

ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

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Barry's tale

Bridge-playing parents often provide bridge with the next influx of players to the game. It is not often that we see three generations of one family competing successfully at the same club. Mainstays at Borin Bridge Centre (now Brown Bridge Studio) for several years have been Jeff and Brenda Kahan, and Brenda's sister Shelley Kaye. Brenda and Shelley play together twice a week, while Jeff plays five times a week with a variety of partners.

Earlier this year, an addition was made to the family circle with the arrival of Shelley and Brenda's father Barry from Israel.



Jeff, Brenda, Barry and Shelley

Shelley provided this short biography on her father:

'Barry Samuels was born on February 28, 1914 in Johannesburg, South Africa. His mother was English, and his father Australian! How strange that at the age of 94, he should emigrate to Australia, 100 years after his father had left Sydney. Barry lived in Israel for 17 years, prior to moving to Melbourne.

Most of his family now live in Australia. We are all delighted to have him with us at last. 13 great-grandchildren now get to enjoy the fruits of his wisdom. They have not yet reached the age when they know everything - so we hope that some of his extraordinary adaptability will be a life's lesson for them.

Happy to meet new people, Barry joined our bridge club. Having never played duplicate bridge before, he soon adapted and plays a jolly good game.

Playing with Joyce Bolton recently (a scratch partnership), they won with a resounding 62%.

We are so proud of him; he is such a dignified man as he moves calmly from table to table, chatting happily to all his new friends. When he and his regular partner Ray Rockman, a tiny lady of ninety-something sit down at your table, they almost score a double century."

Our tale has a hand to demonstrate Barry's prowess.

Dealer: North

Vul: NS

♠ K 9 5 2

♥ 10 7 6

♦ K J 7 3

♣ 7 6

♠ 10 8

♥ Q 9 4

♦ Q 9 8 5

♣ A 8 5 4

♠ A 7 4 3

♥ A 5 2

♦ 10 2

♣ J 9 3 2

♠ Q J 6

♥ K J 8 3

♦ A 6 4

♣ K Q 10

Barry, South opened 1NT, which became the final contract. West led ♦4, and Barry won East's ♦10 with his ace. He knocked out ♠A, and played ♣K on East's ♣2 return, West won ♣A and continued with ♣4 to East's ♣J and Barry's ♣Q.

Barry started cashing his winners, crossing to dummy with a finesse of ♦J. On ♦K, East discarded ♥2 (encouraging), and on dummy's last spade, West let go ♣5.

Barry came off dummy with a low heart and played ♥K. When that won, he exited a heart. West looked for a moment at dummy's ♥10 before playing her ♥Q, so both heart honours tumbled down together. East had only clubs remaining, so on the club exit, Barry could win his carefully retained ♣10, and ♥J was his 10th trick. +180 was an absolute top on the board.

Note that Barry read East's heart discard correctly - a player will often encourage when holding the ace, but not normally when holding the queen.

It has been observed that bridge is effective in providing exercise for the brain, and can delay the onset of Alzheimer's. Barry's tale reinforces this fact. We hope that Barry enjoys his bridge for years to come.

Another year gone, another coming up, and there are a few administrative points to make.

Firstly, the charge for advertising will rise from the March Newsletter. At present, the cost per page is \$360, but that will change to \$400. Fractional costs per page will reflect that change (\$200 for half a page).

With the increased revenue, there is an upside for the Newsletter: submissions which are accepted for publication will receive \$100. We hope to encourage more players to write reports on major events. Email editor@abf.com.au before you write an article; in that way, there should be no disappointment (i.e., an article has already been arranged or submitted).

I have been disappointed by the number of magazines returned to my home address. Club officials, if you have not been receiving your newsletters, it is likely that you have changed address without notifying me. After mail out of the last Newsletter, I had a number of bundles returned, and they remain undelivered. The cost of re-addressing newsletters after they are returned is prohibitive; Australia Post charge discount prices for bulk mail out, but normal prices for re-mailing.

Good luck to you all in 2009, and may it be a good year for bridge.

Stephen Lester, Editor

Club Banora at Banora Point, New South Wales (just south of Coolangatta airport) once again hosted the Grand National Open Teams Finals in November.

This is one of the ABF's premier events, and as such, qualifying stages at club and then state level are held throughout Australia earlier in the year.

60 teams vied for the top positions. As per normal, the strongest teams on paper came from capital cities, and some of them had a bye in the first knockout round.

Losing teams from the knockout went into a Swiss format repechage, which allowed two teams to 're-enter' the main event.

Sydney teams dominated the latter stages of the event. The four teams through to the finals series from the knockout were:

SYDNEY 6: Gabriella Bremner-Moore, Seamus Browne, Ishmael Del'Monte, Kieran Dyke, Paul Gosney, Bob Richman.

ADELAIDE 1: Paul Hudson, Mark Jappe, Chris Lorimer, John Maddison, Greg Sargent, David Smyth.

SYDNEY 5: Edward Barnes, Sartaj Hans, Matthew McManus, Catherine Ritter.

SYDNEY 2: Julian Foster, Kim Morrison, Ross Stuart, David Weston.

Two teams came through from the repechage:

SYDNEY 3: Murray Green, Pauline Gumby, Richard Jedrychowski, Warren Lazer, Bruce Neill, Andrew Peake.

CANBERRA 1: Richard Brightling,

Arjuna de Livera, David Lilley, Peter Reynolds, Ian Robinson, Ian Thomson (the team which won the GNOT in 2006 and 2007).

SYDNEY 1 had tied with *CANBERRA 1* in the repechage, but lost the two-board playoff.

SYDNEY 1 comprised Nye Griffiths, Nicholas Rodwell, Michael Wilkinson, Stephan Winkler.

In the repechage, the best performing non capital city teams were:

NORTHERN RIVERS (NSW): Eric Hurley, Janet Brown, Marjorie Askew, William Powell (5th).

SUNSHINE COAST (Qld): Rosemary Crowley, Adrian Myers, Verna Brookes, Stephen Brooks (7th).

BLUE MOUNTAINS (NSW): Machteld Baljet, Marcel Hoevenaars, Andrew Milne, Terence Palmer (9th).

In the Semi Final, *SYDNEY 6* beat *SYDNEY 3*, and *SYDNEY 2* beat *ADELAIDE*.

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2008 GNOT Winners SYDNEY 6: Kieran Dyke, Ishmael Del'Monte, Bob Richman, Paul Gosney

In the Final, SYDNEY 6 defeated SYDNEY 2 by 174-78 IMPs.

SYDNEY 2 conceded after 48 boards of the scheduled 64 board final.

As can be seen from the final results, SYDNEY 2 had run out of steam by the time it faced SYDNEY 6, often the case in a hard-fought event, where tiredness and lack of match practise sets in.

Ron Klinger's blog provided the only coverage for the public, apart from live viewing on *BridgeBase* or later perusal of the *BridgeBase* archives.

My own perusal started with Session 1, Board 1:

Board 1, Dealer: North, Vul: Nil

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gosney</i>	<i>Morrison</i>	<i>Richman</i>	<i>Stuart</i>
	1♠	3♣	Dbl
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

And the other:

West	North	East	South
<i>Foster</i>	<i>Dyke</i>	<i>Weston</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>
	1♠	2♣	Dbl
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Richman put the pressure on from the first board. His 3♣ bid was much more challenging to the opponents than Weston's simple 2♣ overcall.

At the first table, Morrison did not have the chance to jump to 3♦, indicating his extra shape. Stuart could

have taken the same pragmatic approach as Del'Monte at the other table, by contracting for the nine trick notrump game.

The play at the first table started with ♥A lead by Richman, who switched to ♣K at trick two. Morrison won ♣A and played ♦J, covered by Gosney's king and won by the ace in hand. To retain trump fluidity, Morrison played a spade towards dummy's ♠10 at the next trick, Richman's singleton king winning. With a count on the hand, Richman cashed ♣Q and played ♥K, forcing Morrison to ruff. The 5-1 trump break now put paid to the contract, one down, -50.

At the second table, Del'Monte was able to read Dyke for a 5-5 shape after his jump to 3♦. It was easy for Del'Monte to decide on 3NT as the final contract.

