

BRIDGE

Number One Hundred and Thirty-Nine

July 2014

Bernard Magee's Acol Bidding Quiz

You are West in the auctions below, playing 'Standard Acol' with a weak no-trump (12-14 points) and 4-card majors.

1. Dealer West. Love All.
 ♠ J 8 6 4 3
 ♥ A
 ♦ Q 7 6 4 3
 ♣ K 2

West North East South
 ?

2. Dealer East. Love All.
 ♠ A 6 5
 ♥ 9 5 2
 ♦ A 4 3
 ♣ Q 8 3 2

West North East South
 ? 1♥ Pass

3. Dealer West. N/S Game.
 ♠ K 2
 ♥ A K 4 3 2
 ♦ A Q J 6
 ♣ 6 4

West North East South
 1♥ Pass 1♣ Pass
 ?

Answers on page 6

4. Dealer East. Love All.
 ♠ A 8 7 3 2
 ♥ 5 4
 ♦ 4 3
 ♣ Q 7 6 5

West North East South
 ? 1♥ Pass
 1♣ Pass 2♦ Pass
 ?

5. Dealer North. N/S Game.
 ♠ 5 4
 ♥ A K 6 3
 ♦ 7 6 2
 ♣ A 10 5 4

West North East South
 ? 1♣ 1♠ Pass

6. Dealer West. Love All.
 ♠ A 2
 ♥ 7 4
 ♦ 7 6 4
 ♣ A K 8 7 6 4

West North East South
 1♣ 1♠ 2♦ Pass
 ?

Answers on page 9

7. Dealer West. Game All.
 ♠ A K 6 4 2
 ♥ 7 6
 ♦ A K 8 7 5
 ♣ 3

West North East South
 1♠ Pass 1NT 2♥
 ?

8. Dealer East. Love All.
 ♠ A K Q 6 5
 ♥ 7 4 2
 ♦ Q J 4
 ♣ 3 2

West North East South
 ? Pass Pass
 1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass
 ?

9. Dealer West. E/W Game.
 ♠ A K 8 5 4
 ♥ K Q 9 8
 ♦ K 4
 ♣ 3 2

West North East South
 1♠ Pass 1NT Pass
 2♥ Pass 3♣ Pass
 ?

Answers on page 11

10. Dealer West. N/S Game.
 ♠ A 8 3
 ♥ A 8 3 2
 ♦ 4
 ♣ A Q 8 7 2

West North East South
 1♣ 1♠ Dbl Pass
 ?

11. Dealer North. N/S Game.
 ♠ 8 6 5
 ♥ A 2
 ♦ A 9 8 7 6 5
 ♣ 7 3

West North East South
 ? 1♣ 1♠ Pass

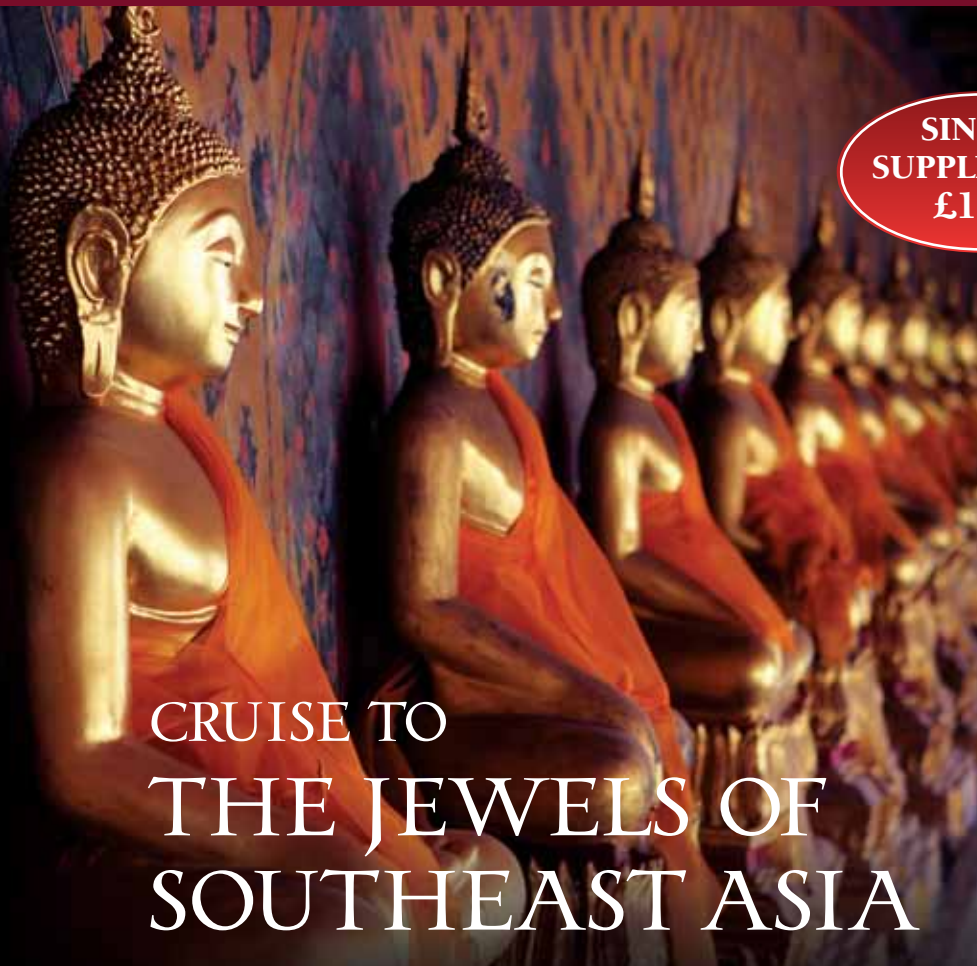
12. Dealer North. Love All.
 ♠ A 9 7 6
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ A K 3
 ♣ 9 7 5 3

West North East South
 ? 2♥* 2NT Pass

*weak, 6-10 HCP and 6 hearts

Answers on page 13

Join Mr & Mrs Bridge on an unforgettable voyage.



