

ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

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Editorial

Hi to all, and welcome to the first Newsletter for 2012. There never seems to be enough room for me to include an editorial (even when, as has happened recently, the Newsletter is 28 pages). I am blessed to have great support from some fantastic bridge writers, and I also receive many contributions from clubs all around Australia, for which I am always grateful.

Club Secretaries take note

This issue, however, I feel I must touch upon a recurring problem we face in getting the hard copy Newsletter to clubs. The Newsletter mailing list is maintained separately from other ABF databases, and each issue, we see undelivered newsletters returned to the ABF Secretariat. This is usually due to a change of personnel, when the club's mailing address has changed or become inactive. All affiliated clubs are entitled to receive one copy of the Newsletter for every three to four home club members. Thus, if you have, say, 50 home club members, we will send you around 15 copies of the Newsletter.

I have crossreferenced all affiliated clubs with the ABF's own database, and updated each club's allocations, as well as using the mailing address of the Club Secretary taken from that database. I update the Newsletter mailing list with every new issue, and it is a simple matter to email me if you want the Newsletters sent to an alternative address. That email address is editor@abf.com.au. I look forward to hearing from you.

Happy bridging in 2012,

Stephen Lester, Editor

Sydney professional wins ACBL event

First-time partners Justin Lall and Ishmael Del'Monte put together two solid games in the Nail Life Master Open Pairs final to win the event by 7.23 matchpoints on a 64 top.

Second place went to Doug Doub and Adam Wildavsky, the leaders after the first final session.

Ishmael makes his living by playing bridge, and managing his bridge clubs at home in Australia, one

in Sydney and the other in Melbourne. Justin, an accomplished junior, is also a full-time player.

Standing sixth after the two qualifying sessions, Lall

and Del'Monte moved up to third with a 59.32% effort in the afternoon but still more than a board behind Doub and Wildavsky, who posted a 65.86% game in the first final session. The winners came back in the evening session with 59.20% to finish with 2105.54. The runners-up had 2098.31.

The win was Lall's first national pairs victory. He was on the winning squad in the 2006 Grand National Teams. Del'Monte won the Lebharr IMP Pairs with Boye Brogeland in 2007.

The two practised online before the NABC but had never played together in person until this tournament. A hand from the Daily Bulletin appears below:

Precious overtrick

This deal from the second final session helped Ishmael and Justin to the win.

North deals, NS vulnerable

♠ K J 10 5
♥ A 10 3
♦ K 10 7
♣ K Q 2

♠ A 9 7
♥ K Q 5 2
♦ A Q 8 6 5
♣ 5

♠ 8 6 4
♥ 9 8
♦ J 3 2
♣ J 10 9 8 3

♠ Q 3 2
♥ J 7 6 4
♦ 9 4
♣ A 7 6 4

West	North	East	South
Ishmael		Justin	
	1NT	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	2♣	Dbl
2♦	All Pass		



Del'Monte's double of 1NT was card-showing, and 2♣ was running, not necessarily showing clubs. North started with ♣Q (Rusinow, overlead), switching to ♦10 when ♣Q held the trick. Del'Monte won in dummy with ♦J and played a heart to his king and North's ace. North returned ♥10 to Del'Monte's queen, which was followed by a heart ruff and a club off dummy. South, trying to get in to push another trump through, went up with the ace, but Del'Monte ruffed, ruffed a heart (North discarding ♠5) and ruffed a club.

This was the end position:

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

Del'Monte played ♠9, covered by North with ♠10. South erred by not overtaking with the queen, and North erred by exiting with ♠J instead of ♠K. Del'Monte took the ace and exited with his last spade, putting North on lead to play into ♦AQ.

+110 was good for 55 out of 64 matchpoints.

From Daily Bulletins at the November Fall NABC in Seattle, Washington. edited by Brent Manley and Sue Munday. To see the YouTube interview go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLMMkEno0QE>

Silver Consolation

In October, the Australian Open Team, Tony Nunn - Sartaj Hans, Ishmael Del'Monte - Hugh Grosvenor and Nabil Edgtton - Paul Gosney headed to Eindhoven, The Netherlands, for the most prestigious of bridge events, the Bermuda Bowl.

The team had its share of ups and downs, including wins over eventual champions the Netherlands, and over USA 1 on Vugraph. This was mixed with some disappointing losses against the lowly teams. (This appears to be a common drawback of many Australian performances, and would well be worth looking at for future teams). Having despatched then sixth running Iceland 25-4, Australia was on a high, and in seventh place, heading into the last day, with matches against Singapore, China and Bulgaria. Unfortunately it was not a day to savour, lowlighted by a crushing defeat to our APBF nemesis China, 24-6.



George, Hugh, Paul, Tony, Nabil and Sartaj

Australia finished 11th, with neighbours New Zealand suffering an agonising defeat in the last round to finish 10th.

After a day of rest, the team now turned their attention to the 'consolation' event, the Transnational Teams. We had a slight change in personnel, with former non-playing captain George Bilski eagerly ditching the non-playing tag to team up with Hugh Grosvenor. Although I referred to the Transnationals as a consolation event, in reality it is much more than that, with 144 teams, many in Eindhoven simply for the event. This includes teams like ZIMMERMANN, (Multon, Balicki - Smudzinski, Helgemo - Helness) and ANGELINI, (Brogeland, Meckstroth - Rodwell, Fantoni - Nunes). After a strong start to the Swiss (top 16 qualifying for knockout finals), we played such a team in the 13th (third last) round, GORDON, who fielded Alan Sontag - David Berkowitz and Michael Rosenberg - Chris Willekin.

Here (finally!) is a board, from this encounter:

South deals, all vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
Willekin	Nunn	Rosenberg	Hans
			1♠
			4♠
Dbl	2NT ¹	Pass	
All Pass			

1. Limit raise



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Joan Butts
ABF National Teaching Coordinator

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ABF Rewards Program

As part of our relationship with the Australian Bridge Federation, every time an ABF member (or someone who is introduced by an ABF Member) uses the services of TBIB, income will be generated for the ABF.

This assists in the sponsorship of ABF events, reinvestment into the State and Territory Associations and the continual improvement of the infrastructure of the sport.

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Hans received ♠5 lead, winning ♠10 when Rosenberg withheld ♠Q. He now made the far-sighted play of a diamond to the ace, and a diamond ruff, before crossing to ♠A and ducking a heart to West's queen. Willenkin continued with another diamond, ruffed by declarer, who next played ♥A and another, ruffing in dummy. A fourth round of diamonds was ruffed to hand, and the last trump drawn, before declarer exited with a heart.

And now it is clear what ruffing all those diamonds has done - West is forced to lead away from ♣A, to allow 10 tricks.

Normally, one would expect to gain a swing from such play, but not so this time – David Berkowitz found the same endplay, although with a less superior line. After ruffing a diamond to hand, Berkowitz let East win the heart, and the contract could have been defeated by a club shift instead of the actual trump switch. Willenken would have sent 4♠ down by returning a heart, but Sartaj was cold if West had only 3 diamonds.

We lost to *GORDON* 14-16, and after another 12-18 loss, scored a 23-7 win in the last round, to finish sixth in the Swiss, which was won by China.

This gave us the dubious privilege of a choice between three teams, not yet chosen, from the bottom eight, which would look to be *GORDON*, *MAHAFFEY* (Pepsi et al) and *SMIRNOV* (Zia et al). Fortunately for us, Team 5, *BLUND*, blundered in choosing to play (and lose to) *GORDON*, allowing us to pick a local team *HET WHITTE 1*, though by no means a poor team. We won that match in relative comfort 68-41 IMPs to draw Japanese team *TERAMOTO* (Shimamura, Yokoi - Miura) in the quarter finals.

This match was played over two sets of 16 boards. With a share of good luck, we had a decent lead after the first set, 51-27 IMPs, The Japanese came back strongly the next morning for the second set, but were successfully held off 43-42 IMPs.

