



NOT NEWS

2001

Editor: Earl Dudley

Production Team: Sue Kelso and Michael Wilkinson

WELCOME

January, 2001 marks the beginning of a new millennium, the centenary of Federation and the twenty seventh time bridge players have gathered in Canberra to compete in Australia's premier event (the NOT was played once in Sydney and once in Melbourne). You will see an old friend, the name Lakeside has reappeared and will bring back lots of cherished memories. My staff is here to ensure that you have a great time playing bridge and socialising. We hope to make your stay in Canberra something very special.

Today sees the opening of the Federation Gallery at the National Archives where documents relating to the founding of Australia can be seen. There are other exhibitions marking the Centenary of Federation open at this time, try "Forging the Nation" at the War Memorial, "Federation - Australian Art and Society 1901 to 2001" featuring 100 Australian works at the National Gallery or "Our Clever Country Gallery" at Questacon.

The web site for the Festival is www.abf.com.au. Here you will find results, bulletins and hand records. Tell your friends who couldn't make it to Canberra to look for your name on this site. They can also get the hand records so you can share your triumphs with them more readily.

The Hyatt, often voted Australia's best hotel, has opened a new function area called the Centenary Ballroom. It is accessed by stairs from the old part of the hotel. This

increase in playing area allowed us to move the South West Pacific Teams from the Convention Centre to the Hyatt. This venue offers free parking in its parking areas but beware!, the red painted curbs in this area mean NO PARKING and this is rigorously enforced by the ACT Government. We have hired a 22 seater bus and a driver to enable you to get more easily from the Hyatt to the Lakeside. The increasing popularity of the Mixed Pairs has put pressure on the space at the Lakeside, so the Flighted Pairs next Saturday evening is being held at the Hyatt.

Due to low entries regrettably I have had to cancel the Bridge Buffs Teams.

Again this year the caddies have been kitted out in yellow polo shirts and the directors in blue jackets to make them more visible. When you need a board please look around for a yellow shirt, call Caddy!! and put your hand up so that the caddies can find you. The directors can also do with help in locating you, so please put up your hand after you have called Director!! The senior tournament directors are Sean Mullamphy at the Rydges and Richard Grenside at the Hyatt.

Has your team has collected your satchels from the hard working Caddies? Along with the satchels you should collect two Summer Festival pens for each team member, they are for your use throughout the Festival. Each event will have its own specially designed score booklet. The booklets will be on your table at the beginning of play, you need to keep

Field Sizes

as of 16th January

	This year	Last year
NWT	80	71
Seniors	74	73
Restricted	27	42

TIMETABLE (initial events)

National Womens Teams

Stage One
Wed 17 - Fri 19 January
at Rydges Hotel Canberra
Qualifying session times:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30

National Seniors Teams

Wed 17 - Fri 19 January
at Hyatt Hotel Canberra
Session times:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30

National 0-149 Teams

Wed 17 - Fri 19 January
at Rydges Hotel Canberra
Session times:
Wed, Thurs 11.00, 3.00, 8.30
Fri 11.00, 3.00

Walk-In Pairs

Wed 17 - Sun 21 January
at Hyatt Hotel Canberra
Session Times for
Wed 17 - Fri 19:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30
Times for Sat 20: 1.30
Times for Sun 21: 1.30, 7.30

Mens Pairs

Friday 19 January
at Hyatt Hotel Canberra
Session times:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30



them for the entire event.

There are dress regulations in the brochure which forbid, amongst other things, bare feet and thongs. Please observe these regulations or else the blue jackets might descend on you.

The bulletin that you are now reading needs your support. When your partner does a brilliant thing at the table, write it up and submit it to one of the editorial staff (if your partner does not notice your brilliancy, then I guess you will just have to write it up yourself). This year there is a Bulletin Office just behind the Festival Secretary's desk at the Rydges so the staff are easy to find when you want to lodge an article. Also the editorial staff have left contribution boxes at both venues, they can accept articles on floppy discs, on paper or by email (notnews@madcow.com.au). The prize for the best brilliancy published is free entry for the author to next year's SW Pacific Teams.

Keeping up the wonderful service, Bridge Buffs provided the partnership service for the Summer Festival this year. My thanks go to Prue Lawford for arranging partnerships for you.

On the Festival Secretaries' desks you will find a Restaurant Guide showing you the culinary delights of Canberra. There is a wide diversity available within easy access of the playing venues. You will probably need some exercise after a week trying them out. My thanks go to Denise McKinnon and Susanita Dudley for organising the Bridge Players Specials and obtaining the information from the Restaurants.

