



NEWSLETTER

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION LTD.

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2025 Gold Coast Congress Winners





APRIL 2025

Executive Director's Report: David Fryda	4
President's Report: Allison Stralow	5
Meet Sophie Ashton: Joshua Tomlin	6
Gold Coast Teams Final	9
WBF World Tour Final: Brad Coles	12
Bridge Into The 21st Century: Paul Lavings	15
A Game At The Club: Barbara Travis	16
Workshops with Will: William Jenner-O'Shea	19
Zephyr Education: Carmel Martin	20
Improve Your Defence: Ron Klinger	2, 23
Letters to the Editor	24
Lead Face Down, And Wait: Jan Peach	25
MyABF Update: Julian Foster	27
Obituary	31
Teaching Tips: Ian Dalziel	32
Tournament Results	34



Front cover: Winners from the 2025 Gold Coast Congress. See page 11 for captions.

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**IMPROVE
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 with
Ron Klinger
Solution on page 23

Teams. Dealer North. Both sides vulnerable.

♠ A K Q 10 7
 ♥ J 10 5
 ♦ Q 5 2
 ♣ 10 8



♠ 4 3 2
 ♥ Q 9 6
 ♦ J 7
 ♣ A K 4 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♠	pass	2♥
pass	3♥	pass	4♥
all pass			

West leads the ♣9: eight - king - five. How would you continue as East?



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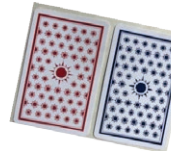
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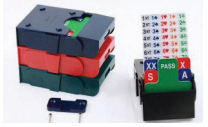
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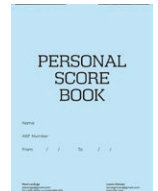
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David Fryda

Executive Director

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April is here, and with it comes exciting news, remarkable achievements, and plenty of opportunities to get involved in the Australian bridge community.

Gold Coast Congress 2026

A spectacular event with a glimmer of hope

The 2026 Gold Coast Congress was a resounding success thanks to a team of amazing people led by Richard, Kim and Tim. They ensured that its legacy as one of the premier bridge events in Australia was maintained. While it was previously announced that this 63rd edition would be the last, there remains a glimmer of hope that the event could be resurrected. The ABF is committed to exploring every possible avenue to keep this iconic event alive. We will communicate any developments in this space as soon as possible.

Meet your Australian international teams



The Australian representative teams for the APBF and World Championships have now all been confirmed! To see who will be representing our country, visit [Meet the Teams](#). A special highlight in this year's lineup is Sophie Ashton, who is making history as the first woman in many years to compete in the Australian Open team. Be sure to read the featured article on her journey in this newsletter.

A momentous victory on the world stage

Congratulations to Sartaj Hans and Andy Hung on their remarkable achievement in winning the inau-

gural World Bridge Tour Pairs Final, held in Memphis this March. Their outstanding performance has further cemented Australia's presence on the international bridge scene. Additionally, please join me in applauding Nabil Edgton and his partner, New Zealand's Michael Whibley, for securing second place – an exceptional result for our region.

Supporting the businesses that support us

Our sponsors play a vital role in the success of Australian bridge, and I encourage all players to support them. Special thanks to TBIB Insurance Brokers, Fixed Income Solutions, Red Plum Automotive, and our newest partner, Arts National. Their contributions help us continue delivering top-tier events and provide opportunities for bridge players nationwide.

Player Registration Cards A step towards sustainability

In a move towards reducing unnecessary waste, the ABF will discontinue the printing of player registration cards. Players who still wish to have a printed card will be able to utilise a self-service printing option. This option is currently under development so please continue to retain your 2024 card for the moment. I appreciate everyone's cooperation with this transition.

Upcoming national gold point events: Get Involved!

I encourage all players to participate in the National Gold Point events being held over the next three months in Orange, Adelaide, Barrier Reef, Perth, Brisbane, and Melbourne. These events are a fantastic opportunity to compete at a high level and earn valuable gold points. For event details, visit the MyABF Calendar and filter by "NATIONAL GOLD POINT" events.

In closing, I would like to share that Bridge in Australia continues to flourish, thanks to the dedication of our players, volunteers, and sponsors. Whether you're competing at the highest level, enjoying club games, or supporting major events, your participation strengthens our bridge community. I look forward to seeing you at the tables!

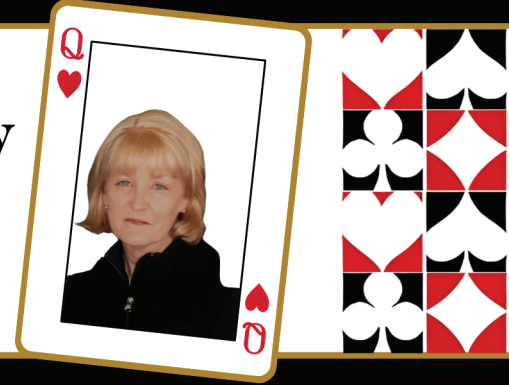


Allison Stralow

President

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On the 17th March, I received the sad news of the passing of the President of the World Bridge Federation, Jan Kamras. Jan passed away peacefully, after a period of illness. On behalf of the Australian bridge community, the ABF Board sent our condolences to his family and friends.

One of Jan's initiatives was to introduce the WBF World Tour, a ranking system based on cumulative performances at Bridge Championships. The Trophy for the winners is named after Jan and this year the winners were our very own Sartaj Hans and Andy Hung, with Nabil Edgton and Michael Whibley in second place. An amazing achievement from the boys from down under and across the ditch.

I congratulate the QBA, Kim and Ray Ellaway, Tim Runting, Richard Ward and the rest of the Gold Coast Congress staff and helpers on another highly successful Gold Coast Congress. The GCC is widely acknowledged as one of the finest bridge events in the world and is part of the World Bridge Federation's World Tour. There is still a glimmer of hope

that the ABF will run the event in 2026, while the QBA has a well-earned rest.

Click [here](#) to meet the four teams will represent Australia in the 54th Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships to be held in Hefei Anhui, China from 17-25 May. I wish them every success and encourage you to join me in following their [progress](#).

On my recent train journey in Queensland, I was fortunate to play a session at the Townsville Bridge Club. Thank you to the President, Wilfred Tapiolas, and all the players for making me feel so welcome. I will be playing the Barrier Reef in Yeppoon and the River City Gold in May and the ANC in Brisbane, in July. I look forward to talking to players and officials and hearing their suggestions on matters relating to the ABF. If encourage players to take the plunge and play in a Licensed event in 2025.

The best of bridge to you all.

WBF World Tour Final photos courtesy of WBF



WBF 1st VP Ben Thompson, Andy Hung, Sartaj Hans, WBF 2nd VP Eric Laurant



Ben Thompson with runners-up Nabil Edgton and Michael Whibley

MEET SOPHIE ASHTON

JOSH TOMLIN tells the story of Australia's newest Open Team representative



Last November Sophie Ashton, Dave Wiltshire, Phil Markey and Joe Haffer won the Open Playoff, and the honour of representing Australia at this year's APBF and Bermuda Bowl. They selected top Australian pair Liam Milne and James Coutts to join their team, and will be heading to China in May and Denmark in August. Sophie is the first woman to win the Open Playoffs since Pauline Gumby in 2006 and 2007.

Sophie grew up in Sydney, and studied Applied Maths at the University of Sydney, graduating in 2005 with the University Medal. While she planned to take a gap year, it was only six months before she got bored and started her career at investment bank Goldman Sachs, working in risk management. Later she transitioned to a Quantitative Analyst at Barclays Capital, another investment bank, for the Exotic Options team. This sent her to work in Tokyo for two years, and also do some study in London. Unfortunately when the GFC hit, the team was dismantled and Sophie returned to Australia.

After a couple of years of floating between more study and other options trading jobs, Sophie started searching for a more fulfilling career. She and her father had an idea to make healthcare more accessible in Goulburn, a large regional city an hour out of Canberra. They took some land that her dad owned, and started the Goulburn Health Hub, a multidisciplinary medical centre with visiting specialists and doctors. Since opening in 2016, the centre is now thriving with over 70 consulting specialists, ten GPs, pathology services and even a cafe.

As a child, Sophie always liked games but didn't want to learn bridge since it was the only time her parents ever argued. This started to change when she was 18 and went on a holiday to Argentina with her dad. When they had to kill time, they played a form of two-player bridge. Four hands were dealt with two dummies, and each player would be in charge of two opposing hands. You bid the hands and played literally double dummy, certainly still a challenge for new players and a great way to learn the game.

After this trip, while completing her undergrad, Sophie started attending the Sydney Uni Bridge Club. Each session was run by familiar names such as Peter Buchen, Warren Lazer and Gabby Feiler. She played the occasional congress, but her first national tournament experience wasn't until 2006, playing the Gold Coast with her mother. The Gold Coast always has a large youth presence, and Sophie strongly identified with the group of youth playing. She even met her first boyfriend there, a young, strapping Mike Doecke.

Sophie took a bridge hiatus while working and living in Japan, but she came back to the game around 2013. Her friend Dave Wiltshire, a much more experienced player than her at the time, was happy to play with her and introduced her to State events. She also played some events with Michael Wilkinson, who introduced her to the rest of the national scene.

It was around this time that Sophie met her husband, Sartaj Hans. Sophie describes Sartaj as an excellent teacher, with much of their early conversations revolving around bidding theory and defence. She feels that these conversations had a significant impact on the development of her game. They married in 2015 and are about to celebrate their ten-year anniversary (while Sophie, showing true commitment to the game, will be playing in China). They live in Goulburn with their two girls, Rosie (7) and Sasha (8). Sasha plays chess, but Sophie does not think they will want to play bridge anytime soon. At the moment they associate bridge tournaments with a parent being absent for the week, and having lots of bridge talk in the house does get boring for them. One of Sophie's first big national wins was the ANOT in 2019. She partnered Paul Gosney with Sartaj and Helena Dawson as teammates. In the final, Sophie and Paul were excellent on slam hands:

Board 9. Dealer North. East-West vulnerable.

<p>♠ 10 7 6 ♥ K Q 7 ♦ 6 5 ♣ Q J 9 7 3</p>	<p>♠ 4 3 ♥ A J 10 6 4 ♦ A K Q J 10 8 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ Q 9 2 ♥ 8 5 3 2 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ A K 6</p> <p>♠ A K J 8 5 ♥ 9 ♦ 4 3 ♣ 10 8 5 4 2</p>
---	---

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Johannsson	Gosney	McCallum	Ashton
	1♦	pass	1♠
pass	2♥	pass	2♠
pass	3♥	pass	4♦
pass	5♣	pass	6♦
all pass			

With partner showing a 6-5 in the reds, Sophie did well to value her ♠AK and stiff heart highly. After she bid the slam, she preemptively apologised to her partner: "Sorry I think I've gone a bit mental". With the ♠Q onside, the 23-point slam rolled home and Gosney ended up taking all the tricks. Plus 940 was worth 11imps with the other table stopping in 3NT.

