

# ABF NEWSLETTER

## AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.



Editor: [editor@abf.com.au](mailto:editor@abf.com.au)

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### THE AUSTRALIAN TEAMS IN SEOUL



#### OPEN TEAM

Peter Gill – Andrew Peake  
 Peter Hollands – Justin Mill  
 David Beauchamp – Matthew Thomson  
 Ben Thompson (NPC)

1st	China	376.69 VPs
7th	Australia	345.30

#### WOMEN'S TEAM

Marianne Bookallil – Jodi Tutty  
 Margaret Bourke – Sue Lusk  
 Candice Ginsberg – Barbara Travis  
 Peter Reynolds (NPC)

1st	China	344.94
4th	Australia	280.26

#### SENIORS' 1 TEAM

Pauline Gumby – Warren Lazer  
 Avi Kanetkar – Bruce Neill  
 Peter Buchen – Terry Brown  
 George Bilski (NPC)

#### SENIORS' 2 TEAM

Jonathon Free – George Smolanko  
 Simon Hinge – Robbie van Riel  
 Andy Braithwaite – Arjuna de Livera

1st	China	394.08
6th	Australia 1	341.36
8th	Australia 2	312.62

#### JUNIOR TEAM

Charles McMahon – John McMahon  
 Matt Smith – Jamie Thompson  
 Christopher Rhodes – Nico Ranson  
 John Newman (NPC)  
 Liam Milne (Coach)

1st	China	395.46
5th	Australia	293.36

#### GIRLS' TEAM

Ailsa Peacock – Lakshmi Sunderasan –  
 Kirstyn Fuller  
 Renee Cooper – Francesca McGrath  
 Christy Geromboux (NPC)  
 Liam Milne (Coach)

1st	China	234.93
4th	Australia	147.02

Following the Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships, there were Playoffs to determine the Asian teams to represent their Zone at the World Championships in Lyon in August. Simultaneously, the Australian Open and Women's Teams held their Zonal matches against New Zealand, and there were Open and Youth Pairs Championships.

**AUSTRALIAN OPEN** 109  
*lost to*

**NEW ZEALAND OPEN** 117

**AUSTRALIAN WOMEN** 150  
*defeated*

**NEW ZEALAND WOMEN** 66

#### OPEN PAIRS

2nd Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer

#### BUTLER PAIRS

1st Jamie Thompson - Matt Smith



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**Editor: Barbara Travis**

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**Letters to the Editor and feedback: [editor@abf.com.au](mailto:editor@abf.com.au)**

I have just returned from the Asia Pacific Bridge (APBF) Championships in Seoul. This was the 60th anniversary of the event, first held in Manila in 1957. The World Bridge Federation (WBF) President, Mr Gianarrigo Rona, was there to mark the event. Indonesia received a special mention from Mr Rona for enhancing the status of bridge in the Olympic movement by getting bridge included in the Asia Games to be held in Indonesia next year.

Our National Director Development Officer (NDDO), John McIlrath, is working with States and Territories to:

- Identify and encourage aspiring directors so that they develop their skills and knowledge to be accredited
- Work with the States and Territories to design and implement an apprenticeship program for directors
- Encourage and support the development of State/Territory-based mentor programs for club directors and organise director workshops for interested States and Territories
- Design, develop and promote a series of education videos for the Directors' section on the ABF website.
- Design, develop and implement a National Directors' Accreditation program .

Queries about NDDO activities can be directed to John McIlrath at [nddo@abf.com.au](mailto:nddo@abf.com.au). A real-time HELP line for directors is available at **1300 SPADES (1300 772 337)** from 9.00 am - 9.00 pm EST.

The WBF has announced the 2017 revision of the Laws. The implementation date in Australia is 1st August 2017.

## CHANGES TO THE LAWS by Laurie Kelso

New law books have been available from bridge suppliers since late May. Those who have already purchased a copy should be aware that although the new code was promulgated by the WBF in March this year, there was a change made at the end of June to one law (concerning lead penalties). Consequently most of the printed law books that are currently in circulation still have the older (now superseded) version of Law 26B. Hence anyone who regularly directs should simply cross-out Law 26B1, since it is now no longer part of the new code.

There have been some modifications to what is expected of the players with regard to correct procedure and their associated rights and obligations. The following is a list of some of the more important items:

**Law 7:** Boards must now be kept in the centre of the table in the correct orientation. Turning a board or allowing a board to swivel can lead to the board being fouled.

**Law 9:** Dummy now has the right to try to prevent any irregularity (such as a lead from the wrong hand), irrespective of whom the potential perpetrator might be. However, once an infraction has occurred, dummy is still prohibited from calling attention to it until after the conclusion of the play.

**Law 20:** A player who realises that they have given a wrong or incomplete explanation of partner's call is no longer required to immediately proffer a correction, but they must still call the Director and make the correction prior to the facing of the opening lead. It will however generally be in the player's best interests to call the Director immediately.

**Law 25:** The Laws still permit unintended calls to be changed providing the partner has not subsequently called, but the criterion for judging when a call is unintended has become more stringent.

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# MAJOR TOURNAMENT RESULTS

## BARRIER REEF CONGRESS

Yeppoon (28th April to 1st May)

### OPEN PAIRS

- 1st Fred Whitaker – Ashley Bach
- 2nd Jenny Millington – Barry Jones
- 3rd Kitty Muntz – Leigh Gold

### RESTRICTED PAIRS

- 1st Don Cameron – Mike Duggan (*Rockhampton*)
- 2nd Diane & Max Holewa (*Mackay*)
- 3rd Lynne Layton – George Gibson (*Redland*)

### OPEN TEAMS

- 1st VAN JOLE: Nathan Van Jole – Paul Wyer,  
Malcolm Carter – Tony Hutton
- 2nd WHITAKER: Fred Whitaker – Ashley Bach,  
Jenny Millington – Barry Jones
- 3rd VINCENT: Lindy Vincent – Richard Ward,  
Toni Bardon – Therese Tully

