
GUNGAHLIN BRIDGE CLUB

Volume 2, Issue 4

September 2017

BRIDGE MATTERS

Play starts at 10.am. Players must be seated by 9.50am.

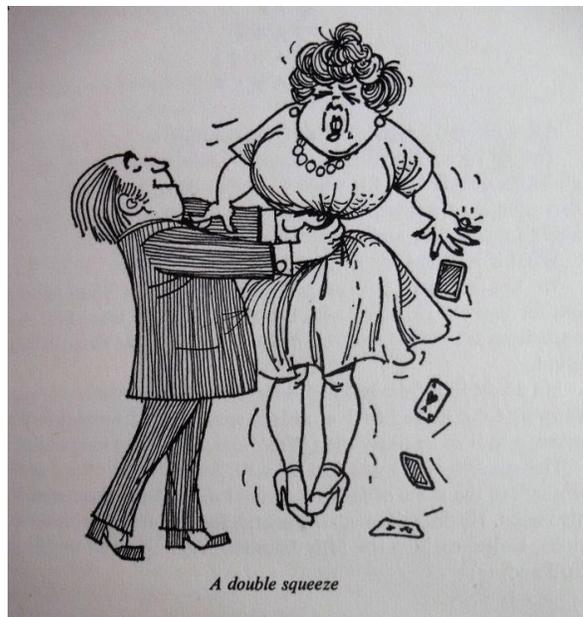
QUIET PLAY is required for good play.

Recent raffle winners. Indu, Garry, Garry, Bronwen.

The most improved player for August was Margaret Fisher.

Arrangements for standby players. If your partner is going to be away you can register 4 days prior to bridge (1 week or earlier would be better) with Rosemary, 6154 8540 or 0402 346 945, the stand by officer. Players will be matched up with other players in the same situation if it is possible.

If you have any questions ask and we will try and find the answer.



Today's problem

Contract. 6H. S declarer. Lead JS Plan play..

S K, Q, 4.

H Q, J..

D A, K, Q, 3, 2.

C 9, 8, 5.

S --.

S ----.

H -----

H ----

D ----.

D --.

C --.

C ----.

S A, 5.

H A, K, 5, 4, 3,2.

D 6, 4.

S K, 10, 3.

Duty players

Date	Director	Assistant
Wed 6 th September	Valerie	Sue, Jill
Wed 13 th September	Lydia	Joyce
Wed 20 th September	Chiew	Rosie
Wed 27 th September	Marcia	Bronwen

. President. Peter Waight.

V. President. Dave Gabbitas. Treasurer. Margaret Gabbitas.

Secretary. Chiew Baria. IT. Jim Lawrence, Richard Almond.

BRIDGE TIPS

Opponents who bid to the heavens vulnerable vs non-vulnerable with limited high card strength invariably have wild distribution.

With 9 winners in your own hand, plus an independent major suit bid game. Don't invite. Good partner will give you the 10th trick.

A 4-4 trump fit usually plays at least one trick better than a 5-3 trump fit.

A 4-4 trump fit usually plays at least one trick better than a notrump contract.

HUMUOR

You are hooked on bridge, if;

You are a race goer and HCP no longer means handicap.

You are a Londoner and Drury no longer describes a lane.

You are a tennis player and ace does not refer to your serve.

You are an undertaker and stiff no longer refers to a cadaver.

You play bowls a jack is no longer a white marking bowl.

Today's Solution.

It might seem natural to take the first trick in hand. But do so at your peril. Consider the whole hand. You must assume the trumps break 4-1.

You need 6 trump tricks separately, 3 Spades and 3 top spades. Communication between hands is important.

Win the first spade in dummy, play the JH and QH then cross to the AS in hand. Then draw trumps claiming 12 tricks. By not taking the first trick in hand ensures a entry to hand to draw trumps.

Points to remember

- 1) This is a classic illustration of the need to

play through the whole hand mentally before touching a card.

- 2) Note that, whereas, in most circumstances, entries into dummy's long suit should be the first priority, here we have a position where entries to hand to draw trumps, takes precedence.

New Rules as of 2017.

ABF Alerting Regulations

1. Introduction

It is an essential principle of the game of bridge that players may not have secret agreements with their partners, either in bidding or in card play. All agreements must be fully available and fully disclosed to the opponents. These Regulations set principles and guidelines for the approved alerting procedures.

Players should adhere to the principle of full disclosure (as required by the Laws) in following these Regulations and in explanations of calls. If a player makes a positive effort to meet their obligations under full disclosure, they will rarely if ever fall foul of these regulations.

The methods of a partnership include not only the specific agreements appearing on the system card but also partnership understandings which have arisen through partnership discussion or experience. The opponents are entitled to know about these understandings. General bridge inferences, like those a new partner could make when there has been no prior discussion, are not alertable, but any inferences that can be drawn from partnership experience must be disclosed.

Alerting rules continued on page 3.

2. Definitions and General Principles

2.1 Convention

A call that, by partnership agreement, conveys a meaning other than willingness to play in the denomination named (or in the last denomination named), or high-card strength or length (three cards or more) there. However, an agreement as to overall strength does not make a call a convention.

2.1.1 Note that 'other than' is construed to include 'additional to'. So, by definition, any bid that shows the denomination named and another denomination also, is conventional. All opening bids and overcalls that show two or more suits, even if one of the suits is named, are by definition conventional.

2.1.2 It is construed that an opening bid of 1♣ or 1♦ which may contain fewer than three cards in the opened suit does not indicate 'willingness to play' and hence such bids are conventional.