CRUISE TO THE JEWELS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT £100*



15-day fly-cruise departs February 16, 2015

DATE	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
FEB 16	Depart UK		
FEB 17	Arrive BANGKOK Thailand		
	Transfer to hotel		overnight hotel
FEB 18	BANGKOK Thailand		overnight hotel
FEB 19	BANGKOK Thailand		
	Embark <i>Aegean Odyssey</i>		8.00pm
FEB 20	At Sea		
FEB 21	KO SAMUI Thailand	6.00am	1.00pm
FEB 22	SIHANOUKVILLE Cambodia (Phnom Penh)	7.00am	8.00pm
FEB 23	At Sea		
FEB 24	HO CHI MINH CITY Vietnam	noon	overnight
FEB 25	HO CHI MINH CITY Vietnam		2.00pm
FEB 26	At Sea		
FEB 27	KUANTAN Malaysia	1.00pm	6.00pm
FEB 28	At Sea		
MAR 1	MALACCA Malaysia	7.00am	6.00pm
MAR 2	SINGAPORE	7.00am	
	Disembark and transfer to Singapore Airport for flight home		

Departs February 16, 2015

Enjoy a daily duplicate on this wonderful cruise.

Sail with Mr & Mrs Bridge to the jewels of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Malaysia. Enjoy daily duplicates, seminars and afternoon bridge when at sea. With sightseeing excursions in all ports visited, this promises to be another truly memorable voyage.



CALL **Mr Bridge** NOW
ON 01483 489961
TO RESERVE YOUR
CABIN, OR VISIT
www.mrbridge.co.uk

†All prices shown are per person, based on double occupancy, available only on certain cabin grades, are subject to availability at the time of booking and may be withdrawn at any time without notice.
*Single accommodation is available only in certain categories and is subject to availability.



Mr Bridge fares from £2,795pp include:

- SCHEDULED ECONOMY CLASS FLIGHTS with free regional connections from selected UK airports
- EXPERT GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAMME
 - DAILY DUPLICATE BRIDGE
 - BRIDGE SEMINARS WHEN AT SEA
- SIGHTSEEING EXCURSIONS AT MOST PORTS OF CALL
 - OPEN-SEATING DINING
 - MR BRIDGE DRINKS PARTY
- COMPLIMENTARY WINE WITH DINNER ON BOARD
- GRATUITIES FOR ON-BOARD CABIN AND RESTAURANT STAFF
- OVERSEAS TRANSFERS AND BAGGAGE HANDLING

MR BRIDGE VALUE FARES†

Standard Inside	from £2,795
Outside	from £3,195
Balcony	from £4,250

PAST PASSENGERS ON AEGEAN ODYSSEY
ENJOY ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS –
please ask for details

Join Mr & Mrs Bridge on a visit to
ANGKOR WAT, CAMBODIA

Depart UK on the 13th and extend your Bangkok stay with a 3-day excursion by air to Siem Reap in Cambodia to visit the magnificent temple ruins at Angkor.

2 NIGHTS SIEM REAP/1 NIGHT BANGKOK
Supplement including flights
Twin sharing £589pp/Single £695pp



BRIDGE

Ryden Grange, Knaphill,
Surrey GU21 2TH

☎ 01483 489961

bridge@mrbridge.co.uk

www.mrbridge.co.uk

shop: www.mrbridge.co.uk/
mrbridge-shop

Managing Editor
Mr Bridge

Bridge Consultant
Bernard Magee

bernard@mrbridge.co.uk

Cartoons & Illustrations
Marguerite Lihou
www.margueritelihou.co.uk

Commissioning Editor
David Huggett
davidhuggett
@mrbridge.co.uk

Customer Services
Catrina Shackleton
catrina@mrbridge.co.uk

Technical Consultant
Tony Gordon

Typesetting & Design
Ruth Edmondson
ruth@mrbridge.co.uk

Proof Readers
Tony & Jan Richards
Richard Wheen
Hugh Williams

Office Manager
Rachel Everett
rachel@mrbridge.co.uk

Events & Cruises
☎ 01483 489961
Rosie Baker
rosie@mrbridge.co.uk
Jessica Galt
jessica@mrbridge.co.uk

Megan Riccio
megan@mrbridge.co.uk
Sophie Pierrepont
sophie@mrbridge.co.uk

Clubs & Charities
Maggie Axtell
maggie@mrbridge.co.uk

Address Changes
☎ 01483 485342
Elizabeth Bryan
elizabeth@mrbridge.co.uk

FEATURES

- 1 **Bidding Quiz**
by Bernard Magee
- 4 **Mr Bridge**
- 6 **Bidding Quiz Answers**
(1-3) by Bernard Magee
- 9 **Bidding Quiz Answers**
(4-6) by Bernard Magee
- 11 **Bidding Quiz Answers**
(7-9) by Bernard Magee
- 13 **Bidding Quiz Answers**
(10-12) by Bernard Magee
- 14 **Robin Hood's Charitable Mission**
by David Bird
- 16 **David Stevenson Answers Your Questions**
- 20 **The Scottish Senior Ski Team Tries its Hand at Bridge?**
by John Barr
- 21 **Par Contests**
by Shireen Mohandes
- 23 **Defence Quiz**
by Julian Pottage
- 27 **Why Should I Play Transfers?**
by Julian Pottage
- 28 **Readers' Letters**
- 31 **Mary's Seventh Lesson**
by Liz Dale
- 32 **Defence Quiz Answers**
by Julian Pottage
- 33 **Declarer Play Quiz**
by David Huggett
- 33 **Bridge and Travel Tips**
- 34 **Julian Pottage Answers Your Questions**
- 38 **July 2014**
by Jeremy Dhondy
- 39 **Declarer Play Answers**
by David Huggett
- 40 **An Accusation**
by Richard Wheen
- 42 **The Diaries of Wendy Wensum**
- 43 **Catching Up**
by Sally Brock
- 45 **Seven Days**
by Sally Brock
- 2 **Bangkok to Singapore with Voyages to Antiquity**
- 3 **Rubber/Chicago Bridge Events**
- 5 **Subscriptions to BRIDGE**
- 6 **Bridge Events at Elstead Hotel**
- 7 **Mail Order Form Names and Addresses**
- 8 **Bridge Event Booking Form**
- 8 **Bridge Events with Bernard Magee**
- 9 **S R Designs Bridge Tables**
- 10 **Bernard Magee's Tutorial Software**
- 11 **Tunisia with Mr Bridge**
- 12 **QPlus 11**
- 12 **We Are Survivors Teatowel**
- 13 **Bridge Events at Clifton Park Hotel**
- 17 **Duplicate Bridge Rules Simplified**
- 18 **Tips for Better Bridge**
- 19 **2014 Festive Season with Mr Bridge**
- 24 **Mediterranean Cruises with Voyages to Antiquity**
- 26 **Bernard Magee DVDs**
- 28 **Clive Goff's Stamps**
- 30 **Charity Events**
- 30 **S R Designs Leather Gifts**
- 31 **Better Hand Evaluation**
- 37 **Bridge Events at The Olde Barn Hotel**
- 39 **Mr Bridge Playing Cards**
- 41 **Bridge Events at Blunsdon House Hotel**
- 44 **Mr Bridge Just Duplicate Bridge**
- 48 **Denham Grove Filming Weekend 2015**

