



Vancouver, B.C. Unit

AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE

DECEMBER

THE MATCH POINTER

1972



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EDITORIAL

The responsibility for making this publication a success is yours in general, mine in particular. I cannot succeed without your help. If you have news of other members, let us know too. Let's show that we are prepared to share a moment of joy or sorrow for a fellow member.

We are prepared to publish news from the clubs regarding special upcoming events and to list the winners of these events. To avoid claims of discrimination however, I suggest that each club appoint a representative who will forward a short report for publication. If non is forthcoming, that club's news will be missing and whose fault is that?

Letters to the editor will be welcome. If you have a complaint, an idea, or a query and you think other members will be interested too, then write but keep it short. Don't complain in private about activities of your unit executive. Be fair! Let us know your problem and we'll do what we can to rectify the situation or explain why it exists. If we don't hear from you, we'll assume we're perfect and I can hardly believe that.

If you wish explanations of bidding systems and conventions or you would like to submit articles on these subjects please write. The deadline for all submissions is the second Monday of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue except for short items about members.

Let us make this a forum of opinions, a digest of ideas and a score worth matchpointing.

Bob Brooks.

UNIT EXECUTIVE

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|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| President | Henry Smilie | Bus.: 325-9444 | Res.: 278-1511 |
| Vice-President | Don Fraser | 291-8149 | |
| Tournament Chairman | Sandra Borg | 327-5288 | |
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| Publicity | Jim Andrews | 874-7619 | |
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| Prizes | Hy Waks | 736-6225 | |
| Recording and Corresponding Secretary | Rosamund Brenan | | |
| Members at Large | Paula Zalkowitz and Jim Donaldson | | |
| Matchpointer Editor | Bob Brooks | 273-7009 | |

NEW LIFE MASTERS

Congratulations to our latest life members: Koosvan Lieshout and Jennifer Paynter. They join the top 3% of North American players who hold this rank. (Photographs on front page).

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION - Henry Smilie

International match points, anyone? This year the World Bridge Federation put it's international match point plan into operation. You earn them by placing in an international championship or winning a national championship. In Canada we have had just two national championships - the Olympiad trials at Winnipeg in 1967 and at Ste Agathe in 1971. Earnest attempts are being made to overcome the difficulties involved in having annual championship events in this country. This month Doug Drew presented a plan to the National Board.

CLUB CORNER

NORTH SIDE BRIDGE CLUB

The North Side Bridge Club is holding a one session Club Olympiad Tournament at 3036 Edgemont Boulevard, North Vancouver on Wednesday, December 13th, at 7:45 p.m. Please register in advance by phoning Lily Hills at 987-3733.

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VANCOUVER BRIDGE CLUB

Goren Shield - Swiss Teams. 2 sessions Friday, December 1st and 8th. Sectionally rated membership tournament - Sunday, December 17th at 7:30 p.m. (Players must obtain ACBL Membership).

Christmas Party - Ball & Chain and Open Pairs December 26th at 8:00 p.m. (Open house at 7:00 p.m.)

SQUAMISH BRIDGE CLUB

They now play at the Bola Room (Bowling Alley) on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m.

FIVE CLUBS SHOWS NO ACES OR FOUR

The response of 5 clubs to a Blackwood 4 notrump is used to show no aces or, rarely, all four. There should be no confusion since the previous bidding should indicate the difference. The following example was reported in Japan during 1969.

Since South held all 4 kings and 3 queens he felt that his partner would hold at least 2 aces, perhaps three for his raise to 4 spades so he decided to ask for aces. North, who felt he had already bid too much, decided to deny possession of his solitary ace to dampen his partner's enthusiasm.

To South, his partner's 5 club response left no room for doubt that he held all four aces so he bid the grand slam. It should have occurred to him that an immediate jump to game over an opening bid shows a highly distributional hand with little high card strength but he had already conditioned himself to expect at least two aces. Because he was so convinced, he redoubled gleefully.

West led the ace of hearts which declarer ruffed in dummy. He drew trumps in one round, discarded three diamonds which West had to cover. When the jack of diamonds came down on the next round, dummy's clubs were thrown on the diamonds and thus a redoubled Grand Slam was made, missing three aces.

The hand:

| | | |
|-------|---------------|--------------|
| NORTH | | |
| ♠ | A 9 7 6 5 4 3 | |
| ♥ | — | |
| ♦ | 9 6 2 | |
| ♣ | 5 4 3 | |
| WEST | | EAST |
| ♠ | 8 | ♠ J |
| ♥ | A 5 4 3 | ♥ 10 9 7 6 2 |
| ♦ | A 7 5 4 | ♦ J 3 |
| ♣ | A 10 8 6 | ♣ Q J 9 7 2 |
| SOUTH | | |
| ♠ | K Q 10 2 | |
| ♥ | K Q J 8 | |
| ♦ | K Q 10 8 | |
| ♣ | K | |

The bidding:

| | | | |
|----------|--------|-------|------|
| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
| 1♠ | Pass | 4♠ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5♣ | Pass |
| 7♠ | Double | Pass | Pass |
| Redouble | Pass | Pass | Pass |

SPORTS CELEBRITIES BEAT THE U.S. ACES

It's true, golfer Frank Beard teamed up with baseball players Richie Ashburn, Tim McCarver and Jim Bunning and beat the U.S. aces 4 - 2 at a bridge exhibition held at the ACBL Fall Nationals on November 15th. Of course it might have been a different story if the sports celebrities hadn't been allowed a 15 second look at their partner's hand before the bidding on each hand and an extra 5 second peek when they were on defense.

