



PROMOTING the GAME of BRIDGE in SOUTH AFRICA

THE BRIDGE

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December 2018
Year End Issue

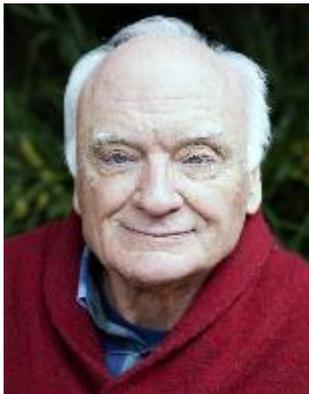


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TO OUR CHRISTIAN MEMBERS

TO OUR JEWISH MEMBERS

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS



STRAIGHT FROM THE SABF PRESIDENT

Here's what I didn't get in my Christmas stocking:

*"I didn't get oranges and I didn't get candy,
I didn't get a pack of cards although that would be handy,
But dear, dear Santa I'm feeling rather glad
Coming second in the Interclub really wasn't bad."*

Wow! Is it really that time of year again? I have had the opportunity during the course of this year to visit several of our clubs around the country and in the process have met many interesting people and made new friends. It was an especial pleasure to meet Moine Haddad a most charming lady who together with her late husband Mickey were two of the original founders of bridge in East London. Bridge is a competitive game but playing in these rural areas reminded me that it can also be a very pleasant and enjoyable way to spend an afternoon. When it comes to friendliness and good table manners these clubs could teach the rest of us a lesson or two!

It remains only to wish you all a safe and peaceful festive season, and all the very best in the New Year.

James Grant

BARBARA SMITH'S COLUMN

One of the advantages of tournament bridge is that much of the element of luck is removed. Since hands are duplicated and played at various tables, it really does not matter all that much if you are one of those players who consistently holds poor cards.

Even in tournament play, though, it happens that some freak distribution of the cards can lead to a lucky or unlucky result. Whenever I make a stupid mistake, I am punished for my sins, while the disasters of my opponents seem to yield them rich rewards.

In a recent teams match, my partner and I bid with precision and accuracy to a grand slam in spades. "The operation was a success," as the saying goes, but, as you will see, "the patient died."

	N		
	♠ K 7 6		
	♥ A K J 9 5 4		
	♦ —		
	♣ A K 4 2		
W		E	
♠ J 8 6 5		♠ 9	
♥ 6		♥ 8 7 3 2	
♦ J 8 5 2		♦ K 9 4 3	
♣ Q 9 5 3		♣ J 10 8 6	
	S		
	♠ A Q 10 4 2		
	♥ Q 10		
	♦ A Q 10 7 6		
	♣ 7		

Bidding:

N	E	S	W
		1 ♠	P
2 ♥	P	3 ♦	P
3 ♠	P	4 ♥	P
4 NT	P	5 ♠*	P
7 ♠	P	P	P

* Key card blackwood — 2 aces and the Queen of trumps (spades)

The five spade response to the Blackwood inquiry showed two Aces and the Queen of spades. Partner knew that we had a 6-2 heart fit and at least a 5-3 spade fit. Her only problem was whether to bid seven hearts or seven spades. Unselfishly, and unsuccessfully, she bid seven spades. The only thing that stops thirteen tricks is the fact that West has four trumps to the knave. It did not seem possible to us that our opponents would not reach a grand slam on the combined holdings. The only thing which worried us was that they might be in seven hearts which cannot be beaten.

In the other room our opponents had bid the hand rather clumsily and had stopped in six spades. When North put down his hand as dummy, South had glared at him for not bidding the grand — but his temper cooled considerably when he discovered the bad trump break!

Barbara Smith



Understanding the
Laws of Bridge

WHEN IS A CARD A PLAYED CARD?

As a Tournament Director, I am often called to a table and asked by one of the players whether she could change the card that she has just played. The answer in a nutshell is NO! There may be exceptions for a card played from dummy, but Law 45C tells us that a card is deemed to be played:

1. By declarer if it is held face-up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position that indicates it has been played. (You'll notice that this says nothing about whether or not the card has been seen by anyone else; that's irrelevant in this case).
2. By a defender if it is held so that it is possible for partner to see it's face. (Again, you'll notice nothing about partner actually seeing the face - only if such an action *is possible*).



