



NEWSLETTER

Illawarra Bridge Association

Edited by Peter Graham

Oct 2015

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Coming Soon

October

Thurs 15th Invitational Pairs 2

Mon 19th Monday Pairs Championship 2

Wed 21st Red masterpoints .1

Thurs 22nd Invitational Pairs 3

Mon 26th Monday Pairs Championship 3

Wed 28th Red Masterpoints 2

November

Tues 3rd Melbourne Cup

Thurs 5th Thursday Pairs Championship 1

Sat 7th Southern Highlands Congress

Sun 8th Southern Highlands Congress

Thurs 12th Thurs Pairs Championship 2

Sat 14th Saturday Club

Thurs 19th Thurs Pairs Championship 3

Sat 21st Hi-Lo

Thurs 26th Annual General Meeting.

Andrew Smith forwarded the following from the NSW Newsletter. It will advise our members of the correct procedure required when wrong information is given. The article was written by Matthew Mcmanus.

A normal part of a bridge auction is when you make a special systemic bid, your partner alerts it, the opponents ask and you partner tells them what he thinks your bid means. That last part of the process is rather problematic in terms of how the laws of bridge apply. One part of the laws wants you to hear what your partner said; another part of

the laws insists that you don't hear it!

Although this is an area which I have previously considered in these articles, it is quite complex and still not understood by many players. Perhaps it will be easiest to explain by example:

You, sitting North, hold:

S 5

H KQ942

D 96

C KQJ84

The auction goes: W N E S
1D 2NT

You and your partner have agreed to play that a jump to 2NT over the opponent's opening bid shows at least 5-5 in the lowest unbid suits. Partner alerts 2NT. East asks and South says, "5-5 in the minors". That's interesting!

Partner seems to have forgotten that 2NT shows the minors only after a major suit opening. What are your rights and responsibilities?

Responsibilities first: under the laws, EW are entitled to an accurate explanation of your agreements. Therefore, unless your partner does so first, you need to tell them. **But**...and it is a very big **BUT**, you can only do so at the correct time. The correct time is:

- a) if you become declarer or dummy – at the end of the auction;
- b) if you become a defender – at the end of the play of the hand.

Until the correct time, you must not do anything at all. You cannot say, "I think my partner got it wrong". You cannot call the director. You cannot excuse yourself and go and speak to the director away from the table. You must just sit there, saying and doing nothing about partner's mistake, until the correct time arrives. You may think you are trying to be helpful, but in most cases you will just be making things worse for your side.

Those are your responsibilities under the laws. In order to satisfy this duty to correct partner's mistake, you obviously need to have heard what partner said when the opponents asked. Rather confusingly, when we come to what your rights are in exactly the same situation, the laws require you to act as if you didn't hear your partner speak! This is a rather difficult concept to grasp. When considering what future action to take, if any, you need to behave as though your partner said that 2NT showed at least 5-5 in clubs and hearts (ie. what you have), even though you know that this isn't the case. Let's assume that the above auction continued as follows

W	N	E	S
1D	<u>2NT</u>	Pass	3C
3D	?		

You may be tempted to bid 3H now to clarify things for your partner – after all, he doesn't think that you have hearts and you might have a big heart fit. However, to do so would be very wrong. When you bid 2NT, you were telling him you had 5 hearts (as well as 5 clubs). If, in response to East's question, he had said that 2NT shows 5-5 in clubs and hearts (I know he didn't) and bid 3C, you would know that he had heard about your hearts but didn't care about them. There should be no temptation to bid them now.

Although it is a normal part of the game,

the laws refer to what you heard when your partner answered East's question as "unauthorised information". This is something which you cannot use when making a decision about what to do next. In fact, you need to go out of your way to make sure that you do not take advantage of it. That means you virtually need to act as if you didn't hear your partner speak. If your partner had given the right answer when asked, you would be free to make any bid over 3D in the above auction, even 3H if you felt like it (no matter how misguided that action may be!). However, when you get the "unauthorised information" that partner has misunderstood your bid, you have no alternative other than to pass. Are there ever any occasions when you might bid again even when partner has responded incorrectly to East's question? Yes, but these are times when the hand you hold definitely warrants another call. For example, you might have a much stronger hand with six hearts and five clubs:

S 5
H AKJT95
D 6
C KQJ84

Just one useful card from partner would probably be enough for you to make game in hearts, so now 3H would be justified. Of course, partner, thinking you have the minors, might now be very confused. Your 3H might wake him up to his mistake. If so, well and good – that's allowed. But if you have done anything else apart from just bidding 3H – eg. saying "you got it wrong, partner", glaring and tutting at him, calling for the "sheriff", handing your system card to the opponents, etc. – then you will find yourself in trouble with the director – and no one wants that.

(Ed) Thanks Andrew, I would believe that a fair number of our members have just learned the correct procedure .