CUTTHROAT BRIDGE

Earlier this year, whilst in Montreal, your Editor had the opportunity to observe a very exciting version of bridge. It is of great interest to kibitzers, vastly improves one's slam playing skill and provides many opportunities for applying psychology.

There is no cut for partners since the partnership is made AFTER the bidding has closed.

After dealing normally, the bidding starts as usual with the dealer, except that on a player's turn to bid he MUST open with ANY 13 or more HCP. The next player after the opening bidder MUST BID AT LEAST 4 No Trump (unless that level has already been reached) and bidding may carry on from there. The auction closes when a bid is followed by 3 passes; doubling and redoubling takes place later.

The player who makes the final bid is ALWAYS declarer, and after the final pass he nominates one of the other three players as his partner. That player becomes the dummy and moves into the seat opposite declarer. Declarer's partner has the option of rejecting the partnership, in which case he scores with the defenders instead of with the declarer. Either defender may now double, and declarer (or dummy - if he has not rejected) may redouble.

A separate score is kept for each PLAYER, using a 500-point bonus for a vulnerable game and a 300-point bonus for a non-vulnerable game. Only plus scores are recorded, so no entry is made on the score of the one, two, or three players who are on the losing end of a deal. In the final scoring, each player has a reckoning with each other player. Honors are only scored by the player holding them. A player becomes vulnerable in the usual way. Scores are rounded off to the nearest 50.

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When a vulnerable game is made, all players become non-vulnerable. Although the dummy, if he accepts, takes the same game bonus points as declarer, I suggest his vulnerability not be affected if declarer makes the contract.

It is best to circle the score of the vulnerable players as a record of their vulnerability and to draw a line across the score sheet after each rubber.

If a deal is passed out (or following a psyche) the cards are dealt Goulash - - - - each player should arrange his hand with the red and black suits alternating in the order hearts, spades, diamonds, clubs. The four hands are piled together in any order and, after cutting once, dealt out five at a time, then five again, and finally three at a time.

A player may psyche (less than 13 HCP) an opening bid but if declarer picks him as a partner, then he first states whether he wishes to accept or reject declarer's score, but must add, "Do you wish to play opposite a psyche?"

If declarer does not wish to play opposite a psyche, then the psycher loses 300 if he has 4 or more cards in his suit and 600 if he has less than 4 cards in his suit.

If opening in a suit below the 5 level, there must be at least 4 cards in the suit.

If more than 4 people wish to play, then one player (following a rotation) drops out after each HAND.

Table talk is acceptable until declarer picks his partner.

TIPS:

- 1) Usually open 1 NT to avoid giving away information, if you must open.
- 2) Usually pick the opening bidder as your partner.

VARIATION:

One variation called Razzel allows doubles during the auction and requires FOUR passes after the last bid.

No doubles are allowed after declarer has picked his partner in this version, but if one of the defenders had doubled his contract prior to him picking his partner, the double stands. A double may be followed by another double.

ROUNDUP SECTIONAL 1972 - Photographs on front page)

There were 433 tables at this tournament which is a record for a 3 day Sectional in B.C.

Peter Nixon and Mike Strebinger win the award for honesty. It was announced that they won the Masters Pairs and although the records had been removed, they reported a possible mistake on one board. This was checked and they fell to 3rd place.

Each year, the Phil Wood trophy is awarded to the player who wins the most master points at the 4 Vancouver Sectionals. This year it is either Allan Graves or Mike Strebinger who won last year.

WINNERS

- Masters Pairs Harold McAllister & John Anthony
- Open Pairs Mike Strebinger, Burnaby & Joe Jabon, Seattle
- 49ER Pairs Emil Westerland & Bill Farra, Vancouver
- Men's Pairs Jim Dickie & Allan Graves, Vancouver
- Women's Pairs Kay Snow & Marg Cairns, Powell River
- Board-a-Match Mixed Teams Bob & Sigrid Turman, Vancouver
- Nov Ron & Jean Groome, Delta
- Novice Pairs M.R. Smith & A.H. McLaren, Vancouver

Side games were won by the following pairs:

John Barry, Vancouver & Ron McConnell, Richmond; Miriam McLead & Henry Smilie, Vancouver; K.G. Taylor, Kamloops & V. Dowling, North Vancouver; A.J. Dolynski & Jennie Goodman.