All correspondence should be addressed to Mr Bridge. Please make sure that all letters and e-mails carry full postal addresses and telephone numbers.

ADVERTISEMENTS

RUBBER / CHICAGO 2014



The Olde Barn
Marston,
Lincs NG32 2HT



29-31 August
Hosted by
Diana Holland



£169 Full Board
No Single Supplement



Booking Form on page 8.

FEBRUARY VOYAGE



Now that Mrs Bridge has thankfully made a full recovery we feel able to make some plans.

We thought of the comfort of Aegean Odyssey and the warmth of Thailand in February and were soon sold on the idea. We also decided to include the pre-cruise excursion to Angkor Watt as the extra cost seems good value. This means we can visit the Jewels of Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam, before sailing down the Malaysian Peninsula to Singapore.

Make a provisional booking and I will hold a cabin for seven days while you look into insurance, kennels, cattery and other personal matters. I suggest you do this as previously many of you have been really disappointed. There is an advertisement on the inside front cover.
☎ 01483 489961.

MODERN MAN

New computers, new operating software, new telephone system, new database management software, new postage machine. A lot of NEWS.

To help me cope with all this, I have appointed Bernard Magee as Associate Editor with immediate effect. The future of my

monthly magazine, BRIDGE, will rest increasingly on his broad shoulders. In addition to visiting all the extant writers he will be pro-active in seeking out new material and fresh contributors.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, I will quietly continue as managing editor. The role is largely devoid of technical bridge, but I will keep you up to speed with all my recent initiatives. Including apps, DVDs, interactive CDs and hotels and ships new to us.

GET ONE FREE

2015 diaries are in stock and those who have taken advantage of my introductory subscription may order their 2015 diary from stock and receive one free. This offer is in place until the end of July.

Standard diaries are £6.95. They come in navy, red, green or maroon. The luxury version with soft kidrell cover and ballpoint pen is available in either ruby red or navy blue. £14.95. Those who have ordered will find their free diary included with their own.

QPLUS HANDS

Last month all the strange and wonderful hands that I have drawn to reader's attention in the last 3 years were listed. If you missed this, send me an email and I will forward you the list. bridge@mrbridge.co.uk

TUNISIA ALL IN

From this coming November, our policy is to have bed, board, beverages and bridge combined in an all-inclusive package. I had thought this would be

inappropriate for bridge players as they wouldn't want to drink too much and spoil their game. However, all-inclusive now seems the norm in Tunisia. See page 11 for our November and March dates and prices.

GOFFIES STAMPS



Following the recent rise in postal charges, Clive Goff's discounted stamp service is worth a try. Value supplied in two stamps, combined to make up the 53p, 2nd class rate 2nd class to you at 44p. 1st class 62p, still only 50p to you. Available in lots of 100.
☎ 0208 422 4906.

CROATIA

Our first visit to Croatia was a great success and we are confidently preparing to offer a fortnight at the same venue at more or less the same price in 2015. Indeed, Bernard Magee's report to my office made very good reading, so much so that I was planning to print it on the facing page but was dissuaded from so doing as it seemed really OTT. However, I would be only too pleased to send a copy either by email or post. Just ask.

REPEAT

When you go on holiday, do try to resolve any difficulties at the time either with the airline or

hotel. It may sound obvious, but all too often, the first we hear of any problems is when it is too late to do anything about it.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

I have been collecting subscriptions for over a year now at the special £20 introductory rate. Readers whose subscriptions have expired may renew at the same special rate.

MY EXPERTS SAY

Last month, Peter Green, of Barnet, Herts, wrote in with details of a hand the like of which had never before cropped-up in over the fifty years he has been playing bridge. See the diagram below:

♠ A K x x x x x
♥ Void
♦ K Q x x x x
♣ Void

He said he'd like to know what I would have done.

I said I'd ask Julian Pottage, Bernard Magee and Sally Brock for their suggestions and promised to publish their replies in the July issue. Here's what they have to say.

Julian Pottage playing strong two's (he can just about remember what they are) would open 2♠. Otherwise, he would open 1♠. The chance that the bidding would go 1♠-pass is extremely remote. Sally Brock says that Peter seemed to manage the hand perfectly without any help from her. She thinks he did just the right thing. The best way to get partner to volunteer support for your suit is to make a simple one-level opening. Then,

when he does support, bidding a slam is perfect. Well done. The only foolish person was his right-hand opponent. Did she think you didn't know you had those two aces missing?

Bernard Magee said 1♠.

JUNIOR TEACH-IN

22-24 August 2014 at Loughborough University run by English Bridge Education and Development. All levels will be catered for – from absolute beginners to junior experts. Come and enjoy a packed weekend of bridge coaching, play and social activities for all young people under the age of 21. Only £140 per student inclusive of all meals, two nights en suite accommodation and all the bridge tuition and play. For more information or to book please call Lisa on ☎ 01296 317217, email: lisa@ebu.co.uk info at <http://www.ebu.co.uk/youth.Junior-Teach-In>

LOOKING AHEAD



Bernard Magee will be hosting bridge on board three quite different Mediterranean cruises next year on lovely Aegean Odyssey. The supplement for single occupancy of a cabin has been kept to an absolute minimum and if you are one of the growing numbers who want a cabin to themselves, I strongly

urge you to make your booking and keep yourself warmly comforted in the coming winter months with the prospect. See centre fold for dates and itineraries.