Foster led a club to Weston's queen, ducked by Del'Monte. ♥A received a discouraging signal from Foster. Weston continued with ♣K, won by Del'Monte's ace. Del'Monte played ♦J, covered and won by dummy's ♦A. A low spade towards hand saw the singleton ♠K score yet again.

This time, however, the defence was without a winning plan. Weston cashed ♥K and Del'Monte claimed nine tricks, +400 and 10 IMPs to SYDNEY 2.

I asked Ishmael Del'Monte to provide something of interest from the match, but, with the GNOT only a memory a few weeks later, he instead provided us with some invaluable tips on bidding theory and some interesting deals from play at Sydney clubs.

Checkback after a INT Rebid

Opener	Responder
1♦	1♥
1NT	2♣ ¹

1. This asks opener to describe the hand further.

Opener would bid:

- 2♦ with exactly 3-2-5-3 shape
- 2♥ with three-card heart support
- 2♠ with four spades (not 3 hearts)
- 2NT with 3-2-4-4

In a kind of "extended" Checkback Stayman, opener can jump to the three-level with maximum values.

Playing Checkback, you should rebid notrumps with *all balanced hands*, (unless you have already found your fit) even bypassing a four-card major:

♠ A J 5 3
♥ K 3
♦ Q 10 7 6
♣ K 10 9

You open 1♦ and partner bids 1♥. Playing Checkback, you can rebid 1NT and, if partner is interested, she will ask about your major holding by bidding 2♣ - Checkback.

A tricky problem when playing simple Checkback is that it can take your auction too far.

Take this example:

	<i>You</i>	<i>Partner</i>
♠ 6 5		1♣
♥ A J 10 6 4	1♥	1NT
♦ A 7 6 5 4	??!	
♣ 8		

If partner has three-card heart support, you probably belong in game. If partner has only two hearts, you might come stumbling home in 1NT or 2♥.

If you bid 2♣ (Checkback) and partner bids 2♠, you are cooked. So I recommend:

Two-Way Checkback after a 1NT Rebid:

2♣ forces 2♦, then responder makes a descriptive, invitational bid. In the last example, responder would bid 2♣ and then 2♥, showing invitational values with five hearts. Opener should know enough to pass with a doubleton heart.

2♦ after the 1NT rebid

This an artificial game force, and asks opener to describe their hand further.

Test yourself with these problems:

	<i>You</i>	<i>Partner</i>
♠ A		1♣
♥ K 8 7 6 5 4	1♥	1NT
♦ 3 2	?	
♣ J 9 4 3		

Here, as in the last example, you would like to play 4♥ if partner has something like:

♠ J 4 3
♥ A 10 9
♦ A 8 7
♣ K Q 8 7

However, 2♥ would be quite high enough if partner has:

♠ Q 7 5 4
♥ J 3
♦ A 8 7
♣ A K 8 5

... so you should invite partner to game, describing your own hand, by bidding 2♣ and after partner's forced response of 2♦, you can rebid 2♥, showing invitational values with hearts. Partner should not bid again without three hearts.

What about this:

	<i>You</i>	<i>Partner</i>
♠ J 10 7 3		1♣
♥ 5 4		1NT
♦ Q J 10 6 5	1♠ ¹	
♣ Q 2	?	

1. Your 1♠ response is correct, despite the longer diamonds.

When you are minimum (6-9), you should forget about a five-card minor and head straight to the four-card major – it is both preemptive (against the opponents' likely heart fit) and constructive (your most likely games are 4♠ or 3NT) to ignore you minor with a weak hand.

So when partner rebids 1NT, what do you suspect would be your best contract?

2♦, of course. How do you get there? Simply bid 2♣, and partner will be obliged to bid 2♦ - which you will pass.

Another great part of Two-Way Checkback is when partner opens 1♣, you bid 1♥ and partner rebids 1NT.

Now you rebid 2♦, game-forcing Checkback. Partner responds 2♠, denying three-card support for hearts.

Therefore, partner's exact shape is 4-2-3-4!

Crocodiles and Panthers:

I was dealt the following hand while playing with Abe Cohen; our opponents were Sandy Jacobs and Maria Anderson: ♠KQ107653, ♥653, ♦Q9, ♣K.

I opened 3♠, and Sandy overcalled 4♥, ending the auction.

Abe had a hand he would have loved to have bid 4NT for the minors. Unfortunately, this bid would be Key Card for spades.

The full hand was:

<i>Dealer: West</i>		
<i>Vul: All</i>		
	♠ 4	
	♥ A Q J 10 7 4	
	♦ K J 3	
	♣ J 6 2	
♠ K Q 10 7 6 5 3		♠ ---
♥ 6 5 3		♥ 8
♦ Q 9		♦ A 10 7 6 5 4 2
♣ K		♣ A Q 10 8 3
	♠ A J 9 8 2	
	♥ K 9 2	
	♦ 8	
	♣ 9 7 5 4	

Abe led ♦A and took my ♦9 as a suit preference signal. He reasonably switched to his trump. Sandy won in hand, and ruffed her ♦J.

After drawing trumps, a club was led, Abe playing ♣10, while I won my king perforce.

I now switched to ♠K. Sandy ducked, and I was now endplayed, forced into leading into dummy's ♠AJ, and allowing two club discards. Making 4♥!!

Abe needs to win the club exit by playing his ace

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when clubs are first led! This crashes my king, and now when he exits a diamond, declarer must fail. This would have been an example of the Crocodile Coup!

The following deal came up during a Wednesday evening Teams Championship event at Double Bay Bridge Club.

My opponents were Paul Lavings and Tony Leibowitz, and my partner was Giselle Mundell.

I held:

♠ J 9 8 2
♥ A J 10 9 2
♦ 4
♣ Q 9 2

I passed, and Tony opened 1NT. Giselle bid 3♦, whereupon Paul paused before bidding 3NT.

I deduced he did not have a diamond stopper, and quickly doubled in the hope he would run.

He did indeed run to 4♣, which became the final contract.

3NT and 5♣ are both cold.

This is called the Panther Double.

The full deal:

Dealer: North

Vul: All

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

Book Reviews

The Setting Trick by Ian McCance

\$29.95 from all bridge book stockists

First, a defensive problem:

Dealer: East

Vul: NS

♠ 10 9 3 2
♥ Q J 9 2
♦ 10 4
♣ 7 5 4

♠ A 6 4
♥ A 5 2
♦ 10 2
♣ 9 8 6 3 2

You are East, defending 3NT after South opened 2NT (20-22) and then denied either a four- or five-card major. Your partner leads ♠7, you win ♠A, and declarer follows with ♠5. How do you plan to beat 3NT?

This is just one of the 100 problems from *The Setting Trick*, the first bridge book by one of the Goliaths of the Australian bridge scene, Dr Ian McCance. All are defensive problems and, as the title implies, you need to use the available information to take the **setting trick**, be it the fourth trick against a major suit game, the second trick against a slam and so on.

The hands mostly come from actual play where Dr McCance was at the table, and the difficulty level ranges from not too tough to very hard.

Have you thought about the hand above yet? Good defensive technique is like detective work – what do we know? West can't have ♠KQJ, so declarer has either two or three spades to an honour. That means you can only score at most three spade tricks. Looking at your hand and dummy's, it's more likely declarer has long diamonds, so that leaves clubs or hearts as a source of defensive tricks – and dummy's hearts suggest a switch to clubs is more urgent, and probably can't cost.

The full hand:

Dealer: East

Vul: NS

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

Play a high club, and partner should get the message that you worked out there was no rush to take your spade tricks immediately.

Dr McCance doesn't rate, rank or sort the problems by difficulty (that would be giving away too much information, wouldn't it?), but he does address the critical issues on each hand that you as defender need to look out for and consider.

North of the Master Solver's Club – the bridge writings of Frank Vine

\$29.95 from all bridge book stockists

One of the natural perks of my job is the abundance of new bridge books that cross my desk.

There are two genres that I prefer - the biographical and the humorous. Long time readers of *Australian Bridge* will have fond memories of Keith McNeil's writing, either as host of *Bidding Forum*, or as an occasional columnist. His wit could perhaps be best described as acerbic, and his style has been sorely missed since his death in 1993.

It was, therefore, with great joy that I received something akin, in Frank Vine's book. His style really touched my funny bone.

Vine was a regular contributor to many bridge publications, including *The Bridge World*.

This book is a collection of his finest columns over his short life (he died at just 50) and is broken up into three parts.

