

Hi All

A couple of weeks ago I was talking to someone and mentioned I thought that last month's *Trumpit* was kind of boring; and, lo and behold, if they didn't agree with me. I found this interesting and amusing on many levels: did they not know I was responsible for it; were they not really listening and just agreeing to get me to go away (which I get a lot); were they just being rude; or were they being brutally honest. Whatever it was, a change is needed; after all I am pretty easily amused, but when I think something is dull and boring (I wrote most of it), well I think that speaks for itself

But--

It is hard to come up with stimulating ways to write about bridge—I mean think about it, if you are having trouble sleeping at night, just grab a bridge book, it's like taking a sleeping pill. I said in my first edition of the *Trumpit* that . . . “My aim for the *Trumpit* is to help keep the members informed of what is going on in your club and, at the same time, increase your knowledge of bridge.” But what I definitely was not trying to do was watch your eyes glaze over as you read my latest creative struggle to “inform and enlighten” you about bridge and the RBC. So what is my point, and I do have a point, even though it is taking me a while to reach it—it is time to spice things up. Haven't figured out how to do it yet; maybe I could get Glenda Lock (aka Victoria K. Black) to write a column.

Molly O

Well done to Pat Back and Barbara Mackay on coming in 10th (N/S) out of 296 in the recent Queensland Wide Pairs. Drinks on them as they received \$50 each.

Upcoming Events

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13
Play commences at 12:30

Red Point Thursday

January 8, 2015

New Year's Graded Pairs

Monday, January 12 & 19

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-- Congratulations --

Ron Khaled, Diane Elliott,
Ros Putland, John Harris and
Leigh Dominikovich
winner of this year's Summer Teams

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Welcome New Members

Jennifer Nicholson, Ian Nicholson,
Shirley Lockhart, Brian Gamble,
Lynda Wealleans, Lynne Fisher,
Constance Leeves, Ian Mackenzie,
Marion Pollock, Rocco Ambrogio,
Cathy Mathieson, Richard Curtis,
Elizabeth (Liz) Engeman, Susie Stevens,
Jim Stevens

Graded Teams Congress

Marianne Ross, convenor

30 teams entered the RBC Graded Teams Congress on December 7th. This was two less teams than last year, but only six entries from our club which was rather disappointing. Chris Snook directed with his usual aplomb and averted any chaos. Half of one team got lost but finally found the way to the Bridge Club much to their partners' relief.

Everyone enjoyed the day and most went home well pleased with their efforts.

Thanks to Anne Ormerod, Margaret Wienk and the enthusiastic band of members who donated food and money, helped with preparing and serving, as well as cleaning up and ensuring that the clubhouse was ready for play on Monday. Your help is much appreciated by players and visitors who look forward to coming to the Redland club to play, socialize and enjoy the food as many visitors commented once again.

Our sincere thanks goes to Redland City Councillor Lance Hewlett who donated the Wine Hampers for two of the Raffle prizes.

Winners were :

A Grade:

1st: B Bolt/ J Kelly/ T Berger/ E Berger

2nd: M Jakes/ J Solomon/ Kamal/ R Parker

B Grade

1st: M Stoneman/ V Roland/ H Reinstra/B

Luchjenbroers

2nd: T Strong/ E Strong/ G Thomas/ K Hewings

C Grade

1st: J Jenkins/ L Norman/ R Steinhardt/ H

Chamberlin

2nd: G Gosney/ M Plunkett/ A Gosney/ C Larter

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Marianne who did a great job convening our largest congress.

What Delights This RBC Players

Recently in the QBA Bulletin, Peter Busch listed habits that annoyed him about bridge players. It was a good article, well worth reading, but I decided to create a list of things that pleased me about the RBC. This list is my list and does not reflect the committee or club. Some of it is a bit tongue in cheek—

- People say hello when they sit down
- The Directors--think about it--no Directors, no bridge or bridge chaos
- When I can hear the players from the table behind me discussing the contract (saves me from having to guess)
- When people realize that Philip has a marshmallow center
- That David Fulcher uses the same fake sugar as me
- Cards are sent to people when they are in need
- Ginger nuts (thanks John Unger)
- When things aren't going well and you get to let off steam by yelling really loud for David E. when he is directing
- When players bid NT and actually have a stopper in the opponent's suit
- Having Keith tell you to go home because there are too many tables or you have messed up his movement
- The many volunteers who help the club to run smoothly and are the cornerstone of the club
- When the notices and brevity go hand-in-hand. There really is something called "information overload"; when you give people too much information they just shut down. I know this to be true—I say "Good Morning" to Philip and that is it for the day--he shuts down
- Long, sharp pencils
- Bridgemates, my bridge toy
- Sticky buns, but then I haven't seen one yet, just hear about them on Saturdays.
- But most of all I like the people and atmosphere at the Redland Bridge Club.



From the Committee

2015 Membership Renewal forms are out and ready for you to collect from the front desk. Please put your form and money in an envelope and give to the director of the day or Ria. If possible please pay with exact change (\$48).

The Monday session will be graded at the discretion of the director numbers permitting. According to the RBC by-laws, “. . . Monday sessions shall comprise two or more sections, one or more open sections, and one section restricted to pairs who each hold fewer than 50 masterpoints.”

The committee requested that members please move graciously if requested by the director.

New bridge books have been ordered and should be here in the next couple of weeks. A short synopsis will be available on these books.

Dealer’s Report from Carradine—A very big thank you to all our dealers—Sue Frampton, Kevin Gilbert, Darryl Lock, Pauline McKay, Irene Mullan and Doug Sands for their commitment and service throughout the year. The committee also recognizes the importance of the work the dealers contribute and would also like to thank Carradine for her time and effort.

Monthly Bridge Convention

Even if you aren’t interested in learning certain conventions it is good to recognize and understand them in order to use the information to your advantage. With that in mind, I plan to briefly touch on a new convention each month.

Doubles:

Penalty Double—you don’t believe your opponents can make their contract.

Takeout Double—your opponent has opened the bidding and you double, asking your partner to bid. You should have 12/13 to 17/18 points, be short in

the opponent’s suit and must be able to tolerate all three unbid suits. “Tolerate” means at least a tripleton.

Negative Doubles—your partner has opened the bidding and a double of your opponents overcall is for takeout showing support for the unbid suits and enough strength to compete. Examples of negative doubles: 1♣ (1♦) X – in this exact auction, the double promises both majors (at least 4-4). With only one 4 card major, the responder simply bids it (promising at least four).

1♣/♦ (1♥) X – the double promises exactly 4 spades. With five or more, the responder bids 1 spade.

Responsive Doubles—for another day

“THE MAN WHO FIGHTS THE BULL”

contributed by Trevor Rayfield



Painting by Miki De Goodaboom

Too often we hear members who criticise (not always constructively), or speculate about, the ability/play of others. Unfair criticism can be a form of ‘one-upmanship’ or even bullying and can adversely affect a person’s confidence and therefore their future playing ability.

Criticism delivered by someone who has your best interests in mind can be helpful. Unfair criticism should be ignored and these critics would do better to read and digest the meaning behind the following Quatrain attributed to Domingo Ortega, a Spanish Matador;

Bullfight critics row on row

Crowd the enormous plaza full

But only one is there who knows

And he is the one who fights the bull

If you feel the criticism is unfair or unwarranted, then keep in mind that you are the one ‘fighting the bull’ but - *distinguish between criticism of your play and criticism of your personality.*

Merry Christmas and Happy New
Year for 2015



From the staff of the
RBC Trumpit