STOCK CLEARANCE

The remainder of the May clearance is listed on the back of the carrier sheet. If you have binned yours, do ask what is left.

USED STAMPS

I am still saving my used stamps in support of 'Little Voice' and I hope you are too. With Bernard travelling around the country, I will use him as a collector. More details of this next month or send them to: Mr M Finebaum, 8 Mountford House, Crescent Road, Enfield, EN2 7BL.

FRESH DATA

Do keep sending in names and addresses of those who might like to see a printed copy of BRIDGE. After all they don't know what they are missing. If they include an email address, I will, let them know as soon as I have put it up on our website. Telephone or use the form on page 7.

VOYAGER

I have heard talk of the possibility of a very good deal for the Black Sea cruise on Voyager in October, but at the time of going to press I have no details. Anyone interested ring Maggie ☎ 01483 489961 and she will give you the up-to date news and prices. The offer, when it comes, really looks attractive but I can't say more at this stage.

WHAT LUCK



I have a quantity of the first set of Bernard Magee's DVDs without cellophane wrappers and/or boxes.

There are still some to clear at £30 including delivery, reduced from £100. The set of six is guaranteed. Order by phone or by post or online at www.mrbridge.co.uk/shop/

RETHINK



The clearance of the first series of DVDs has made me rethink the packaging and as you know I have been selling off the second series, all in sealed boxes, at £48 per box inclusive of postage and packing. I am now going to clear all the second series DVDs at £38 a set (of six), inclusive of postage and packing until they are sold out.

WHILE I'M AT IT

To be completely consistent, I am clearing out the entire remaining stock of series 3 at £54 per set. Singles are not on offer. Strictly subject to availability but they must be cleared to make room for the new production run.

What luck indeed, everyone's a winner.

All good wishes,

Mr Bridge

BRIDGE

Make sure you don't miss your favourite monthly articles by taking out an annual subscription.

- Acol Bidding Quiz & Answers Bernard Magee
- Ask Julian Pottage
- Julian's FAQs
- Misleading Cases as reported by our court correspondent
- Ask David Stevenson
- David's FAQs
- Mary's First Lesson
- Helpful Conventions and Related Quiz
- Defence Quiz
- Tales from Sherwood Forest by David Bird
- Things You Should Know...
- Catching up
- Seven Days
- Jeremy Dhondy
- Sally Brock Tip
- Travel Tip
- Readers Letters

SPECIAL OFFER PRICE

Special Introductory Subscription: £20 for twelve monthly issues.

See mail order form on page 7.



Answers to Bernard Magee's Bidding Quizzes 1-3 on the Cover

1. Dealer West. Love All.

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



West	North	East	South
?			

Pass. What are the requirements for an opening bid?

Usually 12 HCP or 13 points including length. Some players use the rule of 20: this rule requires you to add the number of cards in your two longest suits to your point count. If the total comes to 20 or more, then you have the potential for an opening bid. The key here is that you have the 'potential', not that you should open the bidding. Very often, the key to good light opening bids are strong suits.

Hands like this one will always work out well if you find a fit, but if you do not have a fit your hand is going to be a long way short of an opening hand: you are unlikely to be able to use your two long suits to establish tricks because of their weakness, leaving you with only two useful cards.

If ever you are borderline for an opening bid, consider the strength of your long suits. Here, if you open, the auction would start 1♠-2♥-2♠-?. You are too high already.

2. Dealer East. Love All.

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



West	North	East	South
?		1♥	Pass

1NT. You have 10 HCP, but your 4-3-3-3 shape is the most undesirable – it offers

no ruffing potential and very little chance to establish a suit. I like to take a full point off with this shape: perhaps if there are mitigating factors (tens and nines or useful cards in partner's suit), you could still treat it as worth 10 points, but with no such factors here, you should change the evaluation of your hand to 9 points and therefore you should respond 1NT.

If you respond 2♣ or 2NT, you will take the auction too high: the hands have 25 HCP between them, but game is not within reach because of the lack of shape and potential in your hand.

3. Dealer West. N/S Game.

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



West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
?			

2♦. Your natural rebid would be in diamonds, to show five hearts and four diamonds. When starting out in bridge, we divide our rebids between strong and weak opening hands: rebidding 2♦ with 12-15 points and rebidding 3♦ with 16-19. However, as you move on in the game, you will have noticed that a jump rebid at the 3-level takes the auction very high and more importantly, it is a forcing bid, which means you do need to be very strong. Your partner might have just 6 HCP, so to make a rebid at the 3-level, you would need at least 19 total points: enough to make game likely. You are not strong enough for 3♦ with this hand, but you do have one other option: 1NT.

If you had cover in clubs and diamonds, then 1NT is a reasonable lie – showing your strength (15-17) and being semi-balanced. However, with your weak clubs, 2♦ is a better bid, knowing that only very rarely will your partner pass.

East may well pass 2♦ on this hand, but you will be pleased to be in the best partscore with game beyond reach. ■

Elstead Hotel

Bournemouth BH1 3QP



10-12 October £199

Just Duplicate

Jo Walch

31 October – 2 November £199

Just Duplicate

Val Passmore

14-16 November £199

Just Duplicate

Mary Stebbing

21-23 November £245

Doubles

Bernard Magee

Full Board – No Single Supplement

Booking Form on page 8.



BRIDGE BREAKS

- ◆ Full-board
- ◆ All rooms with en-suite facilities
- ◆ No single supplement
- ◆ Two seminars*
- ◆ Two supervised play sessions*
- ◆ Four bridge sessions**

Please book places for me at £..... per person,

Single Double Twin

Name of Hotel/Centre.....

Date(s)

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

Postcode

.....

Special requirements (these cannot be guaranteed, but we will do our best to oblige).

Please give the name(s) of all those covered by this booking.

