

Redlands  
Bridge  
Club

# Trumpet

August

I recently asked a director to write an article about directing, you know pros and cons, problems, etc. Below is what I received; it isn't even close to what I asked for—it is so much better, I just love it. The director wishes to remain anonymous, and since I have to protect my confidential source, I will never tell. I hope you enjoy this as much as I did.

## Director Please

Anonymous

“Director please” – a faint little sound  
I stand up and look around  
I search for a hand waving high  
But there is nothing and I give a sigh  
I must be dreaming I think, but then  
There's that plaintive sound again  
“Director please” so I rise from my chair  
And then I see her – over there  
Our boards are wrong on the bridgemate  
We should have boards numbered 5 to 8  
No, we have those, says table three  
And they smile politely up at me  
And soon it's clear as light of day  
Table four has another board to play  
Problem sorted I return to my table  
Concentrate hard, if I'm able  
The opponents are patient, their expressions  
bland  
I stare at a yarborough, a stunning hand.  
Then we are racing to beat the clock  
And it comes to me with another shock  
Morning tea is way overdue  
And thirsty people crave their brew  
I speak in the mic and they all take heed  
Followed by a jostling, laughing stampede.  
Peanut biscuits, or biccies and cheese  
Sustenance for “Director please”.



## IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE

Patricia Back

### Opening and Responding

It has come to my notice that beginners can be confused between the requirements for an opening bid and for a response. To open the bidding with 1 Spade or 1 Heart, you require 5 cards in that suit. To respond to partner's opening bid, you only need a 4-card suit to bid it. In addition, if you happen to be responding to partner's 1 Club, and you have 4 spades and 4 hearts, always bid the hearts first.

After partner's response, the opener must try to describe his hand. The second bid may be a 4-card major. For example, the sequence 1C – 1H – 1S shows 4 spades only, and fewer than 4 hearts. It also reveals a minimum hand. With a better hand, say 17+ points, make a jump bid. Partner should then be able to judge whether to bid game.

## BEGINNER LESSONS –

### Spread the Word

Beginner lessons will start on Wednesday October 1 at 2pm. There are six lessons and each lesson is for two hours at a cost of \$50 which includes two textbooks. The first lesson is free. People who have already completed beginner lessons, and who would like to repeat, are welcome at no charge.

Contact: Deirdre Giles on 0412131172  
or email: gilesodyssey@gmail.com



## The Laws say:

### PENALTY CARDS.....

Penalty Cards are solely the domain of the defenders. Neither declarer nor dummy can ever have a penalty card. Any card exposed by a defender, whether it be accidentally or deliberately, becomes a penalty card, and must remain face up on the table and the director called.

#### **MINOR** Penalty Cards

A card is deemed a Minor Penalty card if the exposure is accidental (as in dropping it out of the hand) and is below the rank of an honour. Minor Penalty cards are considered fairly insignificant. The card must remain face up on the table, the player can treat the card as though it were in his hand, with the only requirement being that he may not play another card of the same suit below the rank of an honour. There are no other restrictions to the play of the card, whether on lead, or in discarding, or in following suit.

#### **MAJOR** Penalty Cards

Any card that is accidentally exposed that is an honour (A, K, Q, J or Ten) or any card that is deliberately exposed (such as when leading or following to a trick), is considered a Major Penalty Card. The possession of a Major Penalty Card carries with it significant limitations on the defence, due to the potential information made available by its exposure and the director must be called so there is no confusion later.

A Major Penalty Card must be played at the first legal opportunity whether in leading, following suit, discarding or trumping by the offender. But should the offender's partner gain the lead whilst the card is faced on the table, declarer has an option of insisting on or prohibiting the lead of that suit, with the prohibition continuing for as long as that player remains on lead. Consequently, when a defender has the lead while his partner has a major penalty card, he may not lead until declarer has stated which of the options he wishes to select.

*Credit to Laurie Kelso from article in ABF bulletin*

## Welcome to our New Members!!

The Redland Bridge Club would like to welcome the following members to our club:

Kay Foreman, Linda Crane,  
Betty Sheekey, Donna Noble, and  
Robyn Kesur

### MENTORING PROGRAM

The mentoring program is up and running. So far the feedback from players who have contacted a mentor has been very positive. The list of mentors is on the bulletin board on the east side of the room (by the competition sign-up sheets). Thank you to our mentors for giving their time and expertise. If anyone has any comments or suggestions, please let Molly know.

