



Taieri Bridge Club: July 2015

Issue no. 192

1 A point tournament

Our annual A point tournament on 14 June saw 24 pairs in competition. The winners were Sheehy mother and son, Frances and John. A couple of hands particularly took my fancy. In the morning set there was

Board 17	♠ JT54	
North dealer	♥ 754	
None vul	♦ Q3	
	♣ AQ76	
♠ KQ		♠ A9862
♥ AJT98		♥ Q63
♦ 972		♦ T
♣ K42		♣ T983
	♠ 73	
	♥ K2	
	♦ AKJ8654	
	♣ J5	

For reasons that don't matter here the final contract was 3♠ by West. Not surprisingly South led his two top diamonds and declarer ruffed the second (noting the fall of North's ♦Q). This was a rare time he was in his hand so he took the opportunity to finesse in hearts. The ♥Q was covered by the ♥K and won with the ♥A. Now came two top spades from dummy, next a diamond ruff (North discarding), and then the ♠A (learning that North now had a winning spade). But declarer now just played

on hearts. North could ruff in whenever she wanted but would then have to concede the lead to dummy's ♣K. Of course an initial club lead defeats the contract demonstrating yet again how influential the opening lead can be.

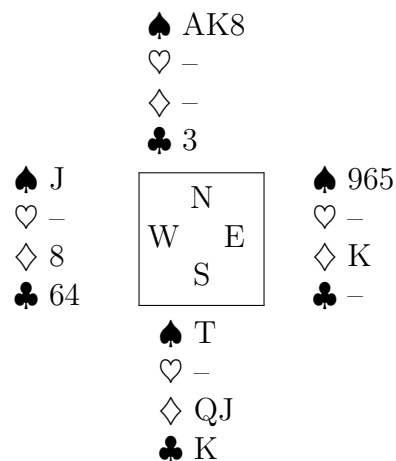
The afternoon set had another interesting hand where the opening lead was critical.

Board 2	♠ AK82	
East dealer	♥ AQ96	
NS vul	♦ A	
	♣ QJT3	
♠ J7		♠ 96543
♥ K43		♥ 875
♦ 865		♦ KT932
♣ A9764		♣ void
	♠ QT	
	♥ JT2	
	♦ QJ74	
	♣ K852	

The contract was 3NT by South and West decided to lead her fourth best club. As we shall now see the only lead to prevent declarer making 12 tricks was a diamond (since when West comes in with A♣ a diamond can be led to her partner's K♦). However, here is what now happened. Declarer won the Q♣ and played clubs again.

In practice West took the A♣ and only then played a diamond. Declarer won performe in dummy and played a spade to

the Q♠. Now came ♥J for the winning heart finesse and four rounds of hearts. Next declarer played two winning clubs ending in his hand. When the last club was played this was the position:



West was squeezed into either unguarding spades or discarding the K♦. There are some other variations depending on when or whether West ever wins A♣ but they are complex. If only West had led a diamond initially!

2 Club news and comments

Tournaments Please support out two tournaments coming up.

The first one is an Open B Grade Tournament on 1st Au-

gust and the second one is the Cancer Charity Tournament on the 16th August. Raffle items will be required for the Charity Tournament. We are also looking for member help with the Open B Tournament to help for 1 hour in the morning with morning tea and one hour in the afternoon. If you could see your way to helping one or both please contact Val Wilson.

New members Welcome to new members Denise Tetlow and Val Wright. Should you wish to play with them on a Monday night their phone numbers are Denise (489 6699) and Val (027 237 6021) plus don't forget the new members from latest lessons Annette (489 5733) and Olga (489 6444). It would be great to make these new members welcome.

Recruitment Talking about numbers it is of note that we only have 89 home club members and 36 secondary club members. These numbers have been slowly dwindling so we must all make sure we look after each other and encourage each other to keep coming and enjoying the social side plus the challenge of playing duplicate bridge.

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