This board helped settle our nerves:

Board 21, North deals, NS vulnerable

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Yokoi</i>	<i>Gosney</i>	<i>Miura</i>	<i>Edgton</i>
	1♥	Pass	3♦ ¹
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1. Three-card limit raise

Miura, on lead, started well with ♣6 to the queen, king and ace. Declarer played a low heart to the jack and king, and back came a club, won in dummy. Declarer tried a finesse of ♥10, losing to the queen, with another club coming back. The last trump was drawn, and a diamond led towards dummy, declarer hoping to find ♠K on his left and ♠J on his right. Miura could not afford to win this, lest he be endplayed, so it went to Yokoi's king. At this point a spade shift was required to beat the contract. Returning a diamond did not gain partner's approval, when three tricks later he was squeezed between ♦A and ♠K.

Other teams falling at the quarter final stage included *CHINA*, who lost to *ISRAEL JUNIORS* 57-114 IMPs, and the powerful *ANGELINI* team, who lost to *GORDON* 39-72 IMPs. In the semi final we would play a Russian team, *PARIMATCH* (Matushko - Khokhlov, Khiuppenen - Kholomeev, Gromov - Krasnosselski) who defeated *T ONSTEIN* 105-48 IMPs.

I had a particularly bad set to start against *PARI-MATCH*, misdefending a game, missing a cold grand slam in competition, and then I held ♠A8765, ♥9, ♦KJ953, ♣A6. The auction started:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Gosney</i>			
	1♣	Pass	1♥
2♥ ¹	Pass	2♠	3♣
?			

1. Michaels Cuebid

Perhaps affected by earlier events I doubled, hoping partner would have a useful card or two and leave it in. Well, someone was going for 800, but it turned out to be poor partner, who very reasonably bid 3♠ on ♠109x, ♥Axxx, ♦xx, ♣10xxx.

North was quick to double with ♠KJ9x and ♦AQ over dummy, and South was equally enthused to lead his singleton ♠Q. There was not much declarer could do against the merciless defence, and a paltry five tricks was the result.

As bridge goes, however, you never know what's happening at the other table, and Sartaj and Tony had an excellent set, collecting their own +800 against a partscore, to limit the damage to 30-41 IMPs. Coupled with an 8 IMP carryforward, this meant the Russians were up by 19 IMPs, with 16 boards to play.

For the next 16 boards, it is fair to say we simply outplayed the Russians, winning eight swings to two (one of those being an overtrick) to record a 66-60 IMP victory overall.

The biggest of our swings was a mere 7 IMPs on the following board:

Board 27, South deals, nil vulnerable

	♠ 9 3 2		
	♥ 5 3		
	♦ A 10 8 2		
	♣ K Q 4 3		
♠ A K 5		♠ Q 8 6 4	
♥ A Q 8 4 2		♥ K J 6	
♦ J 6		♦ Q	
♣ A 10 2		♣ 9 8 7 6 5	
	♠ J 10 7		
	♥ 10 9 7		
	♦ K 9 7 5 4 3		
	♣ J		
West	North	East	South
Matushko	Nunn	Khokhlov	Hans
		3♦	
Dbl	Pass	3♠	All Pass

A daring first seat preempt from Sartaj caught Matushko with an awkward hand, with which he chose to double. Tony next did well not to raise, and with Khokhlov bidding 3♠, was very happy to let him play there. EW in the other room had an easy uncontested auction to 4♥. Still, it came down to the last hand.

What do you lead with ♠8654, ♥J764, ♦--- ♣K10753 against the following uncontested auction (the first bid of 1♥ is on your right):

1♥	2♣ (game-forcing, natural, balanced)
2♦	2♥ (balanced, game-forcing)
3♦	3NT
4♦	4♥

The red suits are clearly no good, I would hope as many people would lead hearts as diamonds... So it's down to which black suit... and of course you lead a club and go into the final of the Transnationals; a spade and you're out, with dummy holding ♠AKQ9 and ♣8xxx...

In the other semi final, ISRAELI JUNIORS won a 12 IMP swing on the second last board to overtake GORDON 65-58 IMPs, although they did win the first segment by 38-32 IMPs.

We would therefore be facing young Israelis Dror Padon - Alon Birman, Ron Schwartz - Lotan Fisher, fresh from winning the 2010 World Youth Championships in Philadelphia.

On the Friday night, we started our third knockout

match of the day, with two sets of 16 each, to be played the following day. Israel started strongly, winning the first set 50-28 IMPs, including a run of eight unanswered swings. This was one of them:

Board 11, South deals, nil vulnerable

	♠ Q J 10 4 3		
	♥ J 6 4		
	♦ K 4		
	♣ 6 4 3		
♠ A K 7 6 5		♠ 9 8 2	
♥ K 8 7 5 2		♥ Q 9 3	
♦ 8		♦ 6 2	
♣ A 5		♣ K J 10 8 2	
	♠ ---		
	♥ A 10		
	♦ A Q J 10 9 7 5 3		
	♣ Q 9 7		
West	North	East	South
Padon	Nunn	Birman	Hans
			1♦
1♠	Pass	2♠	4♦
4♠	Dbl	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Edgton	Schwartz	Gosney	Fisher
			1♦
1♦	Pass	2♥	3♦
3♥	Pass	Pass	3NT
	All Pass		

Padon played the hand expertly in the Open Room. Ruffing the second round of diamonds, he played a club to the king, a small heart to the king and another heart, ducked to the ace. Hans played a further diamond, declarer discarding a heart and Nunn ruffing with ♠10, before returning ♥J. Padon won ♥Q, ruffed a club to hand, and then played his last heart, ruffed by Nunn, who was now endplayed. Padon won the last three tricks with ♠AK7, going one off, with Nunn being the first player (forced) to lead trumps at trick 11!

There was no beating 3NT in the Closed Room, for a swing of 8 IMPs to the Israelis.

The Israelis added to their lead in the second segment, winning 45-24 IMPs to increase their lead to 48 IMPs.

The next deal posed an interesting play problem for Tony Nunn:

Board 4, West deals, all vulnerable

	♠ J 5 4		
	♥ 6		
	♦ K Q 6 4 3 2		
	♣ Q 10 5		
♠ K 6		♠ K 6	
♥ A K 8		♥ A K 8	
♦ J 9		♦ J 9	
♣ A J 8 7 4 3		♣ A J 8 7 4 3	
West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦ ¹	2NT	3♥ ²
3NT	All Pass		

1. Weak two in a major
2. Pass or correct

Declaring 3NT from the East seat, you receive the lead of ♠10 to North's ace, followed by a second spade

What's going on, and what's your plan?

Well if you give South at least three cards in each major, it means North's suit is hearts, and that South has led his own suit. Presumably, he holds ♠Q (as if North had spades, he would have played low on ♠10 lead).

South surely has at least one of either ♦A or ♣K, since North is weak, and has already shown up with ♠A and should have ♥QJ. South is likely to have 5+ spades, as North is not going to open a weak 2♥ with four spades to the ace.

With no entry to finesse in clubs, 3NT therefore looks a heavy favourite to fail, until you play ♠K under the ace!

The full deal:

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

If the opponents switch to hearts, you play a diamond to dummy, and then finesse and run the clubs. If the opponents continue spades, then you have six clubs, ♠J and the two top hearts for nine tricks.

Understandably, this play was not found at the table, and with the Israelis receiving a heart lead in the other room, 13 IMPs away was the result.

Our previous good luck appeared to desert us in the final, but we had plenty of missed opportunities as well.

Board 8, West deals, nil vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
	Gosney		Edgton
Pass	1♥	2♠	3♣ ¹
4♣	Pass	4♠	Dbf
All Pass			

1. Showing diamonds

South led ♥K, North playing ♥7. Next came ♦K, North encouraging with ♦3, leading to a low diamond from South, as a surprised declarer won ♦Q. Now a club was led towards dummy, and South, still unsure of declarer's distribution, played low. With +1100 begging, 4♠ doubled thus only went three down for +500, proving very costly when the Israeli NS were in 6♦ for +920.

The last set of 16 saw us with 52 IMPs in the in column... but sadly we also lost 32 IMPs in a volatile set.