### RESTRICTED TEAMS (up to 300 MPs)

- 1st GIBSON: George Gibson – Lynette Layton,  
Margie Knox – Carmel Wikman (*Redland*)
- 2nd FIELD: Keith Field – Robert Doak,  
Mike Duggan – Don Cameron (*Rockhampton*)
- 3rd GRUYTHUYSEN: Peter Gruythuisen – Margaret Jennings,  
Gary & Debbie Gibbards (*Caboolture*)

## AUTUMN NATIONALS Adelaide (4th to 8th May)

### OPEN SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Leigh Gold - Howard Melbourne
- 2nd Mike Doecke - Bruce Neill
- 3rd Phil Markey - Liam Milne

### SENIORS' SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Nigel Rosendorff - John Zollo
- 2nd Andy Braithwaite - Arjuna de Livera
- 3rd George Kozakos - Michael Smart

### WOMEN'S SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Candice Ginsberg - Barbara Travis
- 2nd Felicity Smyth - Judith Tobin
- 3rd Sheila Bird - Karen Creet

### UNDER LIFE MASTER SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Rita & Ray Jones (*Kadina*)
- 2nd Terry Driver - David Schofield (*SABA*)
- 3rd Gary Frampton - Dave Sloan (*West Australia BC*)

### OPEN TEAMS Qualifying

- 1st KANETKAR: Avi Kanetkar - Bruce Neill,  
Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer
- 2nd KELSO: Laurie Kelso - Traian Chira,  
Laura Ginnan - Sebastian Yuen
- 3rd HOLLANDS: Peter Hollands - Deana Wilson,  
Chris Mulley - Tim Munro

### OPEN TEAMS Final

KANETKAR 107 *defeated* KELSO 86

### UNDER LIFE SWISS TEAMS

- 1st GEORGIADIS: Tassi Georgiadis - Joanne Bakas,  
Sally Fraser - Cathy Thredgold (*SABA*)
- 2nd SLOAN: Dave Sloan - Gary Frampton,  
Kate Pinniger - Carla Sullivan (*West Australia BC*)
- 3rd BROOKS: Bevin Brooks - Ingrid Cooke,  
Rodney Macey - Judy Zollo (*SABA*)

## CONSOLATION TEAMS

- 1st GREEN: Jane Dawson - Murray Green,  
Elizabeth Adams - Andrew Peake
- 2nd MILL: Annette Maluish - Andrew Mill,  
Marina Darling - Justin Mill
- 3rd GRIFFITHS: Lakshmi Sunderasan - Nye Griffiths,  
Shane Harrison - Justin Williams

## CONSOLATION GRADED PAIRS

### A GRADE

- 1st Vicky & Ian Lisle
- 2nd Matthew McManus - John Newman
- 3rd Liz Sylvester - Axel Johannsson

### B GRADE

- 1st Maureen Wilson - Terry Healey
- 2nd Sue Mann - Sam Swinton
- 3rd Joanne Bakas - Tassi Georgiadis

## WESTERN SENIORS' PAIRS Perth (20th to 21st May)

- 1st Don Allen - Trevor Fuller
- 2nd Stella & James Steer
- 3rd Anton Pol - Andrew Swider

## VICTOR CHAMPION CUP

Melbourne (8th to 12th June)

### WALLY SCOTT OPEN SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Stephen & Danny Sharp
- 2nd David Hoffman - Stephen Fischer
- 3rd David Appleton - George Kozakos

### McCANCE SENIORS' SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Roy Nixon - Niek Van Vucht
- 2nd Paul Hill - Rex Livingston
- 3rd Neville Francis - Kevin Steffensen

### SARA TISHLER WOMEN'S SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Mindy Wu - Sandra Coleman
- 2nd Anna St Clair - Kim Frazer
- 3rd Betty Mill - Tania Gariepy

### VICTOR MUNTZ RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS

- 1st Dell Macneil - Jolanta Terlecka (*Waverley*)
- 2nd Robert Jacobs - David Hollands (*RACV*)
- 3rd Kelly Barber - David Owen (*Peninsula/Waverley*)

### FRANK POWER TROPHY SWISS PAIRS (Under 200 MPs/pair)

- 1st Susie Groves - Alastair Lowe (*Bayside*)
- 2nd Lisa Yoffa - James Thomas (*Waverley*)
- 3rd Judith Parsons - John Russell (*Sydney BC*)

### VICTOR CHAMPION CUP SWISS TEAMS

- 1st HENBEST: Maxim Henbest - David Wiltshire,  
Shane Harrison - Jamie Thompson
- 2nd VAN JOLE: Nathan Van Jole - Justin Williams,  
Paul Gosney - John Newman
- 3rd MARKEY: Ben Thompson - Phil Markey (& subs),  
Ron Klinger - Matthew Mullamphy

### CHARLIE SNASHALL RESTRICTED TEAMS (within VCC)

- 1st HAM: Janet & John Ham,  
Teena McKenzie - Jane Gray (*Sydney clubs*)

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER:**

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**TEACHING VISIT TO WAGGA WAGGA**

When I landed at Wagga Wagga airport on Saturday, April 29, and spotted a man wearing a cool t-shirt with suit symbols all over the front, I got it... here was my pick up! (I didn't need to be too smart to figure that out!) Sure enough, it was Peter Cross, who'd driven from Tumut to come to the workshops, and he was there to meet me.

50 people were waiting at the club, including the President, Bal Krishan, and Valerie Cook, who had organised my visit. The club is a great place; all the better for the tender loving care and improvements by various members, who have turned an old Scout Hall into a comfortable Bridge Club with all the facilities one could ever need. In addition, delicious food is made by the excellent members/cooks.

There has been such an effort to keep the history of the Club alive too, with the Wagga Wagga Bridge Club story framed on the wall, with recognition of past directors and presidents. There are also wonderful year books, with many photographic memories of events and parties and committee and non-committee members. Impressively, webmaster and teacher, John Messing, along with his wife Carol, have done all this.

People from a variety of local clubs came along, including ABF Accredited Teacher Jennifer Kozman, who had brought some of her newer players from Cootamundra.

The first workshop covered declarer play techniques, and the next, modern bidding. Although a number of players had not yet encountered these ideas, they played the hands with gusto. I imagine there will be some healthy bidding discussion over the next few weeks.