Board 31. Dealer South. East-West vulnerable.

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

WEST Johannsson	NORTH Gosney	EAST McCallum	SOUTH Ashton
			1♦
pass	2♣	pass	2♥
pass	3♣	pass	3NT
pass	4♣	pass	4♦ ¹
pass	4NT ²	pass	5♥ ³
pass	5NT ⁴	pass	7♣

- 1. Control bid.
- 2. RKCB.
- 3. Two keycards without the trump queen.
- 4. Asking for kings.

Gosney, having bid clubs three times, bid 5NT to confirm all the keycards. Opposite at least six solid trumps and the ♠A, Sophie could count 12 tricks, plus the possibility of setting up a long diamond, so she bid the grand, undeterred by her singleton trump! 7♣ was lay down on a 3-2 trump break, and brought in 9imps when their opponents stopped in 6NT. They ended up winning this final by 39imps.

Since then Sophie has won many national titles, including four GNOTs, three SNOTs, three NOTs, one Open ANC and one Women's ANC. She is the reigning back-to-back champion of the Spring Nationals, and will be looking to three-peat this October. One of Sophie's favourite events is the National Open Teams, which she won back-to-back in 2022 and 2023. She attributes some of her success in this event to the fact that it is in Canberra, making it only an hour drive away from home, causing her the least amount of disruption to her usual schedule.

In 2022, Sophie played the ANC on the NSW Open team with Liam Milne. Here's a board from the nail-biting final against a strong Victorian team:

Board 17. Dealer North. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST Milne	NORTH Mill	EAST Ashton	SOUTH Courtts
	1♣	pass	1♠
pass	1NT	pass	3♦
pass	3♥	pass	3NT
all pass			

Sophie led the ♣J to the king and ace. When Mill played three rounds of diamonds, Sophie discarded the ♠8, then the ♣10. Later, Mill found himself needing three spade tricks in the following ending:

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

When he called for a spade from dummy, Milne carefully inserted the ten. Potentially persuaded by the early ♠8 discard, perhaps from four-small, Justin played for Liam to have started with queen-ten doubleton. Spade to the ace and king was one off, and a well-earned 12imps to NSW for a crafty defence. This match came down to the last board, with NSW winning by a mere 4imps.

This year will not be Sophie's first experience representing Australia. In 2023 she played the Wuhan Cup on the Mixed Team in Marrakesh with regular partner Dave Wiltshire. The team performed well in an incredibly tough field, and after 18 of 23 rounds they were ninth, only 0.93 VP outside of the top eight. Unfortunately a mediocre last few rounds left them finishing in twelfth place.

Sophie describes international events as much tougher than anything you find in Australia. The level of play is higher, the long qualifying events are grueling and the pressure to perform while representing your country is immense. She wishes she had more exposure to international competition, and feels that she was under-prepared mentally in Marrakesh.

This year her wish has been granted, and she will be competing in the toughest tournament around – the Bermuda Bowl. There is no stage bigger than that. Best of luck to her and the rest of her team!



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GOLD COAST OPEN TEAMS

From the Gold Coast Daily Bulletin, BARRY RIGAL reports on the final of the Open Teams Championship. The finalists were BRAKE (Adam Kaplan - Matthew Brown, Jessica Brake - Shane Harrison - Andy Hung) and APPLETON (Stephen Castellino - David Appleton, Joachim Haffer - Philip Markey).



The finals would feature four essentially natural partnerships, but with Markey - Haffer playing a lot of wildness, including mini notrump and specific two-suiter openings, flimsy openings and overcalls and a host besides. Everyone present had signed a contract never to pass an 11-count and 9- and 10-counts non-vulnerable would not be off-limits.

Slam on a finesse isn't always worth writing about, but this one had a point that eluded me.

Board 2. Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Appleton	Hung	Castellino	Brake
		pass	1♠
pass	2♣	pass	2♦
pass	2♠	pass	3♥
pass	4♣	pass	4♦
pass	4♥	pass	4♠
pass	4NT	pass	5♣
pass	6♠	all pass	

Technically slam here is worse than 50% (no one ever mentions that spades might be 5-0, hearts 5-0 or diamonds 6-1) but, in practice, it comes down to finding the diamond honours. Brake had a normal opening and bid out her shape, then co-operated once, and that was enough for Hung. Appleton led a trump, declarer drew trumps, Castellino encouraging

in diamonds at his first turn. Then she ran the hearts on which Castellino pitched another diamond. That persuaded her (following Terence Reese's dictum) that the discards were more likely to be from the ace than queen, so she misguessed the suit, and Appleton had 13 imps. Nicely defended. Barry Goren wrote to me and said that declarer should have got diamonds right. Why? Because the hand on lead had a singleton heart and didn't lead it (remember here Hung had not responded 2♥, so hearts were an off-suit, not a bid suit). Why would West avoid the heart lead? Because he knows his partner does not have the ace – therefore West has the ♦A, not East.

This board showed one of the many advantages of an aggressive overcalling style:

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kaplan	Markey	Brown	Haffer
1♠	2♣ ⁰⁻¹⁵	2♠	pass
3NT	all pass		

Markey's methods saw him overcall on a piece of manure, and then know not to lead that suit against Wests' confidently-bid 3NT. He led a diamond, and his partner's club switch delivered the first six tricks.

In the other room Hung had no such warning, and led his long suit, conceding the ninth trick in 3NT at once. The match score was 36-27 now after eight deals.

With Brake leading 72-63 at the halfway mark, the third set started out with Appleton on a tear:

Board 25. Dealer North. Neither side vulnerable.

<p>♠ K 10 2 ♥ 10 9 7 4 2 ♦ 6 4 3 ♣ A 3</p>	<p>♠ A 9 8 7 6 4 ♥ A K J 8 6 ♦ A ♣ J</p>
<p>♠ Q J 3 ♥ — ♦ K J 10 9 7 ♣ 10 7 5 4 2</p>	<p>♠ 5 ♥ Q 5 3 ♦ Q 8 5 2 ♣ K Q 9 8 6</p>

The set started off with a bang when Castellino - Appleton bid a slam off a cashing ace and king-ten fourth of trumps. The unopposed auction was a confusing one:

WEST Appleton	NORTH Hung	EAST Castellino	SOUTH Harrison
	pass	1♠	pass
2♠	pass	3♣	pass
4♠	pass	4NT	pass
5♦	pass	5♠	pass
6♣	pass	6♠	all pass

Trumps did not behave but the club ace could be discarded if it wasn't cashed – and Harrison was not going to lead a club from ♣KQ986 on this auction. When he led a trump it not only allowed the discard it also simplified the trump position. Castellino's 3♣ call with a 6-5-1-1 shape earned the swing. Appleton trailed 68-72.

Four boards later Hung and Markey faced an opening lead problem against 4♥ on essentially identical auctions, knowing declarer was strong and unbalanced.

Which minor would you lead from:

♠ K J 8 ♥ 6 ♦ J 10 6 5 4 ♣ Q 8 6 4 2

Hung led a club and declarer shook a spade loser on dummy's ace-king, Markey led the diamond jack and Haffer won his ace and the defence then cashed three spades. Appleton led 84-72.

They added a partscore swing when all four members of the Brake team could be argued to have done too much bidding on the same hand. That made it 84-73.

Suddenly, the momentum shifted to Brake, for no discernible reason except that was just how the match had been going!

Board 7 produced a fascinating problem for declarer and defence:

Board 31. Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

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

Each West led a heart after hearing 1♥-2♥-4♥ on a club lead.

Declarer led a trump to dummy and a second trump as East followed up the line (maybe it is right to call for spades if playing suit preference). Appleton continued clubs. Harrison won in hand and drew the last trump, stripped off the clubs and led a diamond to the eight. Castellino, down to ♠K98 and ♦A10, was helpless. Had he kept one more diamond and pitched a spade, he could at least have given declarer a guess in the ending. Kaplan led a club and shifted to the diamond jack, covered all round. Back came a club and Haffer drew the last trump but did not take the last club before playing a second diamond. Brown could win and exit with a club, leaving declarer no recourse but the spade finesse. Down one and 12imps back to Brake.

They regained the lead on a strange deal where it seemed that Markey's discretion would pay dividends.

Board 35. Dealer South. Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST Kaplan	NORTH Markey	EAST Brown	SOUTH Haffer 1NT ¹ 2♠
pass	2♥ ²	pass	
pass	2NT	all pass	

1. 9-13 HCP.
2. Transfer to spades.

WEST Appelton	NORTH Hung	EAST Castellino	SOUTH Harrison pass 3♣ ¹ 3NT
pass	1NT	pass	
pass	3♠ ²	pass	
all pass			

1. Puppet Stayman
2. Five spades.

3NT looks nearly hopeless, with the spade break so unfavourable. When Haffer opened a mini-1NT, Markey invited game via the transfer, stopping in 2NT, and Kaplan led a top diamond. Haffer won and took the spade finesse, crossed to hand with a top club (blocking the suit) then repeated the finesse. Back came a spade and now, if declarer cleared spades, the defence would return a club and lock him in dummy. Haffer took his spade winner, unblocked the clubs but could only come to seven tricks.

In the other room Hung opened a strong notrump, and Harrison chose to drive to game via Puppet Stayman. Castellino guessed to lead the ♦J – not a bad choice today. Hung won and took a winning spade finesse, ran four club tricks and repeated the

spade finesse. Appleton had pitched an encouraging heart, so Castellino shifted to one. His choice of the ♥10 was disastrous though; when Appleton ducked. Hung had one heart, two spades, four clubs and a diamond in the bank and, when he exited in hearts, all Appleton could do was win his now bare ace and give dummy the ninth trick in diamonds.

Congratulations to Jessica Brake, Shane Harrison, Andy Hung, Matt Brown and Adam Kaplan, winning 125 to 100.1, and commiserations to David Appleton, Phil Markey, Stephen Castellino and Joe Haffer.

Captions for photos on Page 1



Open Teams champions: Andy Hung, Matt Brown, Jessica Brake, Adam Kaplan and Shane Harrison



Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs Restricted winners: Magdeline Wong and Terry Davies



Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs Restricted winners: Bridget O'Brien and Jessie Pelenato



Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs Intermediate winners: Peter Farley and Graham Cheater



Open Pairs winners: Paul Dalley and Tony Nunn



Ivy Dahler Trophy winners: Alex Goss and Andrew Spooner



Open Teams finalists: David Appleton, Phil Markey, Stephen Castellino and Joe Haffer.

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WBF WORLD TOUR

Brad Coles

The WBF World Tour Final is an invitational event, contested by the best-performing pairs from a collection of premier events around the world in 2024.

