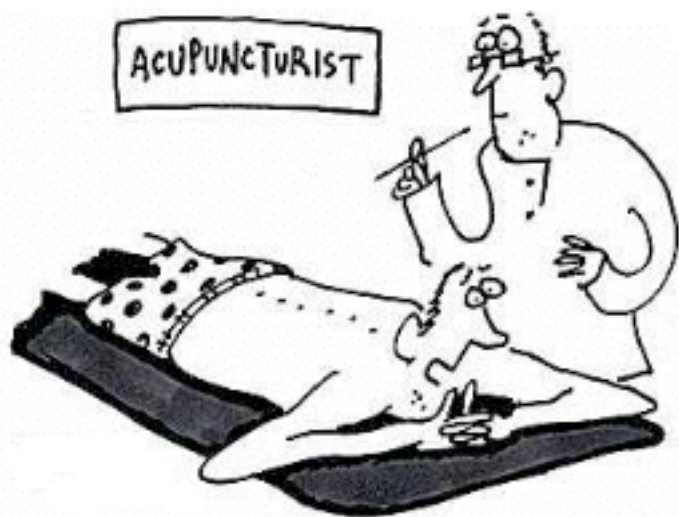


**Hotel signs** (continued from page 3)

SWISS MENU: Our wines leave you nothing to hope for.

AUSTRIAN SKI LODGE: Not to perambulate the corridors in the hours of repose in the boots of ascension.

POLISH MENU: Salad a firm's own make; limpid red beet soup with cheesy dumplings in the form of a finger; roasted duck let loose; beef rashers beaten up in the country people's fashion.



'PLEASE ENTER YOUR PIN'

*News Letter* 2007

# Taieri Bridge Club

Issue Number 128 August 2007



## Club news

By the time you read this our scoring program will be printing the analyses of "Deep Finesse" the scoring program that tells you what the makable contracts are on every hand - by perfect play on both sides. Regular readers of the newsletter will know of my enthusiasm for this information - it is an excellent learning experience trying to confirm these statistics - no matter what level of bridge you play at.

## New Zealand Bridge Congress

Our national bridge congress takes place next month in Hamilton (22 - 29 September). At least three Taieri members will be travelling north for it - Judy, Donna, and myself - if I have overlooked anyone else, please let me know. During the congress results will be posted on the internet on a day-by-day basis so you can follow our progress.

Understandably the congress has many more entries per capita from the North

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### Defensive inferences

You are East and you have listened silently to this bidding:

South	North
1NT	2♦ (transfer)
2♥	4♥

Now your partner leads a small heart and you see this:

Dummy  
 ♠ Q 3  
 ♥ A K Q 7 6 3  
 ♦ 8 6  
 ♣ 9 7 3

You  
 ♠ 9 8 7 6 4  
 ♥ J 5  
 ♦ A K 7  
 ♣ T 6 2

Declarer draws two rounds of trumps and leads a diamond from dummy which you win with the King. This is the critical point of the hand. I was East and missed an inference. Which black suit do you lead?

I woodenly lead a club into dummy's weakest suit. Declarer won with A♣ and led Q♦ which I won and persisted with clubs. But declarer won with K♣ and then discarded a spade and a club on the J♦ and T♦. She made 11 tricks.

outside kings whereas holding the trump queen plus some outside kings she makes an appropriate step response that depends on the number of kings.

Here's an example. The opening hand holds

♠ A 5; ♥ A K J T 9 5; ♦ K J T; ♣ A 5

and the responder holds

♠ K 4 3; ♥ 4; ♦ A Q 9 6 4; ♣ K 8 7 6

The bidding might go

1♥	2♦
4♦ <sup>1</sup>	4♠ <sup>2</sup>
4NT <sup>3</sup>	5♠ <sup>4</sup>
7♣ <sup>5</sup>	

1	Minor keycard ask in diamonds
2	1 or 4 of the diamond key cards
3	Do you have Q♦
4	Yes, and two outside kings as well
5	Yippee!

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Island. However, in October there is a congress in Queenstown (the fourth such) and this is much more accessible for us mainlanders. Why not think of playing bridge whilst sampling the flesh pots of Queenstown? You will find that the standard of play is quite reasonable but that the contestants are friendly. I have certainly enjoyed both the times I went. There is plenty of time allotted to activities away from the card table.

