

2nd WELSH SENIORS Congress**Swiss Pairs**

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. PATRICK JOURDAIN | KEITH Y SINGLETON |
| 2. DIANA HARRIS | PAUL GAGNE |
| 3. CATHY SMITH | ANDY SMITH |

Congress Pairs

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
| Dan Crofts | Joyce Hare | Caroline Brown | Harvey Brown |
| Mrs N.Allen | R. Foulds | A.Selsby | C. Wadsworth |
| Stan Collins | A. Blewitt | Pat Scares | Harry Ingham |

Congress Teams

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| CJ Cheek | D Hamper |
| Mrs N Allen | R Foulds |
| Stan Collins | Agnes Blewitt |
| Mike Hirst | John Glubb |

National Open Pairs Final

1. Dean Hardie and Tony Ratcliff
2. Brian Clements and Graham John
3. Liz Atkinson and Yan Wu

Bridge Quiz *This quiz was the brainchild of the late W.O.Davies (Bill).*

Bill is sadly missed by his friends at the Cardiff Bridge Club. Please send your solutions to the Editor. A £10 prize is available for the first correct solution received.

- | | | | |
|--|----|---|---|
| 1 Hooker getting careless with a client is tailed by foreign aristocrat. | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| 2 Clocking the Army officer's rank. | 8 | 3 | 4 |
| 3 A belligerent Will Carling's sucker play | 8 | 5 | |
| 4 One nco's status symbol followed by menagerie (1) mimic | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| 5 A thousand smackers leaves no option but to shut that door. | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Moving Dennis from Dandy to Beano | 12 | 3 | 6 |
| 7 Christine piqued by ordeal | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| 8 Somme number one high flyer with his two boy friends in quarantine | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| 9 Instrument for getting the measure of Bingo players' legs | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 10 Jazz up Mr Basie to make him well again. | 7 | 3 | 5 |
| 11 Royal do good activities punctuated by bringing water to almost a full stop. Now aspires to be this picture-card for the proletariat. | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| 12 Strike this for a light. Then systematically sus-out dated but sexy belt. | 5 | 6 | |
| 13 The backside of YMCA is covered with mud and deciphered by a backward reader. | 5 | 8 | |
| 14 He waltzes over there, this French speaking Austrian to apply coup de grace from with Fergie is stripped of her title | 6 | 4 | |
| 15 Diminutive premier. | 6 | 5 | |

WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Masterpoint promotions
Pages 2 and 3

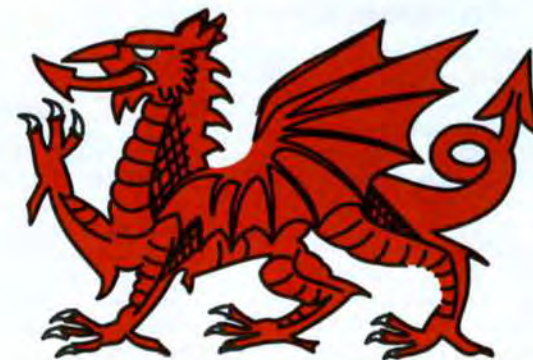
Orange Book Changes
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Newsletter Summer 2000

Editorial

Following the AGM of the Welsh Bridge Union, there are some new faces in key posts. Mike Brunt from Swansea has taken on the post of Secretary and Laura Woodruff of Bridgend is our new National Tournament Organiser. Both have a great deal of enthusiasm for the game of bridge and a desire to transfer some of that enthusiasm to its organisation for the benefit of all players.

Our new President, Jean Hand from North Wales has taken on the unenviable task of guiding the Welsh Bridge Union in its first full year as an autonomous bridge-playing nation.

This is a difficult period of transition but the WBU is a democratic organisation and small enough for individual members to let their feelings be known. If you have views on how competitions should be run or how the WBU should spend its funds then let your representative on the Executive know.



The Executive Council meeting on July 9th 2000



MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS

05.03.00 ~ 12.07.00

Club Master

Dr Marguerite Aitchison L
 Mr Glyndwr Banks S
 Mrs Jill Birchall CBY
 Mr John Capel GA
 Mr Bill Carter CBY
 Mrs Pam Ellis A
 Mrs Eve Farrow P
 Mr Kenneth Forbes S
 Mrs Joan Gallagher GA
 Mr Kenneth Jenkins P
 Mr David Jones CR
 Mr Huw Jones S
 Mr Peter Jones STD
 Mrs Thelma Jones CR
 Miss Angela Mayner PR
 Mrs Margaret Mills C
 Mr Hugh Nicholas PT
 Miss Sophie Perret A
 Mrs Betty Reading PR
 Mrs Vera Ross CN
 Mrs Penney Saunders R
 Mr Keith Stonehouse S
 Mrs June Swindley CAS
 Mrs June Thomas A
 Mr Bjorn Thorlaksson C
 Mr John Williams PN
 Mr John Worlock PN