After the first day of the two-day event, Sartaj Hans and Andy Hung were running 12th, and Michael Whibley and Nabil Edgtton were running 15th. On the second day, a strong morning session for both pairs saw them rise to 4th and 7th, but there was still a lot of work to do in the final session.

Both pairs gained 9 imps on this board:

Board 10. Dealer East. Both sides vulnerable.

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

WEST Percario	NORTH Hung	EAST Donati	SOUTH Hans
		1NT	pass
pass	dbl	all pass	

Declarer won the spade lead with the queen, and had time to set up just one minor-suit trick for three tricks in total, and 1100 to the Aussies.

Only three of the eight NS pairs managed to take a large penalty on this deal, with some pairs failing to find the double of 1NT on the North cards, and one pair inexplicably pulling the double with the South cards.

With neither partner having a five-card suit, and no guarantee of an eight-card fit, it's theoretically a losing proposition to run from 1NT doubled, but with nothing to lose, the American pair gave it an optimistic shot:

WEST Bathurst	NORTH Whibley	EAST Hurd	SOUTH Edgtton
		1NT	pass
pass	dbl	pass	pass
rdbl	pass	2♣	dbl
rdbl	pass	2♦	pass
pass	dbl	2♠	dbl
all pass			

2♠ was a worse spot than 1NT, with 1400 on offer, but our boys weren't unhappy collecting 1100.

The benefit of running in these auctions, is that you might not get doubled in your new contract, but this benefit is more likely to arise if you start running before you are doubled. Roy Welland won the board for his side by getting out early, taking advantage of his non-standard methods over 1NT:

WEST Welland	NORTH Duboin	EAST Auken	SOUTH Cima
		1NT	pass
2♣ ¹	pass	2♦ ²	pass
pass	2♥	all pass	

1. Puppet to 2♦.
2. Forced.

2♦ is also a worse contract than 1NT, but we live in a world of takeout doubles; the worse a contract is, the harder it is to double it. North's balancing 2♥ made 11 tricks for 200, a far cry from the 1400 that had been available in 2♦.

Sartaj and Andy brought home a couple of hopeless 3NT contracts in the next match, on the way to a massive 39-imp win over Jacek Pszczola and Krzysztof Buras:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both sides vulnerable.

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

WEST Hans	NORTH Pszczola	EAST Hung	SOUTH Buras
		2♦	2♥
dbl	pass	3♥	pass
3NT	all pass		

North led a club, and Sartaj took his nine top tricks without risking the spade finesse, gaining 12 imps.

Who do you blame for North's club lead? Buras certainly could have doubled 2♥ for the lead, but the other South player facing this auction did not double either. That player was Nabil Edgtton, and his partner still found the ♥A lead, gaining 4 imps for his side instead of losing 12.

Having missed their six top tricks on that one, NS had to find their seven top tricks on this one:

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST Hans	NORTH Pszczola	EAST Hung	SOUTH Buras
all pass	3♥	3NT	dbl

Buras must have liked his chances of beating 3NT here, but ace-king and another diamond was not the killing defence. Again, declarer chalked up nine top tricks (the heart finesse being marked when South showed out), this time for +550 and 8.5 imps.

On the king of diamonds, North had signalled with the ♥4, which I'm told is a Lavinthal signal (suit preference for clubs) so South did have a chance to find the killing club switch at trick three.

Sitting the other direction and facing the same auction, Nabil also led three rounds of diamonds (partner throwing the ♥6) for the same result.

At another table, again with the same auction and play, Jerome Rombaut discarded the ♥5 – ostensibly count, although why you would choose the five is a mystery to me. Any heart signal other than the four or the nine is surely just making life harder for partner (although the ideal method for this situation would have been an attitude club discard).

This partscore deal looks like it is straight out of a textbook, but it produced a wide range of rebids from the eight expert North players:

Board 15. Dealer South. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST Hans	NORTH Pszczola	EAST Hung	SOUTH Buras
pass	1♠	pass	1♥
pass	2♥	dbl	1NT
			all pass

Andy Hung was the only player to find a double, earning his side 500 and 7.5 imps. North's 2♥ bid was not a popular choice, with only Donati finding the same bid: three Norths passed 1NT (including Whibley), one bid an awful 2♠, and one bid 2♦ (receiving preference back to 2♥).

Amusingly, one table had the same auction in the other direction: South passed, and it was EW who bid 1♥-1♠-1NT – the only EW pair to declare the hand, and the only pair to make a contract.

The finishing touch on a great set for Hans - Hung came from this five-over-five decision:

Board 18. Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST Hans	NORTH Pszczola	EAST Hung	SOUTH Buras
5♥	5♠	1♥	4♠
		all pass	

Three Norths, including Whibley and third-placed Sementa, doubled 5♥ for 800, picking up 4.5 imps. However, Pszczola preferred to push on to 5♠, going one off and leaving Sartaj and Andy with another 11 imps, putting them in first place with just one six-board match to play.

Sartaj and Andy played Antonio Sementa and Alfredo Versace in their final match, finishing an imp down on that match, which was enough to hold on to first place and win the event. Whibley - Edgton gained 11.5 imps on their final match, including 5 imps on the final board, to take second place from Sementa and Versace. Congratulations to both pairs on a magnificent performance!

For a more comprehensive report on this event, see Australian Bridge Magazine, or use this QR code to visit their web page:

www.australianbridge.com/online



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BRIDGE INTO THE 21st CENTURY

Paul Lavings, plavings@gmail.com



YOUR RHO TRANSFERS WITH 2♦ TO THEIR 1NT

What would you call on the following hands, neither side vulnerable?

WEST 1NT	NORTH pass	EAST 2♦ transfer	SOUTH ?
1. ♠ J 10 2	♥ 8 7	♦ K Q 10 8 3	♣ A 9 2
2. ♠ K 10 9	♥ 2	♦ Q 10 8 6 5 2	♣ Q 10 2
3. ♠ A 4 3	♥ 10 7	♦ A 6 4 3 2	♣ A 3 2
4. ♠ A 4	♥ 6	♦ A K J 10 9 7	♣ 10 9 3 2
5. ♠ K 8 7 6	♥ 8	♦ K Q J 9	♣ K 8 3 2
6. ♠ J 10 8 7 2	♥ 7	♦ A 10 9 6	♣ K 4 2
7. ♠ A Q J 10 7 6 3	♥ 4	♦ A 7 6	♣ 8 3
8. ♠ A J 10 8 2	♥ 7	♦ A 10 7 5 2	♣ J 9
9. ♠ A J 10 8 6 2	♥ 6	♦ 5	♣ A 10 7 6 4
10. ♠ K J 5 4	♥ —	♦ A Q J 10 3	♣ 10 9 8 7

SOLUTIONS

1. Double. If you have told partner what to lead, you have won the bidding. This is the ideal hand to ask for a specific lead and if partner is encouraged to compete to 3♦ your hand will be a sound dummy.

There was some doubt 30 years ago whether the double of 2♦ was better played as showing a good 5+ diamond suit or a takeout of hearts. Nowadays everyone plays it as a diamond suit and for the lead.

2. Pass. A diamond lead may not be as good as a spade or club with only ♦Q10, and you do have only a 7-count. Also 2♥ may not play so well for them if your partner has four or five hearts.

3. Pass. A spade or club lead may be better for your side and treating your hand as a takeout of hearts rather

than a diamond hand looks right. If the 1NT opener now accepts the transfer and bids 2♥ and the bidding comes back to you then I suggest double for takeout.

4. 3♦. You have too much oomph to double, so show your strong six-card suit by bidding 3♦. If you doubled 2♦ and the bidding came back to you at 3♥ or 4♥ you would have to guess whether to bid or pass. When you bid 3♦ partner can now raise on a minimum hand but with a good fit.

5. Pass. You can't double 2♦ with only four of them, so pass and hope to double 2♥ or even 3♥ or 4♥ for takeout.

6. Pass. You are not strong enough to bid 2♠ so bide your time. If your LHO bids 2♥ and the bidding comes back to you, then, knowing partner has some values, balance with 2♠ to protect your interests.

7. 3♠. Much too good to bid just 2♠. By jumping to 3♠ partner knows you have a strong six- or seven-card suit and good playing strength, so can raise to 4♠ on good shape with few or no high cards.

8. 2♥. Michaels showing five spades and 5+ in either minor, never less. The big advantage of 2♥ is that it saves space, always a major concern.

9. 3♥. If it is such a good idea to show your two-suiter then how do you show six spades and 5+ in a minor? The Michaels 2♥ is always five spades and 5+ minor so 2♥ sends the wrong message. I like to bid "Super Michaels", six spades and 5+ minor and get my hand across in one fell swoop.

10. Pass. A tough decision whether to double 2♦ for the lead and to compete in diamonds or whether to wait and make a takeout double of hearts. You have great diamonds but you also have the perfect shape for a takeout double so pass and double hearts later for takeout.



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A GAME AT THE CLUB

Barbara Travis

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This deal was interesting and solvable at the table, but how often do you invest the time as a defender to solve what's happened/happening?

<p>♠ K 9 4 ♥ J 4 ♦ K 7 4 3 ♣ Q 10 8 3</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 2 ♥ K 8 7 ♦ Q 10 2 ♣ J 9 4</p> <p>♠ A 5 3 ♥ A 10 3 2 ♦ J 6 5 ♣ A 7 2</p>	<p>♠ 8 7 6 ♥ Q 9 6 5 ♦ A 9 8 ♣ K 6 5</p>
--	--

South was playing in 1NT and we, as defenders knew that she held 12-14 HCP. West led the ♠Q, ducked. The ♠J was won by declarer with her ace, and she started work on clubs, cashing the ace (not perfect), then guessing correctly by leading a small club to the ten and king. A third spade was led to dummy. She now led the ♥J from dummy, covered by my queen and ducked. I led another heart to declarer's ten and partner's king. West cashed the last spade:

<p>♠ — ♥ — ♦ K 7 4 ♣ Q 8</p> <p>♠ — ♥ 7 ♦ Q 10 2 ♣ J</p> <p>♠ — ♥ 9 6 ♦ A 9 ♣ 6</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ A ♦ J 6 5 ♣ 7</p>	
---	--	--

Declarer's points must include the three aces, since I've shown up with the ♣K and ♥Q. I'm also marked with the ♦A, but not necessarily the jack. More

importantly, though, she has 'separated' the two hands. Just exit with the club, leaving declarer stuck in dummy. She has won three tricks, and can cash two club tricks. But now she will have to lead diamonds from dummy, so West can win the ♦Q, and East can win her ♦A.

These scenarios crop up reasonably often, but defenders often forget that the hands no longer have any communication. Don't give declarer that communication; capitalise on their discomfort!