Please send a non-returnable deposit of £50 per person per place by cheque, payable to Mr Bridge. An invoice for the balance will be sent with your booking confirmation. On receipt of your final payment, 28 days before the event, a programme and full details will be sent together with a map. Cancellations are not refundable. Should you require insurance, you should contact your own insurance broker.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Expiry: CVV Issue No.
(CVV is the last 3 numbers on the signature strip)

Mr Bridge, Ryden Grange, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2TH.

01483 489961

e-mail: jessica@mrbridge.co.uk

website: www.holidaybridge.com



*on tutorial weekends only. **6 sessions on rubber/Chicago & Just Duplicate events.
Please note: Just Duplicate events contain no seminars and do not award prizes.

BRIDGE EVENTS with Bernard Magee



Chatsworth Hotel
Worthing BN11 3DU

28-30 Blunsdon House
£245 Distributional Hands

JANUARY 2015

23-25 Blunsdon House
£245 Competitive Bidding **NEW**



Elstead Hotel
Bournemouth BH1 3QP

SEPTEMBER

26-28 Holiday Inn
£245 Doubles

OCTOBER

3-5 Chatsworth Hotel
£245 Game Tries



Holiday Inn
Newport, S Wales NP18 2YG

30-1/2 Holiday Inn
£245 Finding Slams

FEBRUARY 2015

20-22 Inn on the Prom
£245 Better Leads and Switches

APRIL 2015

17-19 Olde Barn Hotel
£245 Better Finessing

10-12 Olde Barn Hotel
£245 Endplay & Avoidance

24-26 Queensferry Hotel
£245 Declarer Play

NOVEMBER

7-9 Chatsworth Hotel
£245 Hand Evaluation

14-16 Blunsdon House
£245 Further into the Auction

21-23 Elstead Hotel
£245 Doubles



The Olde Barn Hotel
Marston, Lincs NG32 2HT

**Full Board. No Single Supplement.
See Adjacent Booking Form.**

Answers to Bernard Magee's Bidding Quizzes 4-6 on the Cover

4. Dealer East. Love All.

♠ A 8 7 3 2	♠ 4
♥ 5 4	♥ AK 7 6 3
♦ 4 3	♦ AK 7 2
♣ Q 7 6 5	♣ 9 4 3



West	North	East	South
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
?			

2♥. Your partner has shown two suits and you have a very weak hand. With a weak hand, you have three options: pass, give preference to partner's first suit, or rebid your own suit. You should rebid your own suit only if you are pretty sure that it will make the best partscore: this means you should have at least a six-card spade suit because your partner will pass with a singleton. Here, as you can see, 2♠ would not be great. Instead, you choose one of your partner's suits, giving preference to his first bid suit: 2♥.

5. Dealer North. N/S Game.

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



West	North	East	South
	1♠	1♠	Pass

1NT. Responding to an overcall is not the same as responding to an opening bid. First of all, you do not have to respond with 6 points; very

often, you will simply pass. Secondly, your partner can be quite a bit weaker than an opening hand, which means your no-trump responses should be quite a bit stronger. A 1NT response shows about 9-12 points, fewer than three spades and a club stop, which describes your hand beautifully.

Overcalls come up frequently, so knowing how to respond accurately is very important.

6. Dealer West. Love All.

♠ A 2	♠ 5 3
♥ 7 4	♥ A 8 6 2
♦ 7 6 4	♦ AK 9 8 2
♣ AK 8 7 6 4	♣ Q 2



West	North	East	South
1♣	1♠	2♦	Pass

3♣. Unless you have a different agreement with your partner, his 2♦ response is natural and forcing, so you must not pass. You have a minimum opening hand: your six-card suit certainly making it worth opening: simply rebid your suit and await developments. Here, your partner's next bid would be 3♠, the opponents' suit, to ask if you had a stopper and you would gladly say yes by rebidding 3NT.

If you ever decide to open light, do not try to slow down the auction later because you regret your action: above all, do not pass a forcing bid, just show your weakness by rebidding your long suit. ■

Great Tables

Hand-crafted in France



Monaco model
velour top. £269

- * Solid beech wood
- * Stained mahogany finish
- * Pelissier lock-hinges
- * Traditional felt or velour playing surface
- * From £149 plus £10 delivery

Great Gifts

Pens, bidding boxes etc.



See our full range on the website
www.bridge-tables.co.uk
or telephone Monday-Friday on
01483 750611
SR Designs, Send Business Park, GU23 7EF

Great Prices

Delivered to your door

BERNARD MAGEE'S INTERACTIVE TUTORIALS

BEGIN BRIDGE ACOL VERSION

- Card Play Technique
- Planning Card Play
- Bidding Balanced Hands
- Bidding Suits
- Responding to a Suit
- Supporting Partner
- Responding to 1NT
- Stayman
- Strong Two Opening and Response
- Overcalls **£66**
- Doubles
- Pre-empting
- Defence against No Trump Contracts
- Defence against Suit Contracts

ACOL BIDDING

- Opening Bids and Responses
- Slams and Strong Openings
- Support for Partner
- Pre-empting
- Overcalls **£66**
- No-trump Openings and Responses
- Opener's and Responder's Rebids
- Minors and Misfits
- Doubles
- Competitive Auctions

ADVANCED ACOL BIDDING

- Basics
- Advanced Basics
- Weak Twos
- Strong Hands
- Defence to Weak Twos
- Defence to 1NT
- Doubles **£96**
- Two-suited Overcalls
- Defences to Other Systems
- Misfits and Distributional Hands

DECLARER PLAY

- Suit Establishment in No-trumps
- Suit Establishment in Suits
- Hold-ups
- Ruffing for Extra Tricks
- Entries in No-trumps **£76**
- Delaying Drawing Trumps
- Using the Lead
- Trump Control
- Endplays & Avoidance
- Using the Bidding

ADVANCED DECLARER PLAY

- Making Overtricks in No-trumps
- Making Overtricks in Suit Contracts
- Endplays
- Avoidance
- Wrong Contract **£81**
- Simple Squeezes
- Counting the Hand
- Trump Reductions & Coups
- Playing Doubled Contracts
- Safety Plays