Local Master

Mrs Jane Bancroft WS
 Mrs Cathy Barlow PR
 Mrs Sheila Breeze WS
 Mrs Joan Bunker CAS
 Mrs Brigitte Chapman GA
 Mrs Chris Clark MG
 Mr Bryan Clarkson PV
 Mrs Jill Crowther GA
 Mr John Drinkwater PR
 Miss Claire Evans AM
 Mrs Una Gavin SU
 Mrs Joan Gresham CA
 Mr Les Hunt PT
 Mrs Iris Jarman NT
 Mrs Rae Jones GA

Mr Jonathan Lancett MT
 Mr J Barrymore Lee CAS
 Mrs Estelle Merlyn S
 Mrs Kath Moore NT
 Ms Gillian O'Keeffe C
 Mrs Maria Richardson MB
 Ms Sylvia Richards PT
 Mrs Pamela Sherman PN
 Mrs Glenys Thompson WS
 Mrs Joy Williams CD
 Mr Yan Wu C

County Master

Mrs Doreen Anthony A
 Mrs Jean Bassett RH
 Mrs Audrie Burgess LD
 Mr John Camp S
 Mrs Sue Coffin C
 Miss Jean Cole NT
 Mrs Lee Collier H
 Mrs Jo Copping BRE
 Mr Picton Davies L
 Ms Margaret Doig LD
 Mrs Christine Forbes' BRE
 Mrs Edith Glover S
 Mrs Valerie Gould CAS
 Mrs Sheena Gray PN
 Mrs Wendy Jenkins WS
 Mrs Joan Jones CN
 Mrs Jan Morris MB
 Mrs Monica Mulford MT
 Mr Peter Nolan CBY
 Mrs Amy Owen VOG
 Mrs Mary Rees MB
 Mrs Daphne Richardson WS
 Mrs Hazel Swift MT
 Mr George Woodhouse WS

Master

Miss Gill Ambrose PR
 Mr Ray Amey PD
 Mrs Kirsten Arnott VOG
 Mr Roger Biggs GA
 Mrs Beryl Davies AG
 Mrs Marion Evans CBY

Mrs Val Glendenning RH
 Mrs Enid Grant NP
 Mrs Molly Harman S
 Mrs Joan Jenkins SU
 Mrs Phyllis Johnson MB
 Mrs Eleanor Jones BR
 Miss Kathleen Jones S
 Mr Patrick Llewelyn Y
 Mrs Beryl Marke PN
 Mr Reg Mealings CBY
 Mrs Barbara Ponting S
 Mr Alan Screen CAS
 Mrs Maureen Thomas LD
 Mrs Elizabeth Thorneycroft L.P
 Mrs Hilary Tozer PC
 Mr Harry Woolley WS
 Mr Andrew Young NT

Advanced Master

Mrs Dorothy Acton AG
 Mrs Janet Bradley S
 Mrs Amy Britten BV
 Mrs Mary Caulfield-Giles CBY
 Mr Alan Clegg WS
 Mr Sid Craven MB
 Miss Anne Davies S
 Mrs Margaret Davies GA
 Mr Gwyn Evans R
 Mrs Hermione Evans NP
 Mr Albert Greening LD
 Mrs Sally Jones MB
 Mr Ralph Lamb A
 Mr David Lloyd LP
 Mr Pat Mullally CN
 Mrs Sally Parkes Y
 Mrs Jurdy Pearce C
 Mr Timothy Perkins MB
 Mrs Betty Plimmer LD
 Mr David Rowley WS
 Mrs Marjorie Smith OH
 Mrs Una Thomas WS
 Mrs Hazel Trew S
 Mr Viv Williams C
 Mrs Kate Wynds MB

1 Star Master

Mr Alan Ashton CBY
 Mr Peter Britten BV
 Mr Dave Brook MG
 Miss Pat Crowley GA
 Mr Adrian Daniel S
 Mrs Elsie Davies RH
 Mr Les Fletcher CBY
 Mrs Sarah Harrison PN
 Mrs Marie Hartland AM
 Mr John Hensman MG
 Mr John Hinton GA
 Mr Kevin Hughes W
 Mr Barney Hunter CD
 Mrs Ann E Johnson MB
 Mrs Barbara Jones AM
 Mrs Christine Jones M
 Mrs Margaret A Jones R
 Mr Jim Kinge GA
 Mrs Lyn Lamb A
 Mrs Sue Lowe CN
 Mrs Dorothy Loxton C
 Mr Ron Ponting S
 Mrs Mairi Rees T
 Mrs Betty Reynoldson CN
 Mrs Margo Sarson AG

2 Star Master

Mrs Sheila Clarke S
 Mr Owen Davies BEN
 Mrs Gladys Griffiths L
 Mrs Jean Hodgson MT
 Mr Barrie Jenkins PC
 Mr Jack Loxton C
 Mrs Lyn Matthews BV
 Mrs Louise Orme M
 Mr Syd Phillipps MT
 Dr Terry Reilly VOG
 Mr Elwyn Roberts W
 Mr Peter Stott PR
 Mrs Helga Towers CB
 Dr John Valentine STD
 Miss Nans Wheldon CN
 Mrs Betty Wilcock NT
 Mr Les Wilcock NT
 Mr Leighton Williams AG