On the next deal, declarer made a very 'simple' mistake that ended up costing her the contract, which was 'just a partscore':

<p>♠ K 8 6 ♥ 9 6 4 ♦ 9 ♣ A Q 10 5 3 2</p> <p>♠ A 9 4 ♥ 7 5 3 2 ♦ A K 8 7 4 ♣ 8</p>	<p>♠ 5 3 2 ♥ A Q J 10 ♦ Q 10 5 ♣ J 6 4</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 7 ♥ K 8 ♦ J 6 3 2 ♣ K 9 7</p>	
--	--	--

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
pass	pass	pass	1♦
2♣	dbl	3♣	pass
pass	3♦	all pass	

The ♠6 was led to the ten and ace. Declarer cashed the ♦A. When the ♦9 appeared, she should have taken the precaution of unblocking the ♦10 from dummy. If diamonds were 3-2, this was unnecessary, but if they were 4-1 then she could finesse East's Jack on the next round. Declarer, somewhat carelessly played dummy's ♦5 under the ace. She now tried the heart finesse, and I won the king, then cashed two spades before leading clubs. She trumped the second round of clubs in hand, led to the ♦Q in dummy but suddenly realised that she only had losing options left.

She tried the $\heartsuit 10$, ducked, of course, to keep her in dummy. She only held one trump in hand, so couldn't afford to trump a club to hand, leaving her having to lead hearts from dummy – for one off, when I could ruff.

A simple unblock of the $\heartsuit 10$ would have allowed her to draw trumps, making her contract.

Declarer thought she played this next hand well, but she had a far safer line available:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
pass	1NT ¹²⁻¹⁴	1 \clubsuit	pass
all pass		pass	3NT
	\spadesuit K 3 2		
	\heartsuit Q J		
	\diamondsuit K J 6 5		
	\clubsuit Q 6 4 3		
\spadesuit J 7 6 5		\spadesuit 9 8 4	
\heartsuit 7 6 5 3		\heartsuit A 4 2	
\diamondsuit Q 10 2		\diamondsuit A 9 4	
\clubsuit 5 2		\clubsuit K J 8 7	
	\spadesuit A Q 10		
	\heartsuit K 10 9 8		
	\diamondsuit 8 7 3		
	\clubsuit A 10 9		

Sitting East, I knew that partner held very little, so it was time to find a passive defence, by leading the $\spadesuit 9$. Declarer won with the queen, then led a heart to the $\heartsuit Q$ – ducked, followed by the $\heartsuit J$ – won with the ace. There was little need to 'attack' and help declarer, so a spade continuation seemed appropriate, given communications were getting a little messy. Declarer won with her king, then led a small club to the $\clubsuit 10$, winning. The top two hearts were cashed, declarer throwing diamonds.

Given that I had not opened 1NT, I didn't have a balanced 15 HCP. However, it was evident that I did have a balanced hand, so this means it's time to count East's HCP. So far, I am marked with the $\heartsuit A$ and $\clubsuit KJ$, and I must have the $\diamondsuit A$. Declarer led a diamond to her jack, and I won the ace, however, if I'd held the $\diamondsuit AQ$, she was down. Better is to cash the $\clubsuit A$, and exit to my two club winners. Now I'm on lead with the $\diamondsuit Ax$ and have to lead a diamond around to her $\diamondsuit KJ$.

Keep that counting happening!

Three hands later we had this auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 \spadesuit	dbl	1 \clubsuit	pass
pass	4 \heartsuit	2 \spadesuit	3 \heartsuit
		all pass	

West holds:

\spadesuit Q 8 7 2 \heartsuit J 6 5 \diamondsuit A Q 10 \clubsuit 10 7 6

What should you lead? A trump. Partner has opened, so your side has the majority of points. So the opponents do not have the HCP for game, meaning they are relying on shape. This means you should lead a trump to stop the ruffs. Simple stuff really.

Do you ever use Lightner doubles – which are lead-directing doubles? Sitting East on the following deal, this was the scariest one I've made in a long time, but I just had to deflect partner from leading any other suit:

	\spadesuit J 2		
	\heartsuit K Q 9 3		
	\diamondsuit A K 9 5		
	\clubsuit J 10 8		
\spadesuit K 10 9		\spadesuit 8 6 3	
\heartsuit J 7 4		\heartsuit 6 5 2	
\diamondsuit Q 4 3 2		\diamondsuit 10 7	
\clubsuit Q 9 3		\clubsuit A K 7 6 2	
	\spadesuit A Q 7 5 4		
	\heartsuit A 10 8		
	\diamondsuit J 8 6		
	\clubsuit 5 4		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
pass	2 \clubsuit *	pass	1 \spadesuit
pass	3NT	dbl	2NT
			all pass

North's 2 \clubsuit bid was either natural with clubs, or any balanced hand with a game force and 2+ clubs.

Sitting East, my double asked for partner to lead dummy's first-bid suit, i.e. clubs. I fully expected to defend 3NT redoubled, but, after some time, I decided that my desire to guide partner with her lead over-rode any misgivings about the potential of converting -600 to -1000 (or more, with overtricks).

How good did I feel when partner led the $\clubsuit 3$!

I won the $\clubsuit K$, led a club to partner's queen, and we cashed the first five tricks. Declarer tried the spade finesse for down two, +500, and I literally wanted to throw my fists in the air! Of course, they could have run (4 \spadesuit does make).

At the other table, without the double, West led the $\diamondsuit 2$, and declarer had little option but to run it to her jack. She could now finesse the $\diamondsuit 9$ for four diamond tricks. Then she tested hearts, planning to try the spade finesse if hearts didn't break 3-3 (or jack doubleton). So, my concern was vindicated; partner did need guidance about the suit to lead.

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THE LANDY DEFENCE TO 1NT

There are many conventions that people use to defend against an opponent's notrump opening. In my *Defence to Notrumps* workshops, I always recommend a simple and effective defence: Landy.

In its simplest form, there is only one conventional bid in Landy, a 2♣ overcall of 1NT, which shows both majors. The requirements for Landy are that the overcaller has at least 5-4 in the majors, either way around, and usually between 10-15 HCP. One huge advantage of Landy compared to many other conventions, is that you immediately show two suits, and your partner knows which suits you have. If the auction becomes competitive, your partner is well placed to compete. The other great advantage to showing both majors is that it is more likely that your team can compete. The odds of having both minors is the same as having both majors, however, when you have both minors, you will usually be outbid by the team with the majors. Having the majors and being able to show them is one of the most useful things you can do in bridge.

In response to a 2♣ Landy overcall, the responder usually just bids 2♥ or 2♠ if they have a preference for one of those suits. Remember, that they usually can't pass 2♣, so they might have no points when they just give preference for a suit. If responder has a good fit, and a reasonable hand, they could bid to the three- or the four-level in either of the majors as well. It is rare that the team overcalling against a strong 1NT opening has the power to make a game, but it can happen, especially if you find a big fit and shape.

The other extremely useful response to Landy is that if the responder has equal length in the majors, they can bid 2♦ to ask for the longer or better suit in overcaller's hand. Remember that the 2♣ Landy might have five cards in either major. The 2♦ bid only means, "I have equal preference, you choose the suit", and it helps you to find your best fit. Note that

using the 2♦ bid doesn't promise any points.

There is one last thing that the responder to 2♣ might do, which is rare, and will often shock partner: if you have no support for either major, and six or more clubs, you could pass the 2♣ bid and wish your partner luck.

The other overcalls in Landy are simply natural bids. A 2♦, 2♥ or 2♠ bid just shows that suit, and nothing else. Against a 1NT opening, you should typically have a six-card suit to be overcalling. You might only have five cards, but they need to be good quality, and you need a singleton or void somewhere. You shouldn't overcall a 1NT if you have a (semi-)balanced hand.

You don't need to use 2NT as a natural overcall, so it can be used to mean "both minors, 5/5+", like an Unusual 2NT overcall.

Of all the other possible conventions for overcalling against 1NT, the most useful bid is always going to be showing both majors. Using 2♣ to show both majors allows you to use the 2♦ asking bid to find the best fit.

For those of you who already use Landy, here is a useful tip for what to do when your 2♣ Landy overcall gets doubled. I recommend that you play this method, regardless of the meaning of their double – they also might have no agreement about their double. I still recommend that responder chooses 2♥ or 2♠ if they have a clear preference for one of those suits. They can bid 3♥ or 3♠ as a competitive bid. If responder passes the double, it seriously suggests playing in 2♣ – like above, passing suggests clubs. The small change that I recommend is that bidding 2♦ now means, "I really think we should play in diamonds", and responder can use redouble to ask for the longer major. This gives you the most ways of running or competing.



Zephyr Education

The following update is from CARMEL MARTIN, co-founder and treasurer of Zephyr Education. Zephyr helps those affected by domestic and family violence to resume their education – usually within 24 to 48 hours of receiving a request for assistance. The vast majority assisted by Zephyr are children.



You will no doubt be as dismayed as I am that we may have attended our last GCC in 2025, but I am hanging on to that glimmer of hope that it may continue. The purpose of this update is to urge you to continue supporting Zephyr as we now support children in 245 Domestic and Family Violence refuges, Family Service organisations and outreach organisations. We even reach families living in their cars. Zephyr operates in **every** State and Territory in Australia.

The bridge community has been behind Zephyr from the very beginning. That was in 2013 when we started by registering two refuges in Brisbane so that we could supply them with the full educational needs of children wanting to resume their education. Isabella, my sister and Zephyr's president, approached them to see if this need was being addressed. She expressed her idea that we would provide what they needed whether it was a pair of shoes or the full kit, including stationery made to the booklist of the new school the children would be attending, within 24 to 48 hours. They thought she was crazy. She asked them to give us a go and the rest is history.

What Isabella, David, Terry and I started as a family charity is now an ACNC registered charity with tax deductible status. David had not long retired and thought he'd be off to the beach. Isabella and Terry were still working and I was working on making bridge my fulltime occupation. Not to be... Isabella promised to stop registering shelters when we got to 25. She lied.

Once the amazing Followmont Transport came on board to transport thousands of boxes filled with school needs, free of charge, her eyes widened with the potential for expansion. One of our visitors to

Zephyr wryly commented that the definition of our name means 'a gentle breeze' but that what had been created was more like a hurricane.

We provide (mostly) children with some or all of their school needs – as and when required – on approval only, which approval is frugally and carefully assessed. We don't pay into any private accounts. The range of what Zephyr pays for includes: the full book list specific to the child's year and school; full uniform including shoes, socks and hats; swimwear; lunchbox and water bottle; resource fees, camp fees, iPads and laptops. While these devices are expensive, they are now indispensable learning tools and since Covid, our second highest expense.