The final topic, defensive signals, was managed well by most players, and it was refreshing to notice that unnecessarily complicated methods have not invaded Wagga Wagga.

After the three workshops, I enjoyed a superb Indian dinner as a guest of the president Bal Krishan.

Wagga Wagga Bridge Club is also extremely proud of John and Charles McMahon, who are playing together in the Australian Under 26 team this year.



*Joan at Wagga Wagga Bridge Club*

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*Joan Butts*



*Peter Cross (Tumut) meeting Joan Butts*

**POSITION VACANT  
CLUB MANAGER: VBA**

The **VBA Club Manager** is responsible for the management of VBA bridge club operations (with around 10 casual or contract staff) and its premises. The VBA is also the state body and an important part of the role is liaising with many, largely volunteer, representatives of Victorian clubs and the ABF. The position will be based at the VBA premises at 131 Poath Rd Murrumbena. Some flexibility regarding working hours is required. The VBA is willing to negotiate some role responsibilities, and flexible working arrangements (from the equivalent of 3 days per week up to full time).

**The VBA is seeking the following outcomes:**

- Creation of a welcoming, friendly and enjoyable environment for players and visitors
- Effective communication with bridge players, affiliated clubs, and other bridge organisations
- Growth of the VBA's bridge club operations

Please contact the VBA Secretary, Kim Frazer ([secretary@vba.asn.au](mailto:secretary@vba.asn.au)) for the position description, and to apply.

# AUTUMN NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS by Warren Lazer

Pauline Gumby and I warmed up for the ANOT by playing the Barrier Reef Congress for the first time. After four days of bridge with little success and one day of relaxation, we swapped the warmth of tropical Queensland for the cold of an Adelaide Autumn. The ANOT consists of 9 rounds of Swiss Teams with the top two teams qualifying for a 56-board final. Our teammates were Bruce Neill and Avi Kanetkar, fresh from their dominant performance at the Australian Swiss Pairs in Hobart in mid-March. We were well-placed at the end of day 1, with three good wins, a draw and a small loss. We hit the lead after large wins in rounds 6 and 7. The following hand from Round 7 is a good demonstration of an important technique, loser-on-loser play.

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

A competitive auction ends in 5♣ and North leads a small heart. After winning the ♥A and drawing trumps, cross to dummy in trumps and pitch a spade on the ♥K. When the ♥Q falls, it is a simple matter to make an overtrick. On the ♥10 discard the spade (loser-on-loser), and later pitch the diamond loser on the good ♥9.

KANETKAR and KELSO (Laurie Kelso - Traian Chira, Laura Ginnan - Sebastien Yuen) had good last round wins and finished well clear of the other teams. The top scores were KANETKAR (138 VPs), KELSO (126 VPs), HOLLANDS (118 VPs) and DOECKE (116 VPs). Laurie clearly wasn't expecting to make the Final, since he spent much of the Sunday evening on the phone organising directors for various sessions back in Melbourne for the following day.

The closeness of our match against KELSO in Round 8 (29-29 IMP draw) was a portent of things to come in the Final. KANETKAR started the final as favourites (and with a 0.1 IMP carry-forward), but it was a close affair all the way. KELSO grabbed the early lead with a couple of part-score victories, but then KANETKAR won 8 IMPs on a wild hand on which no one distinguished themselves. No pair bid their cold minor suit game (5♣ for EW, 5♦ for NS) or even uncovered their minor suit fit.

Dealer North    ♠ 4 NS Vul        ♥ A 10 9 8 6 ♦ K 9 6 5 3 ♣ 10 4	♠ K Q 8 6 ♥ J 2 ♦ void ♣ A K Q 9 7 6 3
♠ A ♥ Q 7 5 4 3 ♦ Q 8 2 ♣ J 8 5 2	♠ J 10 9 7 5 3 2 ♥ K ♦ A J 10 7 4 ♣ void

In the Closed Room:

West Lazer	North Yuen	East Gumby 1♣	South Ginnan 4♣
Double		All Pass	

1♣ was natural or 17-20 HCP, balanced. I was happy to defend opposite the strong balanced hand, or to 'sacrifice' in 5♣ opposite a club opening, so made a takeout double. 4♣ X became the final contract.

Repeated club leads beat 4♣ X by wresting trump control but, expecting partner to have a big balanced hand, I led a heart. Ginnan won the ♥K and played the ♠J. I won the ♦A and Gumby had three more trump tricks for +200. If trumps break 4-1, a singleton honour is three times as likely as the singleton 8, so Ginnan should have led a small spade at trick 2. If she had done that, at trick 3 I would have needed to lead a diamond for Gumby to ruff, to defeat the contract.

In the Open Room:

West Kelso	North Kanetkar	East Chira 1♣ (16+ HCP)	South Neill 3♣
4♥		Pass (happy) All Pass	

Kanetkar was happy to defend a contract he thought he could beat. He was right - it floated 3 off (+150).

KANETKAR won the first stanza by 5 IMPs, but KELSO regained the lead on the first board of the next set.

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

The auction and opening lead were the same at both tables: South opened a weak 2♣, West doubled for takeout and North's 4♣ bid was passed out. Both Wests led the ♥Q, won in dummy. For KANETKAR, Neill took the losing spade finesse and the defence cashed their three club tricks for 1 down.



*Autumn National Open Teams winners:  
Avi Kanetkar, Pauline Gumby, Bruce Neill, Warren Lazer*

For KELSO, Ginnan played a trump to the Ace and when the ♠K didn't fall, she played a diamond to the ♦J. Two more rounds of diamonds allowed her to pitch a club loser.

Despite this setback, KANETKAR won the second stanza 32 IMPs to 30, for an overall lead of 7 IMPs at half-time.