The Hyatt Hotel is putting on a smorgasbord in the Promenade Café throughout the Festival at the enticing price of \$27.00 per head from Sunday to Thursday and \$35.50 per head on Friday & Saturday. The Burley Griffin

RYDGES CANBERRA HOTEL FOOD & DRINK FACILITIES

Most participants at the Summer Festival of Bridge are familiar with this Hotel's food and drink facilities. But for newcomers and people with rusty memories here is some info: -

Ken's Canteen (formerly Mario's Deli)

This is the popular sandwich & fast food service available on the first floor (convention area) throughout the Summer Festival of Bridge.

Some prices on popular items are:

- Assorted salad rolls @\$3.90 each
- Assorted gourmet pies @ \$2.75 each
- Pastie @ \$2.75 each
- Jumbo sausage rolls @ \$2.20 each
- Fruit @ \$1.70 per piece
- Potato crisps @ \$ 1.60 each packet
- Soft drinks/fruit juice @ \$1.75 each
- Coffee or tea from \$1.75 per cup
- Cappuccino @ \$3.00 each
- Cake/Scone/Muffin @ \$1.25 each
- Nuts @ \$2.20 each
- Chocolates @ \$1.70 each
- Biscuits @\$0.25 each

Bobby McGees Restaurant (ground floor)

- Open 7 days from 7 am to 10 pm
- Breakfast is 7 am to 10.30 am
- Lunch special \$9.90 p/p inc. soup, pasta and salads
- Dinner is from 6 pm (special 2 course choice menu @ \$15.50 p/p)

The Burley Griffin Restaurant and Bar

- Located on 15th floor (good views!)
- Bar opens 5 pm and closes when the last diners leave
- Open for dinner during the Festival 6pm to 10pm (opening specially on Sunday the 16th of January because of the Bridge Championships)
- Offers special buffet meals during the Festival @ 19.50 p/p inc. soup, pasta, roasts, salads, fresh fruit, desserts and tea & coffee.

The Lobby Shop

- Open 7 days in morning and evening but has limited hours. (depends on demand)
- If it is closed then the hotel reception desk holds limited stocks of basic items like toothpaste, toothbrushes etc.

Cahoots Bar

- This traditional type bar is open from 4pm til . . . late!
 - There is a piano (which patrons are allowed to play) and also a TV so you can check the cricket scores etc.
- (As you descend the grand staircase turn right, up the steps and then right again).

Bobby McGees Lounge

- A popular disco open from late afternoon until late.

Restaurant at Rydges Lakeside continues with its traditional buffet at \$21.50 per head. Bookings are essential for both restaurants.

I wish all contestants the best of luck over the coming days, may you enjoy the bridge, the friendships and the food.

John Scudder, Convener

ABF ALERT REGULATIONS

The current regulations have been in force since May 1 1998 but with all the chopping and changing over the last ten or so years many of us have lost track of what exactly is required of us.

The current rules run to almost five A4 pages. This may seem intimidating but in our opinion they are concise and well written. If you are serious about bridge – and you're not silly enough to think you've come to Canberra for fun - you should read them. There are copies on the notice boards.

However, we're not silly enough to think that all of you will take our advice. And so we offer the following summary of salient points, with direct quotations from the ABF document in italics.

The essential spirit of the regulations is summed up by this statement from the introduction, especially relevant perhaps in this Olympic year: *It is necessary for all players to understand and practise the principles of full disclosure and active ethics.*

The principle of active ethics encompasses more than a general notion of good sportsmanship, which in many arenas sadly appears to have lost its former power to inspire. Active ethics require that *you should always make sure the opponents know, upon request, as much about your auction (bids, passes or carding signals) as your partner knows, including what you know from the experience of playing with the same partner regularly over a period of time.*

Which calls should you alert? *Any which the opponents may not fully understand or may reasonably misinterpret, even natural bids which by agreement, convey meanings different from, or in addition to the normal meaning ascribed to them.* Obvious examples include negative free bids, fit-showing jumps.

Certain calls in this category are exceptions. These are so-called **Self Alerting Calls**, those that, because they *may have many possible meanings, will usually not be natural – these are doubles, redoubles, cue bids of opponents' suits (including skip cue*

bids) and all calls above 3NT. They must not be alerted.

Skip bids - bids from 2♣ to 3NT that jump one or more levels of the auction - are alertable if conventional – because, for example, they promise a second suit (as in the case of RCO's), or specify quantitative support for partner (as in the case of Bergen or Jacoby raises or fit-showing jumps).

