



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

April 2014

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### President's Report



It has certainly been a busy few months!

We rounded out January with our first Open Day at the Toowoomba Bridge Club. The significant number of members who attended and contributed made the day a resounding success. Details are reported elsewhere in this newsletter, but we attracted a large crowd on the day, many of whom decided to enrol in lessons with Trudy on Wednesdays or Denise on Thursday Nights. As well as the new lesson participants, it was also an excellent showcase to let Toowoomba know where we are and what we do.

February saw the start of many of the club's named competitions and the month finished up with many of our members playing in the 53<sup>rd</sup> Gold Coast Congress. It was a happy hunting ground for a number of these with:

- Gabrielle and John Elich (playing with Justine and Christophe Wlodarczyk) ranking as the highest placed all Queenslanders in the Novice Teams;
- Floyd and Majella Wilson, Glennis Cowell and Nancy Geiger ranking as the highest placed "Mixed" Novice Team;
- Robbie Fulton, Lorraine Sutton, Mearon Geldard and Rhondda Dean

were the highest placed all Queenslanders in the Restricted Teams.

A great effort after twelve 14-board matches over three days.

In March, we started to see the benefits of all of Jeff Aitchison's efforts, with significant grass growth in the overflow car park. Whilst talking car parks, I need to remind everyone to drive slowly (say 10km/hr) and carefully at all times, and please only park in designated parking spaces.

The Social subcommittee organised a successful Race day and our club was showcased at the Toowoomba Butler Pairs congress, with positive comments from all visitors about the clubrooms, the gardens and the general atmosphere at our club. You can all be proud.

Happy bridging everyone.

**Chris Snook**  
President

### Welfare Officer

*Please contact Glenda Filbee on her home phone (4636-7622) or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or suffering a bereavement and Glenda will respond suitably on behalf of the Club.*

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Chris Snook
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Keith Jenkin
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Trudy Dunne
<b>TREASURER</b>	Lorraine Sutton
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	Jeff Aitchison Eileen Josey Byron Longford Ritamay Roberts Hugh Robinson Ian Steger

## OFFICE HOLDERS

<b>CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR</b>	Chris Snook
<b>PROVIDORE</b>	Keith Jenkin
<b>CONGRESS CONVENOR</b>	Hugh Robinson
<b>MASTERPOINT SECRETARY</b>	Annette Sullivan
<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	Annette Sullivan
<b>QBA DELEGATES</b>	Chris Snook Keith Jenkin Byron Longford Ritamay Roberts

## ZONE REPRESENTATIVES

<b>PRESS OFFICER</b>	Kim Nicoll
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	Jean Moetara
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	Floyd Wilson
<b>CLUB TEACHERS</b>	Trudy Dunne Denise Hartwig

<b>MEMBERSHIP BADGES</b>	Byron Longford
<b>TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR</b>	Eileen Josey
<b>BUILDING MAINTENANCE</b>	John Clift
<b>GROUNDS MAINTENANCE</b>	Jeff Aitchison
<b>HOUSEKEEPER</b>	Bette Flamsteed

Two sub-committees coordinate much of the work in the clubrooms:

**Tournament Sub-committee:** Talk to your Director or a Committee member about the activities of this sub-committee, which covers all facets of bridge play at the club.

**Social Sub-committee:** Led by Ian Steger, this group helps organise all the social events at the club such as Melbourne Cup party, Christmas party, Birthday party and perhaps a few other special events through the year.



## Membership Secretary's Report



### New Members

Please make the following new members feel welcome. Some of them have just completed lessons and will be looking for encouragement from everyone.

Stephanie Gardiner  
George Smith  
Donella Ferrier  
John Mason  
Marjory Harms  
John Webb  
Lynda Webb  
Margaret Masters  
Val Degotardi  
Catherine Wildermuth  
Margaret Baker

Census date for ABF Membership was 31 March 2014. At that date, we had 5 Life Members and 342 Home Members, 87 Away Members - a total of 434 members.