Board 24 gave me a chance to look silly underleading an ace-king holding:

Board 24, West deals, nil vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
Padon	Gosney	Birman	Edgton
1♣	1♥	1♠	4♥
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

Edgton led ♦10, won in dummy by ♦Q. A low club from dummy went to ♣7, ♣K and ♣Q. Now declarer ran ♠9 to ♠10 and ♠K. At this point, I was faced with the question of whether partner has ♥Q or ♦K.

A low heart was not a success, with Birman quickly winning his queen. There were enough clues, certainly at the table, for me to get it right, with declarer appearing to be setting up his clubs. With ♦K, declarer may have chosen to play ace and another spade.

So if you think the final of a world championship would be full of brilliancies and double dummy plays, think again.

The Israelis contributed this 'youthful' result on Board 25. There is a seemingly boring result of 4♠ making

five expected on these EW cards (♣AQ are onside):

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

The scores in the two rooms, however, were Israel in 6♠ for -50 and Australia in 4♠ redoubled for +1080. I'm sure each Israeli pair were very glad at score up to hear of the other's (mis)adventure! (compressing two dreadful scores into one).

As usual in bridge however, it was the team to make the fewer mistakes that won the day., that team at the 2011 Transnationals being *ISRAELI JUNIORS*, winning 132-105 – well done! And well done to *AUSTRALIA* with a very respectable second place too!

Paul Gosney

ABF Teaching and Marketing Update

The ABF appointed Joan Butts as the National Teaching Coordinator and Sandra Mulcahy as the National Marketing Coordinator, effective from January, 2011. Since then, many new initiatives have been implemented, including :

1. development and implementation of a Marketing Strategy and Marketing Plan for the ABF
2. a research program initiated and used to inform strategies
3. celebrity speaker sessions conducted at our major events
4. a national program implemented to train our bridge teachers on the latest techniques
5. national sponsorship arrangements under way
6. marketing tips for our clubs available on the ABF website
7. promotion of our sport achieved through TV, radio and newspaper coverage
8. support provided to our club administrators and teachers on a range of issues
9. initiation of a review of the ABF website

In 2012, many more initiatives are planned for implementation. These include:

- an information kit for new members
- continuing our national program of training bridge teachers on the latest techniques
- continuing our successful series of celebrity speaker sessions at major events
- a focus on our novice members (*research and encouragement to participate in events*)
- developing and implementing a new ABF website
- expanding our *stable* of national sponsors
- developing marketing tips for our clubs on the topic of bridge etiquette

None of the achievements over the last 12 months would have been possible without the support and assistance of our hard-working volunteers in each of the states and territories. For this, we thank you and warn that we will be calling on you all again this year!

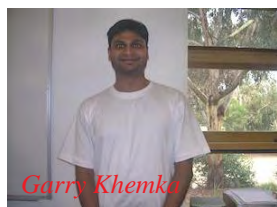
If you have any queries or suggestions about teaching or marketing, please email either Joan Butts, teaching@abf.com.au or Sandra Mulcahy, marketing@abf.com.au



Results of Youth Triathlon, December 2 - 4

The overall winner of the 2011 Youth Triathlon was Peter Hollands.

Garry Khemka won the Individual, while the Pairs was won by Ben Kingham - Peter Hollands and the Teams was won by Jeremy Rosen, Peter Hollands, Justin Howard and Ben Kingham.



Garry Khemka



Ben Kingham & Peter Hollands

Made your New Year's resolution yet?

No? How about making the most of your ABF membership by:

- setting yourself a goal to achieve *x* number of Masterpoints in 2012?
- gaining your next rank promotion?
- never having a session below 47%?

ABF competitions provide members with a fun environment for making new friends, together with an opportunity to capture more of those elusive Masterpoints (*Red or Gold*). Check out the events page on the web site (*for either the ABF or your State/Territory*) to see what is available.

Schedule as many as you can with your partner/s or get a team together for 2012. Note your diary.

Have fun!

Territory 'Gold for bridge players'

Why I Don't Play Bridge

Let me begin with a confession. I am a chess player. I did try bridge about 30 years ago, but found my partner* so inept, that I happily immersed myself in the 64 squares of the chess board. I kept an interest in bridge, of course, reading many books on the subject (particularly Victor Mollo's "Bridge in the Menagerie" series) regularly kibitzing some of Australia's top players. For me, bridge was a spectator sport.

When I recently relocated to Darwin, however, I found that chess was non-existent, while there were three bridge clubs all vying to sign up the unsuspecting occasional bridge player like me. The first one listed on the website was Arafura Bridge Club: "The friendly club, where trumping your partner's ace is not the end of the world." That sounded like the place for me. I am all in favour of my opponents trumping their partner's aces, and if my partner ever trumped my ace, well, I could always get a new partner.

How I Do Play Bridge

When your basic grounding in the game is based on the Mollo Menagerie, you develop a certain style. This was a hand during one of my rare efforts at bridge last millennium. EW are vulnerable, West deals and sitting South, I pick up ♠AKQ, ♥A9, ♦AKQ72, ♣AQ3.

West, unsurprisingly, passes, but partner opens 2♥ (the usual weak two: 6-10 points with a six-card suit.) East passes, and I bid the automatic 7NT. This goes around to East, who doubles, then back to partner who redoubles. West leads ♠10, and dummy goes down: ♠63, ♥KJ10643, ♦J94, ♣74.

At which point I shoot my partner at point blank range. OK, we have all had bad days, where we have opened a similar weak two, but redouble? REDOUBLE?? So the kindest thing to do is to put him out of his misery, and shooting him is the quickest way to do this. And, of course, relying on the precedent set in the Bennett case in Kansas City in 1929, this is a clear case of justifiable homicide!

But I still have to play the hand. At trick one, East contributes ♠4. The only possible justification for the double is that East has the protected ♥Q and cK, but how does knowing that help? So I turn to Victor Mollo for inspiration. The first thing the Hideous Hog does in a slam contract, with an apparent surfeit of aces, is to finesse a nine, or thereabouts. With this in mind, I think I can deal with the likely distribution. At trick two, I cash ♦A (♦3 from West, ♦8 from East), and then lead a small diamond. West plays ♦6, and I nonchalantly play ♦9, which holds!

Now when I play a small heart from dummy, East plays ♥2, I play ♥9 and West discards a spade. The rest is plain sailing: cash ♥A, cross to ♦J, cash ♥K (discarding a small club), then come off dummy with a club, finessing ♣Q (successfully), and 13 tricks roll home.

The full hand is:

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

For anybody brought up on a steady diet of Hideous Hog coups, the play of the cards is quite trivial; the difficult part is keeping Partner alive until the paramedics get there!

The Crocodile Coup

So at Arafura Bridge Club, Betty Mill took me under her wing, and I started attending church for the first time in my adult life. It is amazing what you can achieve on a wing and a prayer!

This was one of our efforts. I picked up:

♠ A J 8 3 2
♥ K
♦ K J 10 9
♣ A K Q

The first thing to realise is that at Arafura this hand alone is worth 10 tricks, so after a pass from dealer I opened 2NT: you cannot risk opening 1♠ and playing there. Betty bid 3♦ (transfer to hearts) so I bid 3♠. Without enthusiasm partner bid 3NT, and after the lead of ♠5 she put down:

♠ 6
♥ Q 10 8 6 4
♦ 8 6 4
♣ J 5 2

As you can see, dummy contributes nothing, so you have to settle for the bare 10 tricks, after which I ... What's that? You can't quite see 10 tricks? Well, East produced ♠K at trick one. I won with the ace and led ♥K. This held, which is a very strong pointer for the next lead: ♦K. This, too, was ducked in the most learned manner, and when ♦10 was led next,

West stepped up smartly with the queen, only to see an enforced Crocodile Coup with East's Ace. (Since arriving in Darwin, I have got used to seeing a large number of crocodiles; all of them at my table!) West's face clouded over, but when her partner pierced my gizzard with ♠9, she quickly returned to a happy visage; topping my ♠J with ♠Q and cashing ♠10 before crossing to her partner's ♠8. Except that her partner didn't have ♠8, and my hand was good now. Voila! Exactly 10 tricks, as advertised, none of which came from dummy!

