



## Taieri Bridge Club: April 2015

Issue no. 189

### 1 From the Championship Pairs

This month's Championship Pairs produced a number of interesting hands. Take Board 3 for example:

Board 3	♠ QJ986	
South dealer	♥ 98	
EW vul	♦ K2	
	♣ K432	
♠ 4		♠ 32
♥ 5432	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           N W     E S         </div>	♥ KJT7
♦ J865		♦ AT943
♣ T876		♣ J5
	♠ AKT75	
	♥ AQ6	
	♦ Q7	
	♣ AQ9	

Some pairs played in the successful contract of 6♠. Looking at all four hands it is easy to see that the obvious line (playing for the ♥K to be finessable) gives 12 tricks. However, if you (South say) were playing this you should be considering whether the contract can be made when the ♥K is off-side.

Let's assume that the opponents do not take their ♦A at trick one. Of course you begin by drawing trumps and there are now two ways you could succeed. First suppose that East holds ♦A. In that case you can try taking two or three clubs ending in dummy and then lead a diamond towards your Queen. Will

East rise with the Ace? Probably not; in that case you could hope that clubs were 3-3 and discard your remaining diamond on the long club.

And what if West holds the ♦A? This time you again take 3 rounds of clubs but ending in dummy. Now you play a diamond towards the King. Will West rise with the Ace? He may not – in which case you play a second diamond and this endplays West who now has to lead a heart or give you a ruff and discard if he is out of clubs.

Can you tell which of these lines to try. There may be a way! Play a couple of extra rounds of trumps – one of the opponents may signal that they have the ♦A.

As you will have noted neither of those rather remote possibilities occurs! But declarer can only be a hero on some hands.

Board 23 was an interesting double-dummy deal (double-dummy is when the declarer and the defenders are allowed to play as though they could see all the hands).

Board 23  
 South dealer  
 Both vul

♠ AK62  
 ♥ AK9872  
 ♦ 75  
 ♣ 9

♠ JT87543  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ Q86  
 ♣ AK

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q  
 ♥ JT6  
 ♦ T932  
 ♣ QT872

♠ 9  
 ♥ Q53  
 ♦ AKJ4  
 ♣ J6543

The question is: how to make 6♥ by West after North leads the top two clubs. Well, of course you begin by ruffing the second club. Then comes a finesse in diamonds. After that you play a heart towards your hand intending to play the ♥9 if South plays low. After that you can afford to ruff the second round of trumps with the Queen and all will now be well. If South doesn't play low you win, play a spade, play another spade and ruff with the Queen, and now finesse in trumps again.

In practice I have to admit that you wouldn't play like that in real life!

## 2 Club news and comments

**Missing trophies** Members may remember that some trophies are missing – a silver salver and a rosebowl. Can you please make a special effort to check again before the club goes to the expense of replacing them.

**Tournaments** We were pleased with the participation at our last Open B Tournament - well done to all those that played a hand in making this a success. Don't forget that we have the Otago Hospice Charity Tournament coming up on 17th May. The Club is looking to members for support with raffle items plus any items suitable for sandwich fillings

**Handicaps** Keep a look out for a schedule of proposed handicaps on the noticeboard. Any objections to the handicaps should be passed on to committee members. Handicaps generally only apply to some Monday night games and one series on a Saturday.

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