**Annette Sullivan**  
Membership Secretary



*Remember that bridge is like life. When you are dealt a rotten hand or your partner puts down a terrible dummy, how you handle your cards is the same as how you handle life. Just do the best you can and hope for a better deal next time.*

## New Master Rankings

Congratulations are extended to the following members who have achieved new Master rankings since the last newsletter:

<b><u>GRADUATE MASTER</u></b>	Shirley Cooley Roger Douglas
<b><u>CLUB MASTER</u></b>	Penny Astridge Bronyn Humphries
<b><u>LOCAL MASTER</u></b>	Jean Bendall Jill Cory Leonie Spence Lyn Vary Diana McDougall Lesley-Ann Parry Kerry Brown John Cox
<b><u>*LOCAL MASTER</u></b>	Kath Phillips Ian Steger Helen Higgs Jan Lindau Rita Lyons Arthur Bilby Elizabeth Cavanagh
<b><u>**LOCAL MASTER</u></b>	Glenda Filbee Ellen Zeller Lucy Parker
<b><u>REGIONAL MASTER</u></b>	Judy Hinchliffe John Oxenham Hugh Robinson Pat Fenaughty
<b><u>STATE MASTER</u></b>	Gail Blencoe Glennis Cowell
<b><u>NATIONAL MASTER</u></b>	Sheryl Haslam
<b><u>**NATIONAL MASTER</u></b>	Laurie-Marie McRoberts
<b><u>BRONZE LIFE MASTER</u></b>	Ian Jesser Carol Wilson
<b><u>SILVER LIFE MASTER</u></b>	Elisabeth Zeller

Congratulations!

## Masterpoint Secretary's Report

I have processed 466.48 green masterpoints and 44.84 red masterpoints for the first three months of 2014. This is slightly less than for the same period last year.

Don't forget that it is easy to check your masterpoints on the ABF website at: <http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au> and click on "Player - Masterpoints Lookup". You can do this on the club computers at any time. If you feel that you are missing some masterpoints, check with the Club Masterpoint Secretary in the first instance.

**Annette Sullivan**  
Masterpoint Secretary

## Treasurer's Report

Nothing out of the ordinary has happened financially, which needs any mention since my last report in January 2014.

Lee Hore is doing a tremendous job of collecting and banking all the money for the club, her support is greatly appreciated and it takes time to balance everything, sort out any problems and queuing up at the bank.

The club continues to be financially sound and every cent is scrutinized by the management committee who continually put in place policies to refine out fiduciary duty to the members of the club.

For those interested in looking at the financials, they are attached to the minutes on display at the club.

Happy bridging,  
**Lorraine Sutton**  
Treasurer



## Garden Report

The re-grassing of the new carpark to the south of the clubhouse has been completed and other areas near the Avocado trees are progressing. I thank members for their co-operation while these areas were unavailable for parking. I would also ask that these areas be driven over slowly during the winter to further consolidate the grass and please avoid turning your steering wheels while stationary. The re-grassing of the eastern and southern parts of the new carpark will be done when the warmer weather returns in October.

A car stop has been placed to protect the grass to the west of the Avocado trees. Although this area was proving to be a popular parking spot, the grass here needs to be protected as it slows the flow of water off the carparks towards Stuart Street and mitigates problems further down the gully.

I would also thank members for their contribution of plant vouchers from the Toowoomba Regional Council. These were redeemed during February and March and a number of smallish shrubs have been planted in the garden to the north of the Clubhouse. I have also planted additional Wild Shamrock, Marigolds and Gazanias in this area to give members a more colourful welcome when they arrive for Bridge.

Ralph Geddes has been busy trimming all the hedges and I acknowledge his contribution.

**Jeff Aitchison**



## Providore's Report

I would like to thank all the help I am receiving prior to play on Wednesday and Friday.

Any suggestions on anything else I can do would be appreciated.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and happy bridging everyone.



**Keith Jenkin**  
Providore

## Social Report

### A Day at the Races

On the 30th March, 51 intrepid members of the Bridge Club and/or partners and friends took part in the Toowoomba Bridge Club Social Race Day.

The track was good, the punters, with the exception of a certain nonagenarian, were bad. The food was excellent and plentiful, and the drinks were cold, and served with a smile by our dedicated barman. The local Bookie (Pat Kynoch) provided us with both some lucky door tickets, and some good odds with which to lose our hard earned!