Our aim is to have that child - the saddest and most vulnerable victim of domestic violence, look like every other school child, so they do not feel out of place, nor appear less valuable than others, nor attract the eye of a potential bully. This is in the hope that they can resume their education successfully. The fact we make this happen immediately is Zephyr's distinguishing quality and its success as a game changer in the sector.

Last financial year, we provided for over 3000 children at a cost of \$884,573 - an increase of 18.7% on the previous year. Our overheads remain at less than 2% because Zephyr is run entirely by volunteers and we operate from rent-free premises. We receive no government funding and this leads me to you - my fellow bridgies, who stagger me every year with your generosity and moral support.

I implore you to keep following and supporting Zephyr once my collectors and I will no longer be in your faces when all you wanted to do was play

bridge. Huge thanks to the many, many bridge players and people attached to the administration of the GCC who contributed to raising the astounding amount of \$20,740.

The heart of Zephyr is an incredibly selfless, generous, unpaid, motivated team of over 50 volunteers attending to the myriad logistics which come with operating what is now a sizeable business. Zephyr wouldn't exist without the hugely compassionate contribution of these tireless, great humans, some of whom you found as partners or opposition or in the admin office at the GCC. Your ongoing financial and moral support gives us the confidence to keep going.

Our focus is, and always has been, on the children and their education. But this, of course, also assists the carers of all children who fall within our scope, including mothers, fathers, grandparents, foster carers and guardians.

You've all got behind us and huge numbers of children have felt less alone and more loved.

Here's what some shelter managers and caseworkers have written:

You should have seen this little boy on his first day of school with his uniform and books ready to go. Instead of being stressed his mum was able to relax and enjoy watching her baby start school. Your support has a huge impact on the lives of women and children and we can't thank you enough!

And another:

A Mother said her kids had never had new uniforms before and that they "won't know themselves in new uniforms." She then broke down and cried.

From a First Nations shelter regarding uniforms and school packs for two little girls who had arrived one Saturday:

The girls were terrified about starting at their new school the following week. However, after receiving their new uniforms and school packs on the Monday, they spent the afternoon parading around the shelter in their uniforms and were so excited, they couldn't wait to go to school.

The DFV shelters and other organisations we help are not funded to supply the educational support we provide. One shelter manager wrote:

I often wonder what alternative options our families would have if it was not for Zephyr Education as there is very limited support available. As a service that works with the most vulnerable families, we are extremely grateful to be in a position where we can advocate (not have to beg) on behalf of our clients.

And I love this one which has stuck with me:

I and the family are very grateful. Wish you could have been there to see the smile of the youngest girl when she tried on her uniform. I hope you could feel it though, I'm sure it beamed all around the world.

And just one last blow of my own trumpet. A group of donors visited Zephyr recently and we received this:

Dear Carmel,

I couldn't let today go by without thanking you [all] for your hospitality and candour in sharing your Zephyr stories.

It has affected me very deeply to have seen for myself that out of a basement carpark so much good is being done without fanfare or fuss. Your vision and practical commitment is inspiring. May your work continue to prosper as long as the need is there.

I send one email each year updating you on the previous year's activity. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and for those of you who may wish to donate by bank transfer – Zephyr's bank account details are:

NAB: Zephyr Education Inc
BSB: 084-004
ACC: 15-629-0526

Please reference your name and send your email address to

admin@zephyreducation.com.au

so I can forward your receipt.

Could I also remind you about Hedley Thomas' podcast which gives you an uplifting personal insight into some of those involved in Zephyr.

Click on the following link or paste it into your browser:

<http://www.zephyrpodcast.com.au/>

or search for Zephyr Education on the Apple Podcasts or Spotify app.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Carmel Martin
Co-founder and Treasurer, Zephyr Education Inc

ABN 47 805 738 577
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PO Box 6096 Fairfield Gardens Qld 4103
Phone: 0438873620
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Territory Gold Bridge Festival Alice Springs

'Proudly sponsored by the Northern Territory Government.'
27-31 August 2025

At the Alice Springs Convention Centre

Director: Matthew McManus

Matchpoint Pairs:

27 August 9:30am and 2:15pm
and 28 August 9:30am

Swiss Teams: 28 August 2:15pm
and 29 August 9:30am and 2:15pm

Swiss Pairs (with PQPs):
30-31 August 9:30am and 2:15pm

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ACCOMMODATION

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Desert Palms Resort (approx. 5 min walk) Self-contained Villas:
Special Price: \$185 per night.

Mention the **Bridge Festival** when booking because rooms are limited.

Email: desertpalms@desertpalms.com.au or phone: 08 89525977

Email: reservations@crowneplazaalicesprings.com.au or phone: (08) 89507777

Enquiries to the Tournament Organiser: Eileen Boocock
Mobile: 0409 677 356, phone 08 8952 4061
eileenbcck@gmail.com

IMPROVE YOUR DEFENCE

with Ron Klinger

Solution to problem on page 2



A SWITCH IN TIME

Teams. Dealer North. Both sides vulnerable.

♠ A K Q 10 7
♥ J 10 5
♦ Q 5 2
♣ 10 8



♠ 4 3 2
♥ Q 9 6
♦ J 7
♣ A K 4 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♠	pass	2♥
pass	3♥	pass	4♥
all pass			

West leads the ♣9: eight - king - five. How would you continue as East?

* * * * *

From the lead of the ♣9, you can deduce that West has one or two clubs. You can play ♣K, ♣A and a third club. If partner has the ♥K, partner can ruff that and your hearts are strong enough to ensure a heart trick to take 4♥ down. On the other hand, partner might have the ♦A and weaker hearts and a diamond switch can work better.

Which do you choose?

The deal arose in the 1979 Vanderbilt (USA Open Knockout Teams):

Teams. Dealer North. Both sides vulnerable.

♠ A K Q 10 7
♥ J 10 5
♦ Q 5 2
♣ 10 8

♠ J 8 5
♥ 8 7
♦ A 10 8 6 4 3
♣ 9 6

♠ 4 3 2
♥ Q 9 6
♦ J 7
♣ A K 4 3 2

♠ 9 6
♥ A K 4 3 2
♦ K 9
♣ Q J 7 5

At both tables, South ended in 4♥:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♠	pass	2♥
pass	2♠	pass	3NT
pass	4♥	all pass	

The killing defence is ♣9 to the ♣K and the diamond switch to the ace. West now needs to revert to clubs. East wins and plays a third club. West ruffs and this 'uppercuts' dummy, creating a trump trick for East to take 4♥ one down.

Will West know to revert to clubs at trick three and not try to give you a diamond ruff. Might the ♦J not have been a singleton? If East wanted a diamond ruff, East should win trick one with the ♣A and switch to the singleton diamond. From ♣K at trick one, West should deduce that East has two diamonds. West should therefore revert to clubs.

If you did not find the killing defence, take comfort. When the deal arose, neither East found it either. Both played ♣K, ♣A and a third club at once. West played the ♥7, forcing out a heart honour from dummy. East was now entitled to a trump trick, but that turned out to be the last trick for the defence. The ♦A went begging. South played ♥A, ♥K, ♠A, ♠K, ♠Q, discarding the ♦9. Then came the ♠10. East ruffed with the ♥Q, but South pitched the ♦K and had ten tricks, +620, no swing.

The deal was also reported in *Sharpen Your Bridge Technique (How to think like an expert)*, one of the many excellent books by Hugh Kelsey.

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suzie@ronklingerbridge.com

Letters to the editor



ONLINE EVENTS

The Australian Bridge Federation Management Committee could save a heap of money, save players thousands of dollars each and attract greater attendances by holding some or most of the major events online. Take the Spring Nationals for example:

Year	Format	Total tables in Teams	
		Open	Mixed
2020	Cancelled	-	-
2021	Online	52	40
2022	F2F	40	24
2023	F2F	50	22
2024	F2F	54	14

Unfortunately the Spring Nationals clashed with the world championships in 2024, but even if you included the number of Mixed Pairs from our National Teams' personnel who would have played in the Spring Mixed, you would be struggling to reach 20 teams in total. You would not lose significant numbers in the Open Teams by holding that online. And instead of cancelling the fantastic Gold Coast Congress, why not hold that online until the possible local venues become available at a reasonable cost?

With so many more Australian interstate players (and overseas players, too) likely compete in our online national events, there must be a good case not only financially to have all our ABF events online except for the National Teams Playoffs. The ABF balance sheet would show a much greater profit line.

Ron Klinger

THE WEAK FREAK

The other day at our Monday club session partner picked up

♠ 8 7 6 5 4 2 ♥ 8 4 ♦ 8 3 ♣ 7 5 2

and heard me open 1♥ in second seat. RHO passed and because she had a weak jump toy in the playroom it was employed. One may well ask 'why'?

Pard was clearly shocked when raised to four spades but dummy was a rockcrusher and the contract was cold.

Interested in the odds about holding a six-card suit in an eight-high Yarborough, Google was consulted, as the maths involved is several levels above my pay grade.

The first enquiry elicited that an eight-high Yarborough containing a six-card suit was "about 100 million to one" so I thought I'd write it up.

Today, Google has offered two completely different answers, depending upon the exact wording of the question namely:

"The odds of being dealt an eight-high Yarborough with a six-card suit are extremely low, approximately one in 2,200,000 (or 0.000045%) which is calculated by taking the probability of a standard Yarborough (around one in 1,828) and then further multiplying by the odds of having a six-card suit within that hand, making it a very rare occurrence in bridge."

That is an AI generated response, and seems to be taking the position that the Yarborough is nine-high (which is 1,828 to one) which is about ten times more likely than eight-high.

And the other suggesting 'only' about a million to one – I haven't been able to retrieve it. It seems low to me.

Are there any maths wizards out there who can tell me the real answer? Though I have seen a number of eight-high hands, the previous ones have all been flat for obvious reasons.

For those who are interested, this was the deal:

Board 15. Dealer South. North-South vulnerable.

♠ K 9
♥ J 10 3
♦ A 10 9 7
♣ K J 9 3

♠ A Q J 3
♥ A K 7 6 5
♦ K Q J
♣ 4

♠ 8 7 6 5 4 2
♥ 8 4
♦ 8 3
♣ 7 5 2

♠ 10
♥ Q 9 2
♦ 6 5 4 2
♣ A Q 10 8 6

Fred Whitaker

Lead face down – and wait

Jan Peach

At the recent Gold Coast Congress, I lost count of the number of director calls for faced opening leads made by the wrong defender. These can be worth several tricks to declarer, perhaps even allowing an otherwise impossible contract to make. They also invoke several options which Law 10C1 requires the director to explain, so that presumed declarer may make an informed decision. That takes time.

Players should understand why the opening lead is made face down. Law 41A says so, and the ABF as Regulating Authority for national events has not regulated otherwise. Partner and the presumed declarer may review the auction and/or ask questions as per Law 41B at this time. Law 20 has more to say on reviewing the auction and the timing of questions.

