

MAYFIELD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER No. 58 JULY 2013

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on 16th April 2013, and 44 members were present. Keith Jackson retired as Chairman and the following Committee was elected: Adrian Patrick (Chairman), Helen Seymour (Secretary), Peter Cogliatti (Treasurer), Roger Morton (Captain), Alan Bailey, Tim Cook, Cindy Gregory, Pam Jardine, Roger Sugden, Philip Tilbrook and Martin Trowse.

Bernard Pike was asked to present the Club Trophies.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

AGM

The Treasurer reported a deficit of £1009 over the year ending 31 March 2013 so that the net assets stood at £9,164. Table money was down by 8-10% and the annual rent was about to increase by £1,000. Therefore, it was agreed to increase table money to £3 and discontinue weekly prize vouchers.

Three items were discussed under Any Other Business:

Duplimate – The club had been using duplimate hands for 18 months. To date, these had been bought in at a cost of £900 per annum. A clear majority of members voted to buy our own Duplimate system at a cost of £2,700. This purchase has taken place and we have smoothly transitioned from sub-contract to producing our own hands.

Bridgemate – The club had previously trialled Bridgemate machines and most members were familiar with their use at other clubs as well as Surrey and National events. Although some members had reservations concerning the introduction of Bridgemates at the club, the majority voted to buy a system including 20 hand-held terminals at a cost of £3,000. This purchase has taken place and the use of Bridgemates introduced on both Tuesday and Friday evenings. There have been some initial technical difficulties in deploying the Bridgemates but these have been solved as we gain familiarity with their use. I believe their introduction is now generally accepted and approved.

Pro-Am Event – Attendance and, therefore, the assumed popularity of the Pro-Am had declined in recent years. However, members voted to persevere with this event and the committee would renew efforts to encourage senior players to participate.

Table Etiquette

In this newsletter last year, members were reminded of the main elements of Best Behaviour at Bridge. Over the last year, these principles have generally been adhered to with the occasional oversight. Good behaviour is important to us, as a club, as we strive to attract visitors and new members:

- ☺ greet others to your table and be a good host
- ☺ do not be impolite, openly criticise others and do not argue with the Director's ruling

If you have any problems or concerns at the table, please call the Director immediately rather than “reserve your rights”. Remember that it is the responsibility of each player to have a fully completed convention card and one member of each pair should complete a scorecard (just in case!). If the Director is called when your bidding is questioned and you have an incomplete or ambiguous convention card, you will be at an automatic and immediate disadvantage.

Other Issues

On more than one occasion, this year, members have been reminded that it is their individual responsibility to wash up their cup at the end of the evening. Some people forget this and it is unfair to expect others, normally the same minority, to do your washing up. Amid the excitement of finding that you have won the session, despite the limitations of your partner! please try and do your duty – tidy up and wash up!

The heating of the hall has continued to be an issue, particularly as the cold weather seemed to go on for ever! Pam Jardine will continue to liaise with St. John’s Hall over this and we hope to see an improved situation in the Autumn.

If you have any problems or questions relating to the website or scoring issues, please address these to Roger Sugden who will do his best to help you.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – to end of year

Liz Phillips and Committee Cups – Tuesday 23rd July. The ranking determining the split between these two events will be decided on the night in order to even out the number of pairs in each. Please enter your names on the entry sheet on the board so that the Director can plan the split beforehand.

Pick-Up Teams – Tuesday 30th July

Surrey Club Pairs Challenge – Tuesday 20th August. This is a normal duplicate pairs session but any pair winning masterpoints is eligible to play in the SCBA Club Pairs Challenge Final held on Saturday 12th October 2013 at the Farnham Memorial Hall.

Surrey Simultaneous Pairs (for the SCBA Dorin Salver)– Tuesday 17th September.

Pro-Am Night – Tuesday 15th October. The ranking between Pro and Am will be determined by members’ National Grading System (NGS) Grade. Again please enter your names on the entry list to help the Director(s) make the split.

Swiss Pairs Open Competition – Tuesday 29th October. This is a repeat of last year’s event. It will be open to non-members, and we are aiming for 15-20 tables. The event is being organised by a subcommittee under the leadership of Alan Bailey and, as we hope that we may attract some potential new members of the right standard, it is proposed to offer cash prizes. **Any offers or ideas for sponsorship would be most welcome.** We are aiming for a 7.15 start playing 5 x 5-board rounds. Entries will open in early September with priority given to MDBC members.

No Bridge – Friday 22nd November (Art Exhibition), Tuesday 24th December, Tuesday 31st December. Bridge as usual – Friday 27th December.

Party Night – Tuesday 11 December: cocktails 6.30pm, bridge 7.15pm

CAPTAIN'S REPORT 2012/13

Congratulations to all of the following who have been successful since the 2013 Annual General Meeting Report in April.