3 Star Master

Mrs Mary Benton S
 Mr Glyn Collins S
 Mr Ray Curry S
 Mrs Kay Dyer BV
 Mrs Peggy Edwards M
 Dr H John Evans VOG
 Miss Eleanor Howells R
 Mrs Margaret James A
 Mr Vincent Llewellyn SP
 Mrs Doreen Preston RH
 Mr John Rudgley S
 Mr Dennis Smith OH
 Mrs Margaret Tovey MB
 Mr David Williams W
 Mr Huw Morris Williams PV
 Mrs Josephine Yates LD

4 Star Master

Mr John Berni MB
 Mr Ron Daymond MB
 Mr Malcolm Fox MG
 Mrs Mary Rudgley S
 Mrs Jenny Williams RH

5 Star Master

Mrs M Church MB
 Mr Dennis Francis MG
 Mr Edryd Jones A
 Mr Ian G Metcalfe LD
 Mr John Old LP

Tournament Master

Mrs Rachel Douglas-Jones S
 Dr Gerald Gould PN

Regional Master

Mr Dennis Childs BR
 Dr Martin David C
 Mrs Margaret W Davies STD
 Mrs Gwyneth Dew GA
 Mrs Doreen Dixon GA
 Mr Ken Grove MB
 Mr John B Jamieson S
 Mrs Margaret John L
 Mr Denis Mottram BV

Mr Mark Roderick BV
 Mrs Marilyn Runham CN
 Mr David Teague C

Premier Regional Master

Mr Philip Dorling NT
 Mr Adam Dunn CA
 Mr Barry Jones W
 Mr Peter Lane S
 Mrs Joyce McLean BSC
 Mrs Sheila Moyse MB
 Mrs Connie Warren S
 Mrs Mair Welsh CN
 Mrs Lucy Williams CR

National Master

Mr Peter Holland S
 Mr Brian Humphreys PD
 Mr Kevin Jones W
 Mr Ray Smith MG
 Mrs Beryl Warner H
 Mr Charles Watson A
 Mrs Margaret Watson A

Premier National Master

Mrs Sian Ellis PW
 Mrs Sandra James R
 Mr Ivor Owen W
 Mr Alan R Powell GA

Life Master

Mr Michael Close BV
 Mrs Binnie Job SP
 Dr Paddy Murphy W
 Mrs Carmel Wiseman SP

Senior Life Master

Miss Liz Atkinson C
 Dr David Melville C
 Mr Ken Richardson C

Grand Master

Mr Simon Edwards W

Do you want a computer?

Linda Greenland has Council's permission to dispose of Hon sec's computer, a 486SX-25MHz and workstation. It is a bit out of date to run up-to-date software, but would be fine for scoring. It is available Free Of Charge to any club on a "first come, first served, they organise transport" basis. Both items are in Cardiff, (but we could probably arrange handover at an event).

Phone Linda on 029 2025 5162 to express an interest.

Newly permitted conventions

The following additions and amendments to the Orange Book 1998 apply from 1st September 2000. Information not forming part of the text of the Orange Book is given in italics. The text of the Orange Book is shown in normal type, with wording which is new in bold.

Changes at Level 2

12.1 Basic

12.1.1 Development of the auction.

You are free to develop the auction in any manner you like:

- (a) from the opener's rebid onwards
- (b) with a call that is game forcing from strength
- (c) after any player has made a game forcing call
- (d) after any opening bid at the 2-level or higher

Add the following:

- (e) **from any bid of 4NT or higher onwards**

(subject to the explicit restrictions on conventional calls in 12.2.1, 12.5.2, 12.13.1, 13.1.1, 13.3.2, 13.6.1, 14.1.1, 14.3.2, 14.10.1).

12.12 Defence to Natural One of a Suit Opening Bids

12.12.5 Responses to overcalls and doubles

- Any meaning may be played for double, redouble, 2NT and a cue bid of an opponent's suit
- Any meaning that includes a pass on 0 HCP may be played for pass.

Note – the text is unchanged, but now applies additionally to doubles

12.12 Defence to Natural One of a Suit Opening Bids

Add the following:

12.12.9 Defence by fourth hand

- After a raise, any defence is permitted.
- After any natural response (including pass), any meaning may be played for NT bids, cue-bids of the opponent's suit(s) and double.

12.13 Defence to Natural One No trump Opening Bids

12.13.1 1 No trump opening.

Replace the existing section (b) with:

- (b) You may use 2-level bids and, if you've passed, double to show any one of:
 - (i) any hand containing a specified suit.
 - (ii) three suits, at least 4-4-3, of which at least one is specified.

Note: players abuse this by bidding, say, 2♣ to show hearts and another suit and then rebidding 3♠ to show just clubs: this is not allowed.

Note – sections (a), (c) and (d) are unchanged.