Bridge as a Spectator Sport

Anyway, despite these occasional moments of pleasure, I was still firmly of the opinion that bridge was a spectator sport. After all, 75% of the time you would be sitting anywhere but South during that hand, and where is the pleasure in that? So when the Territory Gold event began in September, I thought I would join the mass of spectators who must be present for such an event. When I arrived for the first afternoon session I discovered that the said "mass" amounted to ... precisely zero. I sidled up to the Director and asked doubtfully whether it was permitted to kibitz.

"Certainly", he beamed, so I quickly spotted Simon Hinge, and sat between him and a rather large lady of no acquaintance, who was deep in concentration, playing in defence to the first trick. She then turned her card over, and promptly dropped it on the floor. I had the distinct impression that watching her manoeuvre to recover it might take the remainder of the 20 minutes allowed for the round, so I reached down and returned it to her. This process was repeated on the second trick, this time breaking her concentration. "What are you doing here", she demanded in surprised tones, as she accepted my retrieval of the dropped card. "Well", I began cautiously, "the Director asked me to sit here in case anybody dropped any of their cards ..."

Rescuing the Damsel

It soon became apparent why I was the only spectator at the entire event. Every single Darwinian who had ever played bridge, and even most of those who had once played a game of 500, Solo or Euchre, was participating in every event. So, when one of the locals fell ill halfway through the teams event, it was my phone that rang. The Dragon on the other end enquired whether I might rescue a damsel in distress. Of course I agreed at once, but only then did it become clear that I had been drafted from my role of spectator to participant. I felt like my opponents in that 3NT contract must have done ...

So I arrived, and met my partner, Lorna MacIntyre. I was buoyed somewhat by Michael Courtney's remark

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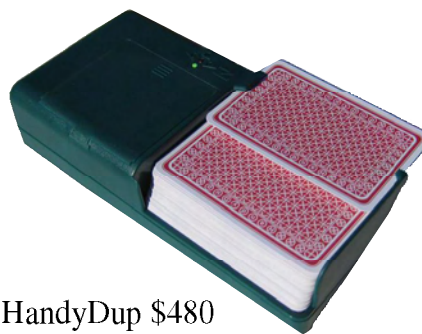
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to Lorna: "Poisoning your partner to get to play with Chris is a great move!", although I am not sure that Lorna took it as well as I did ... The final session of the team's event was a bit of a blur, but we seemed to make some contracts and even some of our aces in defence, so I readily agreed to carry on in the Swiss Pairs event over the weekend. The Swiss Pairs was the reason every bridge player in Darwin had turned out for the event: "If you are really lucky you can hang one on a Courtney or Hinge or Burgess", one confided in me.

Slaying the Dragon

We bounced around a bit in the Swiss, but were doing respectably well enough to come up against Peter Gill in Round 7. This was our big chance to "hang one" on somebody of note. We started by bidding and making our vulnerable game on the first board, so they were already under pressure, having mentally chalked up a maximum score against us before the round began. Then, Peter Gill was declarer in 4♥ doubled with these hands:

All vul, South deals

♠ 9
♥ A Q 9 8
♦ K Q 8
♣ A K J 7 6

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

♠ J 8 4
♥ J 10 6 4 3
♦ 7 3
♣ 10 8 4

West	North	East <i>Me</i>	South <i>Peter Gill</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Dbl	Pass
1♠	Dbl	2♠	3♥
3♠	4♥	Dbl	All Pass

Lorna led ♦10. The interrogation I got over this card! "What would partner lead from 109x?"

I wanted to say, "I have ♦9", but replied "Ten".

"From J10(x)?"

"Jack."

"From 10xx?"

"Small."

"From 10xxx?"

"Small."

Eventually he played dummy's king. I won ♦A and returned ♦9(!). Declarer won that in dummy, and ruffed a diamond high in hand (Lorna following suit!)

and tried the heart finesse, won by me with the king.

I knew already that it would come down to whether he finessed clubs or played them from the top. I also knew from studying a million Hideous Hog and Papa the Greek hands that I had important information that declarer did not have: Lorna had found a vulnerable free bid of 3♠ with nothing more than four points. It was absolutely vital to make room in her hand for ♣Q, so I cashed ♠K and followed with ♠Q, knowing for certain that Peter would have observed that I had now shown up with 13 points. Fooling good players is sometimes easier than outfoxing beginners, because at least you can work out what the good player is thinking!

The second spade was ruffed in dummy and ♣A was cashed, as I contributed ♣9 and Lorna ♣2. Trumps were drawn ending in hand and Peter swished ♣10 onto the table.

If Lorna had now played a card lower than ♣2(!) implying an even number of cards in the suit, Peter would have shrugged and finessed. She played ♣3. Lorna knew that she should give false count in that situation, and Peter knew that Lorna probably knew ... So Peter went into the tank to work out the hand.

In the end he just could not bring himself to believe that Lorna had bid 3♠ with just one decent card in her hand. So when Peter eventually called for dummy's jack, my (now singleton) queen took the setting trick!

Territory Gold 2012

Wow that felt good! Beating their vulnerable game with a combination of imaginative bidding (3♠ makes, by the way) and perceptive defence finally convinced me that bridge is not a spectator sport. The Territory Gold event is on again in 2012, bigger and better, as part of the ANC from 7 - 19 July at the Darwin Convention Centre. An outstanding bridge-fest it promises to be, with all the Territory Gold events in the first week and Butler Pairs in the second. (All the details are at: www.ntba.com.au/ANC You can bet your life that every Territorian who has ever taken a trick will be there, hoping to "hang one on" the city slickers, who attend in ever-increasing numbers. If you are contemplating attending in 2012 I advise you do two things:

1. Book early, as the town will be bursting at the seams again; and
2. Send your partner for a health check – in 2012 there will be zero spectators to draw on in an emergency!

Chris Depasquale

** That hopelessly inept partner of mine 30 years ago? None other than my sister, the redoubtable Cathy Chua!*



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Better Minor Lebensohl

Lebensohl works brilliantly in sequences such as 1NT (2♠) 2NT, but in the second of the two Lebensohl situations, (2♠) Dbl (Pass) 2NT, many partnerships are reviewing the way they play 2NT.



Traditionally 2NT says bid 3♣, and pass my next bid, showing less than 7 HCP. On the other hand, if responder bypasses 2NT and bids a suit, (2♠) Dbl (Pass) 3♦, then 3♦ shows a better hand, 7-11 HCP.

This is the sort of thing that happened under this scheme:

	<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>
	♠ 7 6		♠ 8 5 3
	♥ K Q 7 2		♥ J 6
	♦ A K 9 6		♦ Q 8 7 3
	♣ A 7 2		♣ K 8 5 3
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2♠
Dbl 3♣	Pass All pass	2NT	Pass

East's 2NT asked partner to bid 3♣, and East, quite reasonably, guesses to pass 3♣. However 3♣ will most likely fail, while 3♦, with eight combined trumps, is most likely a make. I have even seen a few 4-2 fits played using this method.

Germ warfare at the bridge table is on the increase, and weak twos showing exactly a five-card suit are growing in popularity. And why not: look at the problems they give opponents? It's clearly important to play the method that copes well with the most frequent situation.

The solution is to use 2NT to look for the best fit, rather than show strength.

In Better Minor Lebensohl (BML) opener bids the better minor over 2NT, rather than an automatic 3♣. On the hand above, the final contract would be the winning 3♦.

If responder bids a suit at the three level over the take-out double, (2♠) Dbl (Pass) 3♦, that shows at least a five card suit. You bid less games perhaps, but you play more often in the correct partscore.

Try these quizzes on the finer points of BML:

(2♠) Dbl (Pass) ?