2.1.3 Certain calls may not convey any meaning e.g. the enforced 3♣ after a Lebensohl 2NT. Such calls are construed as conventional

2.2 Natural calls

2.2.1 A natural suit bid is one that is not conventional. It follows from the definition of convention that a bid is natural if it meets the following criteria: • Conveys a willingness to play in the denomination named (but does not come under 2.1.1 or 2.1.3) • Shows high card strength or length (3+ cards) in the suit named.

2.2.2 A natural NT bid is a bid that shows a preparedness to play in NT, and conveys no specific information about the suit holdings. 2.2.3 A natural pass is a pass that does not convey any conventional message about strength or suit holdings.

Natural calls as defined in these regulations are in general not alertable, but there are important exceptions. (See 3.3.2.)

2.3 Cue bids

For the purposes of these Regulations, a cue bid of opponent's suit is defined as a bid of any denomination bid by the opponent or suits shown by the opponent's bid. Example: If an opponent opens 1♦ showing spades, then 1♠ and 2♦ are both cue bids. Similarly a 2NT overcall of 1NT is also a cue bid.

2.4 Self-alerting calls

There are five different types of self-alerting calls, viz. • Doubles • Redoubles • Cue bids of an opponent's denomination/suit • All calls at the four-level or higher, except conventional opening bids • Any 2♣ response to a 1NT opening bid in an uncontested auction.

These calls carry their own alert and should not be alerted. It may be risky to make assumptions as to the meaning of such a call. A player is entitled (at their turn to call) to ask for their own protection, but bear in mind that unnecessary questions may be more helpful to the opponents than to the enquirer's own side, and may convey unauthorised information thereby limiting partner's options.

3.4 Delayed alerts

3.4.1 At the end of the auction, the declaring side should draw attention to any unusual features, particularly any unusual non-alerted calls. Upon inquiry, a player must disclose fully, not only the specific meanings of all calls, but also any inferences they have drawn from the auction based on partnership experience (as distinct from general bridge knowledge). These explanations may occasionally need to include negative inferences, such as hand types partner probably does not have for his bidding. Defenders must not, at this time, draw attention to their own calls, nor voluntarily offer explanations (they must of course fully disclose upon inquiry).

5. Specific Examples

This section provides a number of examples by way of illustration and amplification. The list is not exhaustive. It is not necessary to commit them to memory as they follow the principles specified above. There is an overriding requirement that self-alerting calls should not be alerted.

5.1 Opening bids

The following should be alerted: (a) 1♦ if it may contain fewer than three cards in the suit named. (b) 1♥ or 1♠ if it may contain fewer than four cards in the suit named. Also if a 1♥ bid systemically denies four spades, this is alertable (conveys a surprising message about another suit). (c) A non-natural 1NT (e.g. Moscito; showing hearts and spades). (d) Opening two bids which do not promise a holding of 4+ cards in the suit named, or which promise a holding in the suit named and another suit. Examples: Alertable: 2♥ showing hearts and another suit (whether specified or not). Alertable: 2♣ where, if there are only 5 clubs, also shows a four-card major. Strong artificial 2♣, 2♦ openings are alertable. Note that a 2♥ bid, which promises only hearts, is not alertable, whether strong or weak. (e) Any opening bid, (other than 1♣) which is not natural e.g. transfer pre-empts.

5.2 Development of the uncontested auction

The following should be alerted: (a) Weak jump responses (b) Inverted minors (1♦ - 2♦ forcing, 1♦ - 3♦ weak) (c) Forcing 1NT response (d) New suit rebids by opener which may be made on a suit of fewer than three cards in a minor or four cards in a major (e) Jacoby style 2NT over a major

Effective June 1st 2008, updated August 1st 2017

(f) Bergen raises (g) Fit showing jumps (h) Fourth suit forcing (i) Splinter bids (below 4♣) (j) Transfer bids (below 4♣) (k) Forced bids in a 'pass-or-correct' sequence (l) Conventional responses including 'pass-or-correct' bids after a multi-two opening (m) Trial bids (n) A pass which conveys a special meaning as to strength or distribution

9. Explanations

9.1 If an enquiry is made, a full explanation of the call must be given. This includes any conventional or partnership agreement, whether the agreement is explicit or based on partnership experience. Explanations may well include distributions and point ranges specifically excluded by a call, as well as those shown directly. When giving explanations, it is not necessary to repeat information given earlier in the hand, unless such information is requested. When explaining an alerted or self-alerting call, players should indicate if this same call might have a slightly different meaning (e.g. different point range) due to a variation of vulnerabilities and/or position around the table.

9.2 If there is no partnership agreement as to the meaning of a call, the player must say so (by saying, "Undiscussed", for example), and not attempt to offer a possible explanation. When, however, as a result of partnership experience and style, one is able to form a coherent view of the likely meaning of an undiscussed call, that information shall be given to the opponents. Where a call is undiscussed, the player should not offer statements such as "I take it to mean...." or "I'm treating it as....". Such a response is improper as it provides unauthorised information to partner.

9.3 Merely to name a convention (e.g. Michaels, Lebensohl, etc.) is not an acceptable explanation. There are many variations of most conventions, and a more specific explanation is normally required. Similarly, the use of "Standard" or "Natural" to describe calls, signals or leads is rarely sufficient - nor are the terms "Weak", "Strong" or "Intermediate" - without appropriate qualification.

9.4 An explanation given in response to an enquiry about the meaning of any call should avoid reference to the meaning of any response yet to be made to that call (unless requested by an opponent).

9.5 A player need not divulge knowledge or conclusions derived from their own card holdings, or as a consequence of their experience of matters generally known to bridge players.