Don't act so innocent, Craddock. You know very well what signals! (With thanks to Ashton Emery)

PETER'S PUZZLE

THROUGH THE MANGLE IN MARGATE by Peter Bircher



One Monday this gem of a hand came along. Every West declared in some strain of hearts. Some players making 10, others failing. If one can guess where the Queen of spades lies, 10 tricks rolls in. However the box says that you can make 11! How?

28	♠ Q987	Dir: W Vul: N-S																									
	♥ 9																										
	♦ Q1096																										
	♣ Q1095																										
♠ K1062	♠ AJ3	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>4</td> </tr> </table>	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	E	2	1	5	4	W	2	1	5	4
♣	♦		♥	♠	NT																						
N	-		-	-	-																						
S	-		-	-	-																						
E	2	1	5	4																							
W	2	1	5	4																							
♥ K10852	♥ J74																										
♦ 3	♦ AJ87																										
♣ A42	♣ K76																										
6	♠ 54																										
10 14	♥ AQ63																										
10	♦ K542																										
	♣ J83																										

It's not easy, even looking at all four hands, to make the 11th trick. Even if you take the correct view in spades, the 4-2 break will only yield 3 tricks. Along with 4 hearts, a diamond and 2 clubs, that makes 10. Usually, when trumps break badly your work is cut out just to make your contract. However, the good news is that when one opponent has a stack of trumps, partner may be squeezed while trumps are being drawn!

Opening Lead: the **ten of diamonds**. Over to you; go to the next page if you need to see how to make the contract!

WHAT'S IN A NAME? "DRURY"



Eric Murray and Doug Drury

The Drury convention is used to show a game-invitational major suit raise by a passed hand while guarding against a light opening by partner in third or fourth seat. It is initiated by an artificial and forcing 2♣ response by the passed hand to a 1♥ or 1♠ opening by partner. The 2♣ bid shows at least 3-card support for opener's suit with 9 - 12 support points and asks opener to clarify the strength of his opening hand. The convention is also known in Europe as "Toronto". It was developed by Canadian Douglas Drury (1914-1967) and his then playing partner Eric Murray (b 1928) to manage Murray's propensity to open light in third seat.

This edition of The Bridge, as well as many other SABF projects, are made possible in part by the annual sponsorship from



DIARISE
CAPE FESTIVAL of BRIDGE
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THE WCBU BRIDGE CENTRE
GREEN POINT
CAPE TOWN

SATURDAY 15th DECEMBER 2018

ENTRIES ON ALL WEBSITES!

BE THERE!

PETER'S PUZZLE: THE SOLUTION

Although this may go against the grain, you must NOT go up with the ♦A! Simply cover with the jack letting South win with the King! This is vital. No other card will work. By allowing South to win the first diamond you transfer the burden of guarding the diamond suit solely to North. As he also has to guard the spade suit, he will be squeezed later. In any event, your ♦A will provide a spot for your losing club, so instead of losing a club and no diamonds you have a losing diamond but no losing club.

Assume a diamond is continued, North inserting the ♦9 taken by the ace. You lead a low heart to the ♥10, pinning the ♥9. That's both good and bad news - it's nice to have picked up the nine, but it tells you trumps are breaking badly.

Next lead a spade to the jack and run the ♥J

- If South covers, you win with the King
- If South does not cover, you play another heart to pick up the queen
- South may take the ace and exit with the queen - what he plays is irrelevant

You draw the remaining trumps and play a club to dummy, reaching this 5-card position:

♠ K106	♠ Q98		♠ A3
♥ 8	♥		♥ 87
♦	♦ Q6		♦ 87
♣ A	♣		♣ 7
	♠ 5		
	♥		
	♦ 54		
	♣ J8		

Note, although North was wise enough to abandon all of his clubs, relying on his partner to keep a guard, he is still in a precarious position.