Law 20C1 says, "After the final pass either defender has the right to ask if it is his opening lead (see Laws 47E and 41)." Confirmation in no way negates the requirement to place the opening lead face down.

There is no point to placing the card face down, momentarily, before turning it over. The opening leader does best to sit and wait for partner to confirm he has no questions before facing the card. Partner might say, "No questions," or "Thanks partner," or anything that indicates that he is happy for the lead to be faced. Some opening leaders ask whether there are

any questions, thereby catering for both partner and the presumed declarer, and being more in tune with Law 41B. Some assume, at some small risk, that the presumed declarer has had enough time to speak up when partner has confirmed he is happy for the lead to be faced.

Suppose misinformation comes to light, perhaps through a failure to alert. Providing an opening lead has not been faced, Law 21B1(a) may be applied in limited circumstances to re-open an auction.

It is important to call the director before correcting explanations or making late alerts. Even if the problem occurred too far back to be fixed, the director has the opportunity to talk with one or more players away from the table to find out what they would have done had such-and-such happened. Thinking at this time is not influenced by the result or by knowing the position of important cards.

One bonus from following the correct procedure of placing the opening lead face down, is that the three other people at the table have a chance to say, "It's not your lead."

A bad habit is for leader's partner to say, "Make the lead face down. I have a question." Rather than opening that can of UI worms, far better to train partner to sit and wait.



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Visit Adelaide for the

2025 Autumn Nationals

Thursday 1st May - Monday 5th May 2025

Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showground, Wayville

**Gold Masterpoints awarded
PQPs in Open and Mixed events**

David Lusk Rookie Butler Swiss Pairs

Butler Swiss Pairs (Open, Mixed, Under Life, Under Grand)

Swiss Teams (Open, Under Life, Under Grand)

Final only on Monday - no Consolation

Tournament Organiser: Barbara Travis

Phone: 0437 919 928 | **Email:** anot@sabf.asn.au

To enter or for more information, see MyABF



MYABF UPDATE

with Julian Foster

Current work: Technical updates

Although there may not appear to have been much going on with MYABF in the last couple of months there has been work going on behind the scenes. We are doing some updates to some of the technology components with which MYABF is built. These also have versions which need to be kept up to date – sort of analogous to updating your phone operating system or Windows on your computer.

That's expected to take a couple of months but one of the expected benefits is it should speed up the system. At peak times while several clubs are processing session payments and/or uploading results there have been occasions where it's been running quite slowly so this will start to address that (more work is planned as well).

We are of course also continuing to look at bugs and enhancement requests (and are doing an exercise to consolidate and better categorise and then prioritise these).

The MYABF "App"

Many players will be aware there is a MYABF App – available for both Apple and Android. It's perhaps worth clarifying a few things around the App since I've experienced some confusion via the Help Desk recently.

MYABF is just a platform that is accessed via the internet. Therefore:

1. **You don't need the App to sign up for MYABF.**

Nor do you use it to do so – you just go via the internet. Here's a direct guide to what you do do:

<https://www.abf.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/MY-ABF-HOW-TO-SIGN-UP-DETAIL.pdf>

2. **You don't need to use the App to access MYABF at all.** Yes, you can reach it via a button in the App, but all that does is take you to MYABF on the internet.

3. **The MYABF App on a phone is only used for notification of tournament results and next round draws.** And that's only if the particular tournament chooses to make use of it, which not all tournaments do.



4. If you do want to use the App, once you have it on your phone (see below for finding them) you log in with your MYABF username (most easily your ABF number) and password. That's all you need to do – if a tournament you are playing in makes use of it, the notifications should start to come through.

Finding the Apps

APPLE:

This is available by searching the Apple App store in the normal way.

ANDROID:

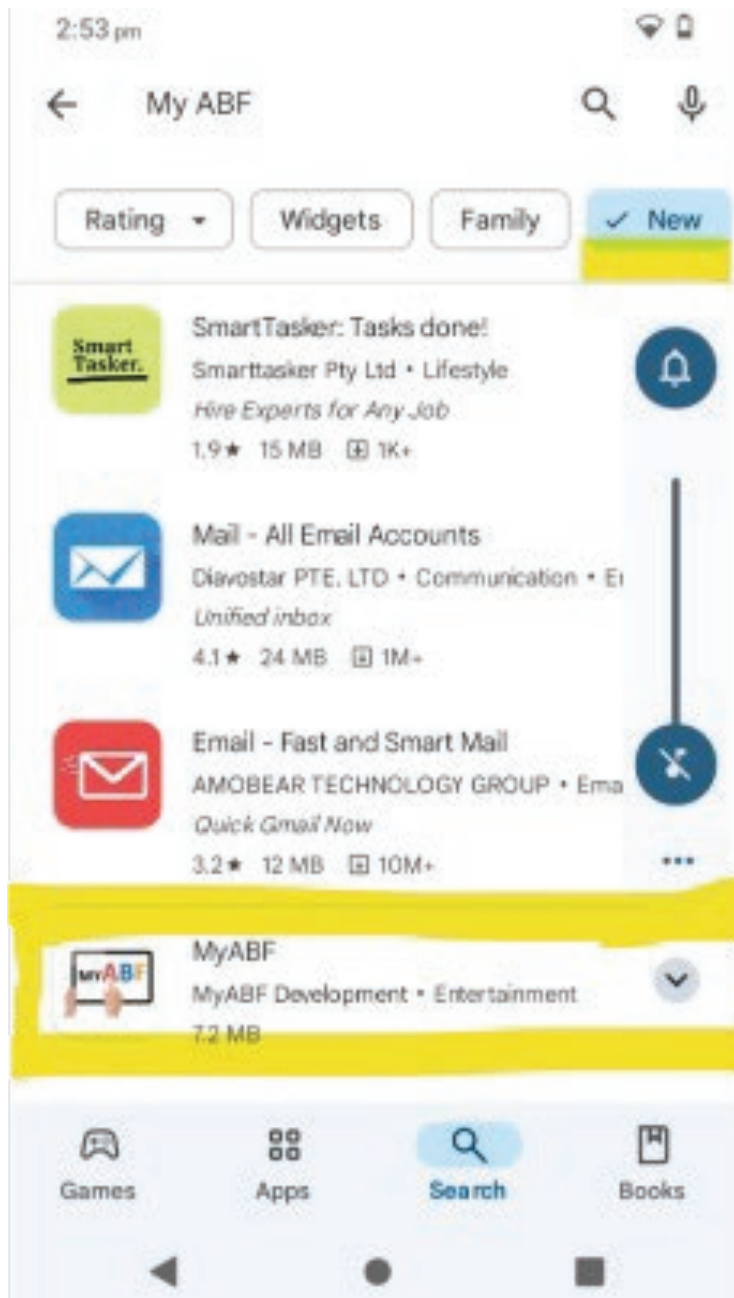
This had to be rebuilt some months ago. The old App still works but won't be updated in future so users of that may at some point need the new one. Before the new one was made publicly available in the Google Play Store, Google required a period of testing with a number of players. That was completed shortly after the Gold Coast Congress (thanks to the 50 players who signed up to assist with that).

Finding the new Android App: Although it's now publicly available again it's not currently trivial to find because it is new and has had very few "hits" or downloads. Simply keying in MYABF to search does not yet bring it up.

You can find it either by using this link directly:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.com.abf.myabf&pcampaignid=web_share

Or by filtering the search in the Playstore on your phone and selecting "New":



More information or need help with one of the apps?

A guide to the apps and some troubleshooting tips was issued recently. It's available on the player's page within the MyABF Resources area on the main ABF website:

<https://www.abf.com.au/member-services/my-abf-resources/players/>

The document can also be directly opened here:

<https://www.abf.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/My-ABF-Apps-for-Tournament-Results-and-Draw-Notifications.pdf>

Unable to log in? Passwords and email addresses.

A common help desk request we get is someone is unable to log in. Most of the time that's because they have forgotten their password.

Another common one is players advising us they have changed their email address.

Like many things in MyABF if you have your own account you can usually deal with both these matters yourself!

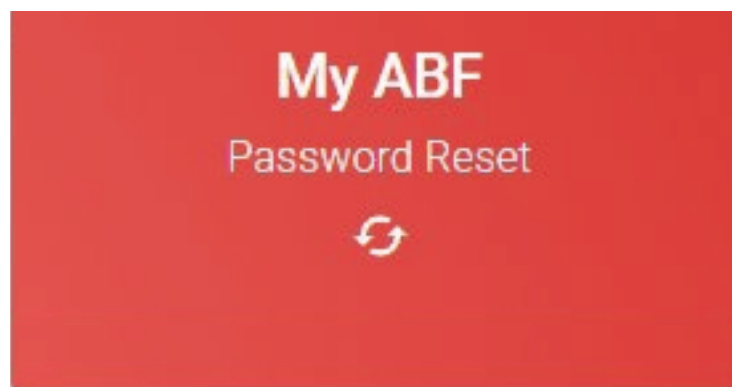
a) You can reset your password (and, as we'll see below, you can help someone else reset theirs).

b) You can update your email address yourself.

RESET A PASSWORD:

Resetting your password is about the only time that you need the email associated with your MyABF account. You CAN use your email to login with but it's far easier to use your ABF number –far less to key in!

When you want to reset your password, however, you DO need to type in your email in the following screen (which you get to by clicking reset password at the bottom right of the login screen).



Enter your email address and if it matches with our database we'll send you a link to reset your password.

ABF Technology Team

Email Address



Log In

Sign Up

After keying in your email press the Reset Password button. The system then checks to see if it matches an email associated with a MyABF account and if it does it sends an email to that address containing a link that lets you set a new password.

Check your spam folder as some email systems do send these emails there.

RESET A FRIEND'S PASSWORD?

95% of the time of course it's your own account you want to reset the password for. But it doesn't have to be! Suppose a friend wants theirs reset. You can't actually reset it for them without access to their email account. But what you can do is start the process by triggering the password reset email to be sent to them – simply key their email address in the above screen and click reset password.

I am frequently asked to do an admin password reset. There actually isn't any such function. All I do is log myself out and do exactly the same as above – key in the player's email address and click Reset Password!

WHAT IF THE RESET EMAIL DOESN'T ARRIVE (AND ISN'T IN YOUR SPAM FOLDER EITHER)?

There are two situations when the password reset email won't arrive:

1. Your email address has been blocked within MYABF (perhaps due to a previous bounce or at some point you may have flagged a MYABF email as spam).
2. The email address in your MYABF account doesn't match the one you keyed in (either because you mistyped something or, more commonly, because the email is out of date).

If that happens, you may need to contact Support. Things we can do are:

- a) see whether a reset password email actually has been sent on your account;
- b) check if there is a block on your email and remove it for you;
- c) check whether the email actually in your account is matching the one you use when you send us the support ticket. That's by far the most common reason why a password reset doesn't work.