DEFENCE

- Lead vs No-trump Contracts
- Lead vs Suit Contracts
- Partner of Leader vs No-trump Contracts
- Partner of Leader vs Suit Contracts
- Count Signals **£76**
- Attitude Signals
- Discarding
- Defensive Plan
- Stopping Declarer
- Counting the Hand

FIVE-CARD MAJORS & Strong No-Trump

- Opening Bids & Responses
- No-Trump Openings **£89**
- Support for Partner
- Slams & Strong Openings
- Rebids
- Minors & Misfits
- Pre-empting
- Doubles
- Overcalls
- Competitive Auctions

BETTER BRIDGE

- Ruffing for Extra Tricks
- Doubling and Defence Against Doubled Contracts **£69**
- Play and Defence of 1NT Contracts
- Finding and Bidding Slams
- Making the Most of High Cards
- Competitive Auctions



Make your cheque payable to Mr Bridge and send to: Mr Bridge, Ryden Grange, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2TH



☎ 01483 489961 www.mrbridge.co.uk/mrbridge-shop



System Requirements: Windows XP, Vista, 7 or 8, 8mb RAM, CD-ROM



Answers to Bernard Magee's Bidding Quizzes 7-9 on the Cover

7. Dealer West. Game All.

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



West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♥
?			

Pass. You open 1♠, partner responds 1NT and then South interrupts rudely with 2♥. You would have had a simple rebid of 2♦ available, but now you are a little stuck. A lot of players would bid 2♠ with this hand, but don't forget about your partner: if your partner has three spades in his hand, he can bid 2♠ himself and if he doesn't, then do you really want to play in spades?

3♦ takes the auction rather high opposite a partner who might have just 6 HCP. Unfortunately, you are left with little choice but to pass. However, your partner is still there and he might be able to bid again if he has a long minor or he may prefer simply to defend 2♥, which is the case here.

You may well get a ruff in each hand and end up taking 2♥ two down for +200 and a great score.

8. Dealer East. Love All.

♠ A K Q 6 5	♠ 4 2
♥ 7 4 2	♥ A K 10 5 3
♦ Q J 4	♦ 7 6 2
♣ 3 2	♣ Q J 6



West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
?		2♥	Pass

Pass. The first two calls of this auction

are very important, or more pertinently your partner's original pass. When you know your partner is limited, the whole framework of your bidding changes slightly: particularly the emphasis on having to make a rebid.

In a normal auction, East's 2♥ bid is unlimited: 10 or more points, but since East has passed, you know he has 9-11 points, which means that you know game is beyond reach.

Your partner has shown five or more hearts and you have three, which means you have a fit and, given that game is beyond reach, you should leave the bidding where it is and pass.

When your partner has passed as the dealer, you do not have to keep the auction open in the same way as usual because you know he has fewer than 12 points.

9. Dealer West. E/W Game.

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



West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
?			

Pass. What has your partner got?

He started by responding 1NT, but has now bid clubs: this means he did not have enough strength to bid clubs originally. So he has 6-8 points and long clubs: he should have at least six clubs, because he is suggesting that 3♣ will be a better contract than playing in either of your two suits. Your partner is not inviting you to bid again, he is asking you to trust him.

East is quite right. 3♣ is by far the best contract. ■

Mr Bridge **ALL INCLUSIVE**

AT THE ROYAL KENZ TUNISIA 2014/2015



Two-week All-Inclusive Duplicate Bridge Holidays

2-16 November 2014 **£899***

Golf available

Tony and Jan Richards

1-15 March 2015 **£935***

Golf available

Bernard Magee and his team

*The prices shown are per person on an all inclusive basis, sharing a twin-bedded standard room and are inclusive of bridge fees. Standard rooms all come with private bath, toilet and balcony. Single rooms are double rooms for sole occupancy at a supplement of £6 per night. You can add a pool view supplement for £3 per person per night or a superior garden view room with bath robe, tea/coffee making facility for £5 per person per night. These prices are based on air travel from Heathrow to Tunis. Flights from other airports are available at a supplement. For details of what is included as part of the all inclusive package please call for an information pack or view the website. Prices for seven-night stays are available on application.

These holidays have been organised for Mr Bridge by Tunisia First Limited, ATOL 5933.

DETAILS & BOOKINGS

☎ **01483 489961**

www.mrbridge.co.uk/abroad

We Are Survivors

(For those born Before 1940 . . .)

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, videos and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens, before dish-washers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes . . . and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be?). We thought 'fast food' was what you ate in Lent, a 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat and 'crumpet' we had for tea. We existed before house husbands, computer dating and sheltered accommodation was where you waited for a bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, artificial hearts, word processors, or young men wearing earrings. For us 'time sharing' meant togetherness, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts and 'software' wasn't a word.

Before 1940 'Made in Japan' meant junk, the term 'making out' referred to how you did in your exams, 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' meant staying on a double-decker bus to the terminus. In our day, cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', 'grass' was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coalhouse, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you ate on Sundays and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock Music' was a fond mother's lullaby, 'Eldorado' was an ice-cream, a 'gay person' was the life and soul of the party, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment or help for someone in trouble.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder there is a generation gap today . . . BUT

*By the grace of God . . .
we have survived!*

Printed in the UK on a
100% cotton tea-towel
£7 from Art Screen Prints
☎ 01287 654481

Q PLUS 11

Really user-friendly bridge-playing software

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Help button - explains the features for bidding and card play advice
- Displays on HD and large screens
- Comprehensive manual
- Minibrige option
- Save match function
- Feed in your own deals
- 5,000 preplayed hands for teams
- 4,000 preplayed hands for match-point pairs
- Pre-programmed systems include Acol, Standard American and many more or create your own system.
- Closed room – button to view other table

£92

including
UK post and packing

QPLUS TRADE-IN OFFER

Return any QPLUS CD and booklet with a cheque for £50 and receive wonderful QPLUS 11.

Order with confidence.

System: 8mb RAM, CD-ROM, Windows XP, Vista, 7 or 8

See Mail Order Form on page 7.