That's Odd

Another one of those 'couldn't happen' incidents. Happened at Figtree. During play E led the SK. N happily trumped it. After a few more cards E won the lead again and led, you guessed it, 'The SK'. The Director was called and I believe he is still looking for a ruling on that incident.

Romeo, Romeo, Wherefore Art Thou Romeo

Delightful little story about two of our members. Names are withheld to protect the embarrassed. I'll call them A & B. A was short of a partner for the following Monday night. B was contacted and agreed to be partner. A arrives early to discuss what methods they will play. However, with kick-off time approaching, there is still no sign of B. Out comes the mobile phone to find out where B is and the answer found. As A was watching the clock at Figtree and wondering where B was, B was watching the clock at Thirroul and wondering where A was. Thirroul members, being the true club members that they are, agreed to start late, allowing A to burn rubber along Memorial Drive, and everyone got a game of bridge.

Veterans Pairs

Bowral Veterans Pairs will be held on the 17th-19th June, 2016. Want more information?.

Contact <rob@robward.com.au>

Should Have Kown Better

This story concerns an up and coming star male player who went to the USA to represent his country in an international tournament. He took his girlfriend with him. There were many well known international players there, including film star Omar Sharif. The up and coming player was expected to do well but

did poorly. Two players later discussing this poor showing when one commented on the number of errors he made. "I agree" said one," but do you know what was his biggest mistake of all. That was when he introduced his girlfriend to Omar Sharif.

Yiddish Yarn

One of our members gave me the read of a book, 'Old Jews Telling Jokes'. Here is one of the stories. I think you will like it.

Son comes home and tells Mum he is getting married. Mum has never met the girl. Son tells her he will bring her home tonight and she will be bringing two friends with her. He invites Mum to see if she can tell which of the girls is the one he is going to marry. After the evening is over, and the girls have left, the son asks Mum if she guessed which of the girls he was going to marry. Mum says "It was the red-head".

"You are correct", says the son,"but how did you know"?.

"Easy", says Mum,"She was the one I didn't like".

Swiss Pairs

Sunday, 19th September, was Swiss Pairs at Figtree. A highly successful and enjoyable day with eighteen tables.

Thanks for this goes to our well organised and hard working committee and our 'Sadies' in the kitchen. Always interesting to be playing against players from other clubs, some good, some not so good. If you missed being there, then put it on your calendar for next year before Father Time bars you from being there.

Paul Lavings was amongst the players. Paul gave educational talks to our members; Pre-empt on Friday 18th and Weak Twos on Saturday 19th. I believe that all who attended will be better players with the knowledge they gained.

Lectures like these show us how much better players we can be. I spoke to Paul and asked him to say truthfully how he found our club compared to the many others he has attended. I was chuffed with his response. He considers our club a cut above the normal. Very well run, friendly, and a good standard of bridge nous. I thought about this and believe there may be a reason for same. I believe it is possibly because of the culture that was laid down by Chris Diment. After the death of Chris, the culture was continued on by skilful Directors and an energetic and hard working committee. During Swiss Pairs, partner and I played against Paul Lavings. Paul opened 2S, showing a weak 5-5 hand. My partner bid 3C, a possible forced bid. Pauls partner doubled. I asked Paul re the double. He thought for a moment and replied "penalties". With both major aces and a five card club suit in my hand, I happily passed. The end result was eleven tricks for us and a minus 1070 for Paul and partner. I write that not to skite, but because of what happened next. Despite having just made a hugely costly error between them, neither Paul nor his partner showed, in any way or form, annoyance with the other. Both just quietly put their cards back in the folder and picked up the next lot of cards. Somehow, I felt a great deal of respect for the way they did that, and a big lesson to me on how I should strive to act at the bridge table. Still on Paul amongst the items he had for sale was a tea towel with a bridge problem on it. I print the problem. You have to make 4S with a KH lead. I have spent many sleepless nights' trying to work it out. Too much for me. When you work it out, let me know, it's got me stumped.

S	J9432	
H	- -	
D	A432	
C	5432	
S 10 8		S K7
H KQJ10987654		H 2
D - -		D KQJ1098
C Q		C KJ109
	S AQ65	
	H A3	
	D 765	
	C A876	

Know The Feeling.?

A player was bemoaning to partner about their bad result at the end of the days play.

"Cheer up',said partner,"I guess we all have days like that".

"Would you believe months?", was the reply.

The Good Old Summertime

Let' all shed a few tears for esteemed member Colin Bale. As usual, Colin jetted off to his English homeland for a number of summer weeks. (England. Summer weeks???. I know, but hope springs eternal). Things went as we would expect and Colins' broly and raincoat got a good workout. However as a consolation, Colin and wife booked a European River Cruise to be taken just before they were due back in Australia. Three days before the cruise, whilst watching the rain bucket down, they received a message from the Cruise Line that, due to lack of rain, the river was too low to accommodate the ship and that the cruise was cancelled. Colins reaction on receiving the news?, " You've got to be ----- joking", I guess would be the lines it was along. I'm sure you will all synpathsize with Colin when you speak to him.

