



Taieri Bridge Club: September 2015

Issue no. 194

1 Cancer Charity Tournament

Our Cancer Charity Tournament on 16 August was very successful, raising just over \$1000. The committee thanks all helpers and donors. We had 19 tables and the top pair was Paul Hudson/Jen Macartney with Donna/Ruwhiu/Wyn Jones and Kevin Farnden/Kaye Wilson neck and neck as runners-up. Here are two hands:

Board 2	♠ 9	
East dealer	♥ KQJT875	
NS vul	♦ 76	
	♣ T83	
♠ A5		♠ Q84
♥ 9732		♥ A
♦ AK3		♦ QJT9852
♣ AKQ2		♣ 96
	♠ KJT7632	
	♥ 4	
	♦ 4	
	♣ J754	

Only 4 tables reached a small slam (in diamonds or no trumps). This would be a good hand for a convention called 'Minorwood'. Here a leap to 4♣ or 4♦ sets the trump suit and asks for key cards. The responses are as in Roman key card Blackwood. A possible auction is

West	North	East	South
2NT	p	4♦(1)	p
4♠(2)	p	6♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

(1) Minorwood

(2) 0 or 3 key cards (obviously 3) using the 1430 method

Of course North may very well overcall in hearts. If North chooses 3♥ then 4♦ would still be Minorwood. If North is bolder and bids 4♥ then surely East can punt 6♦.

In any case there is a more interesting point in the play. If you had climbed to 7NT or 7♦ what should you do? Much the best chance is a black suit squeeze against South. Play off your major suit Aces and the ♣A and run all your diamonds. On the last diamond the position is

	♠ any	
	♥ any	
	♦ any	
	♣ any	
♠ 5		♠ Q8
♥ void		♥ void
♦ void		♦ 2
♣ KQ2		♣ 9
	♠ K	
	♥ void	
	♦ void	
	♣ J75	

South has to unguard clubs or discard ♠K; all declarer has to do is watch those two suits.

An easier slam to bid was:

Board 4	♠ J9654	
West dealer	♥ AKQ	
Both vul	♦ 4	
	♣ AKQ7	
♠ 83		♠ T7
♥ J963		♥ 854
♦ AQ		♦ KJT953
♣ T8632		♣ 95
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	
	♠ AKQ2	
	♥ T72	
	♦ 8762	
	♣ J4	

The bidding might start in good old-fashioned Acol style with North opening 1♠ and South raising to 3♠. At that point North's hand looks very good indeed. So wheel out Roman key card Blackwood and discover partner has two key cards and the trump queen. The play is completely straightforward with 12 tricks on top.

2 Bridge movements - addendum

One member has pointed out an important advantage of Howell movements, especially for a small number of tables: they result in a fairer disposition of pairs who have byes.

3 Club news and comments

AGM The AGM is coming up on Sunday 1st November. Please think seriously about helping out as we are looking for a new President, Secretary as well as someone to be the newsletter editor. General committee members would be welcome too!!

Our Bar license We are looking out for someone who currently holds or would be happy to hold a Liquor Controllers Qualification. A course would need to be attended. This is a prerequisite for holding a Bar license. We have 1 month's reprieve currently and if we can't find a solution then we will no longer be able to offer alcohol at our bridge club. Please see Val if you can help out here or would like more information.

Mike Atkinson

profmda@gmail.com