Skip raises of partner's suit are alertable only if the supporting hand may contain fewer than 8HCP. Ordinary Weak Two openings and single-suited skip overcalls are thus not alertable as they are natural. Mini-splinters are alertable, being below 3NT, but 4-level splinters are not, being above.

At the start of a round, players have a responsibility to inform their opponents of:

Basic system, including the minimum suit length and strength of one level openings;

Strength and style of the 1NT opening;

Any unusual two and higher level opening bids.

Alerts are compulsory – *you cannot ask the opponents not to alert* even when you have the opponents' detailed system card in front of you. Alerts are made immediately after partner's alertable call has been completed by audibly saying "Alert" and either circling the written bid or using an alert card. No explanation should be given unless there is an enquiry.

In the case of a player forgetting what partner's alertable call means, the player must still alert, and explain that the meaning has been forgotten. The Director should then be called.

If you fail to alert partner's bid in reasonable time before an opponent bids but make a **late alert**, the director may allow the player to retract the call and substitute a legal call without penalty, provided that his/her partner has not subsequently called, and it is probable that his/her action might be different after the alertable bid's meaning has been explained. Furthermore, and interestingly, *any call retracted in accordance with the*

provisions of this Regulation is authorised information to the partner of the player retracting the call.

If a player fails to ask at his/her turn to call i.e. at the first opportunity, he/she must take care later to avoid giving partner unauthorised information by asking about a specific call, *but should instead request an explanation of the entire auction.*

The declaring side should offer a full explanation of the completed auction, but not the defenders, unless in response to an enquiry, as they may convey unauthorised information. Any explanation should include not only explicit agreements but those *based on partnership experience*; also information such as *distributions and point ranges specifically excluded by a call, as well as those shown directly.*

If there is no partnership agreement as to the meaning of a call, players must say so and not try to offer a possible explanation unless as a result of partnership experience and style players are able to form a cogent view of the likely meaning of an undiscussed call.

In the case of a **failure to alert**, a **mistaken alert** or a **misexplanation** by the declaring side, the Director must by Law be called before the opening lead and a correction made. If the defending side have committed an offence, *no explanation can be given until the end of play* when the Director should be called. This is an area in which the Director will give particular consideration to *whether the principles of active ethics and full disclosure have been adhered to by the players.*

And a warning to those of us who may come to Canberra with a shiny new toolbox packed tight with the latest array of bidding gadgets : *It is implicit in the Laws relating to misinformation that a partnership should know its own system. The Director may impose a penalty upon any pair which consistently displays ignorance of its system and/or specific conventions, and may prohibit such a pair from playing any such system.*



SOME DOS AND DON'TS FOR PLAYERS

by John Scudder, Convener

1. TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE - it is bound to ring just as you are about to make the killing switch in defence. If you must have it on so that you can be contacted during the session, leave it with a Director.
2. Smoking is not permitted anywhere within any venue for the Summer Festival. When you want to smoke you will have to venture outdoors. During the session be wary of the time that will be needed to light up. Due to the new regulations in the ACT there is a large fine for any person found smoking indoors! (except in designated areas, such as the bars).
3. The staff of the two hotels are operating the buses that will transport you to and from the venues. This year they are running on a strict timetable of a bus leaving both the Hyatt and Rydges every ten minutes. Please do not abuse this bus service. I rely on the hotel's goodwill to operate these buses and everyone would be in a mess if this service were withdrawn. With a little bit of planning, you should be able to get to the other venue with plenty of time.
4. If you are skilful enough to win a prize in one of the Walk-Ins, please collect your prize from the Festival Secretary at the Hyatt Hotel. Remember that the Walk-Ins are playing the same boards as the main events so you can compare your scores with the datums published in the Bulletin or with your friends over a leisurely drink in one of the comfortable bars near the venues.
5. The Scoring Room is unable to provide an email service for you. Please do not impose yourself on them as refusal often causes ill-feelings.
6. Greet your opponents when they first come to the table. Friendliness should be the hallmark of tournament bridge.
7. If you are a substitute lodge a substitute's form obtainable from the Registration Desk. No form, no masterpoints.
8. No flyers on the tables - there are carousels and noticeboards for this purpose. See a Caddy if you need help.
9. With the use of circles of six for a set of boards wherever possible in teams events, the board movement should be smooth and the number of Caddy calls limited. You will find that there are two colours of boards in play in each session; these colours alternate between circles. Please do not play a board which is of a different colour to the colour that you have been playing. This ensures that boards do not migrate from one circle to another causing a bank

up of tables wanting the missing board.