Changes at Level 3

13.4 Two of a Suit Opening Bids

13.4.2 Other permitted conventions.

Add the following:

Major two-suiters

A 2♦ opening may show a major two-suiter (at least 5-4) of any agreed range. All continuations are allowed.

13.7 Defence to Natural One No trump Opening Bids

The whole section is reworded:

13.7.1 Defence in protective position

After 1NT and two passes, any defence may be played. (Note: this includes playing a double to have a non-penalty meaning).

13.7.2 Examples of conventions covered by 13.7.1.

Donovan double:

A double by a passed hand shows at least 3-3 in the majors.

Gilzali double:

A double by a passed hand shows a weak hand with a suit (overcalls show a stronger hand).

Changes at Level 4

14.2 Responses to One of a Suit Opening Bids

14.2.3 Other Permitted Conventions

Add the following:

Anglo-Saxon responses to 1♠:

1♦ shows 0+ HCP with at least 4-4 in the majors

1NT shows 0+ HCP without a 4 card major

2♦ shows a stronger hand with at least 4-4 in the majors

2NT shows a stronger hand without a 4 card major

14.4 Two of a Suit and Two No trump Opening Bids

Add the following:

14.4.3 Other permitted conventions.

Two-suiters

A two-level opening may show two defined suits of any length (at least 4-4) and of any agreed range. All continuations are allowed.

Master Point of View

My life revolves around the letters I find in the bag hanging behind my letter box (no bending down to scabble on the doormat for me!) and some few which never arrive, so I was fascinated by these statistics about our postal service in Time magazine recently: 957,600 items of correctly addressed mail are lost or mislaid every week out of seven million posted.

I thought that's nearly 14 percent, so we do very well to have so few master points go astray. Then a couple of weeks later Time issued an apology: there are not seven million letters posted weekly but 462 million, (no wonder I get so much Junk mail) only 0.2 percent which probably reflects my experience with lost letters.

I have mentioned before that the recorded delivery service may not be really worthwhile for master points, as I learned that no extra care is taken of these letters on their journey, it is just that when (or if) the postman delivers them I am asked to sign a receipt. One morning during the year-end rush I was asked to sign for three Recorded Delivery letters at once. Signing for these things is not usually a very memorable experience (unless the early postman gets me out of bed) but I remembered this one very well, for the postman asked "Don't you want to check they are for you?" after he had already given them to me.

Some time later, I had a call from a worried lady who had been informed by the post office that her letter had not been delivered to me. I checked my mail book, and found it was one of those three Recorded Delivery letters, and her points were sitting safely in my in-tray (that's a fancy word for shoe box). Puzzling, but at least I set her mind at rest. And then another member phoned to say he had been told his letter had not been delivered. I looked back to that same batch of three, and made a guess at his name. I was right and he was astonished. "It's magic," I explained. (He'll know it's not now.) I half expected to hear from the other person, but did not.

Later, when signing for another Recorded Delivery or paying excess postage, I mentioned this peculiar business to our regular postman. Of course he could not remember those three letters himself but he returned later with a Royal Mail card stamped with a telephone number. "If you want to find out about it," he said, "phone this number and ask for Butch." I thanked him, of course, but as the letters had not been lost, I left it at that. I just could not see myself phoning the main post office and asking for "Butch".

I think the record for distance travelled by master points was set recently by some posted from Bermuda. I could not help wondering whether they had been forgotten in the excitement of holiday preparation, or found in a handbag when there, and forgot to ask. I think I should feel that the further my letter had to go, the more at risk it was.

My year-end work seemed to take longer this year, either there was more, I was slower, or looking after my granddaughter interfered. So I did not have the usual statistics ready for the AGM in May. Here they are: I made 3468 entries onto the computer, and WBU members earned 2,107,114 local points and 4,529.25 green points, which is once again less than the previous year. In my first year as M P secretary I entered 2,443,765 locals and 4,848 greens, but the totals seem to have been dropping ever since. (No, I'm not losing them!) Of course the points earned depend on the numbers playing, and I know various events have falling attendance and some are no longer held.

Our annual total would have been even lower had one member, having failed to gather many in the bundle from his club members, not included his own. (They came marked "Handle with care, ten locals.")

I think I've said before that I'm a female "Noelle", not a male "Noel", but I still get letters addressed "Dear Sir," "Mr." or even "Esquire", so I'll mention it again. Still to set against those I did get one letter with two little dots computer printed over the "e" in my name, which was rather nice but I don't deserve them, and another with two dots over the "o", which must have slipped.

Gold Points

The Gold Point list in the Journal should be read as follows: Tony Ratcliff, then every third line down the column thereafter (the error arose from the original list's having been in row order and the printer's having converted it to columns).

