

WALES FINISH RUNNERS- UP IN THE CAMROSE

Wales followed up their win against Scotland in the first match with a 33 - 57 VP defeat away to England and a narrow 46 - 44 VP victory against Northern Ireland at Cardiff. This left the final table looking like this:-

England	163
Wales	127
Scotland	124
N. Ireland	109

This is Wales best result for many years in what is believed to be the 50th year of the Camrose Series.

The team which represented Wales in both the above mentioned matches was

Peter Goodman & Filip Kurbalija
Jim Luck & Mike Hirst
Adrian Thomas & Patrick Jourdain
N.P.C. Gary Martin

I'll tell you what's interesting

S: K 10 2
H: A J 2
D: Q 3 2
C: A 10 3 2

N	
W	E
S	

S: A Q 3
H: 5 4
D: 9 8 7
C: K 9 8 7 4

The rule of restricted choice

As declarer you often have to judge which of two holdings a defender is more likely to have played from. If it doesn't matter which card he plays, you should assume that he has no choice of play rather than that he has exercised a choice with equal cards.

On the deal opposite, South arrives in 3NT. The opponents cash the first four Diamond tricks and switch to a Heart. You rise with the Ace and then lay down the Ace of Clubs. West drops the Queen. What should you do?

You have two choices:-

- (i) Play for Clubs to be 2-2 or
- (ii) Finesse East for J 6 5

The application of the rule, requires the finesse.
By Filip Kurbalija



NEWSLETTE R

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Editorial:

Thank you for all the compliments you have paid on the new-style Newsletter. It seems that this is what you have wanted all along to be informed and entertained at the same time.

However, despite this enthusiasm, to date I have only received a few articles from you the people that count, so start sending in your letters, articles, stories, etc. for the next issue which will be out early July.

One of the main topics discussed at the recent Executive committee meeting was the continued need for discovery and development of young bridge players. Please make every effort to further this aim as the future of Welsh Bridge depends on this.

Some good news to come out of the same meeting was that the master-point ranking lists in the next WBU Journal will be printed in much larger print. It appears that the membership has been requesting this for some time and your persistence has finally paid off.

What else do you want changed? Start writing those letters now instead of complaining privately.

Gary Martin

National Tournament Organiser's Report

The Executive Council have requested that the finals of the Welsh Cup and Cambria Cup (due around April/May) be played at a public venue to allow spectators to watch the matches. I will provide details to anyone who is interested in watching when the venues have been arranged between the teams.

The minimum number of pairs for heats of the National Pairs events has been increased to 6, with the exception of the Mens and Ladies Pairs for which the minimum remains at 4. Clubs are not obliged to run a separate movement for the pairs not competing in the event, but are strongly encouraged to do so. In future, no pair finishing in the bottom half of an Area Final will be allowed to act as a substitute pair for the National Final.

There will be a minor change in the age qualifications for the Veteran Pairs event from next year. Details will appear in the annual journal for next season.

There have been complaints from some players about the playing conditions at the Mens Teams and Ladies Welsh Cup events. If anyone knows of a suitable venue in Central Wales which will accommodate at least 50 tables, can they please let me have details.

Competition Round-up

The national knockout events are reaching their final stages. Here are the latest results.

Welsh Cup - Quarter-finals

- J.Patrick beat G. Martin (by 2imps)
- A. Haworth beat S. Webster
- D. Owen v J. O' Sullivan
- A. Pierce beat P. Hand

Congratulations to Joe Patrick (Seal, Dando & Roxburgh) and his team who put out the highly fancied team of Martin, Jourdain, Hardie, Kurbalija & Goodman.

Cambria Cup - Semi-finals

- A. Casey beat Mrs. G. Jones
- G. Martin beat E. Atkinson (by just 10 pts.)

NATIONAL RESULTS

WBU Simultaneous Pairs

- 1. Mrs. L. Woodruff & P. Cunningham
- 2. J. Wells & Mrs. M. Peterson

WBU Fitch Pairs (Married couples)

- 1. Mr & Mrs H. Trew (Swansea).
- 2. Mr & Mrs R. Griffin (Swansea)

Portland Pairs (Welsh heat)

- 1. R. Brock & Mrs. S. Horton
- 2. P. Goodman & Mrs. J. Casey

Graded Masters Pairs

Section

- 1. A. Zaman & P. Jourdain
- 2. D. Birt & S. Richards
- 3. P. Gagne & Mrs. D. Harris
- 4. A. Disley & R. Charlesworth
- 5. J. Henson & G. Tinkler
- 6. B. Saunders & B. Saunders