You next ruff a diamond

Now when you cash the ace of clubs, North may as well throw his cards on the table.

He cannot part with a spade without giving you an extra spade trick, while if he throws the ♦Q the ♦8 becomes a trick.

Your 11th trick materialises all because you were prepared to give up a diamond at trick 1.

Neat, hey?

THE PRESIDENT'S PUZZLE

Part of the reason I set this puzzle was to prove that although many of us are getting on in years we were still capable of surfing the Net searching for clues and keeping awake long enough to reach the final and correct answer.

As it turns out the winner was Daphne Ryder, one of the youngest players in the Rivonia and Bridge@Orchards clubs. We quickly had to change the first prize from the very latest model in Zimmer frames to a case of fine wine.

Well done Daphne!

James Grant



AROUND THE COUNTRY

Erica Millican writes:

We are hosting a pairs bridge tournament in the picturesque little town of Verkykerskop in the Free State from the 18th - 20th January 2019 and hope you will join us. The town is equidistant from Johannesburg, Durban and Bloemfontein and is a 3 hours' drive from each of these centres.

More details from Erica at birdieabundunet.com

CAPE TOWN SCHOOLS' OPEN DAY AND BRIDGE TEACHING PROGRAMME

Open Day for schools in Cape Town took place on Sunday 2 September in the bowling clubhouse of Western Province Cricket Club.



Learners from the following schools participated: Trafalgar High School, Rustenberg Girls' Junior School, The Grove, Wynberg Girls' High School, False Bay College (Khayelitsha campus) and Sunlands Primary School. There was both a competitive section and a section where learners were taught the rudiments of playing bridge by Simon Stocken, an experienced youth bridge teacher from the UK.

The players in the competitive section used electronic Bridge-Mates and received personal print-outs to take home. Even though it was a competitive situation, which the participants took seriously, they had a very enjoyable afternoon and were well nourished with a delicious tea!



The overall winners were Ashleigh Mingo and Andrea de Kock from Wynberg Girls' High School (*inset left*), who not only won first prize, but also received a donation of R5,000 for their school as a result of their achievement. The runners-up were Emihle Mxoso and Khanyo Ntshweza from Trafalgar High School (*inset right*), while Aaminah Karjieker and Layla Worrall from Rustenberg Junior School were third (*inset below left - with Kitty Cruise and Steve Bunker*). Well done to the winners and all the participants!



It was a very successful afternoon that was efficiently organised, as always, by Kitty Cruise and a band of volunteers.

Under the auspices of the WCBU, Kitty Cruise and Hilary Nick also manage the schools' teaching programme that has been running for a number of years. Bridge teachers are drawn from our bridge playing community who visit the schools on a weekly basis throughout the year to teach students the basics of this wonderful game. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to these teachers: Suzanne Mullord (Wynberg Girls and The Grove), Anthony Abbott (Wynberg Girls, The Grove and Rustenberg), Cecile Marais (Rustenberg), Cary Roberts (Rustenberg), Duncan Keet (Trafalgar), Bettina Fischer (Rustenberg) and Stephen Cruise (The Grove). We look forward to False Bay College coming on board the teaching programme under the tutorship of Sulaiman Samuels. We would also like to thank those on the teaching staff at the above schools who have taken responsibility at their end for ensuring that the weekly bridge teaching programme runs smoothly.

The student participants have made great progress under the guidance of the bridge teachers and there may well be some champion bridge players in the making! (Thanks to Shirley Kaminer for this article. Ed.)

THE BUZZ AT BENONI NORTHERNS

Saturday the 17th November was the date for the Club Pairs Championship, an annual event that has become the most significant date in our club calendar, along with the 6 months long Teams' Championship. Our membership stands at close to 70 regular players at present, and we meet on a Tuesday night and a Thursday afternoon. Our Thursday sessions are regularly 10 to 12 tables, with Tuesdays being somewhat less. We have been trying to recruit new players in our community, with help from our local newspaper, for the past two years and it has been very successful. Beginners are introduced to the game on Monday afternoons, where Lisa Adamson teaches them the basics and slowly brings them into the Thursday afternoon fold, where, with a slightly more relaxed atmosphere, they are encouraged to grow their abilities. We also have an extensive library of all the bridge books, and also encourage reading articles and websites relevant to their development.