MAYFIELD CUP WINNERS

Mixed Pairs	Peter Lee & Liz Phillips
Dorothy Williamson*	Ulla Adilz, Kerstin Tompsett, Pam Jardine and Joan Cullen
Ladies Pairs	Audrey Kolbe & Ulla Adilz
Men's Pairs	Sean O'Neill & Peter Lee

*The handicapping of the Dorothy Williamson was heavier than in previous years. Handicaps were based on players' NGS grade and a formula recommended by the EBU. We will continue to monitor the EBU's recommendation and review our handicapping methods for future events.

SUCSESSES IN SURREY

2013

Surrey League Div 1	1st	Hinden (Peter Lee)
Surrey League Div 1	2nd	Ian Swanson
Surrey Golf & Bridge	4th	Tim Cook & Roger Morton
Friendly Teams	3rd	Ulla Adilz, Pam Jardine, Rosemary Lyttle, Kerstin Tompsett
Victor Ludorum Current Standing	2nd	Peter Lee

PLAYERS REPRESENTING THE MAYFIELD

The Mayfield pair for the Mary Edwards came 18th from 24 and our Wanborough Cup team came 12th from 16 teams. Better Luck next year!

In the Nicko (national clubs knockout), Mayfield A (Captain Peter Lee) got to round 5

I am not aware of other significant results by Mayfield members, though apologies if I have missed some.

Bridge Hand

For those interested in bridge puzzles, here's a hand for you observed on BBO.

As South you are dealt an unusual hand at teams (game all). Your RHO opens 5C; you decide to bid 6C*; partner bids 6D and you bid 6H, passed out.

LHO leads the Jack of clubs and partner puts down a suitable dummy – and probably expects you to make this contract!

North	South
♠ 9 5	♠ A K 8 7 4 2
♥ Q 8 5 4	♥ A K 9 7 6 2
♦ Q 5 3 2	♦ J
♣ Q 10 4	♣ Void

With the high pre-empt on your right, the hearts may well be 3/0 and the spades 4/1
 How do you plan to play this contract?

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RHO's shape was 1, 0, 3, 9 and, if you play a small club from dummy, he will play the Club King to prevent you pitching your diamond so as to set up a later entry to hand to draw the last trump after establishing spades via two ruffs.

Therefore, the winning line is to play a small club from table to test the defence. Assuming RHO plays the Club King (best), ruff small; now cross to the heart Queen getting the bad news of the 3/0 split; play the Queen of Clubs (forcing RHO to cover) and ruff with the Ace of trumps! You then cross to dummy by ruffing the 3rd round of spades, and pitch your losing diamond on the 10 of clubs.

Now LHO makes one heart only.

Quite a neat little solution - most people seem to have a block about ruffing with the A of trumps.

Thinking!

I am sure it is true to say that everyone thinks at the bridge table. Declarer's thoughts on seeing dummy might range from 'where's the hand that partner held during the bidding?' to downright murder at the other end of the scale, yet the most successful players seem to have the ability to think clearly and simply about each new hand in isolation and to maintain the same level of concentration over a full session, however long it might be.

Mike Lawrence's excellent book – How to Read Your Opponents' Cards – contains many examples of wonderfully clear thinking that is within everyone's capabilities. Here is a sample:-

<p>♠ A53 ♥ A962 ♦ J643 ♣ Q6</p> <p>♠ J82 ♥ KJ1053 ♦ AK10 ♣ 102</p>	<p>Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening lead ♠6</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♠	Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
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Believe it or not, it is possible now to place all the missing honour cards.

The opening lead gives all the information that declarer needs. With KQ of spades, West would lead the King, therefore he does not have both. Similarly, had West held AK of clubs, the ♣ Ace would have offered a more attractive lead, therefore he does not have both. It follows that East has a high honour in both black suits and yet he passed as responder! It seems reasonable to assume that East holds <6HCP, therefore his high cards can only be ♠ Queen and the ♣ King. The red Queens and the ♣ Jack must be with West. Finesse in hearts but play to drop the ♦ Queen doubleton. Ten tricks via 1 spade, 5 hearts and 4 diamonds. Easy game!

<p> ♠ A53 ♥ A962 ♦ J643 ♣ Q6 ♠ K10764 ♠ Q9 ♥ Q84 ♥ 7 ♦ Q7 ♦ 9852 ♣ AJ5 ♣ K98743 ♠ J82 ♥ KJ1053 ♦ AK10 ♣ 102 </p>	<p> Dealer West : All vulnerable West North East South 1♠ Pass Pass 2♥ Pass 3♥ Pass 4♥ All Pass Opening lead ♠6 </p>
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