

BRIDGE IN THE CITY NEWSLETTER

www.bridgeinthecity.net.au

Key Card Blackwood

How would your partnership bid this pair of hands from the Canberra Summer Festival?

♠ KJ5		♠ AT2
♥ AKQT74		♥ J32
♦ T9		♦ AKQ32
♣ A9		♣ K4

West, the dealer, opens 1H, East replies 2D, and West rebids 3H.

Such a hand is perfect for Key Card Blackwood, where the trump King of the agreed suit becomes the fifth Ace, responses being:

5C = 0 or 3

5D = 1 or 4

5H = 2, without the trump queen

5S = 2, with the trump queen.

After partner's response of 5C or 5D a bid of the nearest non-trump suit asks for the trump Queen – without it you sign off in the agreed suit, with it you show the number of outside kings, first non trump step = 0, 2nd = 1, etc.

So, on the above hand should go

1H - 2D

3H - 4NT

5C* - 5D

5NT** -

* must be 3 after the previous 3H rebid

** trump queen and an outside King

East can now count six heart tricks, three diamond tricks, two spades and two clubs, total thirteen tricks, so can bid a confident 7NT!

It's surprising how many Canberra pairs fell by the wayside, with nearly half the field missing this one.

Money Matters

Your subscriptions are now due, \$30 for full members and \$10 for associates, and can be paid into the following bank account:

Account name: Bridge in the City, Bsb 805050, account number 102725070

Please make sure that your name, and the purpose of the payment, are stated.

I'm also trying to establish a prepayment scheme, along the lines of what happens at Unley and State events. To do this you pay cash, eftpos, or into the above, and your table fees will be deducted each time you play. All vouchers purchased last year will be honoured.

Ruling the Game.

The Rules are much more common sense than they once were, with the emphasis now being on getting everything back to normal, rather than punishing the guilty. It can happen, therefore, that some of the Rulings that players attempt to make at their own tables are outdated, indeed sometimes quite wrong.

Remember, the director is there to help the game run smoothly, and should be called whenever there is an infraction. The correct way to do this is to announce to the table that the Director should be called and then do so. He or she will then come to your table, ask what has happened, and make whatever Ruling is necessary.

However, he or she may become slightly irritable if there has been an opening lead out of turn, since there are five, repeat five, options that have to be given to declarer:

1. Play the hand on that lead.
2. Get partner to play the hand on that lead.
3. Correct person to lead, barring that suit – lead card is picked up.
4. Ask for that suit, lead card is picked up.
5. Lead any suit, card stays on the table as a penalty card, to be played at the first legal opportunity.

How do you avoid this? The correct protocol is to **lead face down**, giving partner the opportunity to ask questions about the auction without embarrassment and, when finished, turn your card over, dummy comes down, and play begins.

Finally, a quick ruling – you can't double or redouble your partner, no matter how little confidence you have in them. It's an illegal call, and should be replaced with a proper call, while partner is now barred from the rest of the auction. (Some years ago at Unley a player bid 2C as an overcall, partner doubled her for takeout, she played in 2CX, making with an overtrick!)

The New Website

The new website is up and running, and can be visited at www.bridgeinthecity.net.au
Note the .net, rather than com.

Incorporation

The public meeting to discuss the formation of Bridge in the City Inc., will be held during the afternoon break on Friday 10th February. The minutes of the meeting will then be taken to the appropriate State govt department, so that the new incorporated body can be registered. The election of officers will take place at a later date, however early nominations for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer will be gratefully received.

Player Listing

I have been asked to provide a listing of players and their phone numbers. This will then be available during each session to all club members. If you don't want your details shown, please let me know.