All in all, a great afternoon of socialising and fun was had by everyone I have spoken to; with most asking when the next one will be.

Special thanks go to Paul and Carmel Barrett for their organisational skills in making the event such a success.

The Social Committee will meet again in early May to discuss our next adventure, so if you have any ideas for us to consider, please let someone on the committee in on the secret?

**Ian Steger**



## Do you have keys to the Bridge Club?

If you do, we need to know! We are conducting a stock-take of keys, which has not been done for some time. If all keys cannot be located I will have to arrange for a new security code for the clubrooms, which would be unfortunate. If you have keys, would you please list your name, which keys you hold, any numbers stamped on them, and the reason you require a key eg. Director, and drop it into the secretary's box in the office prior to the first of May?

Ian Steger

## Club Teacher's Report

The numbers attending beginner's lessons have continued to be strong this year with 37-44 on most Wednesday mornings and 10-12 on Thursday nights.

When the Wednesday morning group were asked of their plans at the conclusion of lessons, 13 expressed an interest in attending another series of lessons, while 21-25 wish to join the club and play Mondays and/or Wednesday mornings in Supervised Play sessions.

It is pleasing to see both rooms so full on Wednesday mornings and Thursday nights and it augurs well for the future of the Club.

Thursday night lessons will be ending on 29th May. Denise Hartwig will be conducting some supervised play lessons for a couple of months on Thursday nights commencing June 5th. If any of the Intermediate players of a Thursday night are interested, please come along and join the other side of the room. All welcome.

**Trudy Dunne**



## Session Rules Reminder

- Players should be **seated** 10 minutes prior to the start of play for a session.
- The Director makes the final decision on seating arrangements and on playing arrangements in the room (eg windows, airconditioning).
- Only **green** and **blue** systems are permitted in club events.
- System cards are compulsory for competitions and red master point events and strongly recommended for all other sessions.
- No notices are permitted on the noticeboards unless approval is given from the club Executive.
- No trading is permitted on the club premises unless written permission is given via the Management Committee.

## Thanks to Our Sponsors

A reminder to members that we enjoy sponsorship support from the following companies:

**RetireInvest**  
**My Personal Travel Planner**  
**Freedom Total Life Care**  
**LJ Hooker Real Estate**

For contact details and other information provided by these companies, please refer to the sponsorship noticeboard in the club rooms.

Please support the companies that support us.

## REPORT ON OUR OPEN DAY SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2014

This would not have been the wonderful success it was without the support and involvement of so many of our members! With more than 60 people signing up for lessons it was certainly worth all the time, effort and money spent. The following is a brief breakdown and a thank you to all those involved.

### Advertising

Starting with a very colourful and eye-catching flyer designed by Floyd Wilson, this was sent to schools and the USQ by Trudy, distributed to Bowls Clubs and Probus Clubs by John Clift, and also distributed by many of our members to other organisations.

Community TV and radio coverage was organised by Pam Gebbett and George McKinnon who also involved our sponsors.

Plus we have to thank Bruce Hinchliffe for the great layout of the full page advertisement in the Chronicle.

### Our Tenants

Eileen Josey did a great job involving our co-tenants, The Amputees & Family Support Group and the University of the Third Age Mahjong Group. With the help of Byron Longford, the AFSG set up a sausage sizzle which was obviously very successful as they completely sold out. Jan Lindau reported that the Mahjong Group also attracted some possible new members.

### Decorations, Set-up & Clean-up

Thanks go to Lesley Meyer and Fleur Hopkins for the decorations, plus all the committee members and club members who helped. You did a great job.

### Activities

To make the day as interesting as possible and give an overview of the activities in our club, Online Demonstration & Social Screen saver displays were set up; various members gave a demonstration of playing bridge – “Watch the

Experts”; Judy Desjardin showed how the dealing machine worked and Ian Jesser set up the bridge mates to show how the scoring was done.

Trudy Dunne and Denise Hartwig were very busy with people wanting to talk about learning bridge, what was involved, and signing people up for the lessons. They were both thrilled with the response.

