

WELSH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION BULLETIN.

Gambria Bridge Club,  
St. Andrews Crescent,  
Cardiff.

August 1st. 1948.

The first bulletin, as expected, produced a large crop of forms all duly filled in as required and our alphabetically indexed book of names soon lost its new and untouched appearance. But many of you left until tomorrow what should have been done today, and of course the job was never done. The position, briefly, is that if your name is not on the register you cannot expect to receive our monthly booklet. So, if your conscience pricks you, will you please send your name, address, and telephone number to: Harold Gould, 37, Ilandennis Avenue, Cardiff, and leave the rest to him? Remember, his bidding may be psychic, but he is not. Verb. sap.....

From time to time we all enter duplicate pairs competitions and feel at the end of the session that we have won comfortably. However, when the results are announced, we are seventh, and to add insult to injury the pairs above us are really much weaker players. How do they do it? Of course -- wrong scoring! When we ourselves sit North and fill up those "Travelling Score Cards" we do it correctly, but how are we to know what queer tricks the other fellows get up to? Or maybe (only maybe) we ourselves are not too sure all our entries are absolutely correct. So, with everything to gain and nothing to lose, a study of Capt. Ricardo's article is commended, and if you do his little problem, and get the same answers as he does, who knows ---- you may win the next duplicate pairs. My old friend Mr. H\_F\_N may like to know that he got a beautiful blob the other day because he thought his opponents non-vulnerable game was worth 500 points, and Messrs. East & West cheerfully agreed. Maybe their contract was worth the other couple of hundred, but what did his partner say???

If you have read so far, stop reading .... think about that bit regarding your conscience in the first paragraph... and if it affects you, send off that information about your domestic life now. Then, and only then, may you read on.

Before concluding, a small request to all our readers. The wife and mother of the Hon. Sec. have read what he has written, and they have had to read it before, during and after publication. They dread his continued efforts. They don't mind reading articles on Bridge, but would like someone else's views, and we therefore invite short, snappy articles of some 300/500 words ---- and please do not be bashful. All budding journalists please note, particularly our colleagues from Newport, Bridgend, Pontypridd and Swansea. If it's interesting, send it in.

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O B I T U A R Y.

We very much regret to have to write of the untimely death of Mr. Bernard Jacobs of Highfield, St. Mellons. Bernard was well known in all sporting spheres and we offer our sincerest condolences to his family. His presence will certainly be missed by all who know him, particularly his numerous friends at the Cambria Club.

MATCH POINTING.By W. H. HICARDO.

Match pointing is an art in itself. It bears very little relation to rubber bridge, and altogether different tactics have to be employed. The main difference lies in the fact that you are not playing against a pair at your own table, but against everyone who occupies a similar seat to your own.

Say for example you are playing North in a six table Howell movement, then you are playing against five other players, also playing North. If you manage to get a better score on any Board than any of these five, then you have beaten them all and you score what is technically known as a top of the board, getting the maximum points available. Conversely, if everyone beats you, you have scored nothing, and a large 0 will appear against your name for that particular board in the final result.

The total number of points for any board in a six table movement is :- 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1 - 0 (15), which has to be divided between the six pairs playing North/South, so in order to eliminate the awkward  $\frac{1}{2}$  point which results from a tie between any two or more pairs, the points are doubled, making 10, 8, 6 etc. (30). It is important that every player should, in addition to following the guide card which is placed on or above every table, be able to fill in the "Travelling Slip" correctly. This slip, on which the whole result of the competition hangs, and which I have heard (in the words of a former German Chancellor) described as a scrap of paper, must be a true and complete story of the progress of the competition, as it is the only check the Tournament Director has to go by for the Final result. When the Board has left the table with the slip placed back in the tray, the result has been agreed on by all parties concerned. Many people are unable to fill the details up correctly, but all that is needed is a little care and the knowledge of the principles involved. Here is a small sample of the travelling slip.

Travelling Slip.

Board No.....

pair No.		Contract.	By.	North-South		N/S Match points.	E/W
N/S.	E/W			Plus.	Minus.		
1							
2							
3	etc. etc.						

Where most people fail in marking the slip correctly is in bothering about the E/W results at all. It is only the N/S that need be thought about and they must be plus or minus on every board. North is always responsible for the marking of the slip and he must always enter the pair number of his opponents opposite his own pair number. This would be a properly filled in slip, before going to the Director for Match Pointing.

Board No. 4.

Both sides vulnerable.

Pair No.		Contract	By	North/South		Match points.	
N/S	E/W			Plus	Minus.	N/S.	E/W.
1	7	3 N.T.-3	N		300		
2							
3	2	2 Spades	E		110		
4							

Match Pointing - by W.H. Ricardo (contd)

Board 4 Both Vulnerable

Pair No. N/S	E/W	Contract	By	N/S		Match pts.	
				plus	minus	N/S	E/W
1	7	3 N T -3	N		300		
2							
3	2	2 spades	E		110		
4							
5							
6	8	1 N T	S	90			
7							
8							
9	5	2 hearts	W		140		
10		plus 1					
11	10	2 N T -2	N		200		
12	4	3 Diam	S	110			

From this sample try to work out the match points for every pair on the basis given you earlier on, of 10 8 6 4 2 0, before looking at the solution at the end of the bulletin.

One other common mistake is to enter the result against the board number, instead of the pair number of N/S. The board number is only put in on the slip for the sake of getting the slips in the right order at the end of the contest, and the all essential feature is for North to put the E/W pair number opposite his own number. To put the contract down correctly, played by whoever did play it, an x for a double, xx for a redouble with the score resulting and leave the rest for the Director.

Now for a few tactics in play -

The play closely resembles stroke play in golf, you want to keep as close to par or an average as possible, and if you look after the averages the tops will often come for themselves. The worst way to play is to be continually shooting for tops, you will rarely come out a winner this way, and it is unfair to the rest of the competitors. Remember that there is usually a good deal of competitive bidding, so you must watch the vulnerability closely. Your opponents are vulnerable - therefore if they can make 4 hearts for 620, you can afford to be 3 down doubled in 4 spades for a cost of 500, which is a good result for you. Honours are never counted, and fifty is added to a part score. Part scores should always be competed against if possible, as there is a great difference in letting your opponents get two hearts for 110, and going down yourself one for 100.

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THIS MONTH'S PROBLEM HANDS.

We submit for general interest the following hand played in rubber bridge. The bidding we leave to you, but we feel that most players would arrive at a contract of six hearts.

<u>NORTH</u>		<u>SOUTH</u>	
Spades.	4	A.Q.J.10.8.	
Hearts.	A.K.Q.J.10.9.8.	---	
Diamonds.	K.3.	Q.J.10.9.7.4.2.	
Clubs.	A.K.9.	7.	
Score:-	<u>Game All.</u>	Dealer:-	<u>North</u>