First are the *Coldbottom Chronicles*, where the hero, Cornelius Coldbottom, takes on his arch enemies, the Blue Team from Stoney Creek. His character pokes fun at the players' foibles and shortcomings, while subtly taking potshots at the bridge establishment on issues such as committee rulings, ethics and cheating.

Part Two, entitled *Comment* is my favourite, and is a mix of bridge thoughts and ideas, ranging from technical to current issues (still relevant today).

Part Three of the book consists of parodies with bridge settings – the ultimate chapter *Rashomon* (based on the classic 1950 Japanese movie) is the best, as it dissects a bridge hand (which of course ends up a disaster for one pair) from the eyes and minds of all four players who of course believe that only their actions were justifiable and the other three players are simply mad!

Sounds familiar?

Nick Fahrner, The Bridge Shop



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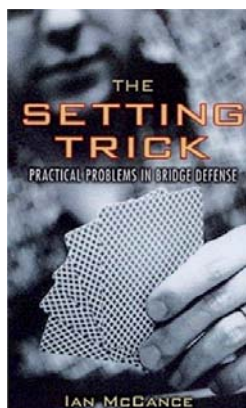
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NEW BOOKS NEW BOOKS NEW BOOKS



The Setting Trick by Ian McCance

A book of defensive problems taken from real play by one of the all-time Australian bridge greats, Ian McCance. You are encouraged to seek out the critical fourth trick against a major-suit game, the fifth against 3NT, and so on – will you take the Setting Trick?

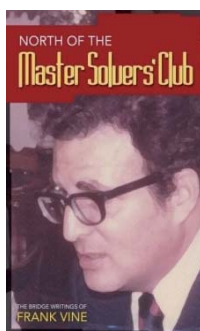
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North of the Master Solvers Club

The Bridge Writings of Frank Vine

The almost lost masterpieces of bridge expert and satirist Frank Vine have resurfaced in book form – this is full of priceless articles. Bridge enthusiasts who haven't discovered Frank Vine's work before are in for a rare treat. An ideal summer read.

\$29.95



Improve Your Bidding Judgement

by Neil Kimelman

This fills a gap in bridge literature by discussing how best to make decisions in competitive auctions - when to bid on, when to double the opponents, when to push forward to slam and when to be happy with just reaching game. It will help any reader become a better bidder.

\$29.95



Double Dummy Offer



♠ 5		♠ 63
♥ AJ		♥ 43
♦ KQ		♦ 6
♣ 8		♣ 6
♠ -	N	
♥ K2		♠ 84
♦ J87		♥ Q
♣ 9		♦ A93
		♣ -

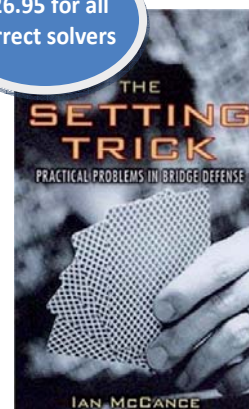
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What Should I Bid?

The best submission for November came from Brian Thorp.

I was West holding:

♠52, ♥ AKJ753, ♦A, ♣ Q532

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♥	Pass	5NT	
All Pass			

Comments: We missed our 6♥ contract because partner thought I had five clubs, and as a result I thought he had no hearts (he was 5-1-4-3 with ♥10).

As 3♦ is a game force, I now think I should have bid 3♥ instead of 4♣. But the hand raises the question of “fourth-suit forcing” at the four-level. How do you recommend it should be played at this level?

Second question (whilst on the topic):

I play a five-card-major, weak notrump system and, like most people, play FSF at the three-level as asking and game-forcing.

However, at the one- and two-levels, I play it as forcing for one round only. Also, at the one-level I still play it as asking, although I believe some players think it best to play it as showing. Do you think my one- and two- level treatments are best?

Thanks, Brian Thorp

Sartaj’s Reply:

Hi Brian,

I think it’s just brilliant when the person who poses the problem proposes the answer too!

Yes, I agree that 3♥ is the best bid. The most common use of 4♣ in that auction is of a cuebid agreeing diamonds. However, I do know that at least some world class pairs play it as showing six good hearts and five+ good clubs and a very strong hand (as 4♣ bypasses the safety of 3NT on what appears to be a misfitting hand).



The other question about fourth-suit forcing: it appears that there is some English influence on your bidding style! The British Isles seems to be the only part of the world where some people prefer a one-round forcing approach. More

or less, in the expert community, fourth-suit is played as game-forcing. At the risk of sometimes overbidding to game, it makes regular game-forcing auctions more intelligent, and gives us a better chance both to play the best game and towards investigating potential slams.

At the one-level, there is only one auction: 1♣ - 1♦; 1♥ - 1♠, and although Tony and I play that as artificial game-forcing, the “standard” expert policy is that 1s is natural, forcing for one round (while 2♠ over 1♥ is played as fourth-suit game-force).

You might also be interested to know that all the natural Italian pairs are these days trying a new scheme. After 1X- 1Y; 1Z they play 2♣ as artificial, invitational and 2♦ as artificial, game-force (even if someone has already bid diamonds)

Cheers, Sartaj

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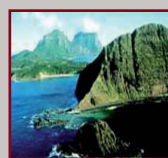
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Nonagenarians from Great Lakes

On Monday, December 15, over 120 members of The Great Lakes Bridge Club gathered at their clubhouse on Lake Street, Forster for the annual Presentation Day and celebration of Christmas. After prizes were distributed, a wonderful lunch was served, with entertainment supplied by Alex Wilson and his guitar. Peter Harvey, who was our master of ceremonies, provided lots of good yarns and even Santa put in an appearance.

One of the highlights of the day was when our seven nonagenarians were assembled for the accompanying photograph. Each of these people regularly play bridge, and this goes to show that bridge keeps our minds alert and active. Kath is one of our Foundation Members from 1980, and Gwen became a member the next year.

You can play bridge with us at our clubhouse every day of the week except Sundays. For more information phone our President, Des Ford, on 6555 5682.

We are wondering if there is any other organisation in the region, or even the state that can boast having seven very active over nineties in their group.



Back: Kath Reynolds, John Warneford, Iris Bailey, Gwen Street
Front: Madeline Hedderman, Eileen Priol, Alison MacDiarmid

Masters Games bridge cancelled

The tournament scheduled for February 22-28, 2009 as part of the 12th Australian Masters Games has been cancelled. This letter from the Convener, dated 19 December, explains why:

“We believe that the minimum number of competitors needed to conduct a viable bridge competition is around 60, or 15 tables.

It is now two weeks since the official closing date and the entries remain well below the viable minimum in all events. There have been no new entries at all in the past week. Furthermore, enquiries within the Geelong

Bridge Club indicate that it is most unlikely that there will be any more local entrants.

In these circumstances, Geelong Bridge Club has concluded that bridge will not be viable at the AMG, and this morning I have advised the AMG, regrettably, to cancel the tournament. The club has preferred to take this decision now (rather than deferring a decision in the hope that sufficient further entries will eventuate) so that there is certainty for current entrants. Where necessary, this will allow entrants to revise accommodation and work-leave arrangements in a timely manner.

In the next few days, the AMG management will formally notify all bridge entrants of the tournament cancellation and arrangements for the refund of fees paid. This email is being forwarded, as advance notice, to all those for whom I have an email address - can I ask you to please pass on this advice to any other members of your team or club not on my list.

I am sorry not to have better news, as I am sure that (like me) you were looking forward to several days of keen bridge competition in February and the opportunity to win a medal. However, as you can see, the entry numbers are just too low for this to eventuate.

Thank you for your interest and support.”