The Journal included those with one gold or more, the list below gives those with less than one gold point:

Isabel Evans	0.92	Laurie Delmonte	0.52
Eileen Hughes	0.92	Irene Weaver	0.52
Viv Hamilton	0.88	Pearl Nash	0.52
Cliff Rushton	0.88	Harry Packer	0.52
Liz Commins	0.88	Richard Thomas	0.50
Menna Roberts	0.88	Anne Jones	0.48
Tim Barsby	0.88	Philip Dorling	0.44
Teresa Byrne	0.84	Betty Evans	0.44
Keith Williams	0.84	Vera McAndrew	0.42
Phil Jones	0.84	Peter Smith	0.42
Colin Nash	0.84	Sian Ellis	0.40
Sheila Leyshon	0.84	Tony Waller	0.40
John Murray	0.84	Pat Haworth	0.34
Janet Rees	0.84	Vera Robinson	0.34
Wendy Wood	0.78	Barrie Robinson	0.34
Esme Parry	0.76	Nate Gable	0.34
Bill Parkinson	0.76	Marjorie Williams	0.28
Funglan Persimmon	0.72	Gordon Roxburgh	0.24
Gwen Hurst	0.72	Charles Watson	0.22
Harry Leach	0.72	Margaret Watson	0.22
Ivor Owen	0.69	Derek Jones	0.22
Norman Large	0.60	Margaret Hathaway	0.22
Michael Clare	0.60	David Williams	0.20
Ifor Davies	0.60	Shelton Cross	0.20
Margaret Banks	0.60	Hazel Heard	0.20
Mollie Evans	0.60	Dorothy Stagg	0.20
Mike Climer	0.60	Linda Maria Tatham	0.20
Colin Heard	0.60	Simon Murray-Williams	0.20
Vic Ward	0.56	Sybil Thomson	0.20
Sid Evans	0.56	Chris Burdett	0.20
Ray Smith	0.56		

I wish to make it known to all members that the article published in the Daily Telegraph containing an inaccurate description of a proposal put forward at the WBU AGM on 14th May was not written with the consent or approval of the Executive Council.

Jean Hand
President, Welsh Bridge Union

New Clubs

Two clubs in West Wales have joined the Welsh Bridge Union. We welcome Carmarthen Bridge Club and Merlin Bridge Club.

Sadly, Corbett Bridge Club in Mid-Wales has had to disband.

Letters

Dear Editor

As Chairman of Ynys Mon Bridge Club, I have been asked by our members to write to you to deplore the decision of the WBU executive to move the venues of the National Open, Mixed, Men's and Ladies' pairs away from Llandrindod Wells and to rotate them around the areas as was previously done.

We think that this decision lacks common sense and disregards the wishes of members on the peripheries of Wales. The decision means that when the finals are in the North, South or West those at the other end of the country will have to travel for about 4.5 hours, and that they will have to stay away from home for two nights. Whilst Llandrindod is obviously closer to the South than the North, players are able to travel from all areas within the day if play does not start until 1.30 or 2pm. This means that there is no waste of time or additional expense having to be away for the day.

We would like to point out that this decision of the Executive is totally contrary to the spirit, if not to the letter, of Equal Opportunities legislation as it discriminates against the less well off who may well be unable to afford the additional expense of two night's stay away. Presumably to ensure that there is no such discrimination against the less well off the Executive will be prepared to cover any additional residential costs.

Catherine Spalding

I am assured that the arrangements regarding the location of National Finals, will be reviewed within the next two years following consideration by the NTO of how members' views can properly and democratically be ascertained. In the meantime, I do hope that the North will not be staging a final in Holyhead! Ed

Dear Editor

At the WBU Annual General Meeting on May 14th, proposals were put forward regarding the funding of our International teams. Subsequently the membership have been badly misled on the intentions of the proposals and I would like to set the record straight. The membership of the Welsh Bridge Union is dropping and therefore the burden of International expenses is falling on fewer and fewer people. At the moment the Constitution does not allow for any matches arranged outside Wales, although the Organisers have ignored this fact and taken whatever monies they like from the Members fund to pay all expenses. This is a ludicrous state of affairs. It was therefore proposed that the members should subscribe up to 40% of the WBU Annual income towards supporting their teams in Home International matches. If this meant that economies had to be made and occasionally team members would have to pay part of their travelling expenses etc. then so be it. Other equivalent organisations pay nothing towards their players expenses so it was felt that our offer was generous. There was never any suggestion that we should not support our team.

Regarding our entry into Europe. We have set up a separate European fund to cover the expenses incurred in this venture. It is expected that this year we will receive £23,000 + a special grant of some £14,000 to feed this fund. Numerous minutes and statements have promised the membership that all expenses relating to the European and World events will be paid for out of this fund. We then find that equipment for Europe has been purchased from the members fund. We then find that subscriptions to the World Bridge Federation and European Bridge League had been paid from the members fund. We therefore proposed that all expenses relating to Europe should be paid out of the European fund which was set up for this purpose. There was never any suggestion that we should not support our teams playing in these events.

The opposition to these proposals was very well organised and at times emotional. A report then appeared in the Daily Telegraph stating that "A move to prevent the WBU using its' funds to support its' teams in World and European Championships has been defeated." This is dreadfully misleading and the record must be set straight. There was never any suggestion that we should not support our teams as they do in other organisations. We did wish to get the amount of money taken from the Members fund down to reasonable limits, and to ensure that all expenses in Europe be paid for from the European fund.