Both East-West pairs did well to get to the best game here:

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
♠ 10	♠ J 9 8
♥ Q 3	♥ A J 10 6
♦ A K 10 6 5 3	♦ Q J 2
♣ J 10 9 6	♣ A Q 7

Without an effective system after 1NT, many would just bid 3NT on the West hand, hoping partner has spades held:

<i>Lazer</i>	<i>Gumby</i>
3♣ (diamonds)	1NT (14-16 HCP)
3♠ (short ♠)	3♦ (forced)
4♥ (minimum hand)	4♦ (setting diamonds)
	5♦

<i>Kelso</i>	<i>(Kanetkar)</i>	<i>Chira</i>
2♦ (F1)	2♠	1♦ (10-15 HCP, 0+♦)
5♦		3♥

KANETKAR started the final session with a 14 IMP lead. The last stanza turned over very few IMPs. The only double figure swing was when Kanetkar-Neill bid this slam:

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

This hand did not suit the Ginnan-Yuen bidding system which prescribes a 1♣ opening on all balanced minimum hands, so the diamond fit was lost. They played 4♥.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Kelso</i>	<i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>Chira</i>	<i>Neill</i>
		Pass	1♦
1♠	Double	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠ (GF)	Pass	3♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

The natural 1♦ opening at this table fared much better. With a minimum opening and only 3 hearts rather than the 4 he had shown, Neill sensibly decided to deny the trump Queen with his 5♥ bid. He won the spade lead, drew trumps and tested the hearts. When the ♥J failed to drop, he fell back on the club finesse for his twelfth trick.

The KANETKAR team won all four stanzas in the final, by margins of 5, 2, 7 and 7 IMPs. No one did anything particularly clever; we just kept the major disasters to a minimum and, especially in the qualifying rounds, were more proficient than opponents at capitalising on the errors that were made. We hope this good form continues at the Seniors APBF in Seoul, when the four of us are joined by Terry Brown and Peter Buchen.

*Warren Lazer*

From all reports, the inaugural Yeppoon-based Barrier Reef Congress was a huge success. The Teams events had a record entry of 70 teams and there was plenty of prize money available, thanks to the many sponsors. The hospitality was superb, even to the extent of having home-made biscuits.

Here's a hand from the Open Teams, where Leigh Gold (South) displayed superb technique:

Dealer North	♠ 10 7 4	
Nil Vul	♥ K J 10 3 2	
	♦ 4 2	
	♣ 8 7 2	
♠ Q 6 3		♠ 5 2
♥ void		♥ 9 8 7 5 4
♦ K 10 9 8 7 5 3		♦ Q J
♣ 10 9 6		♣ K Q J 5
	♠ A K J 9 8	
	♥ A Q 6	
	♦ A 6	
	♣ A 4 3	

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

The ♠10 was led - ♣2, ♣5 - won with the ♣A. Leigh led the ♥A, only to find West discard. His next card was the ♠J!

If West won the ♠Q, the defence could only cash two more club tricks. If East then led the last club, South could trump, cash the ♥Q, then cross to dummy with the ♠0.

As it happened, West ducked, so Leigh just drew trumps and made 12 tricks.

This technical play allowed him to retain control of the hand, manage the bad trump break and also control his entries. *(When the 5-0 trump break shows up, drawing all the trumps risks going many off, via clubs, if the spade finesse fails. You need to be able to trump a diamond in hand, to keep 5 trumps in dummy, and retain an entry to dummy with the ♠10 to draw all East's trumps.)*



*Brittany Lauga (State MP Keppel) with Don Cameron and Mike Duggan, Restricted Pairs winners*



*Restricted Teams winners: Carmel Wikman, Margie Knox, Lynne Layton, George Gibson, with Campbell Macrae (Convenor)*

# A FAMILY DOUBLE: ANOT OPEN and WOMEN'S PAIRS by Barbara Travis

At the ANOT in Adelaide, my husband Howard Melbourne, playing with Leigh Gold, won the Open Swiss Pairs and Candice Ginsberg and I won the Women's Swiss Pairs. I have compared our actions on some of the interesting boards from the event.

In the first match we encountered this hand:

Board 5	♠ void		
Dealer North	♥ A 9		
NS Vul	♦ K J 9 8 5 4		
	♣ A Q J 10 6		
	♠ A Q 9 3 2	♠ 6 4	
	♥ Q 7 3	♥ K J 10 8 6 5 4	
	♦ A 6 3	♦ Q 2	
	♣ K 8	♣ 7 2	
	♠ K J 10 8 7 5		
	♥ 2		
	♦ 10 7		
	♣ 9 5 4 3		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Ginsberg</i>		<i>Travis</i>	
	1♦	2♥ *	Pass
2NT **	3♣	4♥	All Pass

\* 2♥ was an underbid, but happened to work well  
 \*\* 2NT showed interest in game, generating my 4♥ rebid

Where North was rebidding at the 4♣ level, most Souths bid on. It seems to me that my underbid of 2♥ worked well in that 3♣ didn't seem quite as strong a bid.

Against 4♥, South led her doubleton ♦10. I could duck this to North, then later discard a club loser on the ♦A, once trumps were removed. It is an interesting hand in that North felt she wanted a spade ruff but, if South leads a spade at trick 1, North ruffs and then is end-played. She has to give away a trick in diamonds or clubs. However, this is not fatal as long as she cashes her ♥A first. If she doesn't win her ♥A at trick 2, she suffers a second end-play with a trump lead, and that would give away the contract!

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	<i>Melbourne</i>		<i>Gold</i>
	1♦	3♥	Pass
4♥	5♣	All Pass	

On accurate play, 5♣ will make 12 tricks. Win the ♥A, trump a heart to dummy, then lead a diamond to the ♦K. Declarer then gives up a diamond trick and can trump diamonds to get back to dummy. Then leading the ♣9 and finessing the clubs leads to 12 tricks.

In the Open field, most North-South pairs won the contract in 5♣, making 11 or 12 tricks, some being doubled. We were the only pair in the Women's field to play in 4♥, so this was a big gain for us. However, for some reason several pairs played in 5♦ which will fail on an unlikely trump lead (from the ♦Q-2), stopping the heart ruff from being an entry to dummy.

Several declarers failed, probably by trumping a heart to dummy and then hoping the ♦Q was onside. This is an inferior line because you need the doubleton ♦Q onside for this to work. Also, East's pre-empt shows a weak hand, less likely to hold the ♦A or ♣K.

In the Under Life Master Pairs, far more East-West were allowed to play in 4♥, suggesting that North was a trifle wary of competing at the 5-level. The lesson on this hand is to keep bidding, even at the 5-level, on good 6-5 hands.

