



Taieri Bridge Club: August 2013

Issue no. 171

1 From the Championship Pairs

The July Championship Pairs Wednesday game had some cracking hands. If you had bid all the slams and made them you would have done very well. Possibly that was the reason that Bob Gillanders and Alec Weavers achieved their magnificent score of 71%. But let's begin with a hand where no-one bid to slam.

Board 13	♠ J65	
North dealer	♥ 3	
Both vul	♦ AT5432	
	♣ A64	
♠ T873		♠ Q94
♥ 642		♥ KQJ985
♦ K9		♦ 6
♣ Q732		♣ T98
	♠ AK2	
	♥ AT7	
	♦ QJ87	
	♣ KJ5	

Here is a plausible auction:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	2♥	Dbl
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East will lead the ♥K and with the trump finesse working there are 11 top tricks. A twelfth might come from a success-

ful club finesse and declarer should try that first. When it fails things look somewhat bleak, so what should be done? There is a slim chance that the ♠Q might fall doubleton (only possible on the bidding if East holds it). But, if East does hold the ♠Q, there is a better line (and I don't really see any other chance). Declarer should play off the top clubs and one top spade; then all the trumps should be played leading to this end position:

	♠ J6	
	♥ —	
	♦ 2	
	♣ ,	
♠ T8		♠ Q9
♥ 6		♥ K
♦ —		♦ —
♣		♣
	♠ K2	
	♥ T	
	♦ —	
	♣	

East is now squeezed on the last diamond.

Another interesting slam hand (here one pair did bid it) was

Board 15
South dealer
NS vul

♠A
♥AQ98
♦K9
♣QJ9763

♠T6
♥T53
♦QT764
♣T42

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠84
♥K7642
♦J85
♣AK5

♠KQJ97532
♥J
♦A32
♣8

Here a possible auction is

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

After West has reversed to show a good hand, East takes charge with Ace-asking and bids the slam in spades. The slam is cold but a bit of technique is required. If South leads a top club and switches to a trump declarer has just enough entries to ruff out the clubs. If South leads a trump initially the clubs can no longer be established and declarer must revert to a hair-raising heart finesse. Of course, if the defense fails to lead trumps, the best plan is to play to ruff a diamond with the A♠.

2 Presidential news and comments

Directing The pool of people who can direct at the bridge club is very limited. Obviously having a director is pivotal to

being able to play bridge. If you have ever considered learning to direct, we would appreciate it, if you could make yourself known to Judy Robertson. Many people find the rule book intimidating and to help with this we have a few simplified notes which explain the rulings on the most common infringements. To complement this we will also run small training sessions to help with, practise and enable discussions and reviews. This is your club, please help with ensuring its continued success: we desperately need more directors.

Flag 500 We are holding this on Sunday 11th of August at 1.30pm. The rules are very simple. You need to bring four people as your team. You start with a reserve of flags and the other teams try to capture one of your flags. What happens is one person from your team goes to another table, and a person from another team replaces them. The visiting person deals four hands of 500. The organisers draw the suit as trumps (or No Trumps) and then you try to keep the visiting person from making tricks. If they make 4 tricks they take a small flag and 8 tricks and they take a big flag. The winning team is the team with the most flags. It was tons of fun last year if you want to add some more fun to your Sunday please join us.

Charity Cancer Tournament Sunday 18th of August. 1:30 is our annual fund raiser for the Cancer society. As always the more people the better result for the charity. Please help us raise funds for this very worth while cause.

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