Michael Stokie, Convener



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Top 50 McCutcheon Standings - 1.01.09

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Red</i>	<i>Green This Year</i>	
GILL, PETER	6781.36	3842.22	2755.51	183.63	514.17
RICHMAN, BOB	9763.91	5976.52	3550.49	236.9	502.36
GUMBY, PAULINE	8737.7	4099.8	4594.78	43.12	496.79
GOSNEY, PAUL	1866.63	1042.11	774.44	50.08	469.38
NUNN, TONY	4685.94	3094.09	1508.63	83.22	469.02
LAZER, WARREN	7373.34	3889.31	3433.87	50.16	466.11
PEAKE, ANDREW	4209.89	2353.7	1686.75	169.44	451.46
GASPAR, GEORGE	4504.87	2097.28	2197.76	209.83	425.51
DEL MONTE, ISH	6538.34	3761.33	2402.41	374.6	383.56
NEILL, BRUCE	6325.88	3884.88	2361.65	79.35	370.57
BILSKI, GEORGE	4140.9	3010.84	1079.32	50.74	366.1
FRANCIS, NEVILLE	4323.94	1296.77	2439.98	587.19	366.01
DYKE, KIERAN	5464.27	3382.05	1797.08	285.14	362.77
HUTTON, TONY	3403.96	1259.43	1885.83	258.7	362.24
KLINGER, RON	8355.44	4791.62	3547.78	16.04	358.45
GREEN, MURRAY	3352.95	1910.47	1309.25	133.23	352.87
CHADWICK, TED	6181.53	3182.99	2885.32	113.22	343.41
BEAUCHAMP, DAVID	5817.35	3345.61	2275.7	196.04	332.07
HUTTON, HELENA	2117.23	951.88	1096.96	68.39	322.01
HOFFMAN, DAVID	4430.93	1419.55	2756.58	254.8	320.86
GRIFFITHS, NYE	1350.11	865.87	435.58	48.66	316.31
WATTS, MARLENE	3301.27	1782.95	1335.35	182.97	304.49
BOURKE, MARG.	8473.48	4268.43	4020.26	184.79	299.12
HANS, SARTAJ	2712.02	1867.48	828.07	16.47	291.85
ROBINSON, IAN	3578.56	1897.5	1584.9	96.16	290.21
DE LIVERA, ARJUNA	6338.35	2771.54	3281.05	285.76	284.99
HORWITZ, HELEN	683.29	399.96	169.48	113.85	283.77
LILLEY, DAVID	4318.85	2447.35	1792.18	79.32	278.23
EBERY, JAMIE	3597.66	1686.85	1796.05	114.76	273
BROWN, TERRY	6535.24	3589.38	2865.64	80.22	272.41
BRAITHWAITE, ANDY	1195.87	1087.35	107.23	1.29	272.23
JEDRYCHOWSKI, R	2122.08	1707.71	409.79	4.58	271.02
SCHROOR, PAULA	2854.91	1085.96	1728.1	40.85	269.35
HAUGHIE, BILL	4238.15	1490.13	1765.9	982.12	268.44
ROSENDORFF, N	4816.66	2878.58	1864.19	73.89	267.93
LAVINGS, PAUL	8827.95	3158.73	5288	381.22	265.56
BOYLSON, C	1121.41	621.79	356.1	143.52	263.46
MILL, ANDREW	5087.77	2272.71	2598.93	216.13	261.96
BROWNE, SEAMUS	6321.45	3873.78	2209.63	238.04	253.99
ZOLLO, JOHN	3676.52	915.87	2277.51	483.14	241.28
SHARP, TONI	1527.49	682.75	554.59	290.15	241.09
TULLY, THERESE	3786.99	2133.58	1509.22	144.19	238.14
GOLD, LEIGH	4075.82	1802.58	2094.42	178.82	236.76
HOWARD, JUSTIN	846.32	589.59	238.36	18.37	235.74
KAHLER, PETER	2506.65	1177.47	1098.39	230.79	234.6
WILKINSON, M	1561.01	921.51	591.05	48.45	231.68
GALLUS, ROBERT	6600.67	2601.82	3867.51	131.34	230.59
BURGESS, STEPHEN	3678.61	3209.71	429.9	39	230.53
WILLIAMS, JUSTIN	2376.91	834.49	1226.36	316.06	229
HOLLANDS, PETER	491.77	336.77	152.62	2.38	228.88



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Law 87 - Fouled Board

A fouled board can be both an inconvenience to the director and a disappointment to the players.

Law 87 says: "A board is considered to be 'fouled' if the Director determines that a card (or more than one) was displaced in the board, or if he determines that the dealer or vulnerability differed between copies of the same board, and the contestants who should have had a score comparison did not play the board in identical form for such reason."

From this definition, it follows that just because a board does not conform to the hand record, it does not necessarily mean that the board was fouled. Providing the players had a direct comparison in an identical form, the board can still be scored normally. However, if it is established that a board has been fouled, it then becomes necessary to find the point at which the cards changed, in order to divide the board into two groups. These two groups are then scored separately in accordance with whatever the regulations of the tournament say.

Fouling occurs for a variety reasons. The most common is when more than one of the hands is removed from a board after play has been concluded, and then incorrectly returned. I have even seen some players (when unsupervised) remove all four hands from a board and spread them on the table, in order to discuss some aspect of the bidding or play. This seems most prevalent at sit out tables, and is the reason why Law 7C prohibits a player from removing even his own cards from a played board, unless an opponent is also present.

The requirement to count one's cards before looking at their faces is another attempt to ensure that deals with the wrong number of cards do not get played. Law 7 also stipulates that players must return the same 13 cards to the correct pocket of the board after play has finished.

Some players (and directors) have difficulties differentiating between the concept of a fouled board, and that of an arrow-switched board. The latter involves the (accidental) placement of a board on the table so that it is orientated 90 degrees from its normal compass position. This is most likely to occur when wallets rather than boards are in use, since it is much easier to incorrectly place a square, rather than a rectangular object, on the table. The nett effect is that the players



Laurie Kelso

scheduled to sit EW and NS, actually end up holding each other's cards. Arrow-switched boards can still, however, be compared and scored against the other results, because the correct cards were removed from the correct pockets, and hence the dealer and relative vulnerabilities remain unaffected with respect to the actual cards held.

Sometimes arrow-switching can precede fouling, in that one table removes the cards from the correct pockets and unknowingly plays the board arrow-switched before returning the cards to different pockets, whereupon the next table receives and then plays the board in a fouled condition.

Other types of problems can arise during the dealing process where multiple copies of the same board are produced via a dealing machine. If the undealt boards are stacked out of order, then the wrong hands can sometimes end up being dealt into the wrong numbered boards. In a worst-case scenario, a whole set of boards can be dealt in this offset condition. The end result can be a series of non-comparable results.

In this situation, even though the cards from, say, one incorrectly dealt Board 20 might have been identical to all the other Board 21's, this still does not constitute a valid comparison, since the vulnerability and dealer will be different for the two differently numbered boards. The auction is therefore quite likely to commence at a different spot and hence the types of the resultant actions chosen by the players would probably also vary. This is why Law 87 specifically considers changes of dealer and vulnerability when defining what constitutes a 'fouled board'.

Most players have at some time had the experience of seeing what was an unbelievably good result evaporate, simply because the board had previously been fouled and thus not played in a similar configuration by anyone else. Whilst the previous Laws allowed the director to award the innocent parties a favourable adjustment (usually average plus), it didn't always seem quite enough. The new Law 86D now allows the director (in teams play) to take into consideration any such unusually good result achieved at the other table and award a more appropriate (IMP or total point) adjustment (still of course with the overriding proviso that the beneficial parties were innocent of any fouling).

Copy Deadline

for Issue No 136, March 2009, the deadline is:

February 26, 2009

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 137, June 2009 at the discretion of the Editor

Email: editor@abf.com.au

ABF Biography - Ivy Dahler

The conclusion of Ivy's biography from the November Newsletter follows; at the time of the first installment, the year was 1949.

Following Kev Dahler's death, Ivy built yet again a life for herself and her children. She sold half the milk run but kept the other half for some time to supplement her widow's pension - delivering the milk piled up inside her little Hillman Minx.



Pat went to a country boarding school and the three younger girls stayed at home. She kept on also the volunteering and community involvement that were a later characteristic of her bridge activities. Over time she received help from Legacy and was particularly active in supporting it in return. She was an active fundraiser and very active as a coach of local and school sports teams in a range of sports, including netball and badminton and would never miss a game in which her daughters were involved.

One of the things that, as she later told Hetty, helped keep her sanity in this difficult time in the early 1960s, was bridge, which now in her forties she adopted as her main interest outside family. She had grown up in a card playing family (solo whist and whist rather than bridge) and Hetty recalls that when she was very young, Ivy's great ambition was to be old enough to be allowed to join the great family and relatives marathon card sessions that traditionally took place on Boxing Day. She eventually joined in at a much younger age than her siblings. With her own children she played, as her youngest daughter Robyn remembers, "500, rummy, Chinese poker ...you name it ... I think I was bought up on steak and three veg on a bed of playing cards".