“Play Bridge in 10 Minutes” would not have worked without the assistance of Margie Maddison, Bette Flamsted, Coral Apel, Jill Cory, John Clift, Peter Cory, John Maslen, Jill Young, Judy Hinchliffe, Floyd Wilson, Lyn Bidgood, Margaret Wyche, Rhonda Duck and Carmel Purcell and all the other members who joined in to help with this activity. Your involvement made it the success it was.

And lastly, thanks must go to Ian Steger for being the co-ordinator and ensuring everything was followed through. Ian also sent out a questionnaire to those members on the organizing committee; Chris Snook, Eileen Josey, Fleur Hopkins, Byron Longford, Denise Hartwig, Trudy Dunne, George McKinnon, Peter Cory, Pam Gebbett, Bruce Hinchliffe, Glenys Clift and Ian Jesser for feedback and ideas on what worked and how we would go about it if it was repeated in future years.

The general consensus from this questionnaire was that the day proved to be a great success as both a public relations exercise and a way to attract new members.



## Congress Convenor's Report

The Toowoomba Butler Pairs Congress, held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March, was the Club's first Congress for 2014. 50 pairs competed in what was another successful day of bridge. The field was made up of a good proportion of local players plus visitors from the Sunshine and Gold Coast, Brisbane and the neighbouring clubs from within our zone.

### Results:

#### Open - Category A

- 1<sup>st</sup> JOAN JENKINS / LINDA NORMAN
- 2<sup>nd</sup> JIM TAYLOR / CORA TAYLOR
- 3<sup>rd</sup> KIM NICOLL / BARBARA WIPPELL

#### Category B

- 1<sup>st</sup> GERALD EMBERY / HELEN REEVES
- 2<sup>nd</sup> HILARY RICHARDSON / ROSALIND HART
- 3<sup>rd</sup> REBECCA KNIGHT / DAPHNE STACK

#### Category C

- 1<sup>st</sup> BERYL MCKAY / CARMEL HARTMAN
- 2<sup>nd</sup> LUCY PARKER / LESLEY MEYER
- 3<sup>rd</sup> JEFF AITCHISON / ANN KLIBBE

A special thanks to those members who helped during the day; to those who donated food and prizes; to the director, Chris Snook; and to the Congress sponsors, L J Hooker.

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April we are hosting the QBA Novice Pairs Congress. I look forward to receiving strong nominations from our novice players for this event. Again, we are looking for support from members who will be able to help on the day. If you can, please add your name to the volunteer list that has been posted on the notice board. My Personal Travel Planner is the Congress sponsor.

**Hugh Robinson**



Kim Nicholl and Barbara Wippell placed third overall.



Lucy Parker and Lesley Meyer were second in Category C.



Jeff Aitchison and Anne Klibbe were third in Category C.

## Winners are Grinners

The "Monthly Winner" awards are displayed on the noticeboard and on the club website. This is a good way to celebrate the high performing players in each session and also provide additional green masterpoints to those players who play regularly in club sessions. Here is how it works. They are officially called "**multisession individual eclectic events**".

- They are a **multisession** event combining the overall scores of all your sessions on a given day in the month that have not already been counted in other events.
- They are an **individual** event so that you are not locked out of a monthly award because you are a social butterfly who plays with different people. If you happen to play with the same partner all the time and win then you will share the combined masterpoints for first and second.
- They are an **eclectic** event which means that your best X scores are counted out of Y sessions. In a typical month there might be 4 days included, and your 3 of these scores are counted. Thus you can miss one session or have a bad day and still be in the monthly competition.