In Match 2, a remarkable thing happened in the Open field on the next hand:

Board 20	♠ K 9 8 4 2		
Dealer West	♥ 9 7 6		
All Vul	♦ K Q 9		
	♣ A Q		
	♠ 10	♠ Q 7	
	♥ A Q J 8 4	♥ 3 2	
	♦ A 6 2	♦ J 10 7 4 3	
	♣ 8 6 3 2	♣ J 10 5 4	
	♠ A J 6 5 3		
	♥ K 10 5		
	♦ 8 5		
	♣ K 9 7		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	<i>Travis</i>		<i>Ginsberg</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Candice's 2♥ bid was a cue raise, showing a good raise in spades. My next bid was made far too quickly, and I instantly realised I should have bid 3♥ as a stopper ask, to look for a 3NT bid from South. However, universally in the Women's field, the West players failed to realise that the ♥3 lead was the top of a doubleton, so they didn't give East the heart ruff, and declarer's third heart loser disappeared on the ♣K. I think the West players were wrong because, given North's jump to 4♣, East cannot have the points to defeat the contract. This means you need the heart ruff instead.

Howard and Leigh bid the hand perfectly:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	<i>Melbourne</i>		<i>Gold</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

This was remarkable in the sense that they were the ONLY pair in the Open field (or any field) to play in 3NT rather than 4♣. 3NT always has 9 tricks; either the ♥K or a diamond trick plus the 8 other tricks. Sadly for them, they only gained 6 IMPs for their efforts, since more than half the field were allowed to make 4♣.

Candice and I play that an opening bid of 2-Major shows 8-11 HCP and a 6-card suit, with no regard for suit quality:

Dealer West	♠ 9 8 7 6 4 3		
All Vul	♥ A 9		
	♦ K Q 8 7 2		
	♣ void		
	♠ A K	♠ Q 2	
	♥ J 8 7 5 4 2	♥ K Q 6 3	
	♦ 10 5	♦ void	
	♣ Q 7 4	♣ A K 10 6 5 3 2	
	♠ J 10 5		
	♥ 10		
	♦ A J 9 6 4 3		
	♣ J 9 8		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Ginsberg</i>		<i>Travis</i>	
2♥	2♠	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

When Candice opened 2♥, I was wondering what bid was best for working out whether we belonged in slam. However, once there was intervention, I realised I could make the little-used

## ANOT UNDER LIFE MASTER PAIRS

*Ray and Rita Jones, from Kadina, won the Under Life Master Pairs at the Autumn Nationals. This is Ray's offering about the hand that put them most 'at risk' in their campaign.*

After day 1 (4 of 8 matches) we lay 2nd, 17 VPs behind the leaders. Our strategy involved careful play and avoiding mis-bids [i.e. eliminating errors]. By round 7 we were only 0.64 VP behind, with no good reason to change tactics.

This hand tested us:

Dealer West      ♠ 9 8 7 6 4 3  
Both Vul        ♥ A 9  
                      ♦ K Q 8 7 2  
                      ♣ void

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Rita Jones</i>		<i>Ray Jones</i>	
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♦
2♥	3♦	4♥	5♦
Double	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

Rita opted not to open, as did North. [Ed: If you do open, 1♥ by West is best, or 1♠ by North.] After South's overcall, when Rita bid 2♥, showing 5+ hearts, 10+ HCP, I loved my hand, but settled for 4♥. When South 'saved', and partner doubled, I sat and considered my options. I decided that with a 4-loser hand, I could use Rita's defensive tricks, shown by her double, for a better reward in a small slam. After all, 5♥ is for wimps.

I bid 6♣ to give partner a picture of the strength of my club suit, and a choice of contracts: 6♣ or 6♥, leaving an option to double 6♦ if they bid it.

South decided that the ♦A was a more appealing lead than the singleton heart, and the contract was safe.

On examining the whole hand, a multitude of possible bidding sequences come to mind, depending on what conventions are in use. [Ed: Refer to the Ginsberg – Travis auction, which was 'allowable' because our 2♥ opening shows 8-11 HCP and does not guarantee a good suit.]

*Ray Jones (Kadina)*



*Winners of the Under Life Master Swiss Pairs:  
Rita and Ray Jones, from Kadina, with Bruce Neill.*

bid of 5-of-our-Major, asking for control of the opponent's suit. I was looking for either the ♠A, ♠K or a singleton. Little did I realise that she held the ♠A-K, to go with my useless♠Q!

When Candice cashed the ♠A after drawing trumps, exposing the 3-0 club break, it was stressful for me... until she led a small club next. I must remind her that, in the interests of keeping partner's blood pressure under control, leading the ♠Q first would have been kinder.

The hand certainly generated a variety of contracts, with North-South able to make both 4♠ and 5♦ (but not 5♠ if East gets a diamond ruff), or East-West able to make 6♥ from West, or 5♣ (South can ruff a heart in clubs, and North can ruff a club against a heart contract by East!). As it happened, my 5♥ bid also had the effect of shutting South out of the auction.

*Barbara Travis*

## THE CONVENTIONAL 5-MAJOR BID

When an opponent makes a high level pre-emptive overcall it can be difficult to work out whether to bid slam or not if you need control of the opponent's bid suit. Two such hands arose in Canberra, both being perfect hands for a 'conventional' bid that can be utilised to solve this problem.

You hold:

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

Your partner opens 1♠ and RHO overcalls 4♥. You should be thinking about slam, but the problem is whether partner has the heart suit controlled. You can't bid 4NT over 4♥ because there may be two heart losers. Equally, you shouldn't be punting 6♣ for the same reason. You need a bid that asks partner to help you decide.

The way to ask for control of the opponent's pre-empted suit is to bid 5♠. This bid should ask partner to commit to slam with heart control – either the ♥A, ♥K or a singleton, whereas a bid of 5♥ is a control cue-bid.