Even after she was playing high level bridge, Ivy remained an omnivore for games generally. She took to computer games with gusto and was not averse to an occasional flutter on the pokies when she visited Ellie Spiro in Brisbane. She had other recreations. She taught herself the piano and could play by ear. She continued knitting, crocheting and embroidery right to the end of her life.

Cards were the main recreation and it did not matter how simple the game. Ron Klinger recalled that after the day's sessions were over on the cruises, he, Suzie and Ivy would unwind with a game of Chinese Poker,

which often had them in fits of laughter.

It is often forgotten that, prior to bridge, there was a thriving culture of other card games. Ivy's first foray into organised cards outside the home was into

euchre. In Toowoomba, euchre was played two nights a week - once at the Trades Hall and the other organised by the Holy Name church. Ivy's oldest daughter, Pat, remembers being taken along to these evenings and participating in the play; and that in between euchre sessions men would play poker often passing her 3d as a stake to join in.

Ivy's first exposure to bridge was a social auction bridge game about twelve months before Kev Dahler's death, and she became involved in daytime sessions at her and other people's homes. After testing herself in a few social games, she went to the evening lessons being run at the Toowoomba Bridge Club. Very soon after she had joined the Toowoomba club, George McCutcheon had regarded her as "a lass with promise". Within a relatively short time, at his request, she set up a daytime club, thereby beginning a directing career of more than thirty years. He also offered to coach her and was keen for her to play competition bridge but she declined the offer of coaching out of loyalty to her existing partner. In 1966 they won the Australia-Wide pairs. Later that year, though, she began to make the weekly trip on a Friday night down to Brisbane to play.

Nancy Penfold managed to persuade her to enter the Queensland Women's Pairs in 1966, which they won. Ivy and Nancy won again in 1968 and in that year went to Melbourne. They came fourth in the Australian trials for the 1968 Deauville Olympiad, narrowly missing selection.

In 1969, Ivy and Nancy repeated their Queensland Women's Pairs Championship; and Ivy was also a member of the winning team in the Queensland Open Teams Championship and a member of the Queensland Open Team at the 1969 ANC. Her international career began in 1970, where she was a member of the Australian Women's Team in a test match against New Zealand. In the following decade she represented Australia on six further occasions. She was a member of the third placed Women's Team at the Far East in 1971 (with Fay Landy) and was a member of the winning teams of 1975 (with Gray Reynolds), 1977 (with Faye Landy), and 1984 (Rosemary Atherton) - making her, to date, the most successful ever Australia player in international events. She was a member of the 1972 and 1976 Women's Teams at the Olympiad and the 1978



Venice Cup Team (where the team came fourth).

Ivy was prominent in Queensland competition right through the 1970s and 1980s. She was a playing member of the Queensland Women's Teams in 1970, 1971, 1972, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1988 and non-playing captain in 1986 and 1987. She won the Queensland Open Pairs in 1978 (with Enid Busch) and the Queensland Women's Pairs in 1974 (with Gray Reynolds), 1976 and 1978 (with Fay Landy) and 1984 (with Rosemary Atherton). She won her last State event in 1998 when she was 76 (the Mixed Pairs with Neville Francis).

Nancy Penfold was also based in Toowoomba but later partnerships, and the need for high quality opposition, meant a 260 kilometre round trip each Friday evening for a session at the Queensland Contract Bridge Club. Her principal partner was Fay Landy but she also had successes with Gray Reynolds and Rosemary Atherton.

Daughter Robyn remembers that she would be picked up after school on Friday night and head to the bridge club. She would do her homework while Ivy played and they would return to Toowoomba 'at some insane time of the morning but we used to sing at the top of our lungs while we drove along'. The internet now makes it easier for country players to participate in high level bridge but the internet would not have given the exposure to discussion with leading players and people like Jimmy O'Sullivan and Denis Priest, which were undoubtedly important in Ivy's development to be a world-level player.

At national level, Ivy was a member of the winning National Women's Team in 1983 and won the ANC Mixed Pairs in 1983 and 1985. Her partner on both occasions was Richard Ward who recalled that "whilst we rarely agreed on bidding theory, it was always a pleasure to see her rip into a juicy 3NT contract and her table presence was an additional bonus" - thus summing up the main characteristics of Ivy as a player.

Ivy put an enormous amount of effort into her bidding system (a variation of precision) and was constantly fine tuning it. She would take note of variations and gadgets she saw at the table or read about in the bridge literature; test them; and if they proved advantageous incorporate them. She did not go to all this trouble to let partners go their own way. Signing up to play with Ivy at top levels did usually mean signing up to the system. Rosemary Atherton, in making up a last minute partnership with Ivy at an ANC, told of being given 20 pages of her version of precision with a warning that "she had better learn them pronto".

Ivy's enormous level of preparation was not confined

to developing her own system but also to countering the gadgets and systems of others. When forcing pass arrived, she recognised early both the problems it posed but also the rich pickings it could provide to opponents. Using a copy of the system, provided by Paul Lavings, she and Rosemary developed an extensive defence before ever meeting it in practice. The defence developed could be all the more effective because forcing pass proponents often showed little interest in studying it.

Ivy was a very competitive person and played to win - but was not the type of person ever to have recriminations at the table and never at any time about mistakes in play. All partners from all periods remember her as the model partner. No matter how important the situation or how bad the mistake - the most you would get from Ivy were some genuinely felt words of consolation. She herself had nerves of steel in competition but was very understanding that others were not always so fortunate. This exemplary behaviour was an asset to all teams as her partnerships never lost rhythm because of one bad board.

Systems breaches or misunderstandings were, however, regarded as a suitable topic of civilised discussion after matches. Ivy would be polite as ever but could be quite forthright. Fay Landy commented that you were not going to win too many arguments with Ivy on this topic. On one occasion she departed from the system to bid 3H (which was doubled but would make) and was taken out to a non-making 4♣. When Jimmy O'Sullivan asked her later why she had taken Fay out - the reply was that the bid "was not in the system".

Ivy did mellow over time on this. In her 1980s partnership with Rosemary Atherton, she even had a compromise agreement to allow Rosemary some scope for her favoured psyches. Under the agreement all first bids and responses had to be on the level but after that she was free to use "those funny little bids" as Ivy summarised them.

Ivy's bidding and play was not usually associated with fireworks. One opponent referred to her and her partner as playing "a tight grim game" (referring to the play not her demeanour). Her success was based on very high levels of concentration, ongoing deduction from bidding and play and giving nothing away. She was one of those players who often seemed to know the location of every card at the table. While she had success in pairs, her strengths were particularly evident in high level teams events. Her concentration was the more notable as she suffered from Fuch's dystrophy - a genetic condition that causes distorted vision.

Nothing of course is foolproof. Bruce Williams, playing once against Ivy, psyched in an auction that took her

to 3NT. He remembers her declarer play was brilliant - finding the only possible way to make the contract if he had all the points - but unfortunately finding the only way to go down as he did not. Ivy, as usual, made no comment at the table but he did get a dirty look and she treated his bidding with considerable mistrust for some years afterwards.

Even at the peak of her playing career, Ivy was very active in bridge in other ways. She directed at many events, most prominently, the Gold Coast Congress from its early days in the mid 1960s until 1985 (at which point she decided it was time for her to actually play in it for a change). She was also the Gold Coast Congress convener in the early 1980s and a regular Director (and Chair of the Appeals Committee) at the National Open Teams in Canberra and other major national events. She also directed at the 1989 Bermuda Bowl held in Perth and was actively involved in setting up the 1985 Far East in Sydney. As a director, she was known for her calmness and "light touch" - an ability to give difficult rulings in a way which made it hard for people to take offence or to feel belittled in any way. When the ABF introduced its ranking system for Directors in 1995, she was one of only six level 1 national directors.

As in other things, family and bridge were combined as much as possible. Congresses and the preparation for them were a family affair and done in fun rather than as a chore. In the days before dealing machines, daughters Robyn and Beverley would spend many hours with Ivy making up the boards for all the congresses she ran or they would help with the scoring.