Your Help Required

Our committee have on previous occasions invited ideas for ways to attract new members. I am considering making up a 'flyer' to forward to the committee for editing and sending to various outlets to invite new members. eg Probus, Rotary, Council etc. However, I do not have the talent to know what to put in the flyer so I need your help. What should I say in the flyer?, to whom should it be sent?. Don't just stay quiet, let me know or this idea will not proceed. It up to you. I see Thursday morning as an ideal place to welcome newcomers, instruction, supervision and no pressure. Let's not think a few, let's think a few dozen. Would be great to have fifteen or so tables at our Thursday morning sessions. It is now up to you, I have big ears.

Norah Dwyer

That's a nice card the club received from Norah, which is on the notice board for us all to read. She misses the place and has made a request for the newsletters to be forwarded to her. I will ensure this is done.

Can't Be Too Careful

Recently Rob Kinloch, whilst being Director for the day, apologised to the room because he had made a mistake and forgot to turn on the timer clock. I said to him I would print in the newsletter that he had made a mistake. He then said o.k. but to remember that he was the Director. I quickly detected the threat in that statement, so I will use my brains and ensure that I do not print in this newsletter that Rob Kinloch made a mistake.

All That Glitters

Picture the scene. It is a beautiful tranquil day. The long married couple are sitting in the shade on the back porch. He is browsing through the paper, she is quietly relaxing, cradling a nice cold glass of a sweet white wine. Suddenly, out of the blue she says, "I love you and I wouldn't want to live without you". He looks up from his paper and says, "Are you talking to me or is it that the wine talking?". She replies, "It is me talking, and I'm talking to the wine".

Bridge Errors

Bridge errors are like car headlights, the other players always seem more glaring than your own.

Be Grateful For Small Mercies.

Remember, it is better to receive a single rose when you are living than a whole bunch when you are dead.

I guess that's all from me. Committee minutes will follow .

Till next time P.B.G.(Ed).

Jottings

From the committee

Oct 2015

Office Managers Report

- 11 stools purchased at \$20 each and are a great addition for our club. More will be purchased to have 2 for each table.
- Carpet cleaning is being organised.

IBand Report

- Table numbers are down at the moment as lots of the regulars are away.
- Jeff is at Thirroul next Friday.
- Jim White and Rob Mathie are looking after Thirroul while Barbara and Penny are away. Have a lovely holiday ladies.

Lessons

- Jill and Fran's Thursday morning tutorials are going ahead with much appreciation from the bridge players who attend, creating a great buzz.
- If you need help with your bridge playing you will be most welcome at these sessions – Thursday mornings at 10am at Figtree. They are doing.
- Many thanks to both these ladies for the marvelous job they are doing.

Looking for a partner Many thanks to Marian Lerman for the great job she did while Marie was overseas.

- Marie is now back. Please give her a ring or e-mail if you are looking for a partner.
- Contact Marie at pickering_marie@hotmail.com or on 0422375712.

Name Badges

If you would like one of our name badges please give Marie a ring.

Rate of Play

Thank you to all members for the improvement in the rate of play at all sessions.

Code of Conduct

Please check out our code of conduct, it is framed and on the table beside the fridge.

Annual General Meeting

- Our AGM this year is on Saturday 28 November at 1pm.
- If you are interested in being part of the management committee please see one of the committee for a nomination form.

(Ed). Marie Pickering said she would get the jottings to me on Sunday evening as I wanted to get the newsletter to the printers on Monday. When she went to her computer on Sunday evening, she found her ISP had evidently 'gone on holiday', so no internet. Rather than just leave it until next day, she jumped in the car and drove to the nearest Maccas and used their internet to send the jottings when promised. We are fortunate as a club to have committee members who are not only willing to do the job they've taken, but are prepared to 'go the extra mile'. We

should never be slow in thanking our committee members for what they do on our behalf.



**ILLAWARRA
BRIDGE
ASSOCIATION**

**CODE
OF
CONDUCT**

June 2015

The Illawarra Bridge Association, in line with bridge clubs around the world and in particular with the NSWBA and the ABF is of the belief that an actively ethical player contributes to the enjoyment of all bridge players by continuously striving to maintain a courteous manner toward both partner and the opponents by avoiding any behaviour that would make any player uncomfortable.

Good ethics and etiquette are fundamental to bridge.

The IBA insists that players are treated with respect and dignity and is committed to providing a friendly atmosphere in its club rooms.



IBA members should:

♠Be polite and courteous at all times

♥Respect other people's rights to have different opinions or ways of thinking

♣Conduct their game in a proper, mature and inoffensive manner

♦Assist new members and guests and try to show patience and understanding

♠At all times abide by this Code of Conduct as well as the rules of the IBA, NSWBA and the Australian Bridge Federation.