William.E.Nicholls.

South Wales National Congress Porthcawl

9th -12th November 2000
Green pointed Pairs and
Teams

Contact: Diana Panniers 01792
297081

Welsh Foursomes Porthcawl

9th -10th September 2000

Green pointed Swiss Teams

Contact:
Max Powell 01656 653507

News

Welsh Junior Bridge Squad.

The team for the European Championship in Turkey is:
Dafydd Jones, Jake Dunn, Mark Roderick, Mike Cleaton, Catherine Evans, David Davies
Coach - Jon Seavers

Teams to represent Wales at Maastricht 27th August 2000

Open Team

Peter Goodman & Tim Rees
Adrian Thomas & Paul Denning
Mike Hirst & Jim Luck
npc Patrick Jourdain

Ladies Team

Gilly Clench & Laura Woodruff
Diane Kurbalija & Jill Casey
Linda Greenland & Ann Hirst
npc Maggie Pierce

THE 2ND WORLD TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP will be held in Maastricht during the second week of the World Team Olympiad, from 5th to 9th September. The first event, which was inaugurated in Rhodes in 1996, met with a great deal of success and the organisers are hopeful that the response this year will be even greater.

Entry to this Championship is free for players eliminated from the Olympiad. The entry fee for new teams is US\$800. However, should a team be composed of players who have been eliminated and players who have not participated in the Olympiad, the fee will be US\$150 for each new player in a team of six and US\$200 per new player in a team of four.

ANY TEAM MUST CONSIST OF AT LEAST TWO WOMEN AND TWO MEN, FROM ANY COUNTRY PLAYING IN MIXED PARTNERSHIPS.
Contact Mike Brunt for further details.

Corrections to the Journal

Please note the following corrections to the Journal:

The winners of the National Mixed Pairs 2000 were Linda Greenland and Ken Richardson

The entry fee for the Ladies' Welsh Cup and Men's teams is £20 per player, to be paid in advance (NOT £1 + £20 for the Final as stated in the Journal - there is no "Final").

Perry Shield winners were East Wales: J Casey, J Glubb, D Kurbalija, F Kurbalija, M Pierce, A Ratcliff

Aberystwyth Congress Results

Championship Pairs: R Smolski and V Petty
Mixed Pairs: R Partridge and D Whitmore

Shotton Bridge Club is in the Journal as Corus (Ex Shotton) The Bridge Club is still Shotton. it is just that British Steel has been taken over by Corus but they still play in the same premises and the address is now c/o Managers' Lounge, Corus, Deeside.

Barbara Wood

East Wales are sad to record the death of Barbara Wood, who died suddenly on 2nd June at the age of 74yrs.

Barbara, who lived in Penarth, but who previously also lived in Porthcawl, played regularly with Jean Rattray, her partner for many years, and had been playing bridge with Jean just hours before she died.

Barbara and Jean, ladies at the bridge table, were a partnership that had represented East Wales in the Spickett Bowl several times, and had represented Wales on two occasions. Barbara, always playing with Jean played in the Welsh Lady Milne team at Oxford in 1983/4, and in Scotland in 1984/5.

Useful Addresses

Newsletter Editor

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val@kennewell.freemove.co.uk

National Tournament Organiser

Laura Woodruff, 3 Rees Row, Bryncethin, Bridgend, CF32 9TR
laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk

Masterpoints Secretary

Noelle Bond, 45 Buttrills Rd, Barry, CF62 8EG
Noelle@glanmor45.freemove.co.uk

World-wide Success

The use of the Internet for scoring has added a new exciting dimension to Simultaneous Pairs Events. We can now find our position in an event within hours of playing with many additional features being available such as personal score sheets to show us exactly how well we did on each board. It is particularly interesting when results are coming in from all around the world as they did on Friday 2nd June and Saturday 3rd June when two events took place under the auspices of the WBF.

8 Welsh clubs took part on the Friday, and Frank Zdzienicki & Joan Jones of Benllech BC finished 2nd world wide with a score of 73.11%. The 2nd Welsh pair were Owen Davies & Menna Roberts also of Benllech with a score of 68.53% who finished 29th overall out of 8914 pairs.

The best Welsh pair in the Saturday event were Trish Tracey & Keith Bellamy of Sully who finished 71st of 6491 pairs with 65.36%.

Kind hearts and coronets

Laura Woodruff

I don't suppose many Welsh bridge players have Norman blood, but a common gripe is the absence of kindness, or perhaps of courtesy, in tournament bridge.

The rules of the game apply equally to club duplicates and top-level events. The extent to which they are enforced does, however, vary considerably from club to club, and from club to National final. Many clubs quite properly hold the view that the aim is enjoyment, and that a too rigorous enforcement of the rules spoils the enjoyment of those for whom the game is primarily a social activity. Hesitations are tolerated, and to call the director for a failure to alert would be regarded as unsporting, rather as John McEnroe was condemned by commentators, apprenticed in the environment of the amateur game, as unsporting for his complaints about line calls. In reality, it was only the manner of his protest that was unsporting.