You can design appropriate responses, such as 5NT showing the ♥A, and 6♣ showing second round control of the heart suit. On the above hand, you bid 5♠ and partner responds 5NT, and you arrive in 6♣ since partner holds:

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

Remarkably, a second hand which suited this bid arose in the first match of the Open Teams:

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

1♥	1♠	3♣ (fit-showing jump)
4♥		5♥ (asking for spade control)
5NT		6♥

This bid does not occur very often, but it can be good for you and your partner to understand that the seemingly 'random' raise to the 5-level is not random at all, rather it is seeking control of the opposition's suit. (In other situations where the opponents have not been bidding, this is not the case.)

*Barbara Travis*

## MIDLING SPOT CARDS MATTER

I watched the following hand on BBO from the final of the Autumn Teams in Adelaide.

Board 19

Dealer South ♠ Q 4  
EW vulnerable ♥ K 4 2  
♦ Q 7 6 3  
♣ A Q 7 2

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

♠ K 5 3 2  
♥ A J 8 3  
♦ A 9 8 2  
♣ 10

South opened 1♦ and North was quickly in 3NT, the same contract as in the other room. As the cards lie, this is not a very good contract. In both rooms, the ♠6 was led, allowing the ♣10 to win. At the table I was watching, West played the ♣8 (reverse attitude). This was an expensive card which would allow the contract to make. After ♦A followed by another diamond, West was on lead with the ♦K, but now North could cover with the club return with the ♣7, making East win, and end-playing him into providing North with an extra club trick (or opening spades or hearts) so the game made. However on the first club lead, North played the ♣7, another costly play which had no false card advantage. So two tricks later, after the diamonds, the position now was:

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

♠ J 10 7  
♥ Q 7 6 5  
♦ 10  
♣ 5 3

♠ K 5 3 2  
♥ A J 8 3  
♦ 9 8  
♣ void

When the ♠5 was played, North played the ♣2, and East was able to duck with the ♣4, allowing a further club lead by West, defeating the contract by two tricks, resulting in an 11 IMP gain for the eventual winners.

*David Hoffman*



*Danny & Stephen Sharp, winners of the Wally Scott Open Swiss Pairs (during VCC)*

## VICTOR CHAMPION CUP

This year's VCC Congress was a full house, although the quality of the field was diminished by the slight overlap with the APBF. Most of our international representatives only left Seoul on the Thursday, arriving home on the Friday, so did not attend.

Congratulations to the Sharp brothers - Danny and Stephen - who won the Open Pairs. The main event is the Victor Champion Cup, where the winning team is the first-placed team at the end of 10 rounds of 14-board matches. The VCC was won by the HENBEST team (Max Henbest - David Wiltshire, Jamie Thompson - Shane Harrison), from VAN JOLE (Nathan Van Jole - Justin Williams, Paul Gosney - John Newman).



*Winners of the Victor Champion Cup: David Wiltshire, Max Henbest, Jamie Thompson, Shane Harrison*

This hand from Match 9, when VAN JOLE played against MARKEY (3rd), caught my eye:

Board 14 ♠ 9 7 4  
Dealer East ♥ A K 8 5 3  
Nil Vul ♦ 9  
♣ K 8 4 3

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

♠ 6 2  
♥ J 10 9 6 4  
♦ Q 5 2  
♣ J 5 2

Ron Klinger and Matt Mullamphy bid to 6♦ by East, an auction which included West using Exclusion Key Card Blackwood in hearts. Consequently, Nathan Van Jole, sitting South, led a low club rather than the 'natural' heart (in which he knew dummy was void). On the club lead, East tried the finesse, then had to find the ♦Q. When he did not guess correctly, 6♦ failed by one trick.

At the table that I was watching on BBO, John Newman and Paul Gosney bid to 6♣:

West	North	East	South
Newman	Markey	Gosney	B Thompson
		Pass	Pass
2♣	2♥	Pass (waiting)	3♥
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣ (cue)	Pass	5♦ (cue)	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

John Newman trumped the ♥A lead, then worked on combining his options. He led the ♠A then crossed to the ♣J to take the club finesse. North won and returned a safe club. Declarer drew the last trump, cashed two more rounds of trumps, then decided that North's bid probably included a shortage, so crossed to the ♦K and finessed on the way back. Making 12 tricks for a big gain.



Bill Jacobs was doing BBO commentary and found the fool-proof line, assuming North holds the ♥AK. Having trumped the ♥A lead, draw all the trumps, then cross to dummy's ♦K. Now you lead the ♦3 and finesse. If the finesse works, you have 12 tricks and can even try the club finesse for 13. If the finesse fails, North is now end-played, given the ♦8 is a re-entry to dummy. North has no spades and no diamonds, so has to lead either a club into the A-Q, or the ♥K, making the ♥Q in dummy a winner on which the ♣Q can be discarded.

*Barbara Travis*



Winners of the Victor Muntz Restricted Swiss Pairs at the VCC: Jolanta Terlecka and Dell Macneil, with Ben Thompson (President VBA - left), and James Ward (Pianola - sponsor)



Susie Groves and Alastair Lowe, winners of the Frank Power Trophy (Under 200 MP Swiss Pairs) at the VCC

### Team Australia Reporting from Seoul:

During the recent APBF Championships, Liam Milne kept everyone up to date with how our various teams were performing. If you didn't get to read them during the event, you can catch up on all the Team Reports which are available on the Team Australia website:

<http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/apbf/2017/>

It was disappointing for our teams to perform below their expectations and whilst our Women came very close to a podium finish, and our Open team had a very strong second half of the event, our performances were not strong enough to bring success and medals for our teams.

### Coming up for International Teams:

Our teams now head to Lyon in August for the Bermuda Bowl (Open), the Venice Cup (Women) and the D'Orsi Trophy (Seniors). Australia will not be sending any official youth teams to Lyon, and instead will be focussing the effort for youth on teams for NZ Nationals in September, and a test event in Indonesia later in the year.

### Team Oz Supporters' email:

We introduced this for Seoul, and we did get some messages of support which were passed on to the teams. Thank you to everyone who participated - we will be continuing this for Lyon and other events in the future.

Send your messages to: [teamoz@abf.com.au](mailto:teamoz@abf.com.au).

*Kim Frazer*



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# ASIA PACIFIC BRIDGE FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIPS, SEOUL

The Australian teams' results in the 61st APBF Championships would be considered disappointing. We went with high hopes of winning medals, but most teams were struggling by the half-way mark. The Australian Women's Team were our last hope, lying 2nd going into the last day (two matches), but dropping to 4th place.

