

Central Coast
Leagues Club Limited
BRIDGE CLUB



29 February 1988

Fellow Bridge Players,

I would like you to know that this club was represented at the biggest bridge event on the calendar - the National Teams held at the Lakeside International Hotel in Canberra. Dorothy MacLean, Adele Mills, Peter Berzins and John White played in the Open Teams (won by a team from New Zealand) and were the top qualifiers from the Country Teams. Congratulations to them for finishing fortieth overall of the one hundred and seventy-two teams competing. Adele and Dorothy also played with Henny Geerligs and Irma Heyting in the Women's Teams and finished fourteenth out of fifty-eight teams.

From time to time Jack Hammer plays bridge with us during the Thursday He's a rather noisy participant and the Director has absolutely no control over him at any time. I hope that the other players will tolerate his interferences because big improvements (hopefully for us as well as others) will result. The Leagues Club has again approved a budget which is very generous to us. They are happy to do this but I feel that we must do our bit and continue to improve our club at all levels. As part of this generosity, the dinner after the AGM is free to the first eighty Leagues Club members. All visitors will be charged \$17 plus drinks. Four bus trips to one day bridge congresses have also been approved - fuller details in the next newsletter. The Leagues pay 75% of the cost of each trip - it's a nice thought that you can go to a Congress, be driven there and back and enjoy those après-Congress drinks to the full.

Please give some earnest thought to the Annual General Meeting. Thursday player representation on the Committee would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Bill Thomson,
Vice-President and Publicity Officer.

COMMITTEE CAPERS.

At our last Committee meeting (10/2/88) the following matters were discussed

- our budget for 1988 was approved with some cuts but we are thankful for what we did get
- the Club will be represented in the Sydney Interclub League this year
- beginners lessons will start at the club in the first week of March with a large number of students

PROPRIETIES AND ETHICS.

The following incident occurred to me recently at our club. I relate it as a "cautionary tale" - this has probably happened to you sometime or other. I was sitting North and the following bidding sequence occurred :

| | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|---|-----|-------------------------------|
| N | E | S | W | * | Alerted by North |
| 1S | P | 2C | P | ** | Explained to E as Fourth suit |
| 2D | P | 2H* | P | | Forcing - ie not necessarily |
| 2S | P** | 3NT | P | | a heart suit |
| P *** // | | | | *** | Q1 - what does 2S show? |
| | | | | | Q2 - How many spades does the |
| | | | | | 2S rebid show - 6? |

E then doubled the contract, and guess what? - W led a spade!

As readers no doubt realise it doesn't really matter whether E realised that the questions as such were not ethical or even if W had a natural spade lead - the point is that the questions were asked and W was left in very little doubt of what the lead should be. No attempt was made by E to read our system card which was on the table. As I was also the Director of the event I was in a rather awkward position - should I call a director and quote para 7.6 of our

Club's Tournament Regulations "...questions designed simply to alert a "sleeping partner" will not be allowed" and para 7.8 "In framing questions special care must be exercised to avoid pointing to one particular bid which could induce a call or a lead based solely on the question"? If a player feels that questions need to be asked, then the onus is on that player to ensure that the question, is, in fact, genuine and not a partner waking/lead directing question. If you wish to ask questions and you are in any doubt as to the propriety of the question then the ethical thing to do is to ask your partner to leave the table before asking the question(s). This happened at Great Lakes Congress in the Teams where one of our opponents (Ross Folkard from Parramatta) felt that he needed more information when defending a contract at our table. He waited until his partner had led to the first trick and dummy had been laid on the table and then asked his partner to leave. He then obtained the information he required, his partner returned and play continued. As far as all players at the table were concerned this was a perfectly normal occurrence.

If the opposition start asking questions that you consider to be pointed then you should call the Director. In fact I let the matter go - which I should not have done. Believe me, the next time it happens I won't - but of course I shall have to wait until the end of the play of the hand if I am dummy!! CM.

WINNERS CIRCLE

| MONDAY | THURSDAY |
|--|--|
| | 7/1 J Lloyd & M Purkiss A Mills & M Hobbs |
| 11/1 C McKellar & W Thomson (New Years Cup) | 14/1 M Matulis & D Syphers P Roche & W Thomson |
| 18/1 M Houtman & J Williams | 21/1 J Holcroft & L Mills T Owen & H Kasius |
| 25/1 D MacLean & J White | 28/1 A Mills & Z Overhall P Roche & W Thomson |
| 1/2 P Berzins & C Mitchell | 4/2 M Sellick & F Gauntlett P Roche & W Thomson |
| 8/2 Z Overhall & G Winder | 11/2 M Purkiss & J Lloyd H Kasius & T Owen |

CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP 1987.

This event was held on 15 & 22 February 1988 - a little late for 1987 but forced upon us by circumstances. Nine teams entered and each team played an eight board match against every other team. This meant that we finished a little after eleven each night but nobody appeared to be upset by this. The reason for playing eight board matches is that sessional masterpoints are awarded on the result of each match rather than on each teams position at the end of each session - thus rewarding players who may win only one or two matches. The final positions were

| | Wins | VPs | % |
|--|------|-----|------|
| 1. A Mills, D MacLean, P Berzins, J White | 7 | 169 | 84.5 |
| 2. J & C Mitchell, L & .R Harkness | 5 | 148 | 74.0 |
| 3. A Luckham, R Harvey, P & D Coats | 4 | 146 | 73.0 |
| 4. z Overhall, G Winder, M Houtman, J Williams | 4 | 130 | 65.0 |
| 5. J Hopkinson, E Kerr, P Roche, C Amundsen | 4 | 105 | 52.5 |
| 6. H Harvey, P Rosser, R Etherington, G Clarke | 2 | 98 | 49.0 |
| 7. M Hobbs, G Sarkozy, T & G Chan | 2 | 95 | 47.5 |
| 8. C McKellar, W Thomson, A Alexander, J Bording | 2 | 90 | 45.0 |
| 9. B Keehan, P Stroud, C & L Swan | 2 | 90 | 45.0 |