When players move from club bridge to tournament bridge, they will find that the rules tend to be more strictly applied. This can come as a shock. Those who play regularly in national tournaments learn to live with frequent director calls, and may forget that the newcomer will not be so sanguine. Players new to tournament bridge often feel that they have been accused of cheating, which is never what was intended by the person who called the director. A great deal of unpleasantness can result from these misunderstandings; worse, some players may decide never to venture to a congress again, which is very sad.

One of the problems is that practically no one knows what the rules are. At any bridge congress you can hear players of all standards quoting bits of lore such as "If declarer has seen your card, you have to play it", or "There's nothing you can do about it if the opponents have simply forgotten their system". Neither of these things is true, and much of what ordinary players, including senior players, understand about the rules is either plain wrong or partly wrong. It is also very unfortunate that at bridge classes, players are seldom taught anything about etiquette or ethical behaviour at the table. If they are lucky they will pick it up, more or less by osmosis, from more experienced players at their clubs. Most of the time, however, they will find themselves, at their first Big Congress, quaking as the Four-Star Master on their right snaps "It's not your turn to bid, so you can't ask me that", when what he should have done is call the director, nicely.

The enjoyment of the game could be increased for everybody, from the weekly duplicate player at Tycloch-dros-draw Bowls Club to the aspiring Zia Mahmood, if the great gulf that seems to have opened up between them could be bridged, at least at the table. This requires experienced players to curb their impatience and mind their manners, remembering that they too were once novices. It requires the tournament tyros to remember that what appears to them as frostiness may in fact be concentration; and what looks like nitpicking may really be the routine protection of their interests (and those of their team-mates) by players who have had their fingers burnt in the fire of tournament play on the other side of Offa's Dyke. There is no doubt that some players are actively rude to their opponents or try to intimidate them, but in my experience that can be said of bad players as well as good ones, and should be dealt with by tournament directors.

In the interests of détente, in the next issue I shall give a few random suggestions for improving relations between those for whom bridge is a pleasant pastime (on the one hand) and those who work for a living only to finance their real lives at the bridge table (on the other), as well as the great mass of keen amateurs in between.

Blwyddyn o Ddraig?

Maggie Pierce

In the final match of the 1999-2000 Camrose series on 11th and 12th March, Wales played the Republic of Ireland at the Dunadry Hotel and Country Club near Belfast. It was a marvellous venue, and the sense of occasion was intensified by the presence of the Scots and Northern Irish, who were playing in adjoining rooms, with a joint Vu-graph presentation. At the end of the most successful Welsh season in the 57 years of the Camrose, hopes of a first series win were high. Wales was represented by Adrian Thomas and Paul Denning, Peter Goodman and Tim Rees, and Patrick Jourdain and Tony Ratcliff, the team that had produced a substantial win against Scotland in Llandudno in January. Jim Luck, who had played in the two other matches against England and Northern Ireland with his partner, Mike Hirst, was non-playing Captain.

Going into the first match on Saturday afternoon, the positions were as follows:

Wales	Rep of I	Eng	Scot	NI
179	164	158	127	90

Wales needed only 38 VPs from 90 to win the series (England had already played her final match). In the first session on Saturday afternoon a narrow win of 16-14 extended the lead to 17 - 22 VPS needed from 60.

Ireland has always had a reputation for being lucky in the slam area and there were a number of examples in this match. Perhaps the most spectacular occurred on Board 18 in the second session:

Dir: East	North	
Vul: None	♠ 10 8 6 3	
	♥ Q 8	
	♦ 8 5 3	
West	♣ Q J 10 5	East
♠ 7 2		♠ A K J 9 5 4
♥ A 3		♥ J 9 5 4 2
♦ A K Q 10 7 2		♦ void
♣ K 9		♣ 6 3
	South	
	♠ Q	
	♥ K 10 7 6	
	♦ J 9 6 4	
	♣ 7 4 2	

The Irish pair reached 7♠ via the sequence 1♠ - 2♦; 2♥ - 3♣; 3♥ - 3♠; 4♠ - 4NT; 6♣ - 7♠. Peter Goodman in the South seat

made some enquiries before leading. 6♣ showed two of the five 'aces' (including the ♠K) and a working void. Any lead can be dangerous and the ♠Q may well be the safest lead if the opponents have 10 trumps between them. He decided to ask dummy if he thought his partner held the trump queen in order to judge the degree of support West held. Unfortunately, by doing so he felt he had ethically compromised himself and felt obliged to lead the ♠Q. After some consideration Toibin brought home the grand slam by finessing the ♠9. In the other room the Welsh pair (Thomas/Denning) reached the sound contract of 6NT. On the lead of the ♠Q declarer (Thomas) took the correct line of finessing the ♠J at trick two, combining the chances of bringing in the spade and diamond suits, unluckily losing to the singleton queen.

A 15-15 draw left Wales needing only 7 VPs from 30 in the last session of 30 boards.