We recently entered a team for the Interclub Championship in Durban, where we felt that we had let a number of IMPS slip away but were satisfied with our performance. Our progress as a very relevant

member of the South African Bridge community is something we're proud of and we are always striving to improve the standards of play.

The Pairs Championship was won by Bill Wilkie and Clyde Mallinson, with Hans Lombard and Albert van der Lier second and Roy Hayward and Ian Lowdon third.



Winners Clyde Mallinson and Bill Wilkie (63,07%) flanking Roy Hayward



Roy Hayward (right) with runners-up Hans Lombard and Albert van Lier (56,28%)

We played a ten table Mitchell in the morning, over 27 boards, then an Interwoven Howell in the afternoon, so as to ensure that everyone played everyone. A great day and congratulations to all.
Roy Hayward

THE 2018 INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year's Inter-Club championships were held last month in Durban, with the hosts putting on a great show to welcome clubs from all round the country. The results confirmed the dominance of the Gauteng clubs, which took the top 3 places:

1	JBC	0037 Eber	0309 Bosenberg	0960 Bloom	0327 Nestoridis	24.00	
2	Hillbrow	1767 Grant	6029 Chemaly	2285 Bateman	8168 Fick	20.71	
3	The Links	3235 Kruger	6252 Hingle	4919 Rosslee	8590 Stanton	17.43	
4	Berea Bridge club	7052 Thomas	454 Adrain	544 Nordengen	8765 Armstrong	14.14	
5	2 hearts 1	3767 Burrows	577 Stephenson	3357 Mutch	7638 Barlow	10.86	
6	Keurboom	654 Narunsky	7737 Sulcas	9575 Minwalla	9576 Minwalla	7.57	
7	Orchards 2	5978 Foaden	1562 Kenny	6813 Kennelly	2232 Kennelly	4.29	
8	Orchards 1	6143 Balderson	9365 Gautschi	3027 Hewitt	3035 Crosse	3.66	
9	Benoni Northerns	9539 Mallinson	4214 Wilkie	4024 Bullen-Smith	2328 Van der Wal	3.15	
10	Durban Duplicate	2796 Oliff	1394 Pepper	7168 Chemaly	9353 Chemaly	8418 Rawson	2.64
11	2 Hearts 2	0508 Hulett	7087 Oldacre	7270 Leigh	2048 Ten-Bokum	2.13	
12	Friday Morning	7759 Van Vught	2565 Pienaar	0003 Bernstein	4278 Lang	1.62	
13	Berea 2	624 Sunderjee	7211 Boucher	7192 Knowler	7218 Sperry	1.12	
14	Kloof	9117 Ware	9313 Standen	7483 Mitchell	8775 Hall	0.61	
15	KZN Bridge Club	7086 Frey	7136 Trusler	1792 Honey	7639 Campbell	0.10	



WHEN AND WHY TO OPEN LIGHT IN THIRD SEAT

After partner deals and passes, and your right-hand opponent (RHO) passes, why would it make sense to open light, sitting in third seat? Of course, you would open with all normal (12+ points) hands; that's not the issue here. There are many hands with which you would normally pass in any other position but should open in third seat.

For example, after two passes, you should open 1♠ with:

1. ♠KQT76 ♥4 ♦AJ43 ♣543. Why? Because it makes it harder for your opponents! It is much more difficult for them to find the right contract starting out against a 1♠ opening as opposed to having a free run. Maybe when you open 1♠, your left-hand opponent (LHO) has:
2. ♠A52 ♥K8765 ♦K2 ♣Q62. Perhaps he's vulnerable and scared to risk a 2♥ over-call. Meanwhile, his partner has: ♠83 ♥AQ92 ♦QT976 ♣87. Between them, an easy 3♥ contract, but not so easy for them to get into the auction, or to find their suit and value fits.