Answers to Bernard Magee's Bidding Quizzes 10-12 on the Cover

10. Dealer West. N/S Game.

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



West	North	East	South
1♣	1♣	Dbl	Pass
?			

3♥. Natural Acol tends to include take-out doubles of suit bids on the first round of bidding. Your partner's double is for take-out and, when only one major has been bid, the double should promise support for the other major. Expecting your partner to hold four hearts, you should certainly reply in hearts, but you also have to assess at which level to bid. Your singleton should push you up: 14 HCP, a five-card suit and a singleton is enough to jump to 3♥ (six losers). Your partner would raise to game, which should make comfortably.

East's double is called a negative (or Sputnik) double: it is an important part of any bidder's armoury, allowing you to cope with overcalls more easily. Generally, the double promises at least four cards in an unbid major.

11. Dealer North. N/S Game.

♠ 8 6 5	♠ A K 7 4 2
♥ A 2	♥ 9 7 6
♦ A 9 8 7 6 5	♦ 2
♣ 7 3	♣ K Q 8 5



West	North	East	South
?	1♣	1♣	Pass

2♣. Your partner has overcalled in spades, promising a five-card suit,

which means you have a fit. Once you have found a fit in a major, there is no reason to look any further. You might consider passing, but that would give your opponents an easy opportunity to compete for the deal. Spades are the most powerful suit because they win the auction at each level: by supporting to 2♣, you force North to bid to the 3-level if he wants to try to find a fit and compete for the deal. Your raise to 2♣ keeps North quiet and wins the auction. Had you passed or bid 2♦, your opponents might well have found their heart fit, which would allow them to compete for the deal.

12. Dealer North. Love All.

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



West	North	East	South
?	2♥*	2NT	Pass

*weak, 6-10 points and 6 hearts.

3♣. North has opened 2♥, announced as 'weak', which shows 6-10 points and six hearts. Your partner overcalled 2NT, which is a natural overcall showing a strong balanced hand: about 16-19 points.

Generally, if your side's first natural call is in no-trumps (at the one or two-level), then you should play all of your conventions in response to it.

Here, you have enough strength for game, but should investigate to see if you have a spade fit first by using Stayman, 3♣. When partner shows four spades, you can raise to game. 4♣ is excellent, whilst 3NT has no chance on the obvious heart lead. ■

Clifton Park Hotel

St Annes on Sea
FY8 1HN



JUST DUPLICATE

11-13 July
Ray Hutchinson
£199

8-10 August
Kay Adamson
£199



Full Board No Single Supplement

Booking Form on page 8.



Robin Hood's Charitable Mission

It was more than two months before the main harvest would be gathered and food supplies were running low in the small villages surrounding Nottingham. In such circumstances, Robin Hood regarded it his public duty to gather funds by any possible means.

Hood and Nazir entered the Weary Pilgrim, a staging post on the West side of Nottingham. They had abandoned their outlaw garb and wore the soiled clothing of typical workmen.

Hood spotted two well-dressed merchants, sitting at a table in the rear of the establishment. 'You looking for a game?' he enquired.

Rupert Locke surveyed the scruffy new arrivals disdainfully. 'If you're seeking some light entertainment at penny stakes, try the Ferret and Trouser down the road,' he replied. 'My colleague and I play for a crown a hundred.'

The outlaws took their seats at the table. 'That's no problem so far as we're concerned,' Hood replied. 'As long as we win, of course!'

'If it's not too much trouble, we'll see the colour of your money first,' declared Jeb Silver, whose smart jacket and breeches would have cost any normal man six months' wages. 'We don't want to waste our time.'

Robin Hood produced a deerskin purse and loosened the string to permit the two men to view its contents. Reassured by the glint of silver and gold, they nodded their acquiescence. The game began and this was the first deal:

Dealer North. Love All.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Rupert Locke</i>	<i>Nazir</i>	<i>Jeb Silver</i>	<i>Robin Hood</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	4♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Rupert Locke was not amused to have a slam bid against him on the first deal. These clowns presumably had no idea how to play the game. That didn't mean they couldn't make a small slam when they happened to be dealt twelve or thirteen tricks on top. Still, their luck wouldn't last all evening. If they thought they could have one lucky rubber and flee into the night with their winnings, they had another think coming. He led the ♠K and down went the dummy.

'I was going to raise to 2♥,' observed Nazir. 'When he bid spades, I added 5 points for my singleton spade.'

Robin Hood managed to keep a straight face. It was their general

tactics in these money games to appear to be inexperienced players. Mind you, Nazir was overacting the role somewhat.

Hood won the first trick with the ♠A and drew trumps with the king and queen. His spade loser could be ruffed in dummy. How could he give himself the best chance of setting up an extra club trick to discard a diamond loser from his hand? It would be child's play if clubs broke no worse than 4-2. What if West had started with a singleton club and East held five clubs? In that case, it seemed that he might need to use his ♣9 later.

Robin Hood led the ♣6 from his hand and raised an eyebrow when the ♣10 appeared from West. If that was part of ♣K10 or ♣J10, setting up the clubs would be straightforward. If, instead, it was a singleton, he must win with the ace to preserve the power of his ♣9.

Robin Hood reached for dummy's ace of clubs and returned a low club towards his nine. Jeb Silver realised that there was no future in playing the ♣J. Whether or not declarer held the missing ♣9, his ♣K would be caught subsequently with a lead from dummy's ♣Q8 for a ruffing finesse. He chose to play low, hoping that West held the ♣9. Hood's ♣9 won the trick and the slam was made. He conceded a diamond trick at the end.

Robin Hood turned towards Jeb Silver. 'I thought that might happen!' he exclaimed. 'It was difficult for you when the ten appeared from your partner. It could so easily have been

from the 10-9.'

The two merchants could not believe what they were hearing. The declarer was so dim-witted, he hadn't even appreciated the position. Once he had decided not to finesse the ♣Q, the slam was cold however East defended.

Two or three hands later, Rupert Locke advanced the rubber to Game All with a straightforward 3NT. The players then picked up their cards for this deal:

Dealer South. Game All.