Forthcoming Events

- Mar 20-21 Mens/Ladies Pairs Final (Mid)
- Mar 27-28 Lady Milne Trial
- Apr 1-4 Llangollen Congress
- Apr 17-18 Open Pairs Final (Swansea B.C.)
- May 8-9 Webber Cup Final (Porthcawl)
- May 15-16 Mixed Pairs Final (East)
- May 22-23 Perry Shield/Spickett Bowl/AGM
- Jun 4-6 Tenby Congress/Lady Milne (Scot)
- Jun 13 Teams of 8 Final
- Jun 19-20 Camrose Trial I
- Jun 25-27 Swansea Congress
- Jul 3-4 Swiss Pairs (Bangor)

NORTHERN AREA RESULTS

Open Pairs

- 1. S. Edwards & P. Garner-Gray
- 2. S. Murray-Williams & Mrs. M. Banks

Ladies Pairs

- 1. M. Warburton & M. Randles
- 2. E. Williams & M. Banks

Mens Pairs

- 1. J. Poole & G. Burnett
- 2. O. I. Owen & F. Moyses

Mixed Pairs

- 1. P. Nickson & Mrs. D. Knight

Valence Cup

- 1. Mrs. C. Williams

WESTERN AREA RESULTS

Ossie Evans Cup

- (Area Mixed Pairs Championship)
- 1. M. Moore & G. Lloyd-Lewis
- 2. F. & A. Hyatt

National Open Pairs

- (Area Final)
- 1. G. Martin & D. M. Hardie
- 2. S. & V. Kennewell

National Mixed Pairs

- (Area Final)
- 1. Mrs. D. Kurbalija & A. Ratcliff
- 2. Mrs. M. Morris & W. G. Turner

MID WALES AREA RESULTS

J. V. Davies Cup

- (Area Individual Competition)
- 1. John Thomas

Evan Jones Salver

- (Area Pairs Championship)
- 1. Paul Allsop & Dewi Jones

EAST WALES CONGRESS RESULTS

The Congress held in Cwmbran achieved a record entry of 80 teams, and over 400 competitors during the three-day event.

Championship Pairs

- 1. A. Haworth & K. Pratt
- 2. R. Charlesworth & A. Disley

Mens Pairs

- 1. T. Reddy & P. Felman

Womens Pairs

- 1. J. Chimes & D. Harris

Novice Pairs

- 1. K. Travers & M. Ashe (On split-tie)
- 2. Mrs. K. Edwards & L. Kendrick

Consolation Pairs

- 1. J. O' Sullivan & J. Thomas

Swiss Teams

- 1. M. & A. Pierce, J. Luck, M. Dennison
- 2. J. Glubb, G. Needham, T. Reddy, P. Felman

Pivot Teams

- 1. R. Glass, M. Pope, J. Flowerdew, A. Bolton

BITS & PIECES

BRIDGEND BRIDGE CLUB

Bridgend Bridge Club has a new Secretary. She is Betty Collier of 9 Cheltenham Terrace, Bridgend, CF31 3AH.

JUNIOR BRIDGE CAMP

The British Bridge League Junior Camp will be held at Aston University, Birmingham from August 1 - 8th. The camp is open to players who are between 14 and 24 years of age inclusive.

UNDER 25's FESTIVAL

A Bridge Festival for under-25's will be held at Aston University on August 7/8th.

SCHOOLS CUP FINAL

This will be held at Aston University on July 31st/ August 1st.

**A WEEKEND IN WALES...OR...
CRISIS-Y-CYMRU**

By Jim Fletcher (Swansea B.C.)

I wrote this in 1988 and on re-reading it, I thought it might amuse you to join me on a trip down Memory Lane.

Three friends from London joined me to play in the TENBY CONGRESS, during the few days of summer that year.

It turned out to be a great weekend, good weather, good food, good company. Even the bridge wasn't too bad, so there were many worse ways to spend one's leisure time.

The bridge venue is excellent, if a little cramped, with the main playing room literally overhanging the sea at high tide and a golden beach otherwise.

We very nearly won the Pairs and we very nearly won the teams, but you don't get the "Pot" with very nearly. Derrick Kime and I did win the Mens Pairs and what a hoot that turned out to be. By round five we got ourselves a sincere commendation from the tournament director for actually getting through two boards without demanding his attendance. It wasn't ALL our fault, really.....honestly!

Here's but one example, this is in round 3. I pick up

- S. A K x
- H. A J 10 x x x
- D. K' x
- C. x x

and I hear Derrick open 1S. Naturally I contribute 2H.....3H says Derrick. Well I'm not in a hurry so, 3S..... 4S says Derrick. (What a wally thinks I, can't he recognise an advance cue-bid when he sees one.....what to do now?.... Minor suit bids are out, so is old Black.... 5H would be confusing and he might pass for the wrong reasons.....Why couldn't he try a minor suit Ace to keep things open?... he must have one.....mustn't he?... Oh what the hell, go for it! 6S).