Simply put, bidding is much harder when opponents have struck the first blow. Finally, it is usually "safe" to open light in third seat. Your partner is a passed hand. He can't, and shouldn't, bury you! He won't have enough to get your side too high. The use of Drury is also a big aid in putting on the brakes after a light third-seat opener.

When, and with what, should we open light in third-seat? As usual, vulnerability and suit quality play a big role. But not with as few as five points, unless you are pre-empting; probably at least 8 - 9 high-card points.

Here are some examples, you in third seat after two passes:

3. ♠KQT98 ♥2 ♦KJT72 ♣54. Open 1♠. This will make it much harder on your opponents. If you end up defending, you'll probably get a spade lead from partner. This is good. Also, partner, a passed hand, won't get you too high.
4. ♠T7654 ♥AJ6 ♦AJ6 ♣J4. Pass; you don't want your partner to lead spades!
5. ♠KQJT ♥2 ♦876 ♣AT762. Open 1♠; with only four spades?! In third-seat, you can try this space-taking, lead-directing action. What can you lose?

After two passes, you have favourable vulnerability. Now, with:

6. ♠AT654 ♥2 ♦KJ76 ♣JT3. Open 1♠. So what if you end up -50 or -100? Likely it's their hand, so go for it!
7. ♠5 ♥KQJ87 ♦763 ♣762. Open 2♥. Yes, with only five hearts! Partner can't do too much damage and the vulnerability is in your favour. Make it tough for the bad guys!
8. ♠5 ♥KQJ7 ♦J8763 ♣Q62. Open 1♥. Get in their way, get a heart lead and take advantage of the favourable vulnerability!

SUMMARY: when in doubt, open light in third-seat. It makes life much tougher on your opponents. As a responder, be wary when your partner opens in third-seat; trad lightly and go slowly!! *Larry Cohen*

REMEMBERING KJELL FRANTZEN

Contributed by Mrs Freda Frantzen



Frantzen's reputation as a player has remained in the shadows of our more flamboyant experts. However, his brilliant and analytical mind was hugely respected by all who played with and against him.

He was born in Oslo, Norway, one of twin brothers, and spent the first five years of his life in hospital. These health problems came back to haunt him much later in life but by the time he died in 2008 he had lived and married a South African, Margaret Payn, in Canada, emigrated with her and his two children Mark and Tammi, to South Africa, and established himself as a bridge player of note. His beloved Margaret died three years after their arrival in SA, and he brought up the two children by himself, only marrying again once they were grown-up and established.

Bridge playing started accidentally - he was a keen chess player (was Toronto Chess Player of the Year) and one night, after a chess session (still in Canada), he and his friends decided to visit a bridge club and see what it was all about. He fell in love with the game, finding it much more intriguing and sociable than chess. He entered an individual bridge competition and won it, the prize being a pairs competition partnered by the famous Sami Kehela, who complimented him after on his play.

In South Africa, his first successful bridge partnership was with the flamboyant and sociable Raymond Ratton. Once, due to play in a tournament in Bloemfontein, and driving down they stopped to overnight in Bethlehem. Huge mistake - the bars and town closed down at 10pm...

When Raymond died Kjell formed many other successful partnerships - notably with Henry Seligmann, Petra Mansell, Bill Medwin, Arthur Hughes, Frank Meltz, the glamorous and clever Jenny Armstrong, Tommy Thompson, Denise Nordengen and Bart Botje. They all also formed many successful teams partnerships. I remember one SA inter-club teams hand in Thaba Nchu. Kjell and Petra were in the closed room, and Frank and Bart in the open room. The opponents were a Johannesburg ladies' team, and North opened 1 diamond. Frank overcalled 1 spade, S doubled, Bart called 4 spades, which was doubled, and when the dust cleared they were down for 800. Frank had overcalled on five spades to the Queen - and not another point in his hand! Bart had four spades and 11 points - nothing wrong with *his* bid. However, Kjell and Petra called and made a vulnerable slam in diamonds in the other room....

Kjell is probably the only person who survived to tell the tale that he had "fired" Petra Mansell - three times. She was well-known for verbally abusing her partners, and Kjell could only stomach so much!