Ivy also taught, mainly on an informal basis and without charging for her services. Several prominent Queensland women players recall being "taken under her wing" in an early period of their career. Ivy though was just as happy to teach social players who wanted to improve. Ivy was always really helpful to anyone who was keen enough to improve and would spend many weekends with groups in Brisbane or Surfers to help them with their game.

She was particularly helpful to country bridge clubs trying to establish themselves. After her death, the Warwick Bridge Club, for example, expressed their thanks to Ivy for directing at no charge at their first congress and being a fount of information on masterpoints and other technical measures.

"We remember her as a doughty opponent at the table, a calm and capable director, a stickler for correct procedure and a wise and generous mentor"

From 1991 onwards, Ivy was an integral part of Ron and Suzie Klinger's bridge holiday program, organ-

izing and directing tournaments twice daily both in Australia and overseas.

"On bridge holidays she would offer to give a group some private tuition for a half hour or so and it would finish up going for an hour and a half, and of course, always with no charge... Ivy was ever ready to answer questions and to help players sort out the problems they had encountered. She was friendly to everyone and dearly loved by all the participants. When thanks were given to the organisers of the final session of each holiday, the applause was loud and sustained and longer for Ivy than for anyone else."

The main feature of her teaching was that there was "no quick fix" for improving one's bridge. She always stressed the importance of study and concentration. By her own account she was a tough teacher, "drilling those she is coaching with constant cross-examination about what has gone, how many points are in a particular hand, what is the shape of that hand etc".

Ron recalls that she was always ready to help out in other ways by making up a table in morning sessions (Ivy did this for others too - the current writer had the pleasure of playing with Ivy in a "house team" in one of the weekend events at the NOT).

Ivy was Secretary of the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) in 1971 and President of the Toowoomba Club in 1976, but typically, her longest involvement in administration was in the generally thankless position of the QBA's Masterpoint Secretary which she held for thirteen years between 1977 and 1990. In 1988, Ivy chaired the new Masterpoint Committee of the ABF, almost immediately earning the praise of Australian Bridge for resolving a long running issue and making quarterly Masterpoint lists available to the journal. She served the ABF in many capacities, including representing Queensland and chairing the Tournament and Ethics Committees. She was elected to the ABF's Committee of Honour in 1995.

Although almost certainly having less income than most other top bridge players at the time, Ivy generally did not accept money for her directing or teaching and did not participate in rubber bridge high stakes games. The only money she accepted were the prizes won at various Congresses, which went into her "bridge fund". She said that she got so much out of bridge that she was more than happy to put something back.

Ivy always downplayed to others the difficulty of living on a small income and never wanted any sympathy - just as she was extremely modest about her playing achievements and embarrassed if people made something of them. She said she was a good manager, living in Toowoomba was relatively cheap and her daughters

and their husbands had been very generous to her. She was indifferent to splendid surroundings and, when on bridge trips, would opt for basic accommodation wherever possible.

But while managing on very little may have come easier to her than others, it was not necessarily as effortless as she made it appear. After, through the deaths of her husbands, having her financial and personal world pulled apart not once but twice, on-going financial security was, in private, a major issue for her and she was always concerned not to do anything that would jeopardise the modest but ongoing security that her widow's pension provided.

Ivy never touched alcohol, did not smoke, and disliked off-colour jokes. She ate at good restaurants only when it could not be avoided and even then was famous for her plain tastes in ordering. She never adapted her tastes in any way to coincide with others and was quite unmoveable on matters of principle. This began very young. While in the Brownies selling programs at an Albert Hall benefit concert, she refused to provide one to an elderly gentleman who said he was not carrying any money. Subsequently, another distinguished looking gentleman arrived with the necessary shilling and told her that "Young lady, His Majesty King George wishes me to let you know that he thinks you were quite right not to give him a program."

This doggedness with personal beliefs and habits, though, was never a social barrier with other bridge players, who did at least some of the things she did not. She loved to chat, to laugh and never imposed her views about alcohol on others - she was always remembered as good company. On the right occasion, she could be persuaded to perform her party piece - a full throttle rendering of the anonymous sentimental recital piece called "Guilty or Not Guilty".

The continuing significance to bridge of Ivy beyond her playing, teaching and directing achievements is twofold. Firstly, because her personal situation was an exception among top bridge players, she reminds us that bridge has traditionally been seen as the preserve of the professionals, and better off sections of the population. It has shaken this off to some extent, perhaps more among women than men, but it is certain that bridge does not appeal equally across income lines. There is probably a degree of inevitability about this, but it raises the question of how much talent may be out there that, without Ivy's self-confidence and resolve, is discouraged by the milieu that bridge clubs unintentionally may provide.

The second relates to the issue of recognition of international achievements. Her daughters found it frustrating that it was so hard to share their pride in her

achievements with others. Her daughter Robyn wrote: 'I only wish bridge had a bigger profile, because when I used to tell my friends that my mother was playing bridge for Australia, and even that she was in the bridge Olympics, it just didn't generate the oohhh's and ah-hh's that I thought her amazing achievements deserved. It sort of lost something when I had to explain what bridge was '...it's a card game ...' 'What, like poker or something?' they would say.'

The difficulties of raising the profile of competition bridge are well known and have exercised the minds of administrators for many years. It is possible though, that it is possible to start profile-raising closer to home. In general, the big clubs at least are fairly blasé about their players who achieve international status, and there is usually little ongoing recognition of the achievement.

Ivy died on 6 March 2006, just a week after, at age 83, she had been directing as usual at the Gold Coast Congress. She was strong and sharp right to the end and able to remember complete deals from some time ago, and how they might have been better played. She is remembered as a member of the ABF's Committee of Honour, and through the Ivy Dahler Seniors' Teams Trophy in Queensland.

Sources:

Ron and Suzie Klinger: *Ivy Dahler (1923-2006) QBA Obituary*.

Stephen Lester: *Meet Ivy Dahler NOT News, January, 2003*.

Colin Masters, ed. *Mind Games: A Biographical History of Bridge in Queensland (QBA, Brisbane 1999)*.

Joyce Nicholson: *Ivy Dahler - a profile, Australian Bridge, April 1986, pp 32-33*.

Information provided by Robyn Dahler, Hetty Neilson, Pat Sargent, Ron Klinger, Kim Ellaway, Bruce Williams, Ellie Spiro, Fay Landy and Gray Reynolds.

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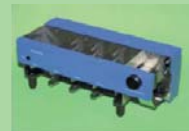
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Employment Opportunity

Applications Invited for

ABF Masterpoint Centre Manager

The Management Committee of the ABF invites applications from interested parties for the contracted position of Manager of the ABF Masterpoint Centre. Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstrate the following experience:

Essential:

- Strong organizational and administrative skills
- Good communication skills, both written and verbal
- Strong computer skills and an understanding of data processing
- A sound understanding of the Masterpoint Scheme

Desirable:

- Sound knowledge of Quickbooks accounting software package (or similar)
- An understanding of web-based technologies in bridge

Although the ABF Masterpoint Centre is located in Fyshwick, Canberra, consideration will be given to candidates who reside interstate, are willing to work from their home and travel to Canberra as and when the need arises.

Prospective candidates should be aware that this key role will be very time consuming during the early stages but can be carried out at the successful applicant's discretion, provided always that deadlines for monthly/quarterly and annual reports are met. Assistance in this regard will be provided by the ABF Secretariat.

Any equipment needed to support the activities of the ABF Masterpoint Centre Manager will be supplied with training and a full understanding of all processes being provided to the successful applicant.

Remuneration and other benefits will be discussed at interviews.

Please forward all applications to:

Ms Dianne Marler
Masterpoint Centre Project Coordinator
PO Box 35
ECHUNGA SA 5153

Applications close at 4.00pm EST on Friday 30th January 2009.

2009 Playoffs

Format: There are two divisions. Players may enter in either or both.

Division One: The four teams with the highest total PQP.

Teams with less PQP must (re)-nominate in Division Two.

The four teams play a double round robin of 20-board matches. Teams ranked first and second enter the semi-final and teams ranked third and fourth play a repechage against the teams from Division Two that are ranked first and second via the Swiss.

Repechage, Semi-finals and Final. Knock-out matches – repechage & semifinal, 64 boards; final, 96 boards.

Division Two: All entrants play an 8-round Swiss of 16 boards on Saturday and Sunday. The teams ranked first and second play in the repechage against the Division One teams as above. Other teams are eliminated.