### January Monthly Eclectic Winners

Monday	Ann Downs
Tuesday	Ian Jesser
Tuesday night	Roy Constantine & Henry Eastment
Wednesday	Adrian Mayers
Thursday night	Penny Astridge & John Oxenham
Friday	Val Buchanan
Saturday	Adrian Mayers

### February Monthly Eclectic Winners

Monday	Vonnie Zeller & Bunny Powne
Tuesday	Adrian Mayers
Wednesday	Keith Jenkin
Thursday night	Penny Astridge & John Oxenham
Saturday	Ian Jesser

### March Monthly Eclectic Winners

Monday	Peter Morton & Jan Stockley
Tuesday	Pam Gebbett & Shaunagh Cowell
Thursday night	Greg & Gail Dinsey
Friday	Pat Penberthy
Saturday	Ian Jesser & Pat Penberthy

### Ivy Dahler Cup

Byron Longford & Adrian Mayers

### Col Martin Shield

Val Buchanan & Edwin Willey

### Wednesday Handicap Cup

Gillian Whitehouse & Helen Henderson

### Thursday Perfect Teams

Val McClement & Julie O'Connor  
& Pat Penberthy & Eileen Josey

And on the congress scene:

### Warwick Swiss Pairs

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Henry Eastment & Adrian Mayers
B 1 <sup>st</sup>	Joan Harms & Ann Dujela
B 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lorraine Sutton & Robbie Fulton
C 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Majella & Floyd Wilson
C 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gail Blencoe & Anneke Bierenbroodspot

### Toowong Novice Butler Pairs

3<sup>rd</sup> *Justine Wlodarczyk & Gabrielle Elich*

### Dalby Swiss Pairs

1 <sup>st</sup>	Ian Jesser & Jim Wood
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pat Larsen & Sue Spinks
B 1 <sup>st</sup>	Floyd & Majella Wilson

### Toowoomba Butler Pairs

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kim Nicoll & Barbara Wippell
C 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucy Parker & Lesley Meyer
C 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jeff Aitchison & Ann Klippe

Join me in congratulating all these players for the success they have enjoyed.

Chris



## WHAT IS SUPERVISED PLAY

MONDAY at 12 MIDDAY

Supervised playing sessions are a great way for all Novice players to start and are suitable for all levels and essential for beginners. Turn up with or without a partner and we will place you with players of a similar level. You will play hands in a friendly and warm atmosphere with Glenys Clift, Byron Longford, Annette Sullivan or one of our many helpers who will be on hand to help you with all aspects of bidding and play - and you may also consult your notes.

Each week we cover a different topic with a discussion and a handout going back over the lessons with some hands pre-dealt to fit in with the topic.

If you have just recently finished beginner lessons or are simply new to playing duplicate bridge at the club, this is the session where you can practise and improve your skills.

### Other Points:

- Count your cards before looking at them.
- If you are to make the opening lead place it face down on the table first.
- If you need an explanation about procedures or if anything goes wrong at your table or you need help, call the Director.
- Don't worry about messing things up. Relax and enjoy the afternoon! One of the best things about bridge is the people you will meet and the friends you will make.
- Remember - it is meant to be FUN!

### APRIL/MAY PROGRAM

#### ADVANCED BIDDING CONVENTIONS

#### APRIL

- 14/4 Michaels Cue Bids  
21/4 Discards & Signals-McKenney  
28/4 Cue bidding the enemy suit

#### MAY

- 5/5 Landy  
12/5 Unusual No Trump  
19/5 Roman Gerber with extended CRO  
26/5 Re-Opening the Bidding -  
Balancing

### JUNE - DECEMBER PROGRAM FOR BEGINNERS

#### JUNE

- 2/6 Responses to 15-17 1NT  
9/6 Playing NT promoting winners  
16/6 Bidding with a fit  
23/6 The Barrier Principle

#### JULY

- 7/7 Bidding 4 card suits up the line.  
14/7 When to draw trumps  
21/7 Bidding after suit interference  
28/7 Rule of 20 & Shape showing

#### AUGUST

- 4/8 Responses to Weak Twos "feature showing"  
11/8 Responses to 21+ or 4-loser hands  
18/8 Responses to strong balanced hands  
25/8 Take out Doubles and overcalls

#### SEPTEMBER

- 1/9 Negative Doubles  
8/9 Coping with Pre empts  
15/9 Doubling 1 NT  
22/9 Gerber & Blackwood  
29/9 Leads against NT

#### OCTOBER

- 13/10 Penalty Doubles - understanding scoring  
20/10 Opening Light in 3rd Position  
27/10 Discards & Signals-McKenney