In 1984, trials were held for a SA team to compete against a visiting UK team which included Jeremy Flint. Kjell and his partner Arthur Hughes qualified top against stiff local competition. Alan Simmonds, who wrote for the SA bridge magazine at the time, derided them, stating that they played "Stone Age Acol". Well, Stone Age it might have been, but it was successful, and Kjell and Arthur were presented with the tailor-made green SA blazers to prove it. Kjell told me it had been quite unnerving to play against the UK team - he said they were seated with tiers rising around the table, as if they were in a boxing ring, lights beamed down on them, and vugraph as well, his first experience of this.

COPD finally took its toll and Kjell died in July 2008. A week earlier he had won a local tournament with his great and long-time friend Denise Nordengen.



David Burnstine

THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE CHEWING-GUM WRAPPER

I'm not certain that this constitutes a serious crime, but it sure looks that way to me!

In the 1934 Men's Pair New York Championship, Ely Culbertson partnered with Ted Lightner against Oswald Jacoby and David Burnstine.

With the tournament outcome resting on the last hand, Lightner risked bidding 6♠. Knowing that Culbertson was always quick to table dummy after the all-important opening lead, Burnstine deliberately paused to get a stick of gum out of his pocket, take it out of the wrapper and chew it for a moment. After a further delay, Burnstine finally threw the paper down on the table - not the lead card but the wrapper! Sure enough, Culbertson tabled the dummy, giving Burnstine a good look before making the killing lead to defeat the contract.

UP AND UP THEY GO!



One of the very neat things we did this year was to give club administrators the ability to upload their results along with master points directly onto the database. The advantage to the players is that they can see them immediately they are uploaded by logging in to the database and more importantly incorrect results and results that simply go missing should be a thing of the past. Below is a list of those players who have been promoted into the National and Regional levels since our last report. Sorry, there are just too many to include all those below Regional level. Congratulations to you all on your achievements!

0482	Tony	Popplestone	National Life Master Gold Life	Impala	IBU, WCBU
0783	Naomi	Solomons	Master National Life	Port Elizabeth Ladies	ECBU
1792	Lindi	Honey	Master	KZNBC	KZNBU
3128	Andrzej	Osinski	Regional Master	Sunshine Coast	ECBU
3673	Cynthia	Rimmer	Regional Master Gold Life	Rivonia Bridge Club	GBU IBU, KZNBU
3767	Graham	Burrows	Master National Life	Durban	
3970	Adre	Wiid Der	Master	Garden Route	SCBU IBU, WCBU
5230	Anton	Kinderen	Grandmaster	Western Cape	
5684	Puck	Juressen	Regional Master	Bidding Box	WCBU
5862	Gloria	Webster	National Master	KZNBC	KZNBU
5976	Val	Smollan	Regional Master	Bridge Centre	WCBU
6594	Marisa	Raffinetti	Regional Master	Garden Route	SCBU
6654	Jyoti	Anandjiwala	Regional Master	Port Elizabeth Ladies	ECBU
6742	Judy	Walsh	National Master	George	SCBU
6863	Rosemary	Tully	National Master	Margate	KZNBU
7212	Oswald	Dittrich	Life Master	Outeniqua	SCBU
7483	Neville	Mitchell	National Master	Mist Belt	KZNBU KZNBU, WCBU
7693	Di	Pain	Regional Master National Life	Durban	
7759	Lex	Van Vught	Master	The Links Bridge Club	GBU, IBU
8269	Ingrid	Krige	Regional Master	Ladies	NGBU

For a complete list of promotions this year go to <http://www.sabf.co.za/promotions/Promotions.pdf>



Let us know what you think of The Bridge and its contents. For example, are the brief explanations of conventions like Drury helpful, even if only to the less experienced players? And the same for the Larry Cohen article on Opening Light in Third Seat, because we have other, similar articles available? Do you like the analysis of hands? Do you want more of those? I have a nice series of bridge-related Crime & Investigation stories; interested or not? I would really like to hear from you at sabre@matrixnet.co.za.

Stephen Rosenberg
Editor, The Bridge