TWELVE MONTH SCHEDULE OF MAJOR EVENTS

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| December 3 | Christmas Party | B.C.I.T. |
| December 10 | Inter City Teams | Seattle |
| January 7, 1973 | Unit Game | B.C.I.T. |
| January 19 - 21 | Vancouver Sectional | Blue Boy |
| January 26, 28 | Seattle Sectional | |
| February 4 | Unit Game | B.C.I.T. |
| February 11 | Vancouver K.O. Teams | |
| February 16, 18 | Bellingham Sectional | |
| March 4 | Unit Game | |
| March 16 | Charity Game | |
| March 16, 18 | Tacoma Sectional | |
| March 24, 25 | Grand National Teams | Bellingham |
| March 30, April 1 | Bellevue K.O. | |
| April 1 | Unit Game | |
| April 6 - 8 | Vancouver Sectional | Blue Boy |
| April 13, 15 | Shuswap Sectional | |
| April 17 - 23 | Victoria Regional | |
| April 20, 22 | Easter | |
| May 4, 6 | Tacoma Sectional | |
| May 6 | Unit Game | |
| May 25, 28 | Seattle Sectional | |
| May 13 | B.C.I.T. Masters Pairs | |
| June 3 | Unit Game | |
| June 15, 17 | Prince George Sectional | |
| June 19, 24 | Seattle Regional | |
| July 1 | Unit Game | |
| August 5 | Unit Game | |
| September 2 | Unit Game | |
| October 7 | Unit Game | |

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CLASSIFICATION OF SYSTEMS AND CONVENTIONS

REVISED JULY 20, 1972

CLASS A

(Must be allowed in all ACBL sanctioned events and in affiliated clubs.)

- Blackwood, and conventions to handle interference with Blackwood
- Gerber
- Grand Slam Force
- Stayman 2 Club response to 1 NT
- Lightner Double
- Takeout Double
- Unusual Notrump (by an unpassed hand must be at two-level or higher)
- S.O.S. Redouble
- Direct cue-bid for strong takeout
- 2 club opening, forcing, strong and artificial
- 2 diamond negative response to forcing 2 club opening
- Negative Doubles

CLASS B

(Must be allowed in events with Sectional or higher rating - and in side events at Regional or higher-rated tournaments. It is recommended that tournament committees allow the use of Class B conventions in Open and Master events of lower rating.)

- 4 NT slam conventions
- 4 club slam conventions
- 2 NT over opponent's takeout double as a conventional raise
- Stayman 2 diamond response to 1 NT
- Takeout bids over opponent's pre-empts
- Transfers (Jacoby & Texas): diamonds for hearts; hearts for spades; spades for minors
- Gambling 3 NT (maximum one side stopper)
- Over opponent's 1 NT opening: Landy; 2 clubs for minors, 2 diamonds for majors
- 1 NT response to major forcing
- All defenses against opponents' conventions

CLASS C

(Must be allowed in Regional or higher-rated events. It is recommended that tournament committees allow the use of Class C in Sectional-rated events or side games at Regional or higher-rated tournaments.)

- Asking bids (suit control and trump quality asking)
- Flint
- Jump to 2 NT or 3 NT as forcing raise
- Jump and Double-jump shift to show forcing raise (must clarify)
- Direct cue-bid for light takeout or 2 suit takeout
- Responsive doubles
- Conventional responses and rebids after weak two-bids
- Conventional responses to natural strong two-bids
- Check back or delayed Stayman
- Ripstra
- Astro and variations
- Brozel
- Calls which by agreement reveal a psych
- 1 club opening, forcing, strong and artificial
- 1 diamond negative response to forcing 1 club opening
- Drury

CLASS D

(Must be allowed in events of National rating. It is recommended that tournament committees allow the use of Class D conventions in Open and Master events of Regional rating.)

- Ace asking other than 4 clubs or 4 NT
- Responses to 1 NT: Murray 2 Diamond, August 2 Diamond, 2 Diamonds for minors, 2 NT for minors, Baron 2 NT, Stayman variations, Gladiator
- 2 diamond openings: Roman, Schenken, Precision, Stayman, Mexican, Flannery
- Flannery 2 hearts
- Double of 3 NT for lead of specified suit
- Negative Slam Double
- Opening 2 NT and 4 NT for minors
- 1 NT overcall for takeout
- Balancing 2 clubs for takeout
- Competitive Doubles
- Opening 4 Clubs and 4 Diamonds transfers
- Artificial and step responses to forcing bids
- Herbert responses to takeout doubles and 1 bids
- Roman 2 suit jump overcalls
- Roman 2 Club or 2 Diamond opening (3 suiter) at or near minimum opening
- Impossible negative

CLASS E

(May not be authorized for use in other than extended team play - matches of 16 boards or more.)

- * - Strong artificial 1 Diamond opening bid
- * - Dynamic 1 NT openings
- * - TAM II 2 Diamonds
- * - Two suit non-forcing 2 Club opening
- * - Limit double
- Big Diamond System
- Pro System
- Lea System
- Roman System

* - At 1972 Summer Nationals, permitted in National Championship events only.

Note: a) "Recommended" conventions are permitted in events of the appropriate rating in the absence of specific prohibition by the sponsoring organization.

b) Conventions neither authorized nor recommended for the rating of the event may not be used except with the specific permission of the sponsoring organization.