♠ K Q
♥ 6 4
♦ A 10 7 6 5
♣ K Q J 5

♠ 8 4 3
♥ Q J 10 8
♦ 8 2
♣ A 10 9 4

♠ 5 2
♥ 9 7 5 3 2
♦ K J 9 3
♣ 8 2

♠ A J 10 9 7 6
♥ A K
♦ Q 4
♣ 7 6 3

W E
N S

West	North	East	South
Rupert Locke	Nazir	Jeb Silver	Robin Hood
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	6♣	All Pass	3♣

When playing high-stakes bridge, it was the custom of Hood and Nazir to prune their auctions to the minimum. Using the latest conventions, such as the Duke of Richmond's 4NT ace-asking bid, would be a sure give-away that they were expert players. For as long as possible, they would maintain the illusion that they were inexperienced clodpoles with more money than sense.

Rupert Locke led the ♥Q against the spade slam and down went the dummy. Hood's eyes narrowed as he inspected the cards that Nazir had lain down. As on the previous slam hand, he would need to establish a diamond discard on dummy's club suit. That might be possible if clubs broke 3-3

or if West held the ♣A. Mind you, if West held four clubs to the ace, he would need to lead towards the clubs three times.

Robin Hood won the heart lead with the king and immediately led the ♣3. West played low and the ♣K won the trick. Hood continued with dummy's ♠K and then overtook the ♠Q with the ♠A. After drawing West's last trump, he led a second club towards dummy. Once again Rupert Locke played low in the West seat, dummy's queen winning the trick.

all the trumps and knock out the ♣A. I think that comes to twelve tricks.'

Jeb Silver extracted the ♦K from his hand and held it a couple of inches from Hood's eyes. 'Still think you'd have made it?'

At the prevailing crown-a-100 stake, the outlaws pocketed a substantial amount from the first rubber. Robin Hood then rose to his feet. 'A very pleasant game, gentlemen,' he declared. 'First time we've won for over a month. Quit while you're ahead is my motto.'



Hood returned to his hand with the ♥A and led a third round of clubs towards dummy. With a black expression, Rupert Locke took his ♣A and switched to a diamond. Hood won with dummy's ♦A and discarded the ♦Q on the established ♣J. The slam had been made.

'By the Saints, partner!' thundered Jeb Silver. 'Can you not find a diamond lead?'

'I think I might still make it,' said Robin Hood.

'Oh yeah?' exclaimed Jeb Silver. It really was too much, losing an expensive rubber to these ill-bred dunderheads. 'How's that, then?'

'Well, you see, I would play a low diamond from dummy,' Hood explained. 'If I'm lucky and your friend holds the ♦K, I can win the trick in my hand with the ♦Q. Then I would draw

'Take your seat!' snarled Jeb Silver. 'No gentleman would turn tail and flee into the night without giving his opponents a chance to recoup their losses.'

'But it's already quite late,' replied Robin Hood. 'Did I not hear the nightwatchman call nine on the clock a short while ago?'

Rupert Locke beckoned for the game to resume. 'You've hit a run of good fortune,' he said. 'It would be a shame to waste it.'

Feigning reluctance, Hood and Nazir resumed their seats. The winnings from the first rubber would feed a couple of villages up till harvest time. In a few hours, with any luck, they would have cleaned these two out. Now, what adventures would the next rubber hold? ■

(continued next month)



Can Declarer Change a Card called from Dummy?

Q I was at a table with the director in opposition. I was declarer in 5♣. The lead was in dummy and I called mistakenly for the ♥5 and changed it immediately to a trump. No cards were touched, but the director said that I had to play the heart as I had nominated the lead verbally. Is this correct? If so, why is it that if declarer leads from the wrong hand and is corrected by the opposition, he can lead another suit from the right hand? I find it rather confusing as I feel both are the same mistake and yet the latter can be rectified and the first penalised. Name and address supplied.

A I am somewhat surprised that you consider two totally different situations covered by different laws with different penalties similar in any way. The lead out of turn law allows the opponents to accept it, which can be to their advantage. When you call for a card from dummy, it must be played unless you have called for a card you did not intend and attempt to change it immediately.

The opposition have no right to accept the card you called for if the director decides it was unintended.

So, in the case you give, if you intended to play the wrong card then you may change it. If, however, you intended the heart to be played but realised it was a mistake, in other words you changed your mind, you are not allowed to change it. From the description you give, I cannot tell you which of these was the case so I cannot tell you whether your director ruled correctly, though his explanation seems dubious. Whether you have to play it is nothing to do with whether you have nominated it, but depends on whether it was unintended.



Q Playing duplicate pairs in an EBU-affiliated club, I was South and the bidding started as below:

West	North	East	South
2NT	Pass	2♥	

I pointed out East's insufficient bid and called the director. East, who had not realised his insufficient bid until I pointed

it out, told the director that he had made a 'mechanical error'. East was allowed to correct his bid to 3♥ which was announced by West as a transfer to spades. West completed the transfer by bidding 3♠ and E/W went on to bid a game contract that made.

A week later, I raised this incident with the director. I said that her ruling meant that, if in the future I made an insufficient bid, I just needed to say that it was a 'mechanical error' and I would be allowed to correct it: without penalty even if it was meant as a conventional bid. The director said she had to take East's word for it and 'wasn't going to call him a liar'. Name and address supplied.

A Whether a call is unintended or not is a matter of judgement for the director. It is not a question of calling someone a liar: players have learnt the words 'mechanical error' and say them for any mistake, mechanical or not. It is extremely unlikely that an insufficient bid of this sort was a mechanical error: at

the time he reached for the bidding box, he meant to bid 2♥ so it cannot be changed.

Furthermore, you do not suggest that he tried to change it before the director arrived. It is thus out of time and cannot be changed, even if it was a mechanical error.

However, this is different from deliberately saying it is a mechanical error when the player knows it is not: that would be cheating. But most players have no idea what the term means or how it applies, so when done out of ignorance it is not cheating.



Q Our bridge duplicate afternoons are usually played over 22 boards, with between 8 and 10 tables taking part. Arrow switching takes place always for two boards, sometimes for four. Is this correct? If not then what rule should be followed? I am at a loss to understand how a bridge session is considered to be fair when so few hands are arrow switched.

Michael Beaumont by email.