

COMMERCIAL ALBURY BRIDGE CLUB

MAY, 2019 NEWSLETTER

I thought it appropriate to mention the celebration of Edna Bramley's 100th Birthday with her friends on the 5th April at Friday's Supervised Play when she was guest of honour and had the pleasure of cutting her magnificent birthday cake, which was a great hit and very much enjoyed by all. The Border Mail was in attendance and many will have seen the article which went in the paper the following day. I think there is a copy of the article on the Notice Board for those who missed it in the paper.



The next matter of importance is the near arrival of winter and the problem of coughs and colds. Members who are suffering such ailments are requested to refrain from coming along to Bridge whilst they are unwell to avoid spreading any bugs etc.



EASTER PAIRS

Sixteen Pairs played in this recently held event and the winners and top place-getters are congratulated on their fine results and are listed below.

1. Richard Harman and John Friesen
2. Harry Van Der Veeke and Bob Brown
3. Jenny Stevens and Pat Maginnity
4. Noreen Grant and Gerry Voll
5. David Brown and Sue Miller



NATIONWIDE PAIRS

The date for this month's NWP is Wednesday, 22nd May.

70% CLUB

Two clever partnerships this month - Di Barrow and Mark Rosenow with 72.68% on Monday 22nd April, followed by Noreen Grant and Pat Maginnity with 72.30% on Wednesday 24th April. Congratulations on your great results.

ASKING QUESTIONS

Recently it was brought to my attention that I asked questions regarding the bidding during the auction when it was not considered appropriate, so I have asked Richard to put pen to paper and clarify this for any other offenders. Richard said he is more than happy to answer any questions regarding the article should any members desire further explanation.

Alert (not alarmed!) – a quick guide to asking about Opponent's bidding

Bids are **alertable** if they don't show the suit bid and/or might have an unexpected or unusual meaning, **but** some bids are **self-alerting!** Self-alerting bids are: bids higher than 3NT; all doubles & redoubles; Cue Bids; 2C Response to a 1NT. A **self-alerting bid** means that it might not be natural & also, **shouldn't be alerted!**



Partner of the Bidder has an obligation to answer Questions about the bidding, if the questions are made in an appropriate manner. Whenever a question is asked about the bidding, it gives Information to Partner and Opponent's. If you are asking about Opponent's bidding, this may be **Unauthorised Information (UI)** that your Partner is unable to act upon. All regular Partnerships should have a completed System Card available for perusal as this is less likely to give **UI**, compared to a question.

Any Player can ask about the Opponent's bidding during the Auction (only when it's your turn to call), but there are caveats! It is a good rule of thumb to **only ask** if the answer may affect your upcoming bid or play. This is the same if it is an alerted, self-alerting, or non-alerted bid.

You can always ask at the end of the Auction, when you are on lead, or after Partner has made the opening lead (before it is faced). Then, you can ask "can you tell me what Partner has shown?" "please explain the bidding/auction?" "can I review the bidding with an explanation?" or a similar type of question, ie. Not asking about a specific Bid!

If you are going to ask about a Bid during the Auction, be careful! Even if the bid is alerted, it doesn't give you *carte blanche* to ask any type of question. The question should be simple and not leading – eg. "what does the bid show?", "why the alert?". Don't ask questions like

“does this show Clubs?” “Is this a real suit?” as this is usually **UI**. Even if the Opponent’s don’t like the question, or the way that it is asked, they are obliged to answer (if the person has the right to ask) OR call the Director! Also, if you ask a closed question, they are only obliged to give you a yes/no answer. Eg, after a 2D alerted bid “Is that a Multi?” They only have to say Yes or No; they don’t have to give an explanation.

Please ask Richard if you would like any further clarification – below is an excerpt from Bridge Law:

Any extraneous information from partner that might suggest a call or play is unauthorised. This includes remarks, questions, replies to questions, unexpected alerts or failures to alert, unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism.

BIRTHDAYS

Members with birthdays this month include Bill Spears, Liz Blair, Jenny Stevens, Linda Parsisson, Wendy Paton, Pat Adams, Lesley Norman and Judy Grigg, with both Jenny and Judy celebrating significant milestones. President Ann and the Committee extend very best wishes to you all and trust you will celebrate your special day in style with family and friends.

