neild/Jeanette Marvell
- 3rd place E/W Connie Szency/Liz Hurley

GNOT Qualifying

- 1st place Barker team – Phil Barker, Dave Gallagher, Tim Marchant and Ian Porter
- 2nd place Kumar team – Jenny Michael, Rakesh Kumar, Martin Bunder and Duncan Munro
- 3rd place Cutsforth team – Steve Brell, Stuart Cutsforth, Renate La Marra, Ruth Neild and Rilla England

The next stage in the GNOT qualifying will be an event where the IBA qualifying teams (probably 5) will compete against teams from the Southern Highlands on 8 September 2019.

The winner there will go to Tweed Heads at the end of the year for the National play off.

Club Pairs Championship

The first week of this finals event was completed on 17 August with the Champions to be decided after the second weeks play on 24 August.

Standings after week 1 are:

- 1st Ian Porter and Tim Marchant 65.38%
- 2nd Larry and Jill Regterschot 56.41%
- 3rd Maggie and Dave Havyatt 53.85%

Ian and Tim have a handy lead at this stage and favourites to win the event. The 3 place getters will have a place on the honour board so the battle for second and third places will be closely watched.

Wednesday Champions Final

1st Antoinette Dippenaar and David Higgins

2nd Cheryl Waters and Helen Lavings

3rd Liz Hurley and Steve Hurley

Results and upcoming events around the traps

Blue Mountains Bridge Club

This popular event is to be held on 31 August and 1 September.

IBA will be well represented with up to a dozen of our members entered. We look forward to seeing the results.

Ingleburn Congress (teams)

This event was held on 11 August 2019 with a number of IBA members participating.

The Kingston team which included Judy Kingston, Grant Cowan, Paul Lavings and Helen Lavings was placed 3rd in a field of 24 teams.

The 'Pickering' team which included Marie Pickering, Erica Gray, Cheryl Waters and Andrew Smith was placed 1st in the restricted teams section.

How to appear professional at the Bridge table (even if you aren't)

Sue Kennedy came across this Larry Cohen article and thought it might be useful for IBA members to consider.

Physical appearance

Sit up straight with no slumping in the chair. Hold your cards close so that nobody else at the table can see them (the sure sign of a beginner is to hold his cards too far in front). Concentrate! Or at least appear to concentrate. Try to block out the

fact that it is too hot or cold or too noisy. Don't let others see your eyes or mind wondering. No face pulling during the bidding or play. Keep a poker face at all times.

What to say

No criticizing partner. Try some smiles and laughter. No unsolicited post mortems (better be silent and thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt). Don't show ignorance by reacting to other results shown on Bridgemate ("look Madge everyone else made it"). So what, maybe every other table gave bad defence. Be polite to partner and opponents. Anything less shows a lack of professionalism.

After the game

It is a good idea to seek (open minded) the advice of better players. When you do so, don't then argue with their answer. A good idea is to give them your hand in order with the 13 cards. It is a sure sign of an amateur to say "Well, 5 clubs to the ace, I think and four hearts.....no three hearts etc.

These are a few samples of interesting articles that can be found on Larry Cohen's website.

EASTERN ZONE PLAYOFFS FOR THE STATE AND COUNTRY TEAMS 2019

Contributed by Paul Lavings

On the weekend of November 15th - 17th 2019 10 teams in total, 4 from NSWBA, 4 from country regions and 2 from the Sydney metropolitan area, will play off for the NSW State Teams title and the NSW Country Teams title.

Tablelands-Illawarra zone hosted an eight team playoff in Bowral in May which was won by the LAVINGS team, Helen Lavings-Paul Lavings, Jeff Carberry-Walt Davis. They survived a heavy loss in their 7-board match against the CUTSFORTH team, Stuart Cutsforth-Renate La Marra, Colin Bale-Rilla England by 25-0.

The winning IBA team then travelled down to Mollymook on Sunday 29th June for a 56 board (4 x 14) playoff against the Far South Coast winners, Richard Prickett, Patricia Afflick, Sue Neill and Robert Van Der Hoek from Moruya Bridge Club.

Far South Coast started off well, winning the first set of 14 boards 37-33. In the second set IBA picked back 5 imps, 46-41 to lead by 1 imp at half-time.

IBA won the third set 43-6 picking up 37 imps to lead by 38 going into the last set which IBA lost 15-3 to win the match by 26 imps.

See the full match report with interesting hands on the IBA website under the document heading.

RULES CORNER

‘My Pet Peeve’

Contributed by Andrew Smith

Re-facing cards illegally.

The editor has asked me to write something for this section and I can't think of a good topic so I'm re-stating something from a previous article.

General principle: You must not expose the face of a card once all four cards from a trick have been turned face down.

Exceptions: a) you can look at your own card (but not let anyone else see it) before your side has played to the next trick; b)

the director gives permission.

Why not? You may be reminding partner of what's played and thus give unauthorised information.

When are cards exposed wrongly? (FAR TOO OFTEN!) –

1) When a revoke is suspected and players go back several tricks to check.

2) When there is a query as to where the lead is from.

So please remember - a card should NEVER be refaced without the director's say-so.

MORE BRIDGE DITTIES

In the June Newsletter Paul Lavings introduced us to some bridge ditties he had come across sung to some well known songs.

Peter Graham has submitted this as a follow up, sung to ‘Home on the range’

‘Oh give me a hand, a hand which is grand

With cards that will fill me with glee

And opponents for once, who both play like a dunce

And a partner who plays just like me

Slam, grand is the call, so 13 tricks is the goal

No need to ask, if I'm up to the task

‘Cause the smile on my face says it all.

So that the newsletter is interesting and satisfies the needs of IBA members everyone is encouraged to provide feedback and suggested items for inclusion in future issues.