- 1). ♠ 76, ♥ K87, ♦ A986, ♣ K972
- 2). ♠ Q9, ♥ 872, ♦ A9854, ♣ K75
- 3). ♠ 87, ♥ A987, ♦ 943, ♣ J872
- 4). ♠ QJ103, ♥ A76, ♦ A5, ♣ 8732
- 5). ♠ A6, ♥ K876, ♦ Q9873, ♣ J8

1). **2NT**. This is the typical good hand for BML, where you will find your minor suit fit. The only problem is that you have a lot of points, and may occasionally miss a game.

2). **3♦**. Showing at least a five-card suit, so you will be in at least a 5-3 fit.

3). **3♥**. You have to assume when partner doubles 2♠, they have four hearts. If you were playing IMPs, you could bid 2NT (BML), to make sure you reached your best fit, but at matchpoints you can't afford to be in a 4-4 club fit when you also have a 4-4 heart fit.

4). **Pass**. You don't have the choice of bidding 2NT natural, so it is pass, or 3NT. Pass looks a standout. You have four sure tricks, and it is not too much to expect partner to have at least two. Vulnerable versus not, the gamblers among us would try 3NT, but with your flattish hand, tricks in notrump may be hard to come by. It looks a typical hand, where you don't make a game, but opponents fail by two or three tricks

5). **2NT**. On the basis that if you have four hearts you will bid 3♥ at once, why do you bid 2NT and then 3♥ later? Must be an invitation, around 8-11 HCP.

(2♠) Dbl (Pass) 2NT
(Pass) ?

- 1). ♠ 76, ♥ AK87, ♦ A986, ♣ K92
- 2). ♠ 9, ♥ AK72, ♦ AQJ4, ♣ AK75
- 3). ♠ Q107, ♥ A97, ♦ AK2, ♣ AQ92

1). **3♦**. Easy, simply respond with your better minor. If responder continues with 3♥ this is now invitation-al, so you will continue on to 4♥.

2). **3♠**. You have a big hand, so take the risk partner isn't broke, and head for game.

3). **3NT**. It may be very wrong, but you don't have much choice but to gamble out 3NT.

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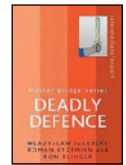


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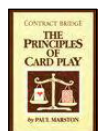


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The Seniors in Veldhoven

The 2011 World Teams Championships were held in Veldhoven, the Netherlands. In the d'Orsi Bowl, Seniors' Teams, Australia was represented by Andy Braithwaite – Bob Richman, Peter Buchen – Henry Christie, Bill Haughie – Ron Klinger, with Matt Mullamphy non-playing captain. As with the open and women's divisions, the 22 teams played a round-robin over seven days, three 16-board matches per day. The leading eight teams then entered the quarter-finals, the start of the knock-out phase. Australia had never proceeded beyond the qualifying stages in this event.



Matt Mullamphy, npc, Bill Haughie, Bob Richman, Peter Buchen, Henry Christie, Ron Klinger and Andy Braithwaite

Day 1: 9-21 v. Pakistan, 16-14 v. Bulgaria, 16-14 v. USA1, total: 41 and running 15th. The win against USA1, one of the favourites for the event, was pleasing, but we should certainly have done better against Pakistan.

Bob Richman produced a fine defence on this deal from Round 3:

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

Both tables were in 3NT. Haughie, North, received ♦7 lead, ace. A club went to the king and ace and East continued with ♦6, king. North cleared the clubs and had nine tricks for +400.

At the other table South was declarer and Andy Braithwaite, West led ♠J, ducked to ♠K. Bob Richman, East, returned ♦9, taken by the ace. A club went to

the king, and Richman ducked! ♥9 ran to West's jack, and North's ♥A won the heart return. A spade to the queen was followed by a club to the queen and ace. East played a third heart, taken by ♥K.

This was now the position:

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

When declarer crossed to ♠A, East had to make a discard. If he threw a diamond, North could play a club. To avoid being endplayed in diamonds, Richman threw ♣J. Now South was one off, 10 IMPs to Australia.



Day 2: 14-16 v. India, 25-5 v. Guadeloupe, 17-13 v. Italy, total 97 and running 8th.

Try this problem:

East deals, EW vulnerable

<p>♠ A J 10 5 3 ♥ K 8 3 ♦ Q 10 ♣ A 5 2</p>	<p>♠ K 8 2 ♥ Q J 10 ♦ J 7 5 ♣ K Q 4 3</p>	<p>West</p> <p>1♠</p> <p>4♣</p>	<p>North</p> <p>Pass</p> <p>All Pass</p>	<p>East</p> <p>1♣</p> <p>2♠</p>	<p>South</p> <p>1♥</p> <p>Pass</p>
--	---	---------------------------------	--	---------------------------------	------------------------------------

North leads ♥9 to South's ace and South returns ♥7: king – four – jack. How would you plan the play?

Peter Buchen picked this hand well to make 4♠ against India:

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

After the auction above, North led ♥9 to South's ace and South returned ♥7: king – four – jack. Buchen, West, noted that South had overcalled with a poor five-card suit (missing four honours) and almost certainly did not have both ace and king of diamonds (failure to play a top diamond at trick two). With a poor hand and poor strength, South figured to have good shape, so Buchen placed South with spade shortage. He therefore led ♠J at trick three, and let it run when North played low. When South dropped ♠9, declarer was home. A spade to the eight was followed by ♠K, a club to hand and ♠A drew North's last trump. Buchen had 11 tricks for +650 when clubs broke 3-3.

A 5-3-3-2 pattern facing a 4-3-3-3 is often easier to play in 3NT than 4♥/4♠ when you have game values. That was the case here, and India duly played in 3NT for nine tricks, but 2 IMPs to Australia.

Day 3: Seniors: 15-15 v. Germany, 23-7 v. Japan, 7-23 v. New Zealand (ugh!), total 142, running 10th.

South deals, EW vul

♠ A 7 6 5 3
♥ J 8 6 2
♦ 10
♣ Q 10 3

♠ 4 2
♥ K 4
♦ K 8 6 5 4
♣ J 9 5 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT ¹
Pass	3♣ ²	Pass	3♥ ³
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1. Maximum, no five-card major
2. Asking for four-card major
3. Four hearts and not 4-3-3-3

West leads ♣2, taken by ♣Q. ♥2 is played from dummy: seven – 10 – king. What would you do now as West?

Bill Haughie made the most of a defensive error on the deal, from the match against Germany:

♠ A 7 6 5 3
♥ J 8 6 2
♦ 10
♣ Q 10 3

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

♠ Q 9
♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ A Q J 9
♣ A K 6



Ron Klinger and Bill Haughie

Haughie was underwhelmed at the sight of dummy, but never say die. He took trick one with ♣Q (to make it clear to West that a club continuation could not cost), and played ♥2: seven – 10 – king.

This was West's last chance to defeat the contract. He had to switch to a spade or return a heart (to allow East to escape the endplay). West continued with a 'safe' club.

Haughie won and played ♦A, followed by ♦J, which held, and ♦Q, covered and ruffed. A club to South's hand was followed by ♦9. East declined to ruff this, but the end result would have been the same. South exited with a heart. East could cash the two heart winners, but then had to lead a spade to give South the extra trick needed. At the other table 4♥ was defeated, 10 IMPs to Australia.

Day 4: 19-11 v. USA2 (who ultimately finished second), 23-7 v. China Hong Kong, 19-11 v. Brazil, total 203, running 7th.

South deals, nil vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

What would you lead as West from ♠A85432, ♥Q42, ♦95, ♣82 after the auction as shown?

To score 61 out of the possible 75 VPs available is always a welcome result, but it could have been even better if I had found a different lead on this deal v. China Hong Kong:

♠ K Q
♥ 10 8
♦ K Q J 10 7
♣ Q 7 5 4

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

♠ ---
♥ A J 9 7 6 5 3
♦ 3
♣ A K J 10 6

So, what lead did you choose? I was among the many that went for ♠A lead. South ruffed, played ♣A, ♣K, club to the queen, discarded ♦3 on dummy's spade winner and led a heart for +920. We actually gained 2 IMPs when West at the other table also led ♠A against 6♥, but it would have been +14 Imps on any lead but a spade.