### **Mackay team wins "Teams of Three"**

Congratulations to Barbara Mackay (Captain), Michael Souter, John Lang, and Maria van der Kamp on their victory. The day was fun and from feedback very helpful and informative to the players. Thanks to all the team captains and a special acknowledgment to Anne O. for all the time and thought she put into this year's event. Well done all!!!!



### LIBRARY COLUMN

*Bruce Johnman*

There have been quite a few nitty gritty actions going on with the upgrade to the Club's Bridge Library. The most obvious is that it has about 20 titles that it has either purchased, already had, or have been donated that need to be put in the Bridge library shelves.

When I took over the library lead role it was hard to find out what had happened to our past procedures and some of these have had to be reinvented. My priority is to provide proper protection for the books while being customer friendly; I also have some ideas for future implementation.

There have been considerable efforts to work through the details of the stock take, to understand the nature of some of our holdings, including those that require some attention. Clearly I want to move to a situation where we have popular books that meet the needs of people at the various stages of their Bridge career.

I have had a number of conversations with people about the type of books they would like to be purchased and I have developed a suggestion's form which is in the cupboard. Others have said they would be happy to donate books and I would be keen to acquire these.

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## **New Books Purchased for the Library**

Below is a list of new books purchased and a very short summary of the book. The books will be in the library soon, but if anyone is interested in purchasing any books for their personal bridge library, please contact Molly at 3806-5245.

Card Play Technique, The Art of Being Lucky  
by Mollo and Gardener

The chapters alternate between Dummy Play and Defence, covering everything from promotion to grand coups. Players of all levels will benefit from reading (and rereading) this excellent book. If you are going to only have one book in your bridge library this is it.

Why You Lose at Bridge by S. J. Simon

This book describes the major ways that average players achieve less than they should. The book describes common technical errors and how to learn to avoid them. Even though this book was written in 1945 it is still a good read; don't let the first chapter on playing the odds (statistical information) throw you off. I found this book very helpful.

25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know  
by Seagram and Smith

25 Bridge Conventions for ACOL Players  
by Landy, Horton, and Seagram

25 basic conventions and treatments that novice players can easily assimilate into their own methods. Clearly and concisely explained on how to use each one, and how it fits into a standard bidding system or ACOL. Each section ends with a summary chart as well as a self-quiz to ensure that the reader has understood the concepts.

The Language of Bidding by Paul Marston

An easy read for beginning bridge players and highly instructive. It starts with responses and goes on to slam bidding. I highly recommend this book.

Guide to Better Card Play by Ron Klinger

Techniques for declarer and defender. Stresses bread-and-butter techniques rather than fancy moves. Presents the basic principles for improving declarers and defenders, supplemented with a long catalogue of examples, practice deals and quizzes. Klinger can be rather dry in his writing, so you can only read a little at a time. Good information through.

## Upcoming Events

### **September**

**Championship Pairs,**  
Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, red point  
**Redland Graded Pairs Congress,**  
Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>, all day

### **October**

**Spring Graded Pairs**  
Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, red point



### **Director Training Day**

Most suitable for Directors with some practical experience, prior study or as a refresher for those already accredited.

Saturday, 6 September, 9:30am-4:00pm, fee \$8, QCBC. For more info contact Jan Peach (janpeach8@bigpond.com)

### **Shuffle Cards after Play**

I was recently playing and twice I received cards from the previous table that were in order; i.e., they had not been shuffled after play. And, no, the previous table had not been a sit out. QBA and ABF regulations state that the cards must be shuffled once you remove them from the board.

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### Excerpts from A Treasury of Bridge Tips

by Edwin Kantar

Do not open a weak two in one major with four cards in the other major. Never open 2 diamonds with a side four card major.

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

There isn't room at the table for four good hands. If everyone at the table is bidding his/her head off, someone is lying. Let's hope it isn't you!

The greatest show of willpower on earth is not to mention to partner an obvious error. (I fail at this one miserably—Molly)

When you and your partner play a convention, be prepared for interference and decide how to handle it.

One of the great secrets to being a winning bridge player is knowing when to pass.