OUT OF DATE EMAIL ADDRESSES – AND UPDATING THEM

An out of date email address can happen in two main ways:

1. You change your email but don't update your MYABF account.
2. Someone else originally set your MYABF account up for you but they didn't put your email address in it. This happens if, for example, a club or tournament organiser sets up accounts for some players. They might initially use a generic club or

tournament email address. But they leave that in the player's account. A year later when the player is now familiar with MYABF they want to reset their password and they naturally key in their own email address. But what's in their MYABF account is still that original generic one. If you do help other players set up their accounts then PLEASE make sure their email address lands up in their Profile not yours or a generic one. Doing that saves hassle for them and for us later!

You can always update your email address via your MYABF profile page – which is accessed via the person icon at the top right of the screen on a computer or via the Account menu on a phone/tablet. There's a new "How to" guide just published which explains this, and other things:

www.abf.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/My-ABF-How-to-manage-your-email-address.pdf

DOES THE ABF KNOW YOUR PASSWORD?

Someone recently claimed, "The ABF has my password". This is categorically untrue. We absolutely do not have anyone's password! They are all encrypted.

We do have an admin ability to see aspects of your account for support purposes, but we absolutely do not know (and cannot look up) anyone's password. If you've forgotten it all we can do is trigger a password reset (which is something you or anyone else can do anyway).

It's the same as credit card details you might input to make a bridge credits payment (or save if you are setting up auto top-up). Those are all encrypted as well and handled by Stripe the online payment provider. The ABF doesn't store, or even see, any such details.

WHY DO WE HAVE PASSWORDS AT ALL?

Lastly – for those players who think it's a waste of time MYABF having passwords at all – consider this. Your MYABF account includes access to your bridge credits, in which you can now deposit a fair bit of money.

At the time I am writing this, 6,814 players have a combined total bridge credits balance of \$523,094. The largest individual balance is \$3,440!

That's why the accounts have to have password protection. You wouldn't expect your internet banking access to have no password would you?

Julian Foster
MYABF Manager
julian.foster@abf.com.au



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS BRISBANE 2025

6th - 17th July 2025

EVENTS

Welcome Butler Swiss Pairs – Open & Restricted Sunday 6th
Interstate Teams Monday 7th - Friday 11th
Interstate Swiss Pairs Friday 11th
Open Butler Pairs Saturday 12th →
Mixed Butler Pairs Monday 14th →
Swiss Pairs Monday 14th - Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th - Thursday 17th

VENUE

Brisbane Technology Park Conference and Exhibition Centre
1 Clunies Ross Court, Eight Mile Plains
15 minutes from Brisbane City via the Pacific Motorway

Multiple accommodation options, restaurants, public transport, \$5 daily parking



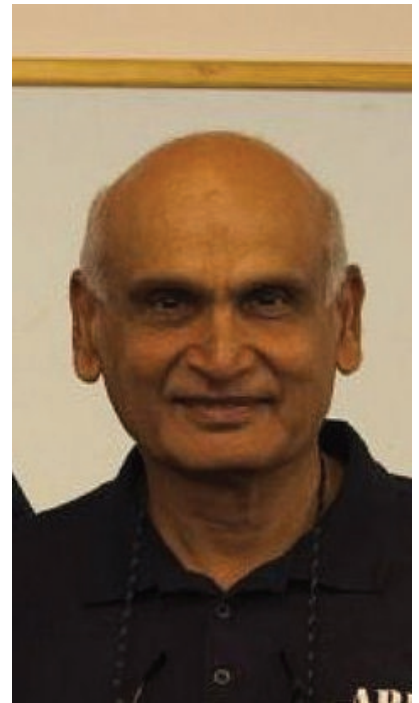
Entries AND accommodation options are on MyABF

GOLD POINTS



Avinash Kanetkar

1946 - 2025



Avinash Kanetkar, fondly remembered as simply "Avi" to all who knew him, passed away suddenly on the evening of 8th of March 2025. He was a true giant of the game of bridge, not only in Australia where he reached legendary status, but also internationally. He has won more than fifty national titles and represented Australia in both the Open and Seniors categories. He will be greatly missed by his family, the Indian community, the bridge fraternity and those who were fortunate to have made his friendship.

Avi was born in the province of Gujerat, India in 1946 from bridge play-ing parents, his mother being a well-known champion. At a young age all Avi wanted to do was play bridge but his parents insisted he get a decent education and a degree first. After qualifying as a medical doctor he became disillusioned with the hospital system in Mumbai and sought greener pastures in the West. The immigration queues to the USA and UK were so long and not known for his patience, Avi found the waiting time for Australia was much more to his liking. So in 1972 he found a new home down-under where his medical qualifications were happily accepted without fuss or red-tape.

He returned to India in 1974 where his parents had arranged 14 potential brides for him to choose from. He eventually chose Lalita the last of these. Whereas the previous 13 had all prepared traditional Indian fare at their meetings, Lalita presented him with ice-cream, a rarity in India at the time, and a dish which appealed to his now very Western tastes. They married in 1975, came back to Sydney and raised two fabulous daughters there.

Besides being a gifted bridge player, Avi was an avid sportsman excelling in tennis, squash, cricket (he always supported India when they played the Aussies), table tennis, badminton and golf. He was also a majestic and strategic carrom player (yes, I had to look it up too). In 2018 the Indian community of Sydney voted him the Sportsperson of the Year. He particularly loved classical Indian music and was himself a very proficient singer with an admirable tenor voice.

Avi was talent-spotted very early on in his bridge career in Australia, by the likes of the fab-four (Tim Seres, Roelof Smilde, Denis Howard and Dick Cummings) who picked him as a stand-out amongst the younger bridge players. And how right they were when he won the prestigious NOT in 1978 with a bunch of other young stars-to-be. As a bridge player Avi was widely seen as an extraordinary talent. He had a deep and instinctive feel for the game, understood and saw the issues of a complex deal in a heart-beat and played at lightning speed. His oft stated motto was " better to play quickly and make a mistake, than to play slowly and make the same mistake! "

Avi's partners over the years: Ross Stuart, Pauline Gumby, Chris Hughes, Terry Brown, Ron Klinger, Bruce Neill, Matthew Thomson, David Beauchamp, Sartaj Hans, Ella Jacob and most recently George Kozakos all played his system known as "Avi Standard". This was a well-thought out system stripped to the bones of unnecessary complication and admirably suited to Avi's very direct but aggressive bidding style. I once played a tournament with Ron Klinger and we had to decide what system to play. We looked at each other, nodded and simultaneously said: "Avi Standard".

As mentioned previously Avi has won more than 50 national events. They include 2 Open Playoffs, 9 Seniors Playoffs (including the 2025 Playoff), 8 Grand National Teams, 5 National Seniors Teams, 3 Spring National Teams, and a host of other events including that 1978 NOT. Internationally he was part of the winning 2010 and 2013 Asia Pacific Seniors Teams and a finalist in several Seniors World Championships.

Avi's amazing bridge record speaks for itself. But Avinash (which prophetically means "no end" in his native Marathi) himself always said "when I can't play bridge anymore that will be the end". And so it has come to pass that he was taken too early and we are all much the poorer for it, as he still had so much to give.

Peter Buchen



TEACHING TIPS

with Ian Dalziel

TEACHING DEFENCE

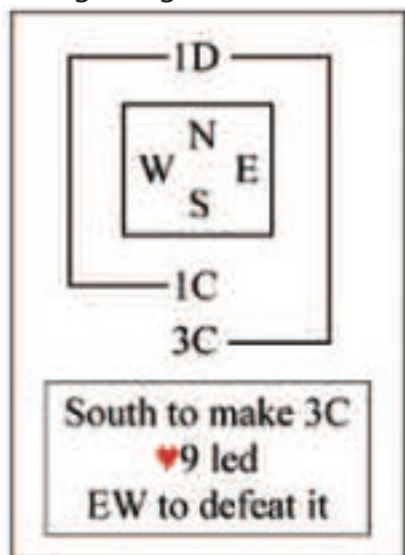
It is generally agreed that defence is the most difficult part of bridge. Do you realise that you spend more time defending than you do on any other part of the game? Improving your defence will not only give you better results, but, as you increase your knowledge, the defence becomes more interesting. You have 'arrived' as a defender when someone says to you at the end of the session, "Didn't we have rotten cards today?" and you reply, "I honestly never noticed."



Ian Dalziel is a teacher and regular columnist for "Mr Bridge" magazine in the UK, where this column was originally published.

Opening leads excepted, I would say defence is the hardest thing to teach. I find students learn much more from the prepared hands than from my spoken lessons, no matter how well I think I present the topic. Hence my spoken lessons on defence are usually quite short – 20 minutes at most.

The tricky bit is designing hands at the right level for the class. If they get most of the hands wrong, they become disillusioned – but if the hands are too easy, they don't learn much. I do emphasise that the prepared hands are not a test or an exam – just a method of learning, and they can learn as much by getting them wrong as right.



My prepared hands have a designated contract which is to be defeated. Unless the topic is opening leads, the lead is specified too. They don't bid the hands, as that takes far too long and they may not reach the desired contract. Of course, it is vital that defenders know how the contract was reached, so the bidding is shown in a large bidding spiral on the outside of my booklets (as shown). This makes the bidding easy to follow and it sits on the middle of the table during play. I know the bidding record should be withdrawn after the lead is made, but I make an exception.

The inside of the booklet shows the four hands and how they should be played (pictured). Declarer must play correctly or the defenders are not properly tested. If the contract fails due to declarer error and not best defence, then the teaching point of the hand is missed. Declarer, therefore, is given instructions in a little tent, which can't be seen by the defenders, so the contract is only defeated if the defenders play correctly. Declarer isn't being tested in this exercise, and is just making up the numbers.

Ruff 7.	♠ J 9 x
	♥ x x x
	♦ A K 10 x x
	♣ x x
♠ A x x	♠ Q 10 x x x x
♥ 9 x x x	♥ A J 10
♦ J x x x	♦ x
♣ A x	♣ x x x
	♠ K
	♥ K Q x
	♦ Q x x
	♣ K Q J 10 x x

South to make 3♣ on the ♥9 lead. EW to defeat it.

East wins the first trick with the ♥A.

The lead can't be a singleton or doubleton as that would give declarer ♥KQxxx or ♥KQxxx respectively, and South didn't bid hearts.

East switches to his singleton diamond. West reads the switch as a singleton (why else would East lead to dummy's good diamonds?) and gives East a ruff when in with the ♠A.

East gets a second ruff by returning a spade, the only hope of getting West in. West can't have a heart honour as the ♥9 must be top of nothing.