Day 5: 11-19 v. Indonesia, 21-9 v. France, 18-12 v. the Netherlands, total 253, running 7th.

East deals, all vulnerable

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

1. Good heart raise

What would you do now as North, holding ♠ A853, ♥ Q86, ♦ Q8, ♣ KQ108?

This deal arose in the Round 14 match against France, the ultimate winners of the event:

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

After the auction above, the French North passed 2♥. With 13 HCP and a seven-loser hand, that is a conservative view. North is worth one more try with 3♥ and also with effectively seven losers, South should continue to 4♥. Declarer made 11 tricks for +200. So did Bob Richman at the other table, but he was in 4♥ for +650, 10 IMPs to Australia.

Day 6: 20-10 v. Reunion, 4-25 v. Poland, 12-18 v. Canada, total 289, running 10th.

North deals, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♥	Db1 ¹	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	?

1. Shows three spades

What would you do as South, holding ♠ KQ85, ♥ 10, ♦ Q10932, ♣ J107?

The deal comes from Round 18 against Canada:

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

At our table, North opened a weak 1NT, passed out. East led a low club to the ace and ducked the club return. Declarer played a spade, ducked, and scampered home with seven tricks. Australia -90. There is no defence to 1NT.

At IMPs scoring, it usually does not pay to bid three-over-three when each side has a trump fit, and about half the points. To bid four over three has a far lower rate of success, and should be avoided without very powerful reasons. After the auction above, the Australian South competed too much by bidding 4♦. Declarer did well to go only one down, -50, 4 IMPs away.

If South passes 3♥, so will North. That is one down for sure, and declarer would need to do very well to avoid two down.

After Day 6 we were out of the top eight qualifying positions and needed good results in the last three matches to reach the quarter-finals. The team delivered, with three wins. *Continued on page 18*



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It's The Law!

Revokes (Laws 61 - 64)

The Laws consider a revoke (or renege) to be a very serious offence:

“In playing to a trick, each player must follow suit, if possible. This obligation takes precedence over all other requirements...” (Law 44C).

In an effort to negate the effect of revokes, the laws require their immediate correction, but only if discovered before a member of the offending side (that means either the revoker or his partner) plays to the next trick.

To correct a revoke, the offender simply substitutes a legal card for the illegal one. In addition, if the revoker is a defender, then the illegally exposed card becomes a penalty card, which stays on the table to be played at the first legal opportunity. The good news is that when a revoke is discovered within time, there's no further penalty and no automatic transfer of tricks to the other side.



Whenever a player fails to follow suit, his partner has the right to enquire as to whether he has a card of the suit led. This right to ask varies slightly depending upon the status of the player:

- Dummy may only ask declarer.
- Declarer may ask either defender.
- Defenders may ask one another or declarer.

A revoke that remains undetected until after a member of the offending side plays to the next trick; is said to have become established. Other ways that a revoke can be established include claiming, conceding and agreeing to a claim or a concession. It is only an established revoke (those discovered too late to correct) that can incur a penalty. Now the hand must be played to completion before the director can apply any sort of rectification.

When a revoke is established, at least one of the subsequent tricks won by the offending side is usually transferred to the opponents. The exact number of tricks varies with circumstance:

Continued on page 19

Day 7: 25-1 v. Argentina, 19-11 v. Egypt, 18-12 v. Denmark, total 351, final position 6th.

West deals, nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥ ¹	Pass	5NT
Pass	?		

1. Two Key Cards, no ♠Q

What would you do now as North with ♠J963, ♥AJ6, ♦9, ♣AKQ76

This deal arose in the match against Argentina:

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

It is normal to play that South's 5NT bid shows interest in a grand slam, and promises that no Key Cards are missing. Therefore, with a source of tricks in clubs, North should jump to 7♠. We were fortunate that the Argentinian North bid 6♦ to show one king, and passed South's 6♠. At the other table, Andy Braithwaite – Bob Richman duly bid 7♠ for + 11 IMPs.

We had reached the quarter-finals, the first time for an Australian team in the d'Orsi Bowl, but that was the end of our run. Poland, who qualified second, chose us as quarter-final opponents, and were far too strong. They hammered us 269-142 IMPs over 96 boards. Poland then suffered the anguish of losing the semi-final to France by 0.3 IMPs.

France qualified first with 383 VPs, an average of 18.2 per match. Against the top seven, their average was 16.3 per match and against the bottom seven, 20.7. Poland qualified second with 382 VPs, an average of 18.19. Against the top seven, their average was 15.9, and against the bottom seven, it was 20.9. USA2 qualified third with 370 VPs, an average of 17.6. Against the top seven, their average was 18.1, and against the bottom seven it was 18.3.

We scored 351 VPs, an average of 16.7 VPs per match. Of the other seven quarter-finalists, we defeated four of the top five, lost two and drew one. Our average against the top seven teams was 15.1 VPs, and against

the bottom seven, 17.4 VPs. However, against the bottom four teams, who languished almost 50 VPs behind 18th, we had two wins and two losses, with an average of only 13.9 per match!

By contrast, against the bottom four, France averaged 20.0, Poland 21.8 and USA2 17.5.

\Where the three pairs in a team are not of equal calibre, our captains tend to play the weaker pair(s) against the weakest teams.

Perhaps the philosophy should be to play the strongest pairs against the top teams and against the bottom teams. Of course, in the early rounds the strength of the opposing teams might not be obvious.

Ron Klinger

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It's The Law (continued)

- If the offending side lost the revoke trick and all subsequent ones, no penalty is assessed.
- If the revoke card actually won the trick and the offending side also won a subsequent trick, a minimum of two tricks are transferred to the opposition.
- In all other cases, the offenders only have to give away one trick.

Note specifically that it's only two tricks if the revoke card won the trick.

If the revoking player's partner won it, then the standard penalty is just one trick. In practice, a revoke card can only win a trick if it's a trump, so the penalty can only be two tricks if someone trumps in when they should have followed suit. Also you never have to give up tricks won before the offence occurred. It's only the revoke trick and the subsequent ones, which are up for grabs.

The automatic transfer of tricks following a revoke is non-discretionary, and independent of any potential damage that might have been caused. Sometimes the non-offenders gain an unexpected windfall, due to a revoke, sometimes the number of tricks received just balances the actual loss, and sometimes the non-offenders still find themselves disadvantaged.

In the situations where the automatic rectification does not redress the damage, the director is now empowered (via *Law 64C*) to award an adjusted score. Since the general underlying principle of any score adjustment is to redress damage to a non-offending side, the director now simply adjusts the result back to what he believes would have been the normal outcome without any infraction.

Finally, I should mention that there are a number of revoke situations that are not subject to any type of trick penalty. These include:

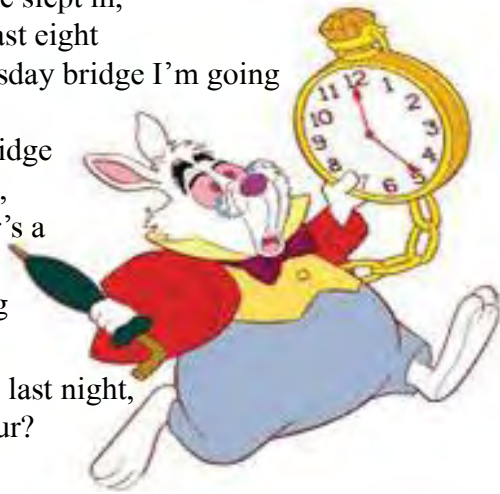
- Subsequent revokes in the same suit by the same player
- Revokes after trick eleven
- Revokes discovered after the auction has commenced on the next board
- Revokes discovered after the end of the round
- Revokes involving the failure to play a card from a faced hand (i.e., dummy)

Remember *Law 64C* is still potentially applicable whenever the opponents have been damaged, even if some types of revoke are not otherwise subject to penalty.