“The entry date for Division 2 (no PQP restriction) is extended until 4.00pm 16th March 2009”

“Should the entry for Division 2 be eight teams or fewer, the first stage will be played as a round robin. Should the entry be 9-12 teams the first stage will be played as a 6 round swiss. Should the entry be greater than 12 teams, the first stage will be played as an 8 round swiss”

The four successful teams who nominated by the due date are accepted in Division One in the Open.

Due to only 5 teams nominating by the due date, all of whom are successful, applications are re-opened from qualified teams to make up the six-team field. The team selected will be the team with the highest Playoff Point total.

From the ABF Secretary

The ABF Management Committee is the Arbitrator of decisions re eligibility for ABF representation.

Division Two Nomination Teams-of-four, five or six open to all players irrespective of PQP holding.

Entries should be posted to:

Prof. E Magner
PO Box U166
Armidale NSW 2351

Entries Close 5pm Monday, 16th March 2009.

Changes: Discretion to amend minor errors is available for seven days.

Youth Bridge Week

10-16 January 2009

@ GREENHILLS CONFERENCE CENTRE, ACT (teams Mon-Fri)

www.greenhillscentre.com

and the Canberra Bridge Club (pairs Sat-Sun)

6 Duff Place, Deakin, ACT

Enquiries & Entries: youthweek@abf.com.au or 0415 750 401

held at GREENHILLS

held at CANBERRA BRIDGE CLUB **PROGRAM**

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Saturday 10		Pairs Qual 1 (1.30 pm)	Pairs Qual 2
Sunday 11	Pairs Final 1	Pairs Final 2 at CBC	BBQ AT GREENHILLS
Monday 12		Teams 1 (1.30 pm)	Teams 2
Tuesday 13	Teams 3	Teams 4	Teams 5
Wednesday 14	Butler 1	Butler 2 Consolation Butler 1	Butler 3 Consolation Butler 2
Thursday 15	Butler 4	Butler 5 Consolation Butler 3	Butler 6 CRAZY Pairs & Speedball
Friday 16	Butler 7	Butler 8 Consolation Butler 4	PLAYOFF 1
Saturday 17	Playoff 2 (to be held at the Convention Centre)	Playoff 3	

The Butler and Playoff competitions, the selection events for the Australian Youth Team, are open only to eligible players (Born 1983 or later). Other events are open to under 30s* (Born 1979 or later). Players qualify for the Butler via the Teams competition. All other players are invited to participate in the Consolation events while the Butler is being held.

The timetable is subject to change dependent on entries. The starting time for the first session of the Pairs (Jan 10) and Teams (Jan 12) will be 1.30 pm. Other session times will be advised at the venue.

** at the director's discretion*

Director: Matthew McManus

Convenors: Ed Barnes, William Jenner-O'Shea & Peter Gill

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- **All meals Sunday evening thru Friday afternoon tea**
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Advance entry by emailing Ed: youthweek@abf.com.au
Entries close 01/01/2009

For budget accommodation on Saturday evening, try the Canberra City YHA - 7 Akuna St Civic - Phone: 6248-9155
canberracity@yhansw.org.au

To play the pairs only: \$50 per player (or \$25fts)
To arrange "live-out" participation in the Teams, Butler & Consolation, contact the convenor directly: youthweek@abf.com.au

Bridge into the 21st Century

Grand Slams

Bidding grand slams is a matter of confidence, as well as system. Some players bid too many, some too few, and some bid none at all. But if you bid and make a grand slam, you will normally win a swag of IMPs or matchpoints.



Most slams are bid through Key Card Blackwood. 5NT following the response to Key Card Blackwood *guarantees* that the partnership holds all five Key Cards plus the trump queen. This is your key to bidding more grand slams.

First and foremost, 5NT is an invitation to bid seven. The message is “Count our tricks partner, and bid seven if you can.” If the total comes to less than 13, then the Key Card responder shows specific kings. Most times, the number of kings is irrelevant, it is the *precise* king or kings that the Key Card asker wants to know about.

Opener	Responder
2NT ¹	3♥ ²
3♠	4♣ ³
4♠	4NT
5♠ ¹	5NT

- 20-22 balanced.
- Transfer to 3♠.
- Natural, second suit.
- 2 Key Cards, and the trump queen.

How should opener continue on these hands:

- ♠AQ2, ♥AK65, ♦KQ, ♣Q103
- ♠AQ, ♥KJ762, ♦AQJ, ♣QJ8
- ♠AKQ2, ♥K963, ♦KQ4, ♣K4
- ♠AKQ3, ♥KQ2, ♦Q764, ♣KQ

1. 6♦. First thing is whether you should bid 7♠ right away. Count your tricks, knowing the partnership holds all the Key Cards plus the trump queen. You have five spades tricks, two hearts, two diamonds, and one club, only 10 tricks. Respond 6♦ to show you have ♦K. If partner needs you to have ♥K then partner will continue with 6♥ over 6♦. This says “bid 7♠ if you have ♥K.”

2. 6♥. Again, you can’t count 13 tricks, so you dutifully show which king you have.

3. 7♠. In 7♠, you can count five spades tricks, two hearts, three diamonds and two clubs – and one club ruff in your hand. Knowing your partnership has all

the Key Cards + trump queen, you have 13 tricks in spades unless trumps break 4-0.

4. 7NT. An important part of slam bidding is whether to play in notrumps, or stay in the security of a suit contract. In notrumps you can count 13 tricks - five spades, three hearts, two diamonds, and three clubs. Responder held ♠107643, ♥A, ♦A, ♣AJ10652. 7♠ is in danger of failing on a 4-1 trump break, or a club ruff at trick one. 7NT has 13 top tricks, without the spade break, and without the risk of an adverse club ruff at trick one.

Sometimes you need a specific second or third round control:

♠ A Q 6 5 3	♠ K 8
♥ A Q 7 4 3	♥ K J 10 8 6
♦ A 3	♦ K 7 6
♣ 4	♣ A 7 2
<i>Opener</i>	<i>Responder</i>
1♠	2♥
4♣ ¹	4♦ ²
4NT	5♥ ³
5♠ ⁴	6♦ ⁵
7♥	

- Cuebid agreeing hearts.
- Cue, first or second round control.
- Key Cards.
- Direct Ask.
- ♠K and not ♠Q.

♠K was the vital card on this deal. 5♠ simply said “What do you have in spades?” The responder had already cuebid a diamond control, so the second round of spades is the only problem.

Ron Klinger recommends the following responses to the Direct Ask:

1 st Step	No Queen, no King
2 nd Step	Queen, not the King
3 rd Step	King, not the Queen
4 th Step	King + Queen

Sometimes the Key Card responder can’t count thirteen tricks, but has substantial extras, and can judge there will be good chances for 13 tricks:

♠ 5	♠ A Q 4 3
♥ A K Q 7 6	♥ 10
♦ K 8 7 6	♦ A 9 5
♣ J 6 5	♣ A K Q 10 7
<i>Opener</i>	<i>Responder</i>
1♥	2♣
2♦ ²	2♠ ¹
3♣	4NT
5♣ ²	5NT

This is an easy 7♣ bid. Three trumps to the jack is a plus, and ♥AKQ means lots of extra tricks. There is

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little point in bidding 6♦, as you will be past 6♣. The expert bid is 7♣, knowing that there are probably 12 top tricks, and numerous chances for the 13th.

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Book Review

Improve Your Bidding Judgement

by Neil Kimelman

Master Point Press, Toronto, 2008, soft cover, 195 pages, \$29.95 postfree

Books on bidding judgement are few and far between, and rarely substantial.

Not so this book. The author covers every area of the game, from overcalling at the one-level, partscore battles, game level, the five-level, slams, and everything imaginable in between. On virtually every page is an example hand from top level bridge, plus the frequent quotes are entertaining.

For example. the author discusses the merits of overcalling 1♣ with 1♦ holding, ♠Q64, ♥A7, ♦Q9852, ♣J105, and points out that it may get partner off to the wrong lead, or pinpoint the location of ♦Q for opponents in the play.

The last chapter comprises a quiz of 63 hands. Try this one:

NS vulnerable at IMPs, you are West with ♠42,

♥AKQ4, ♦K107, ♣Q962.

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

1. Limit Raise.

You have shown your hand, and have little defence against 4♠, so you should pass.