RHO starts off with the CK, small from dummy, LHO fumbles with his cards and drops the DA on the table, then produces a stunned look and a small Club. Derrick wins with the CA and leads a spade to the A, then cashes the SK on which LHO thoughtfully discards a small club.

"No, no, no", says Derrick "The DA is a penalty card please discard that." Well, these guys know the rules, so he does, leaving a small club in its place.

Derrick leads a third trump, RHO wins with SQ and tries to cash the master CQ.

"No, no, no", says Derrick "Your partner has a penalty card on the table and I prohibit a club lead." Well they think this is more than flesh and blood can stand. "Rules is rules", maybe, but to be taken for a ride by the bloody Saxons is something up with which they will not put! So the director is called. Firstly we all get bawled out for not calling him at the first infraction, then following some comment about this, supposedly being a friendly congress, ruled in our favour. (Thanks Max!)

Well there is now no defence, so this not wholly unreasonable, slam, rolls in, +980.

We open the traveller to find that so far it's a bottom! At the two previous tables, LHO had poked in a 5D sacrifice and had gone for 1100. Who said fortune favours the brave?

On reflection it wouldn't be fair to end without some commendation to Derrick for making the most of the assets at his disposal. Maybe there is scope for a book, by some bright operator:- "Optimum Decision Making With Penalty Cards".

All in all a very enjoyable weekend, one that I can recommend to anyone not deterred by a surfeit of motorway.

**MASTER-POINT
PROMOTIONS**

There have been 61 promotions in the period 19.12.92. - 15.2.93.

Life Master

- John O' Sullivan (Haverfordwest)
- D. Ifor Davies (Swansea)

Premier National Master

- Mrs. Josie Ingram (Haverfordwest)
- National Master

- Mike Hall (Gwent)

Premier Regional Master

- Tony Disley (Porthcawl)
- Paul Gagne (Gwent)

Regional Master

- Peter Millar (Barrivale)
- Jeff Burke (Cardiff)
- Megan Taylor (Porthcawl)

5 Star Master

- Joy Burn (Porthcawl)
- John Griffiths (Bridgend)

4 Star Master

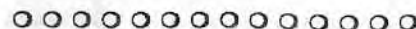
- Dr. B. Goodman (Newport)
- Linda Saunders (Porthcawl)

3 Star Master

- Dr. Frank Hybart (Mid Glam)

2 Star Master

- Phillip Dunn (Corbett Arms)
- Mrs. J. Broeders (Wrexham)
- Mr. G. Turcan (Criccieth)
- Beryl Warner (Haverfordwest)
- Arthur Gilbert (Rhiwbina)
- Margaret Morris (Aberaeron)
- Jimmy James (Swansea)
- Cecilia McCreary (Cardigan)
- Pamela Woodhouse (Aberystwyth)
- Phil Walker (Bridgend)



1 Star Master

- Tony Jodo (Aberaeron)
- Sylvia Parkin (Rhiwbina)
- Martin Jones (Corbett Arms)

Advanced Master

- Marion Parish (Swansea)
- Gwynne Maddox (Mid Glam)
- Richard Welsford (ROF Glascoed)
- Ian White (Cwmbran)
- Vera Jardine (Swansea)

Master

- Tony Parish (Swansea)
- Howard Warner (Haverfordwest)
- Ms. Laura Woodruff (Barrivale)
- Mr. A. P. Prail (Tenby)
- Mrs. W. Prail (Tenby)
- John Anderson (Dolgellau)
- Mike Jones (Corbett Arms)

County Master

- Mr. E. D. Lewis (Pwllheli)
- Mollie Hart (Awel-Y-Mor)
- Ursula Bryant (Mumbles)
- Dr. Eirlys Williams (Swansea)
- Anita Jones (Corbett Arms)
- Robert King (Mitchel Troy)

Local Master

- Ann Jones (Dolgellau)
- Joy Meredith (Crickhowell)
- Lewis Meredith (Crickhowell)
- Rosemary Evans (Mid Glam)
- Val Stoyle (Cardiff)
- Mr. J. E. Barlow (Prestatyn)
- Mrs. Teri Pollard (Cowbridge)
- Dr. P. J. Murphy (Colwyn Bay)
- Mr. N. T. Large (Colwyn Bay)
- Val Glendenning (Prestatyn)
- Mrs. Wlada Tracz (Aberystwyth)

Club Master

- Nigel Baker (Barrivale)
- Dr. John Valentine (Aberystwyth)
- Mrs. J. Tonkin (Swansea)
- Mrs. K. M. McNeal (Pwllheli)
- Ms. Linda Watkins (Barrivale)

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Bill Starr

First the good news. During the Christmas Holiday period trial runs of the A and B courses were held at the Corbett Arms Bridge Club. A cross-section of Club members and visitors attended and everyone seemed to have enjoyed the courses and learned from them.