They work in fours, as dummy makes a record of the card which wins each trick on the yellow pages (see June 2021 issue). After they finish the play, they lay out the cards like four dummy hands, and open the booklet which has the answer inside. If the contract is defeated, it should mean the defence was correct; if the contract made, the booklet should tell them where they went wrong. The teacher is available to explain if necessary and, with a glance at the card play record, can immediately see where they have gone wrong. These hands are designed as self-teaching, so one teacher can cope with a good number of tables.

To save time, the hands are played to 'the point of no return'. They stop when the contract is defeated or made, or declarer can claim the contract. South is always declarer, so they take turns to be NSEW but stay in the same seats.

Not all aspects of defence can be taught by formal lessons and prepared hands. Random hands can throw up some great teaching points, but the play needs to be recorded (as above) to facilitate post mortems, as the players often won't remember how the play went. Players will keep learning for many years using random hands with bid and play post mortems – as a teacher you have a job for life.

I have designed 20 hands in booklet form on basic defence to notrumps. These cover continuing the suit led, switching suit, and unblocking. I also have another 20 hands on basic defence to suit contracts, which include ruffing (like the one shown), dummy's strength and weakness, forcing and passive defence. These are covered in several lessons, and anyone who has a good grasp of the concepts in these wallets has made a good start on the journey to becoming a competent defender.

If you would like a free PDF and/or Publisher copy of the 40 booklets and associated lesson notes, then email

ildalziel@gmail.com

Hand No.	BIDDING RECORD				Lead + Tricks
	DEALER				
1	1NT	X	2C	---	
	---	2S	---	3S	
	---	---	---		8H
	AH	KH	AS	AC	
	JS	KC	QH	9H	
	7Sx	KS	QS	KD	
	9Sx				10

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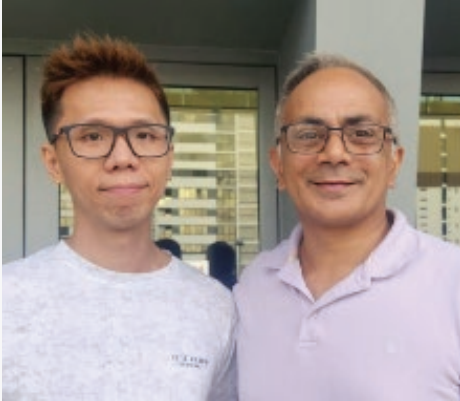
Photos from Gold Coast Daily Bulletin

Gold Coast Congress

BOBBY RICHMAN PAIRS

OPEN

- 1 Tony Nunn - Paul Dalley
- 2 Andy Hung - Sartaj Hans



3 Leon Meier - Geo Tislevoll



- 4 Ella Jacob - Avinash Kanetkar
- 5 David Wiltshire - Sophie Ashton
- 6 Liam Milne - James Coutts
- 7 Axel Johannsson - Kate McCallum
- 8 Michael Ware - Pete Hollands
- 9 Nikolas Moore - Rachel Langdon
- 10 Fraser Rew - George Kozakos
- B Adam Kaplan - Matthew Brown
- C Marlene Watts - Michael Prescott
- D Donald Cartwright - George Fleischer



- E Graham Wakefield - Niek van Vucht
- F Chandrakan Kulkarni - Himanshu Joshi
- G Johanna Perfect - Hamish Brown
- H Phillip Fent - Dee Harley
- I Kelvin Tibble - Ian Southern

INTERMEDIATE

- 1 Ian Clark - Dave Parham



- 2 Eugene Pereira - Martin Wu
- 3 Shirley Bettman - Neil Lawrence
- 4 Maruta Boyd - Barbara Holland
- 5 Myrna Saunders - Molly Butcher
- B Lydia Gibbs - Kevin Murray
- C Paul Brake - Fiona Evans



- D Daria Williams - David Grout
- E Ming Ting - David Ting

RESTRICTED

- 1 Andrea Pappas - Speros Pappas



- 2 Juliet Davanney - Judy Parkinson
- 3 Chris Cotton - Sharyn Dilosa
- 4 Bob Ren - Kevin Gu
- 5 Joanne Mccarthy - Julia Caldwell
- B Suzie Wall - Margaret Meakin
- C Sally Irwin - Sonia Roulston
- D Anna Irminger - Eugenie Mooney
- E Sally Savini - Brenda Campbell
- F Ann Berry - Bev Furner

NOVICE

- 1 Michael Zhu - Zhan Wan



- 2 Jessie Pelenato - Bridget O'Brien
- 3 Neah Williams - David Hickie
- 4 Ian Pronk - Genevieve Pronk
- 5 Helen Jones - Kevin Ridgway
- 6 Kenneth Baker - Scott Grout
- 7 Minu Shah - Ajita Shah
- B Sandrine Manning - Julie Duncan



- C Annemarie Stevenson - Sonja de Rooy
- D Gillian Hibbard - Jenni Cover

OPEN TEAMS

Quarter-Final

Appleton 52 def China GXZY (Jun Liu, Guanghua Li, Jian Hou, Hong Huang, Gang Shen, Jianyong Yu) 51

Brake 65 def Ware (Hugh McGann, Michael Ware, Pete Hollands, Robert Fruewirth, Jamie Thompson, Matthew Thomson) 18

Semi-Final

Appleton 91 def Beauchamp (Maurits van der Vlugt, Fraser Rew, Avi Kanetkar, David Beauchamp, George Kozakos) 77

Brake 56 def Dalley (Kieran Dyke, Ashley Bach, Arlene Dalley, Tony Nunn, Paul Dalley) 51

Final

Brake (Adam Kaplan, Matthew Brown, Jessica Brake, Shane Harrison, Andy Hung) 125 def Appleton (Stephen Castellino, David Appleton, Joachim Haffer, Philip Markey) 100



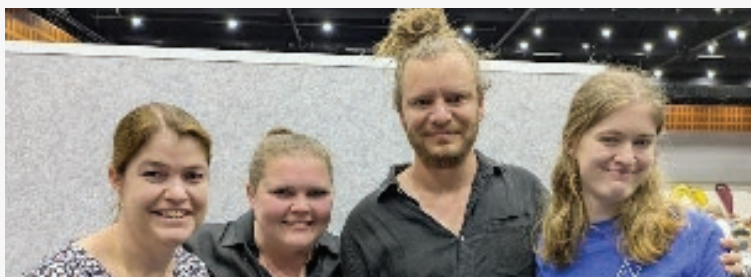
INTERMEDIATE TEAMS

Cameron (Rochelle van Heuven, Bigi Cameron, Emma Russell, Tim Rigter) 98 def Yoffa (Lisa Yoffa, Ruth Frydman, Dan Craine, Maryanne Bird) 71



UNDER 1500 TEAMS

Cameron (Adrian Lohmann, Jan Randall, Don Cameron, Brian Jacobson) 106 def Stanton (Susie Warren, Di Rogers, Kathy Males, Fay Stanton) 59



RESTRICTED TEAMS

WWDD (Caprice Davey, Alice Handley, Owen Teakle, Anne Davey) 119 def Veling (Jamie Luxton, Sandy Veling, Eve Clarkson, Jeff Veling) 67



NOVICE TEAMS

Cusack (Kenneth Baker, Rhonda Khong, Scott Grout, Margaret Cusack) 122 def Wan (Julie Darvall, Michael Zhu, Zhan Wan, Anne Muller) 90

Tasmanian Festival Of Bridge

ROGER PENNY SENIOR SWISS PAIRS

1 Nigel Rosendorff - Peter Reynolds	118.84
2 Ian Robinson - Neil Ewart	117.84
3 Phillip Fent - Dee Harley	100.47
4 Robert Gallus - Stephen Weisz	99.76
5 Roger Swain - Felicity Wivell	97.01
6 George Bilski - Martin Bloom	94.49
7 Carolyn O'Donnell - Maryanne Bird	92.78
8 Penny Corrigan - Maggie Callander	91.72
9 Jeanette Reitzer - Terry Brown	91.65
10 Jenny Thompson - Christopher Quail	91.62

TBIB AUSTRALIAN SWISS PAIRS

1 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby	147.85
2 Ashley Bach - Arlene Dalley	144.42
3 Maurits Van Der Vlugt - David Beauchamp	143.88
4 Robert Fruewirth - Tony Leibowitz	143.81
5 George Bilski - Martin Bloom	142.36
6 Ian Robinson - Neil Ewart	141.43
7 Michael Ware - Matthew McManus	140.04
8 Guray Sunamak - Darryl Smith	139.47
9 Arjuna De Livera - Lori Smith	135.05
10 Nigel Rosendorff - Peter Reynolds	134.70

FIS AUSTRALIAN MIXED SWISS PAIRS

1 Ashley Bach - Arlene Dalley	114.51
2 Hugh McGann - Candice Smith	108.36
3 Andrew Peake - Giselle Mundell	104.24
4 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby	99.51
5 Julia Jo - Liam Milne	99.36
5 Julie Rhodes - James Coutts	99.36
7 Joan Butts - Peter Buchen	94.83
8 Christy Geromboux - Sebastian Yuen	94.65
9 Therese Demarco - Ron Cooper	94.37
10 Axel Johannsson - Kate McCallum	93.20

NOVICE SWISS PAIRS

1 Jan Van Riel - Margaret Grant	85.92
2 Nat Wright - Jo Wright	74.53
3 Robyn Russell - Anne Donnelly	71.05
4 Roger Hooley - Judy Hooley	68.70
5 Sharlene Campbell - Catherine Catt	66.84
6 Elizabeth Legge - Leonie Atkins	66.77
7 Annette Silman - Anita Czarny	66.70
8 Margaret Cusack - Rhonda Khong	64.86
9 Christine Chodasewicz - Gek Low	64.32
10 Wayne Seabrook - Paul Fredheim	62.90

RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS

1 Louise Cowan - Susan Bezette	115.95
2 Margaret Cusack - Rhonda Khong	110.74
3 Joann Theriault - Eamonn McCabe	108.10
4 Julia Johnson - Geoff Green	103.69
5 Elizabeth Sward - Rexine Stott	99.77
6 Gordon Travers - Anne Travers	99.64
7 Jan Frost - Donna McWilliam	99.49
8 Robin Barnes - Rita Mawson	98.48
9 Victor Coombe - Steve Thollar	95.65
10 Roger Hooley - Judy Hooley	95.54

ROOKIE SWISS PAIRS

1 Nat Wright - Jo Wright	76.19
2 Ann Burnett - Anne McEntee	63.47
3 Helen Hebblethwaite - Chris Arnott	63.32
4 Victoria Vyvyan - Billie Watson	61.63
5 Sharon Wilkinson - Phil Wilkinson	60.35
6 Anne Travers - Jill Kilburn	59.10
7 Robyn Russell - Anne Donnelly	56.85
8 Nola Calvert - Rex Calvert	56.73
9 Jill Phillips - Robin Hill	53.27
10 Tony Crehan - Paul Rodgers	53.10



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