10. You should be using the ABF Standard system card for disclosing your system to the opponents. There should be two copies on the table. If you need a blank copy just ask a Caddy.

11. Enjoy yourself, that's an order!

KNOWING THE SCORE

by David Lusk

In the Trans Tasman Round Robin series, Australia A were playing New Zealand and reached 3♦X on the penultimate board. The contract was cold for ten tricks but a miscalculation in defence resulted in declarer being able to claim 12 tricks.

As the non-playing captain began the standard calculation (120 + 500 + 50 + 200 + 200 + 200), the score was instantaneously entered as +1270 by Paul Brayshaw.

He'd obviously been there many times before!!

BRIDGE PLAYER'S SPECIAL

Jean- Pierre at Fringe Benefits is offering a Bridge Player's Special for participants in the Summer Festival of Bridge.

For \$30, you will receive:

a main course or entrée at main size;
a complimentary glass of house wine; and
bread.

A la Carte prices (including GST) are:

entrée \$18.50
main course \$29.50
dessert \$14.00.

Fringe Benefits is located at 54 Marcus Street in the city within walking distance of Rydges (telephone 6247 4042).

PROPOSED BUS SCHEDULE

Wed 17th to Fri 19th Jan

Bus No	Dep Rydges	Arr Hyatt	Dep Hyatt	Arr Rydges
ABF			10:00	10:05
R1	9:55	10:05	10:10	10:15
R2	10:05	10:15	10:20	10:25
ABF	10:15	10:25	10:30	10:35
R1	10:25	10:35	10:40	10:45
R2	10:35	10:45	10:50	10:55
ABF	10:45	10:55		
ABF			13:30	13:35
R1	13:30	13:40	13:50	13:55
ABF	13:50	14:00		
ABF			14:25	14:30
R1	14:25	14:35	14:45	14:50
ABF	14:45	14:55		
ABF			17:30	17:35
R1	17:30	17:40	17:50	17:55
ABF	17:50	18:00		
ABF			19:55	20:00
R1	19:55	20:05	20:15	20:20
ABF	20:15	20:25		
ABF			22:50	22:55
R1	22:50	23:00	23:00	23:05
R2	23:00	23:10	23:10	23:15
ABF	23:10	23:20	23:20	23:25
R1	23:20	23:30	23:30	23:35
R2	23:30	23:40	23:40	23:45
ABF	23:40	23:50		

ABF = Thrifty Bus
 R1 = Rydges Bus
 R2 = Rydges Capital Hill Bus

WARM UP PAIRS RESULTS

North/South	East/West
1. R Bailey, J Stewart	1. C Seymour, B Eriksson
2. C Lanzer, A Paul	2. L Harkness, S Surman
3. J Ham, J Ham	3. S Mendick, R Roworth
4. M Hendriks, A Bolger	4. J Valentine, J Tally
5. G Greenwood, A Tuxworth	5. B Thorp, J Egan

A NOBLE DEFENCE?

by David Lusk

In the Trans Tasman Youth Challenge, the following board resulted in a good pick-up for Australia A.

Brd. 26; Vul EW; Dir N

♠ AJ8 ♥ KT83 ♦ K ♣ AJ972 ♠ KT542 ♥ Q7642 ♦ JT ♣ T	♠ 973 ♥ J5 ♦ 962 ♣ KQ654 ♠ Q6 ♥ A9 ♦ AQ87543 ♣ 83
--	--

The bidding:

N	S
Brayshaw	Dupont
1C	1D
1H	2S ¹
2NT ²	3D
4NT	5S
5NT	6D
6NT	

1. Fourth suit forcing to game
2. Stopper in spades but not necessarily showing extra values.

East led the K♣ which took West's ten and declarer followed with the nine. On any switch, North has a number of excellent squeeze possibilities and will in fact crunch West in the major suits on the run of the diamonds. In practice, East continued clubs sparing West any pain.

PS. Paul assured me there was pain on the hand. The West defender took a long time to follow to the second lead of diamonds suggesting that the diamonds were breaking badly. No doubt he was steeling himself for the avalanche of diamonds that was about to follow. And yes – winning the A♣ at trick 1 and setting up the club suit might have been a good idea.

A TWO-WAY DOUBLE?

by John Maddison

Nil Vul; Dealer E
South hand:

♠AQ73
♥AK97
♦J32
♣Q6

I had the dubious pleasure of watching a lot of youth bridge over the weekend. Sure I've participated in a few unconventional auctions as a player with dubious justifications but I don't think I've ever had the chance to just sit back and learn.