## THE LADIES' TEAMS

One of the best-played hands was this, played by Sue Lusk, South, against New Zealand. She played in 4♠ X :

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

West, Susan Humphries, led the ♣6 to the ♣Q and ♣A. Sue Lusk played double dummy from here to make her contract: low spade to the ♠10, club back to the ♣J, and another spade, West winning the ♠K and returning a spade.

Winning with the ♠Q in dummy, Lusk played a club to her ♣10 in this position:

♠ void ♥ 10 ♦ Q 10 6 ♣ K 9 7 5	<i>irrelevant</i>
♠ J 9 ♥ K 8 6 ♦ A J 9 ♣ void	♠ A 8 ♥ A Q ♦ K 8 7 ♣ 10

There was no defence to beat the contract now. At the table, West ruffed and returned the ♠J, but Lusk won in her hand and played the ♦K. This was ducked, but another diamond came next and West was helpless, having to surrender the rest of the tricks to dummy's long club suit. Well done Sue - out of 10 tables playing in 4♠, only 3 managed to make it. *[Andrew Peake of our Open Team also followed this line to make 4♠ X.]*

Deep Finesse says that 4♠ can be beaten, but it involves leading the ♦A and continuing diamonds to attack dummy's entry to the clubs.

At the other table, Candice Ginsberg did not double 4♠. On the ♣6 lead, declarer was concerned about club ruffs, so laid down her ♠A at trick 2. There was no recovery now, so she went down one.

Interestingly, North has to find the Pass of South's offer-to-play 3NT bid - somewhat unlikely given the singleton heart.

I can't recall ever before bidding 6♦ to make, then sacrificing in 7♦ (doubled).

Dealer West	♠ K Q 10 9 2	
Nil Vul	♥ A J 10 8 2	
	♦ 7 4	
	♣ 5	
	♠ void	♠ J 8 3
	♥ K 5	♥ 9 4 3
	♦ A Q 10 9 5 3	♦ K J 8 6 2
	♣ A Q J 7 3	♣ K 4
	♠ A 7 6 5 4	
	♥ Q 7 6	
	♦ void	
	♣ 10 9 8 6 2	

West	North	East	South
Ginsberg		Travis	
1♦	2♦ (majors)	3♦	4♠
5♣	5♠	6♦	6♣
Pass	Pass	7♦	Double
All Pass			

I knew partner would be something like a 6-5 in the minors, and my minor cards were gems. I bid 6♦ confidently, and was shocked to have to re-evaluate over the 6♠ bid. Candice's Pass was a forcing pass, showing first-round control of spades and asking me to decide what to do.

North was known to hold 10 major cards, and it was starting to sound like South held a diamond void. That gave North (probably) only one club loser, so I now saved at the 7-level.

Sue Lusk and Margaret Bourke had done well on the hand too:

West	North	East	South
	Bourke		Lusk
1♦	2♦	3♦	4♠
5♣	Pass	5♦	5♣
All Pass!			

This brought 9 IMPs, which was one of the smaller swings, given the board generated either flat results or swings of up to 19 IMPs.

In the Seniors' field, Australia 1 gained 16 IMPs, playing in 5♦ at one table and 6♠ X at the other. The 19 IMP swings came from 6♦ making and 6♠ X making. Bruce Neill 'enjoyed' his auction:

West	North	East	South
	Kanetkar		Neill
1♦	2♦	3♦	4♠
5♦ (!)	Pass	Pass	5♣
6♦	Pass	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

(He told me he was happy to be 'pushed' to 6♠.)

Our Open team gained a mere 5 IMPs, from defending 7♦ X at one table, and 7♠ X at the other.

This wild board generated 4 x 19 IMP swings, 2 x 18 IMP swings, 1 x 17 IMP swing, 6 x 16 IMP swings, and 1 x 15 IMP swing in the four fields that I have looked at. Only 5 pairs saved in 7♦ X.

Barbara Travis

Arjuna de Livera of the Australia 2 Seniors' team was written up for his bidding and play on the following hand:

Dealer South	♠ 3		
Both Vul	♥ A J 7 5 4		
	♦ A 8 7 2		
	♣ A 10 7		
	♠ 7 5 4		♠ A K J 10 6 2
	♥ 10 9 8 6 3		♥ Q 2
	♦ J 5 4 3		♦ Q 10
	♣ 8		♣ K 6 3
	♠ Q 9 8		
	♥ K		
	♦ K 9 6		
	♣ Q J 9 5 4 2		
West	North	East	South
	Braithwaite		de Livera
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♦	2♠	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
All Pass			5♣

With the Kings in partner's two suits, and knowing that partner was a 1-5-4-3, de Livera fancied his prospects in a vulnerable 5♣, but the defence was very accurate.

Knowing North had a spade shortage, West led a trump, which almost killed the contract. Declarer won the ♠A, crossed to hand with the ♥K, then led a spade, won by East, who played the ♣K and another trump. The third trump was won with dummy's ♠10, and the ♥A cashed, dropping the ♥Q. Now East's hand shape was known – 6-2-2-3, so West was going to come under pressure with regard to guarding the red suits. The ♥J was led, South discarding his last spade, then a heart was trumped. Now the run of the club suit squeezed West in the red suits. In order to keep a heart, West had to discard down to a doubleton diamond, giving de Livera three diamond tricks and his contract.

## THE OPEN TEAMS

The Asia-Pacific Bridge Federation championships is always great fun and a very friendly event. The Australian Open team this year featured some very experienced campaigners in Matthew Thomson, David Beauchamp, Peter Gill and Andrew Peake, and a young pair in Peter Hollands and Justin Mill, making their Open debut. We had high hopes for the event.

Hollands-Mill got settled in nicely on the first board of the tournament.