#### NOVEMBER

- 3/11 Re-Opening the Bidding -  
Balancing  
10/11 Cue bidding the enemy suit  
17/11 Michaels Cue Bids  
24/11 Unusual No Trump

#### DECEMBER

- Talks on Bridge Laws & Etiquette

## In the Zone

### Queensland Open Teams

Eight teams from Dalby, Lockyer, Darling Downs and Toowoomba clubs competed in the Zone Qualifying Heat of the Queensland Open Teams hosted by Toowoomba on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April. The top two teams have qualified for support to play in the State Championship at Toowong on 23/24 August:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Chris Snook, Mohan Trada,  
Edwin Willey & Bruce Meakins  
2<sup>nd</sup> Glenys Clift, Jackie Henderson,  
Byron Longford & Liz Zeller

### Queensland Open Pairs

Players from all zone clubs can play in the qualifying event to be held on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June** hosted by the Warwick Bridge Club. The top two or three pairs will then be supported to play in the State Championship on 18/19 October.

### Queensland Novice Pairs

We, the Toowoomba Bridge Club, are hosting the Queensland Novice Pairs championship as part of our Novice Pairs on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April**. This is a wonderful opportunity for our newer players to play in a State Event in familiar surroundings.

### Grand National Open Teams

The GNOT is an Australia-wide teams competition playing for glory and for **gold** master points. Each club runs a qualifying round early in the year to qualify a team(s) to play in a Zone/Regional Final. The winner from the Zone Final is then given some financial support by the ABF to play in the GNOT Final which is held in Benowa Point at the end of November. Sixty-four teams from all around Australia play in the final.

Our Club Qualifier of the GNOT will be held on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**, and all players are welcome.

The Darling Downs Zone is comprised of the Dalby, Darling Downs, Goondiwindi, Lockyer, Roma, Stanthorpe, Toowoomba and Warwick Bridge Clubs. The Zone Final will be hosted by Goondiwindi on **Sunday 31 August**.

## Why we follow correct procedure

Duplicate Bridge is an interesting game to administer. There is a clear expectation on how the game is played, and if everyone follows that correct procedure then we all have a fair game and we are all assessed according to our skill and our portion of luck on the day.

If the correct procedure is not followed (eg changing a call, leading at the wrong time, revoking, gasping when partner leads singleton, accidentally seeing another players cards) then this can lead to a pair being disadvantaged. That's not fair and is why the Laws of Duplicate Bridge were written and why we have a Director in charge of each session.

The primary focus of the Laws is to rectify such lapses in procedure and to "make things right". The term "penalty card" is still sometimes used but the correct term is "rectification". The most common Laws that specify rectification include those relating to revokes.

However, at this time I would like to mention some of the simpler Laws that establish correct procedure without specifying a standard penalty for non-compliance.

- **Law 5A: Assignment of Seats : Initial Position**

*The Director assigns an initial position to each contestant (individual, pair or team) at the start of a session.*

[The Director will often let the players choose, but if the Director determines that they need to assign seating to "balance" the playing strength or for other reasons then we as players **MUST COMPLY.**]

- **Law 5B: Change of Direction or Table**

*Players change their initial compass direction or proceed to another table in accordance with the Director's instructions. The Director is responsible for clear announcement of instructions,*

each player is responsible for moving **when and as** directed and for occupying the correct seat after each change.

[This is the normal movement that we are used to, but it may be a Mitchell, Skip Mitchell, Share and Bye, Howell, Appendix Mitchell, Rover Mitchell, or some other movement. Also the Director announces **when** to move. Sometimes Director will delay the movement to allow a few tables to catch up – you can cause chaos by moving before the announcement as the Director may then be waiting for you. Moves also cause noise and it is unfair on your colleagues who are still playing. If you move early you may sit in the wrong place or start playing the incorrect boards – all causing chaos.]

- **Law 7A: Placement of Board**

*When a board is to be played it is placed in the centre of the table **until play is complete.***

[This reduces the chances of players putting their hands back in the wrong pocket at the end of play. It also reduces the chances of cards being returned to the wrong board (Don't laugh.... I have seen this a few times in the past 3 months!!!)]