### **Minor keycard Blackwood - wrap up**

Last month I discussed how to use this convention to ask about the 5 key cards in a minor suit when investigating for slam. The responses to either 4♣ or 4♦ give the number of keycards (Aces and King of trumps) held and, when exactly two of these are held, they also tell whether the responder has the queen of trumps.

Having received a response the keycard asker can make a follow-up bid to inquire about the queen of trumps and the non-trump kings.

There are several possible treatments but the one I like best is this:

1. If possession of the trump queen has already been established then bidding the next suit up is an inquiry about non-trump kings. The responder answers in steps: the higher the step the more kings
2. If possession of the trump queen has not yet been established then bidding the next suit but one up is an inquiry about non-trump kings also (with step responses).
3. If possession of the trump queen has not yet been established then bidding the next suit up asks about it. Then, without the trump queen, the responder just bids the next suit up. But if she holds the trump queen she makes a higher bid: the first possibility shows the trump queen and no

I should have known better. Why is declarer playing diamonds? It must mean that she cannot hold both A♠ and K♠ because then she would play spades and discard dummy's diamond loser. She would even play spades if she held both the K♠ and J♠ (or the A♠ and the J♠) because there would be a chance for a spade discard still. So her spade honours are either the A♠ or the K♠ alone. She must have a spade loser and the reason for playing diamonds is that she wants to establish them for spade discards. If I had reasoned like this I would have led spades each time I was in and would have held her to 10 tricks. Declarer's actual hand was

♠ A 5 2; ♥ T 9 4; ♦ Q J T 9; ♣ A K 5

Defence is full of inferences like this.

### **Some Hotel signs from around the world**

TOKYO HOTEL: Is forbidden to steal hotel towels please. If you are not a person to do such thing is please not to read notis.

PARIS HOTEL ELEVATOR: Please leave your values at the front desk.

YUGOSLAVIAN HOTEL: The flattening of underwear with pleasure is the job of the chambermaid.

BANGKOK DRY CLEANERS: Drop your trousers here for best results.

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### Voluptua strips and squeezes

It was the final round of a Swiss teams and, *mirabile dictu*, Voluptua, Randy, Gordon and Frieda were playing at table one. With one hand to go, Voluptua (sitting East) felt that they were slightly behind and that, to win the event, a good result on the final board would be necessary.

Their opponents were the dastardly Weasel and Ferret. This was the bidding:

Ferret (S)	Randy (W)	Weasel (N)	Voluptua (E)
2♥	3♣	Pass	3♠
P	4♦	Pass	6♠

The Ferret's 2♥ bid was alerted as showing a weak hand with 5 hearts and at least 4 cards in some other suit. The rest of the bidding was natural with Voluptua leaping to 6♠. after Randy had shown a good hand (see opposite for the hands). The Ferret led 7♣ and Voluptua studied dummy with some disquiet. In top tricks she had 7 spades, 3 diamonds, and 1 club: 11 only and she needed a 12th. On the bidding the ploy of leading up to the K♥ was almost certainly going to be unsuccessful. Maybe the J♦ would come down in three rounds, or maybe she could finesse against South for this card. Gordon always advised playing off a long suit to see what would happen and so this is what she did. She took the first trick in dummy and started on the spades. On the second

round North showed out. Haha! This showed that North must hold 10 cards in the minors (since South was known to have 5 hearts, North could have two only). In fact the whole hand was

♠ 5  
♥ J 5  
♦ J 8 5 3 2  
♣ K Q T 8 4

♠ 6  
♥ T 3 2  
♦ A K Q T  
♣ A J 9 6 2

♠ A K Q J T 7 3  
♥ K 9 8  
♦ 9 7  
♣ 3

♠ 9 8 4 2  
♥ A Q 7 6 4  
♦ 6 4  
♣ 7 5

After the initial trick and the next 7 rounds of spades, the Weasel (North) had to retain 5 cards. To guard both minors he had to retain 4 diamonds and the Q♣. Reading this perfectly Voluptua played a diamond to dummy and then the J♣. The Weasel took this trick but then had to play away from his J♦ to concede the remainder.

This was enough to win the match and first prize. Randy, who was a keen student of card play, recognised Voluptua's skill and complimented her. Voluptua smiled sweetly: "yes, a strip-squeeze: would you like to try one later, darling?"