On Board 19 of the third and final session the opening leaders in both rooms found themselves with identical problems and came up with different solutions. They were on lead with ♠6 ♥73 ♦109762 ♣A7642, the bidding having gone Pass on the left, 1♠ from partner, 1NT on the right and 3NT on the left. Both correctly rejected partner's suit but Tom Hanlon for Ireland led ♦9 and Patrick Jourdain for Wales led ♣4. The diamond lead found

partner with KJ5 sitting over Q8 in dummy and the club lead found partner with a void. In favour of leading a diamond is the fact that you hold a certain entry if and when the diamond suit is established. However, you will need to find partner with a pretty good holding to get the suit going. In favour of a club lead is that you will need less from partner to bring the suit in, e.g. Kxx or Qxx (over the king). My personal view is that the club lead is more likely to be successful over a number of hands. I may be accused of bias, but not of being resultist.

We now come to Board 29 of the third match, the penultimate hand of the match against Ireland and of the whole Camrose season. This has gained the undeserved reputation of being 'the hand that cost the Camrose Trophy'. The spotlight fell on Peter Goodman as he considered his lead against 6NT. With some action needed for victory, the Irish pairs could afford to bid aggressively, and in an atmosphere of high drama Wales had gone into the last 10 boards trailing by 40 IMPs in the match, and needing to concede no more than 10 on the set to win the series. Peter held ♠J5 ♥AJ108765 ♦J ♣654

West	North	East	South
Goodman	Hanlon	Rees	McGann
-	1♣*	Pass	1♠
3♥	4♦	Pass	6NT

All Pass
 (*Any 17+ or 9-12 balanced)
 Peter gave a lot of thought to his opening lead: the danger of a neutral lead such as a club is that partner may be void of hearts and declarer may be able to set up twelve tricks with the defence unable to cash its ace. Against leading the ♥A is that it may set up the 12th trick for declarer. Peter pulled the ♥A out of his hand and put it back several times before deciding to lead it. This allowed 6NT to make via 5 spade tricks, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and three clubs. In the other room, Thomas and Denning reached the sound contract of 4♠ and made 13 tricks when the defence did not lead the ace of hearts. This was a loss of 12 IMPs,

but might easily have enabled Wales to win the Camrose Trophy. My view is that it took a good player to think of leading ♥A but he should have rejected it as the odds were against partner's being void of hearts, and the lead was almost certain to set up a trick which, even if it were not the twelfth, might enable the contract to be made by a squeeze.

Ireland won the match and the series, 218-213.

* * * * *

Twenty-three WBU members travelled by various routes to Northern Ireland at their own expense to support the Welsh Team, and upheld the national reputation for magnanimity in defeat by keeping the post-match party going until the small hours of the morning. A special mention is deserved for the Icelandic Welshman, Bjorn Thorlaksson, who entertained the players and spectators from all four countries, plus the token Englishman Richard Fleet, with a dazzling display of pianistic skill. We hummed it, he played it, even unfamiliar (to him) numbers such as *Calon Lân*. Patrick Jourdain revealed an unsuspected talent for Presley-style hip gyrations. Camrose aficionados will further be pleased to note that Tony Ratcliff set a record for himself by staying up till 2.30 a.m. and downing 3½ Pernod-and-blacks (the other half was used to cool down one of his compatriots – she was not grateful). Particular thanks also go to Thomas McCormac of Ireland, who booked half the Welsh supporters into a B&B run by Basil Fawly, forcing several of their number to pay Dunadry prices for the second night; and to Kathryn Gerrard of Scotland, who abandoned her countrymen to their fate (36-54) and donned a Welsh team polo shirt for the weekend.

It may have been the Year of the Dragon, but this dragon must have been Chinese rather than Welsh. Commiserations to the team, but congratulations on a wonderful performance throughout the year and the best of luck for the Olympiad in Maastricht.



NORTH WALES SPRING CONGRESS

- Ladies' pairs
 1 G O'Niell M Barnes
 2 C Fisher J Hall
 Men's Pairs
 1 C Hall C Fisher
 2 C Foster A Ballham
 Pre-Congress Red section
 1 D Flacks J Leather
 Pre-Congress Yellow section
 1 V Kennewell S Kennewell

The main event, a 13-match Swiss teams played over Saturday and Sunday:

- Mr & Mrs M Hirst Mr & Mrs B Goldenfield
- M Skelton & F Wright I Mitchell & T Pearson
- A Purdy & J Holland M Brunner & W Hirst

Llandudno Swiss Pairs 1-2 July 2000

- Arthur Russell and Jill Knight
- Peter Chapman and Nanette McWhirter
- Nick Eaton and Eddie Lucioni

Jill Knight and Arthur Russell with WBU President Jean Hand.



WBU Webber /Philip Angel Cups

- Captains
- Dean Hardie
 - Trevor Towers
 - Paul Gagne
 - Laura Woodruff
 - Mary Moore

The John Isaac Trophy West Wales

- Anne & Fred Hyett
- Binnie Job & Carmel Wiseman
- Keith Jones & Frances Williams