Laurie Kelso

The morning after

Oh heck I've slept in,
it's half past eight
For my Wednesday bridge I'm going
to be late
If I miss my bridge
I'll be a bit sad,
But my partner's a
tyrant and
will be hopping
mad
When drinking last night,
did I stop at four?
Oh no, not me,
I downed a few more
Whilst enjoying those drinks, I was happy and gay
Alas, today, the price I must pay
My head feels terrible, I just want to die
But to get to bridge, I really must try
But first to my bladder, to the small room quick, quick
I might have to stay here 'cos I'm feeling sick
A quick slunge of the face, a comb through my hair
Now to get dressed I rush back up the stair
No time to worry 'bout looking real grand
I'll be wearing the first clothes that come to my hand
Can't worry 'bout colour of my underwear
There's a hole in my stocking but hell, I don't care
Back down the stair, I must look a fright
No time to bother 'bout getting things right
A mouthful of coffee, of toast a quick bite
Then to the front door, mind to switch off the light
Out to the garage and into the car
I wish the bridge hall just wasn't so far
Over the speed limit today I must drive
I suddenly realize I'm above 0 05
Traffic's slowing ahead, I let out a cuss
Then a sigh of relief, it's not the booze bus
Bit of luck with the lights, I'm doing real fine
Now I'll just about make the bridge hall in time
There's the bridge hall ahead, something's not right
The car park is empty, not one car in sight
OH, SHIT, IT'S TUESDAY!



*Peter
Graham,
Illawarra
Bridge
Association,
Figtree, NSW*

Club news

Bunbury Bridge Club recipient of Lottery Commissions Grant

High Tech comes to the South West. Bunbury Bridge Club Inc. gratefully acknowledges the grant of \$5,000, from the Lotteries Commission, which enables the club to purchase the Mark 2 of BridgeMates. The Committee would also like to thank Messrs. Brian Wade of Bunbury, and Neville Walker of Mandurah, for their efforts in getting the program installed and for coaching the directors, in the procedures necessary for the competent running of the equipment.

Although faced with this new technology, the members had little trouble in operating the scoring boxes, thus proving the point that you are never too old to learn. Well done to everyone involved.

Di Brooks

Promotions, Bunbury Bridge Club

Cairns Eclipse Event

Cairns will be holding this event on November 14, 2012. This will be a small country congress following a major astronomical event - two minutes total solar eclipse at 6:38am. The eclipse will not be visible from any land in the Pacific, so Kiwis will need to come to Cairns if they wish to see it. Cairns is expecting 50,000 visitors and I am told there are few rooms left with a sea view from Cairns to Port Douglas. For more details contact Andrew Hooper at andrew@pipandrew.id.au



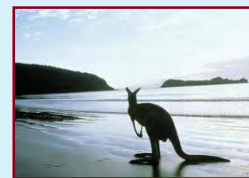
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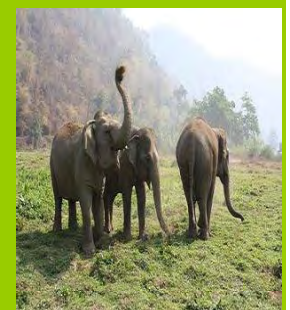
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- Fully escorted tour
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- Comprehensive bridge program & workshops



<http://www.members.optusnet.com.au/~gayeallen> :

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Coaching Cathy at Contract

GRUMPY TRUMPING

Dear Uncle,

When it works, we call it a cross-trump, when it falls apart, we call it grumpy trumping. So here goes with a couple of grumpy trump situations:

Grumpy Trump #1

Dealer: West

Vul: All

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

West opened a weak 2♥ and I eventually found myself in 5♦.

West led a club, and East won and returned a club which was trumped. Next West led ♥K. I won with the ace and, figuring that West had six hearts and East two, I trumped with ♦3, and got overtrumped with ♦5.

East lost no time giving West another club ruff, and on the heart continuation by West, I was two down when I trumped with ♦9 (a bit late, as you can see). How rude!

I just want to know; would a good player have trumped the second round of hearts with ♦9? (As you can see, East can't overruff this.)

Grumpy Trump #1

Dealer: East

Vul: All

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

Actually, Glenda played this one, after she went berserk in the bidding and we reached 6♠. West led a trump, and she won with ♠7 in dummy, played a heart to the ace and trumped a heart. She had to get back to hand, so she cashed ♦AK, and trumped a diamond in hand. Then she trumped another heart, but they didn't break, and later ♥K got trumped by East. Wasn't that

an unlucky break in hearts? I'm sure you'll say that it wasn't, as a lot of people made 12 tricks, but we were the only ones in slam.

As always, your comments should be illuminating.

Yours, Cathy

Dear Niece,

Your questions create some valuable illustrations of cross-ruffing technique:

1. Use the highest affordable trump whenever trumping is necessary, even if you don't expect to be overtrumped.
2. When embarking on a crossruff, cash all of the required side suit winners first.

In the first example, you were lulled into a false sense of security by a timid bid on the part of opener. (Did he or she misort the cards?) To answer your question, yes, a good player should trump with ♦9 as a matter of good practice, even though, like you, they may have considered the risk of being overtrumped low or non-existent.

The best way to manage this hand after the early setback of a club ruff against you, was to win the heart

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switch and trump with dummy's ♦9 as discussed. As you only need to trump two hearts, the other going off on a club at a later point, you can now return to hand with the low trump. After trumping the second heart, you have to play ace and another spade, ruffing in your hand. Then you can draw the outstanding trump(s). In this process, you must ruff low and live with the unlikely possibility that West started with seven hearts and four diamonds, by which case you would almost certainly go down in any case.

In the second example, Glenda was a victim of her own loose thinking. She feared her ♥K may be trumped (6-1 break) but still went down on the more likely 5-2 break. Hence her play was close to correct, but she did not cash the requisite four side winners in the red accings before committing to the cross-trump.

So the winning play at trick two is to cash ♦A, K and then ♥A, K. After that the hand will play itself. Of course, there is some chance that one of these cards will be trumped, but there is no other sensible way to gather 12 tricks.

I wish you many cross-trumps in the future,

David

New National Appeals Coordinator

The ABF Management Committee is pleased to announce that Sebastian Yuen has accepted the position of National Appeals Coordinator.



Sebastian can be contacted at appeals@abf.com.au.

He will be the keeper of our national records, and will liaise with the ABF Tournament Committee and other stakeholders, with a view to streamlining the current processes involving these very important documents.

Any updates to the current process will be posted to the ABF website as they are finalised.

New National Tournament Coordinators

The ABF Management Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Matthew McManus and Laurie Kelso to the position of National Tournament Coordinators, with effect from February 1, 2012.



Both Matthew and Laurie bring a wealth of tournament and administrative experience to this role. We are confident that they will work well together to stream-



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line the processes put in place by Richard Grenside in this newly developed role.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard for the extensive work that he carried out in raising the profile of this role with our licence holders and wish him well in his "retirement". Richard will continue to provide support to both Matthew and Laurie until he relinquishes the reins at the end of January, 2012.

Matthew and Laurie can be contacted via email at: ntc@abf.com.au Please direct your questions and queries to that email address. One of them will respond to you in return.

Club results

**Ballina Bridge Club Double Congress
Sunday 19 November**

Open

1. Judy Forsyth, Judy Woodward, Lyn Arnett, Mike Gilfoyle
2. Helen & Peter Tootell, Janet Brown, Eric Hurley

Restricted

1. Penny & Dennis Prior, Anne Riley, Terry Lowe
2. Vicki Ivosevac, Hilary Lewis, Jenny Hurley, Colin MacDonald

New seniors' regulations

For the 2012 Seniors Playoffs, the Management Committee has decided that players who were too young to enter some or all 2011 ABF events offering Seniors PQPs, but are old enough to enter the 2012 Seniors Playoffs, will be entitled to transfer their Open PQPs to Seniors PQPs provided they have 24 or more Open PQPs. This provision will not apply for subsequent years' Playoffs, since players aged 59+ are able to enter all the previous year's Senior qualifying events.