- **Law 7B2: Removal of Cards from Board**

*Each player counts his cards face down to be sure he has exactly thirteen, after that, and before making a call, he must inspect the faces of his cards.*

[Laws 13-14 deal with a player having more or less than 13, and note you count **face down** so you do not expose your cards nor look at them as you count (in case you have more than 13 ... otherwise you have illegally seen another players card!!!). Obviously you **MUST** look at your cards before you call.]

- **Law 7C: Returning Cards to Board**

*After play has finished, each player should shuffle his original thirteen cards, after*

*which he restores them to the pocket corresponding to his compass position. Thereafter no hand shall be removed from the board unless a member of each side, or the Director, is present.*

[You are not explicitly told to count your cards before you return them to the pocket, but this is the best way to make sure you return all thirteen and not any more (eg accidentally including an opponent's card). You should not later go back and remove a hand to look at it, because of the risk of "fouling" the board.]

- **Law 9A: Drawing Attention to an Irregularity**

*1. Unless prohibited by Law, **any player** may draw attention to an irregularity **during the auction period....***

*2. Unless prohibited by Law, **declarer or either defender** may draw attention to an irregularity that occurs during the play period.*

[Dummy does not engage in the play at all so must say nothing until the hand is complete].

- **Law 9B: After Attention is Drawn to an Irregularity**

*The Director must be summonsed at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity.*

[Note that everyone, including Dummy, may call for the Director once the problem has been noticed.]

- **Law 10A: Right to Determine Rectification**

*The Director alone has the right to determine rectifications when applicable. Players do not have the right to determine (or waive – see Law 81C5) rectifications on their own initiative.*

[This should be self evident, but is one of the most problematic areas. Even if you are a qualified Director, you must call the Director in charge of the current session. Directors should not make decisions at their own table – there is always

someone else to call. Amateur Directors should be especially careful.]

- **Law 42B: Dummy's Qualified Rights**

1. *Dummy may ask declarer (but not a defender) when he has failed to follow suit to a trick whether he has a card of the suit led.*

2. *He may try to prevent any irregularity by declarer.*

3. *He may draw attention to any irregularity, but only after play of the hand is concluded.*

[1. The most common phrase is a simple "no hearts partner?" – not a discussion of the hand thus far.

2. If the lead should be in dummy, but you see declarer about to pull a card from their hand then you may stop them. You must not continually point to the hand where the lead must come from because this is engaging in the play of the hand.]

- **Law 65D: Agreement on Results of Play**

*A player should not disturb the order of his played cards until agreement has been reached on the number of tricks won. A player who fails to comply with the provisions of this Law jeopardises his right to claim ownership of doubtful tricks or to claim (or deny) a revoke.*

[It is best to get your hands right away from the table until you hear agreement of the number of tricks won from the other three players – then put your cards away. Remember, some players take a bit longer than others to recognise what happens or to count the doubtful tricks.]

- **Law 79A: Agreement on Tricks Won**

1. *The number of tricks won shall be agreed upon before all four hands have been returned to the board.*

2. *A player must not knowingly accept either the score for a trick that his opponents could have won.*

[This is more on not putting your cards away too soon. You might think you can save a few seconds by doing so, but it

only takes one problem that leads to a Director call, and all that time is lost.]

- **Law 92A: Contestants Right to Appeal**

*A contestant or his captain may appeal for a review of any ruling made at his table by a Director.*

[You should always accept the Directors decision gracefully. Squabbling with Director is very poor. If you believe that the Directors judgement was not correct, then quietly tell the Director that you wish to appeal and then an appeals subcommittee will be formed and the decision reviewed either at tea break or at the end of the day. The Director has all the necessary information/forms.]

The above procedures are included in the Laws to make our game run smoothly and to be more enjoyable for all of us – please review this information and apply it at all your bridge sessions.

If you do not follow these correct procedures and a problem occurs then the Director will normally award any doubtful tricks in favour of the "non-offenders". Repeated non-compliance may lead to a Procedural Penalty via Law 90, especially if your (in)action affected another table.

Cheers

Chris

