



NOT NEWS

2002

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MIXING BEER AND THE LAW

By Ed Barnes

In case you've missed the various youth players at this year's congress, or you've slept through any such encounters - the 7 of diamonds is a sacred card. It is the Beer Card. Win the last trick of your making contract with it and partner owes you a beer. Said beer becomes doubled and re-doubled with respect to the contract. This much is given. How the beer laws intersect with The 1997 Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge largely evades official and public discussion and thus leaves young drinkers without clear guidance. For example, when you claim at trick 7, is "the last trick" the last trick you would have played or the one just quitted? The following hand left me with no choice but to lean on a combination of both fields of law:

SWPT Session 11

Board 5

Vul: NS

Dlr: N

♠T85

♥8762

♦T4

♣KJT4

Pard

♠AJ92

♥Q95

♦A75

♣965

Me

♠43

♥KJT3

♦K983

♣A87

♠KQ76

♥A4

♦QJ62

♣Q32

N E S W

P 1NT X P*

P XX All Pass

* forces re-double (SWINE)

NOT RESULTS

Semi Finals

Team Name	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	Total
COURTNEY	52	66	44	—	162
NEILL	5	17	34	—	56
BRAITHWAITE	66	34	32	—	132
OTVOSI	19	21	32	—	72

Both matches concluded with a concession after 48 boards

Finalists

Courtney Team:

Michael Courtney, Peter Gill, Jill Courtney, Tania Lloyd

Braithwaite Team:

Andy Braithwaite, Alan Turner, Lionel Wright, Gunnar Hallberg, Mike Cornell, Richard Jedrychowsky

AUSTRALIAN MIXED TEAMS

(59 teams)

1st	PRESCOTT (Prescott, Bilski, Simpson, Neumann, Knott)	188
2nd	LEACH (Leach, Gold, Ebery, Gold)	182
3rd	PARROTT (Parrott, Parrott, Colmer, Clarke)	182
4th	DE LIVERA (de Livera, Williams, Deaton, Norman)	181
5th	FINIKIOTIS (Finikiotis, Gallasch, Hocking, Lange, Fanos)	179
6th	NIXON (Nixon, Hurley, Snashall, Snashall)	177
7th	WANNOP (Wannop, McLeod, Newton, Molloy, Fung)	176
8th	WATTS (Watts, Moir, Lyons, Shtein, Chosid)	175
9th	WESTON (Weston, Harkness, Harkness, Lindsay)	174
10th	BOURKE (Bourke, de Livera, Sherman, Urbach, Willcox, Scudder)	171

South led ♠6 to the ♠9 and ♠10 and North switched to a club. I took the second round of clubs and led a heart to the Q, then back to the ♥K taken by South. North now scored her two high clubs and exited with the ♦10. On the fourth round of clubs I had thrown a spade from dummy and, somewhat impetuously, a small diamond from hand. **I had blocked a redoubled Beer Card!** My partner's face lifted as his terror became mine. As mentioned, however, Beer Card law is nascent and it's relation to acknowledged bridge law is fuzzier still. This fact, I hoped would carry me to the pub. I won

the ♦K and ran the hearts, squeezing South in diamonds and spades. The compliant chap discarded his diamonds. I would like to break from conventional bridge reporting at this stage and show the post- rather than pre-squeeze position:

(Uninteresting)

<p><i>(Out of Pocket)</i></p> <p>♠A ♥ ♦A7 ♣</p>	<p><i>(Thirsty)</i></p> <p>♠3 ♥ ♦98 ♣</p>
<p><i>(Just been squeezed)</i></p> <p>♠KQ ♥ ♦Q ♣</p>	

I crossed to dummy's ♦A and cashed the ♠A. Doing so, I recollected Law 62 D (Revoke on Trick 12), and I quoted: On the twelfth trick, a revoke, even if established, must be corrected if discovered before all four hands have been returned to the board.

In other words, there is no penalty for revoking at trick twelve. Thus I tossed my irksome diamond under the ♠A, announced that dummy was good, and swiftly returned my cards to the board. Cheers!

FINAL TABLE TALLY

6655

THURSDAY THE RABBI PLAYED BRIDGE

By Ron Klinger

"Rabbi, do you not find life is a great riddle?"

"Not at all, David," replied the Rabbi. "There are two great rules in life, one general and the other particular. The first is that everyone can, ultimately, get what he wants if only he tries hard enough. This is the general rule. The particular rule is that every individual is more or less an exception to the general rule."

The Rabbi picked up his cards, smiled inwardly at what he saw and shortly reached a slam.

Dir: N			
W	N	E	S
Rabbi	Sam	Eric	David
	P	1♥	P
4NT	P	5♦	P
6NT	All Pass		

North led the ♠5 and this is what the Rabbi saw:

WEST	EAST
♠ Q92	♠ AK3
♥ K95	♥ Q7642
♦ AK3	♦ J8
♣ AQJ8	♣ K95

The Rabbi was slightly disappointed with the quality of partner's hearts. With only nine tricks on top, something good needed to happen in hearts. The Rabbi won with the ♠Q and led ♥5: ♥J: ♥Q: ♥3. "So far, so good," thought the Rabbi. He led a low heart from dummy, ♥8 from South, and the Rabbi inserted the ♥9 from hand. There was good news and bad news when North discarded the ♦4.

"That gives me 11 tricks but how can I come to 12?" wondered the Rabbi.

This was the complete deal:

<p>♠T7654 ♥J ♦754 ♣T632</p>	<p>♠AK3 ♥Q7642 ♦J8 ♣K95</p>
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<p>♠J8 ♥AT83 ♦QT962 ♣74</p>	
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"The only way to come to an extra trick is to hope South can be squeezed in the red suits," thought the Rabbi as he started cashing his black winners. On the clubs, South could spare two diamonds, but this was the ending after the Rabbi had played a second spade.

<p>♠T76 ♥ ♦75 ♣</p>	<p>♠A ♥76 ♦J8 ♣</p>
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<p>♠ ♥AT ♦QT9 ♣</p>	
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The Rabbi led the ♠A from dummy and South was in trouble. If he let a diamond go, all the Rabbi's diamonds would be winners, so he threw the ♥10. The Rabbi now led a heart, establishing a heart winner in dummy. When South led the ♦9, the Rabbi ducked and tabled his cards. "Game, slam and rubber, I believe. Pass me the calculator please."

"Why did you throw a diamond, partner?" said David.

"From 7-5-4, you want me to keep every card? Could I think such rubbish could be of use?"

"I now understand the general and the particular. The general rule is that everyone can beat the Rabbi if you try hard enough. The particular rule is that every one of us is more or less an exception to the general rule."

(The above hand was played in precisely the above manner by Les Longhurst of Sydney who played 6NT from the West seat.)