First a bidding problem. RHO opens 2♥ (♥+minor, weak). As I kibitzed I thought 2NT (my preference) or X were reasonable actions. I didn't find South's pass though! As it turned out this worked out very well since LHO bid 4♥ and partner found 4♠ all by himself!

Now I have an excellent fit and heart controls (although I know partner is short, possibly void). With my unbid 16 count maybe slam is possible – perhaps I can bid 4NT now or even an ambiguous 5♠. Once again South outdid me by finding 5♥ (described behind the screen as cue or forcing). Partner bid 5♠.

Did South wish he'd bid 4NT now? However, once again things went well because the weak 2♥ bidder doubled (the *Two-way Double* – see Afterword)!!

Now I can redouble and be thankful my expert clever subterfuge had been rewarded. South however found a conservative pass and 5♠X made with an overtrick – picking up lots of imps. Who am I to argue with success?

The full hand:

♠ K98654
♥ ---
♦ AT5
♣ K984

♠ T
♥ 8652
♦ KQ764
♣ JT2

♠ J2
♥ QJT43
♦ 98
♣ A753

♠ AQ73
♥ AK97
♦ J32
♣ Q6

The auction:

East	South	West	North
2♥	P!	4♥	4♠
P	5♥!	P	5♠
X!	P!	P	P

Result

5♠X making 12 +750

The Afterword

The hand analysis in the post-mortem was also interesting.

West: "Why did you double?"

East: "Well if you have a good hand when you bid 4♥ then it's not making and if you've got a bad hand then the double will keep them out of 6"

West : "Should I have sacrificed in 6♥?"

At this point I left the table pondering whether South would find AK then a small heart for 1700!

The one certainty about Youth Bridge is that it is interesting and there are lots of discussion points.

<p>TABLE TALLY</p> <p>as of midnight 16/1/01</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">28</p>
--

Summer Festival of Bridge

Wednesday
17th January
2001

**Bobby McGees
Restaurant**
(at Rydges)

Lunch Menu

\$10.80 Per Person

*Chef's Daily Selection of
Soups, Salads
& Bread*

Dinner Menu

\$17.50 Per Person

*Roast Loin of Beef with
Horseradish Gravy
Served with Mash Potato, Fresh
Steamed Vegetables
And Breadrolls*

Or

*Grilled Sea Perch Fillets with
Hollandaise Sauce
Served with Mash Potato, Fresh
Steamed Vegetables
And Breadrolls*

**Bookings
Essential**

COLUMN 8 (NOT)

Column 8 has become a popular feature of NOT News over the past few years and will be included again this year. I have no idea why it is called Column 8 but I'm sure there must be a reason.

It is an opportunity for all participants in the Summer Festival to contribute a funny story about something that happened at the table. It can be simply an odd witty remark. You may also want to contribute a good news story. Perhaps, one of your opponents went out of his or her way to display an ethical approach at the bridge table.

Five years ago, there was no Column 8 but the following story from the NOT News featuring Liz Havas is worth repeating and would have been automatic inclusion.

Last Year in Darwin

Whilst playing in Stage 3 of the Butler Pairs Liz Havas had developed a firm working relationship with one of the organisers. Ivy Dahler had volunteered that anytime Liz needed to leave the room for a much needed cigarette then Ivy would be happy to play dummy. On one occasion, however, she had just made the street when Ivy came racing after her. Although nobody minded her going for a smoke. They had to send Ivy after her because Liz had put her cards in her top pocket and there was no dummy for Ivy to play.

This year in Canberra (1996)

Playing in the semi-finals of the Womens' Teams, Liz had re-established her relationship with Ivy and was continuing to enjoy nicotine breaks. This time, however, when she left the table she had to be called back, not for dummy's cards but to play the hand. This time she'd forgotten she was declarer!!



The following story comes from Felicity Beale as related by Julia Hoffman. At the start of a weekend Congress, the director was having a tough time reducing the noise to a tolerable level. Despite this, the bidding at Felicity's table had commenced and her left hand opponent opened 1♦. The general rowdiness continued and the poor harassed director instructed that no play was to commence until a semblance of order was restored. Eventually, the noise abated and the bidding was restarted. This time Felicity's left hand opponent opened 1♥. What a neat way to show a two-suited hand!

WHERE TO PUT YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE 2001 NOT NEWS

You can either email us at notnews@madcow.com.au or leave your articles or comments in the NOT NEWS boxes at either venue.

Feel free to contact us at any time, you can call us on **62573965**.

The NOT NEWS will be posted daily on the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.abf.com.au/>