At the table, West bid 4♥ and South bid 4♠. East doubled, and declarer scored up an overtrick for +990. If West had passed, 3♠ would no doubt have been the final contract. The full deal:

Dealer: North
Vul: NS

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

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Important Dates Ahead

February 28 - March 7

Gold Coast Congress
The Gold Coast Convention Centre, Broadbeach
All information for the 2009 Gold Coast Congress can be found on the website at www.qldbridge.com/gcc/

April 30 - May 4

Autumn Nationals, Adelaide
Venue: TBA
Convener: Dianne Marler
Mobile: 0414 689 620
Tel: (w) (08) 8116 7282
Email: anot@abf.com.au

May 16 - 17

Western Senior Pairs, Perth
Senior PQP and Gold Points. A great weekend of bridge for players born before January 1, 1951.
Convener: Jane Reynolds.
Email : wsp@abf.com.au

June 4-8

Victor Champion Cup, Melbourne
Convener: Jeannette Collins
Email: vcc@abf.com.au

June 6 - 8

Barrier Reef Congress, Cairns
Contact : Kim Ellaway, tel: (07) 3351 8602
More details on the QBA website

July 12

Gold Coast BC Swiss Teams
Email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

August 25 - 26

Swan River Swiss Open Pairs
Convener: Hilary Yovich

September 6 - 9

Territory Gold Bridge Festival, Darwin
Convener: Pam Nunn
Email: tgbf@abf.com.au

October 3 - 4

Gold Coast BC Butler Pairs & Swiss Teams
Email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

Tournament Results

Southern Highlands Congress - November 8 -9

Pairs Championship: Patricia Phillips - Eric Lindh

Pairs Plate: Trish Harrison - Geraldine Phillips

Pairs Restricted: Patricia Phillips - Eric Lindh

Open Teams: Perelle Scales, Kerry Butcher, Peter Butcher, Jane Kidd

Restricted Teams: Donelle Foate, Elizabeth Bornecrantz, Leiv Bornecrantz, Joan Power

Top 50 Improvers in 2008 - 1.01.09

	<i>improvers</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Red</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>2008</i>
CASEY, RON	5268.65	222.91	92.89	69.17	60.85	170.13
BAUSOR, M	4651.81	101.04	41.85	55.13	4.06	93.52
MATHESON, L	4204.91	101.55	77.84	20.03	3.68	84.75
RAYMOND, L	4089.92	106.19	48.14	46.79	11.26	84.33
TREDINNICK, M	4084.72	173.85	31.84	59.11	82.9	111.86
NILSSON, PETER	3999.59	95.92	26.7	23.55	45.67	78.36
CHAN, HOI-MING	3958.32	118.35	84.75	32.94	0.66	86.43
HOLLANDS, P	3867.72	491.77	336.77	152.62	2.38	228.88
CHRISTIANSEN, K	3847.94	210.79	165.5	41.71	3.58	119.59
NARANONG, C	3840.91	174.44	56.77	63.3	54.37	105.41
MCKENNA, ALAN	3777.51	112.23	25.73	57.5	29	80.17
WILLIAMS, S	3772.5	111.69	90.42	11.73	9.54	79.86
LEACH, ELAINE	3751.8	260.44	140.95	87.24	32.25	135.23
THORNBERRY, R	3690.56	118.72	71.86	39.32	7.54	80.72
GINNAN, LAURA	3668.46	97.44	80.15	10.78	6.51	72.43
NILSSON, D	3658.35	79.89	26.7	21.15	32.04	65.81
HORWITZ, HELEN	3622.8	683.29	399.96	169.48	113.85	283.77
MOORE, NIKOLAS	3619.28	168.7	100.8	48.71	19.19	97.25
HURST, ROBERT	3598.13	117.78	89.63	25.59	2.56	78.36
JENSEN, BILL	3498.98	170.05	8.04	48.6	113.41	94.49
HOPE, CLIVE	3441.59	145.41	16.86	17.41	111.14	84.46
BUGLER, PATRICK	3400.72	154.27	55.77	65.28	33.22	86.47
FRAZER, KIM	3362.39	118	23.15	45.17	49.68	73.3
MCALISTER, DIANA	3330.69	76.24	6.78	28.65	40.81	58.7
FRANCIS, CRAIG	3330.38	159.88	49.24	83.36	27.28	86.55
SIFORD, MIKE	3323.31	63.03	16.46	11.52	35.05	54.18
CLARKE, MICHAEL	3318.62	58.56	25.19	12.83	20.54	52.62
HINGORANI, G	3296.06	66.35	5.91	12.04	48.4	54.83
NEARY, PATRICK	3295.18	91.34	54.82	29.58	6.94	63.05
KOOLEN, LOUIS	3287.19	170.2	65.68	54.45	50.07	88.82
SCOTFORD, JOHN	3269.12	130.49	30.9	55.64	43.95	75.35
TREDREA, JOHN	3260.64	118.73	35.99	44.33	38.41	71.32
ARUL, CHELLIAH	3253.17	171.95	8.39	96.68	66.88	88.47
ASSAEE, BIJAN	3242.19	64.21	27.54	17.03	19.64	53.24
ERRINGTON, LYNNE	3122.1	216.71	96.12	69.73	50.86	98.88
O'LOUGHLIN, TIM	3070.65	54.56	7.46	36.32	10.78	47.46
BIEGANSKI, TAD	3060.78	392.75	132.46	188.17	72.12	150.82
YUEN, SEBASTIAN	3046.25	246.82	151.81	80.31	14.7	105.65
CHANDLER, C	3037.05	249.22	44.14	91.22	113.86	106.06
CARMODY, VAL	3017.54	108.15	51.79	42.32	14.04	62.81
STRONG, EDDA	3013.37	164.72	33.66	83.59	47.47	79.77
OWEN, MARGARET	3003.47	75.63	7.24	21.81	46.58	52.75
STEWART, HELEN	3001.08	411.45	114.07	214.35	83.03	153.49
AVUNDUK, KEMAL	2958.16	96.44	29.47	25.91	41.06	58.11
WU, ORLANDO	2946.81	163.03	80.47	82.17	0.39	77.51
BIEGANSKI, BEATA	2909.36	348.93	127.71	159.02	62.2	130.61
PAYNE, RAYMOND	2906.22	109	15.76	37.6	55.64	60.74
BROWN, ROBIN	2901.76	40.88	7.5	24.64	8.74	40.88
GRANT, BARBARA	2867.09	233.16	76	72.22	84.94	95.52
STONE, CHERYL	2845.89	124.78	32.85	80.11	11.82	63.97



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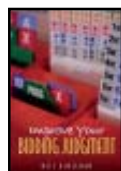
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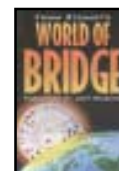
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Territory Gold Bridge Festival

at the Holiday Inn Esplanade, Darwin

Wed, Sept 2 – Sun, Sept 6 2009

Three events:

- Swiss Pairs (with play off points)
- Matchpoint Pairs, and
- Swiss Teams

**ALL WITH GOLD
MASTERPOINTS, CASH PRIZES
& MOST EVENINGS FREE!**

The Holiday Inn Esplanade is an excellent venue, and offers a great accommodation package at just **\$150/room/night, inc. breakfast**

For bookings call:

(08) 8901 0777 or (08) 8980 0800

Mention the NT Bridge Festival. A limited number of rooms are available at this price.

Early booking is essential.

More information visit:

www.ntba.com.au

Directors: Phil Gue & Martin Willcox

Email: adelaidebridge@ozemail.com.au

Phone: (08) 83 79 2044

Convener: Pam Nunn

Email: tgbf@abf.com.au

Phone: (08) 89 81 7287

Why not make it part of a great 'Top End' holiday?

The Northern Territory has so much to see in the top end.

DON'T MISS OUT!!!

For information and other accommodation options call Territory Discoveries see contact details below



Wildlife, wilderness, outback skies, Aboriginal art & culture. We know what goes with the Territory.

 **1800 642 343**

groups@territorydiscoveries.com | www.territorydiscoveries.com/groups



Darwin



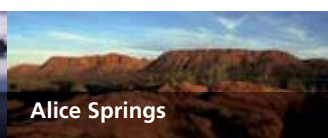
Katherine



Uluru / Ayers Rock



Kakadu



Alice Springs