Now the fairly good news. In response to my personal approach to all Area Secretaries, the following courses have now been arranged:-

Mid Wales	North Wales
"A" March 27th	"A" April 24th
"B" April 3rd	"B" June 11th
"C" June 5th	
"A" June 19th	
"B" July 10th	
"C" Sept 18th	

All of these courses commence at 11a.m. and finish around 4.30p.m.

The A and B courses cost £15 each (including lunch) and the C course is £20. Cheques payable to the WBU should be enclosed when booking a place. All bookings to me please at

The Corbett Arms
Tywyn
Gwynedd LL36 9DG
(Tel: 0654 710264)

I hope that before long we shall be able to set up some courses in the South of the Country.

Those who do attend should bring with them a copy of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. If you do not have one I have a few available but can ensure that one will definitely be available for you if you let me know in advance - the cost is £4.50. You will also need a copy of the Orange Directives. The WBU has purchased a quantity of these which I have available for £2.

I really do urge you to attend one of these courses. They should be a MUST for any Director - even at Club level.

IT'S A FUNNY OLD GAME

I have received a small number of humorous stories in response to my request in the last edition. I hope you enjoy them and feel stimulated into sending your own.

Overheard at the bridge table:

1st person: How did you manage to make 6NT on board 14?

2nd person: She went to bed with an Ace

1st person: Hope it was worth it!

(Submitted by a Mumbles B.C. Member)

From Paul Chimes

The editor has asked for any interesting anecdotes from our events or stories of any exciting finishes. If you have any such information please let me know.

Meanwhile I know of one such occurrence: you are playing for a quarter-final place in the Welsh Cup and are 33 imps up with 8 boards to play. After a sequence starting 2C (Acol) - 2H - 3H the idiot opposite you puts you into 7H and puts down A K x x of trumps opposite your J 10 9 x x. With about 15 tricks available if you bring in the trump suit, you take the Diamond lead in dummy, lay down the Ace of trumps (both opponents following), cross to hand and lead the Jack of trumps, left hand opponent following small. What do you play?

Meanwhile 20 imps have gone away in the other room and the opposition have stopped in six on this deal, so 14 imps out will lose the match by one imp.

The result? 34 imps to Joe Patrick's team on the last 8 boards and victory by 1 imp. The losers? We will try again next year. Where was the Queen? Q x x on your left. The idiot opposite? I refuse to answer on the grounds

Thank you to all contributors. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and gratefully received.

French Leave?

By Gary Martin

Are you one of the many tournament players who enjoys attending congresses? If so, have you ever thought of a foreign congress? It needn't cost £500+ either.

For a number of years now, a group of half-dozen or so from Wales has made the annual trek to the Deauville Congress in Normandy at the end of July. The full congress lasts for 10 days - the first weekend comprises of the Pairs Championship, the second weekend is Teams with the minor pairs events, Mixed, Mens and Ladies spread throughout the intervening week.

What are the attractions of the congress? Well.....

1. There is the venue - the prestigious Deauville Casino set on Deauville's famous sea-front. First thing to note is that there is a strict dress requirement - no shorts, jeans or trainers.
2. Most of the famous European players attend. Omar Sharif is a regular visitor along with the World Championship winning French team, top Germans, Italians, Dutch, Belgians and Poles.
3. The civilised playing times - a 30 board session starting at 3.00pm. and ending at 7.00pm.
4. The prize money - £3,000+ 1st prize in the pairs with prizes down to 120th place with £1,500+ 1st prize in the teams.
5. The food! Eating from 8 'til midnight in one of the many fabulous restaurants afterwards.



The team enjoy a pre-bridge coffee at one of Deauville's many pavement cafes.

By French standards, Deauville is an exclusive, expensive resort but having said that, a 3 Star hotel room costs under £20 per head per night but rooms for half this price can be obtained in neighbouring Trouville which is a 20 minute walk away or 4 minutes by car.

Last year we just went for the teams weekend which allowed us a cheap weekend fare on the ferry leaving on Thursday night from Portsmouth and returning on Sunday night from Caen which is one-hour from Deauville. We were in Deauville by 8.30am. and had found a hotel by 10.00am. Entry to the teams was 350 francs each (approx. £40 on last year's exchange rates) - similar to an English Congress but when you consider the prize money on offer, a bargain.

What snags are there? Well, firstly you have bid in French but this problem was alleviated last year by the use of bidding boxes. Most players understand English and so explanations were rarely a problem. The major problem was getting used to French playing cards. The Ace is just a 1, the King is an R (Roi), the Queen is a D (Dame) and the Jack is a V (Valet). The most common cause of confusion is mixing up tour R's and V's. However, don't let this put you off - you soon get used to them.

How did we do last year? Well we eventually finished 10th with the money prizes down to 8th. We did qualify for a prize however - 12 bottles of champagne! Not bad.