Call for expressions of interest

The ABF is seeking a volunteer to act as National Recorder to replace Neville Moses, who has provided many years of service to the ABF in this capacity.



*Outgoing National Recorder,
Neville Moses*

The National Recorder advises the General Counsel as to appropriate action to be taken on matters that are reported from ABF events, keeps the records of incidents of concern whether or not immediate action is taken, and may be asked to serve on the Ethics Committee and/or the National Authority.

Qualifications: The candidate must have a keen understanding of the requirements of natural justice and of the requirements of confidentiality. The candidate must be able to work as a member of a team. The candidate must have the ability to maintain records. The candidate should have legal training and experience but would not need a practicing certificate.

Closing Date: 28 February, 2012

Please direct all enquiries to: secretary@abf.com.au

Copy Deadline

for Issue 154, March 2012,
the deadline is:

February 26, 2012

Late submissions will be held over
until Issue 155, May 2012

Email: editor@abf.com.au

GNOT Final

The 2011 Grand National Open Teams was held at the Ultima Resort, Tweed Heads from November 25 - 28.

SYDNEY 3, Jamie Ebery, David Beauchamp, Terry Brown, Avi Kanetkar and Kim Morrison defeated SYDNEY 1, Pauline Gumbo, Warren Lazer, Nye Griffiths, Bruce Neill, Bob Richman and Andrew Peake by 151 - 108 IMPs.



*SYDNEY 3, Jamie, David, Terry,
Avi & Kim*

The GNOT Pairs was won by Laura Ginnan - Justin Howard from Robert Gallus - Stephen Weisz and Gerry Daly - Viv Wood (= 2nd).

Story of the 2012 ANC Logo

When we started planning for the ANC in Darwin we decided an iconic logo was needed for promoting the event to sponsors, government and the bridge playing world.



So we had a competition, advertised in the Newsletter and the ABF website.

We had many and varied entries from all over – many from Territorians and ex-Territorians, but there were some from interstate and overseas. Some came on scraps of paper, and others as professionally produced electronic forms. The competition was judged by a small panel, chaired by a graphic designer.

The winning entry, distinctly card-related and in territory colours, was from Hege Dalsgaard of Denmark. Hege is not a bridge player, but intimately knows the game's addictive powers, as his grandmother used to play 'all the time'.

The ANC is in Darwin from 7 – 19 July 2012. This bridge extravaganza will include the Territory Gold Bridge Festival, the Interstate Teams Championships and the Australian Butler Pairs.

July is in the middle of our glorious dry season, when the temperatures are balmy and the sky is blue.

See you there!

Pam Nunn
Tournament Organiser
www.ntba.com.au/ANC



Australian National Championships



Saturday 7 July - Thursday 19 July, 2012

at the

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Butler Pairs Championships, 14 - 19 July

Territory Gold Bridge Festival, 7 - 12 July

Congress events, 8 - 19 July

Two great weeks of bridge during our glorious dry season

As the ANC is during the main tourist and racing season,
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are the closest hotels to the venue, an easy 150m walk

For other accommodation and tours contact Territory Discoveries 13 43 83 and quote NT Bridge

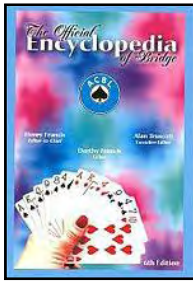
For more information go to our webpage www.ntba.com.au/ANC
or contact the Tournament Organiser, Pam Nunn at anc2012@abf.com.au or (08) 89 81 7287



Book reviews

The 2011 Bridge Encyclopedia

ACBL, USA, hard cover, 633 pages, \$89.95 postfree

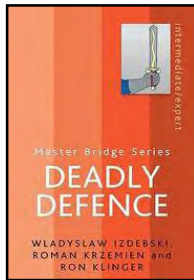


Every 10 years a new edition of the Bridge Encyclopedia is published, and the 2011 edition is bigger and better. This issue, the type is 25% larger, and there are hundreds of photos. As well as 85 pages on conventions, and 55 pages on suit combinations, you'll find history, systems, rules and laws, and ever so much more.

Plus the book comes with a CD for your computer that also includes profiles of world class players. For the keen player, the Encyclopedia is indispensable, and deserves to have pride of place in every bridge club library.

Deadly Defence Quiz Book

**by Izdebski, Krzemien and Klingner
Master Bridge Series, UK, 2011,
soft cover,
160 pages, \$34.95**



Victor Mollo demonstrated many years ago that quiz books on cardplay really do improve your game. He claimed that whichever half of his books you worked on first, your results in the second half would be substantially better. And he was right!

Deadly Defence Quiz Book is the sequel to the excellent *Deadly Defence*. Whereas Mollo had around 100 problems in his books, I counted 137 in this book, ranging from deceptive defence, counting, vision and imagination, to suit preference and helping partner get it right.

Try this one:

♠ K 4 2
♥ A K Q 10 3
♦ 7 5
♣ 5 4 3

♠ J 7 6 3
♥ 8 7
♦ K 8 2
♣ A K Q 2

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

You start with ♣A,K,Q. Declarer trumps the third club, plays a spade to the king (queen from East), and a spade back to ♠10, East discarding ♦6. How do you hope to beat 4♠?

♠ K 4 2
♥ A K Q 10 3
♦ 7 5
♣ 5 4 3

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

You must duck ♠10, leaving South in a hopeless position. If South cashes ♠A and plays on hearts you ruff the third heart, exit a club, and wait for your diamond trick. And if South plays ♠A and another spade, you have a club to cash.

*Reviews by Paul Lavings,
Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies*

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When	Presenter/Topic
Thursday 19 January	Joan Butts “DECLARER PLAY TECHNIQUES”
Friday 20 January	Hugh Grosvenor “HOW TO GET THE BEST FROM PARTNER”
Monday 23 January	Sartaj Hans “POINTS SCHMOINTS – SHAPE RULES”
Tuesday 24 January	Joe Grue/Justin Lall “TWO OVER ONE GAME FORCE”
Wednesday 25 January	Ron Klinger “EXPERT DEFENCE”
Thursday 26 January	Ishmael del Monte “COMPETITIVE BIDDING”

Cost: \$15 per head (includes lunch and session)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT SERIES – *What a feast!*

At this, the 40th anniversary of the Summer Festival of Bridge, the ABF is delighted to provide an educational program of **6** Celebrity Speaker sessions. Topics will cover bidding, play and defence.

This is an opportunity to see top teachers and players from Australia and overseas and to pick up valuable bridge tips. Notes will be provided at each session and will be available on the ABF web site following the festival.

A light lunch will be provided at each session and a charge will apply.

Summer Festival of Bridge News

Cahoots Bar

For the 2012 Summer Festival, the longtime favourite bar at Rydges, Cahoots, will be set up for use of the bridge players, with both bar service and meals available. So at lunchtime (if you aren't attending one of our celebrity lectures) your team can go down to the comfort of Cahoots or the verandah attached to Cahoots, have lunch and discuss the morning match.

Dinner Specials

As well as the specials offered in the restaurant at Rydges, the summer Festival has negotiated special deals with restaurants in the Canberra CBD. Details will be available during the event and on our website.

Partnership Service

As always the Summer Festival will provide, free of charge, a partnership service for all events. If you need a partner, teammates or both for any event at the Summer Festival please contact our partnership coordinator Wendy Boxall on wendy@belvet.com.au Other ways of contact: 0407 331 760 or (02) 6254 2188 (evenings & weekends) or by mail to 1 Belconnen Way, Weetangera, ACT 2614

Bus service

The Summer Festival also operates a shuttle bus for players from their accommodation within the CBD to the venue, before and after the day's play. If you would like your accommodation site on the bus route please email not@abf.com.au A list of pickup addresses will be updated as new pickup points are added. For full details visit www.summerfestivalofbridge.com

Any queries can be made to the Convener at not@abf.com.au

Looking forward to a great 40th Summer festival of Bridge.

Sean Mullamphy, Convener, Summer Festival of Bridge

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