Board 1	♠ A Q J 10		
Dealer North	♥ 5		
Nil Vul	♦ K J 10 9 4		
	♣ Q J 7		
	♠ K 8 7 6 2		♠ 9 3
	♥ 10 9 8 7 4 2		♥ A 6
	♦ void		♦ A Q 8 6 3 2
	♣ 5 4		♣ A 6 3
	♠ 5 4		
	♥ K Q J 3		
	♦ 7 5		
	♣ K 10 9 8 2		

The Hong Kong East-West got their wires a little crossed and landed in 3♠ X. Plus 500 is a nice nerve-settling way to start your open representative career. 3NT is makeable on the NS cards, but the Hong Kong pair stopped in 1NT and we

collected 9 IMPs to get our tournament going.

Unfortunately not everything was so rosy in the first round robin, and we were a little lucky to sneak up to 8th at the end of the round robin, courtesy a few favourable results in the last match.

At our team dinner that night, we set our sights on knuckling down and showing our best bridge. By the time we got back around to playing the leading teams, we were playing well.

Against Chinese Taipei in the 11th match (out of 15) Gill-Peake pulled out the defensive stoppers while Matthew Thomson made a subtly different choice in the play that may have nudged the defenders from the winning track.

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

In the Open room, the auction went:

West	North	East	South
Yeh	Gill	Chen	Peake
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

A trump is often a good lead again this sort of auction but that is difficult to find when you are looking at Jxxx. [Ed: I praised partner, Candice Ginsberg, for her trump lead against the same auction. The repeated trump leads ensured that 3♥ failed.] Andrew Peake sallied forth with the ♣Q, which was allowed to run to the ♣K. Declarer put the ♦10 on the table, to set up the cross-ruff, and Peake won with the ♦Q.

Now he continued a club, and Peter Gill won ♣J, then ♠A, signalling his diamond entry, and then shot out a brutal fourth club. Peake pitched his low diamond and then the ♦A(!) when East ruffed high. Now he was in a position to over-ruff diamonds and the contract was dead. When Gill produced the ♥7 in time to force the ♥A, 3♥ slid 2 off.

In the other room on the same auction and lead, Matthew Thomson played a spade to the Ace before playing a diamond to the 10. West tried limiting the obvious cross-ruff by playing a trump but Thomson had an easy ride home now via 7 trumps, the ♠A and the early ♣K.

That gave 8 imps to Australia in a low-scoring match that we won 19-6 (13.72 VPs), against the tough Chinese Taipei team led by the legendary Patrick Huang. Chinese Taipei fell agonisingly short of taking out the title.

In the end, we ran a very close 3rd in the 2nd round robin, and scored more in that round robin than anyone scored in the 1st round robin, but our poor start left us far too much to do and we finished an uninspiring 7th. In round robins, you have to play your best throughout to win, whereas in the Swiss-style tournaments we are all used to, you usually have time to warm up. Our team knew what we were capable of and we showed it in the 2nd round robin. We hope to carry that form with us into Lyon.

Ben Thompson, NPC

**RESTRICTED CHOICE**

During the regular social drink and quick discussion after the Thursday night bridge session at our local club, Sarah asked me, "Did your partnership play in 4♠ by West on board 16?" When I replied with a "Yes", she asked me how I played the hand and what was the result. This was the hand in question:

Dealer West ♠ 9 8  
 EW Vul ♥ A Q 7 6  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ A K 9 8 7 6

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

♠ 10 7 6  
 ♥ K 9 8  
 ♦ J 6 5  
 ♣ J 10 5 2

West	North	East	South
1♦	2♣	Double	3♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

This hand brings up the themes of restricted choice and bridge sayings.

I asked her if she had experienced restricted choice. She asked if restricted choice is "like voting in some dictatorship-run countries where your choices are restricted between the dictator or a deceased opponent"; that is, you have no real choice.

The analogy is very good. Restricted choice refers to the fact that a player should be assumed not to have had a choice, like in the voting for a dictator, rather than to have exercised a choice.

Having drawn trumps, you must work on the diamond suit. I led a small diamond from my hand and North played the Queen. There are 4 diamonds missing: the Q-J-6-5. If North had just the Queen, then he must play it, as there is no other diamond in the hand (a restricted choice). If North had ♦Q-J, then he had a non-restricted choice playing either the Queen or the Jack, which are, in effect, equals as both force the Ace from dummy. When I led a diamond from dummy after winning the Ace and South played the another small one, restricted choice (all other things being equal) means that the finesse of the Jack is more likely to succeed, than following the bridge adage about finesses: '8 ever and 9 never'.

Of course, a restricted choice situation only applies if a player produces either the ♦Q or ♦J when a diamond is led. For example, on the hand shown, if I had started diamonds from East and led towards the King, then South plays either the ♦5 or ♦6 and when I lead another diamond after winning the King, North discards and I have a loser in the suit. On a different layout of the opponents' diamonds, if I lead a diamond from hand and the first opponent plays the ♦5 and the other the ♦6, then I say to myself '8 ever and 9 never' and a small prayer, needing diamonds to be 2-2. *[On this hand, given North's overcall, play North to be shorter in diamonds.]*

Sarah said that she always adheres to '8 ever and 9 never' and has never lost to a Q-J doubleton. On one-third of these hands, she beats me when I use restricted choice, but my line wins two-thirds of the time.

*Chris Hughes*

Recently, two of our members, Mike and Annie Hall, constructed a simple device to help Dawn Cordony (a feisty 91-year-old vision-impaired player) with bidding at the table. It consists of a glass picture frame (about 270 x 220mm) containing an appropriately enlarged bidding pad sheet. A number of white-board markers are placed on the table beside the frame, which is resting on a small protective towel (to protect the table cloths).

When Dawn receives the board, her hand has been suited by the previous similarly-positioned player. Bidding commences and all the players use the frame. When the game is over the bids are cleaned away by a tissue or small provided cloth, ready for the next hand.

The photos (below) show the frame and Annie Hall with Dawn and one of the bidding sequences.

This simple and cheap device may be of some use to other vision-impaired devotees of our wonderful game.



*Ross Folkard  
 Bridgefolk BC  
 Beecroft, NSW*



**THE ROMANCE OF BRIDGE**

I think it is sad that there is so little written or even spoken about the extraordinary romance that is present in bridge. I feel that when two people discover this in their partnership the true wonders of this game open up.

Presence is the keyword here, because with gentle presence at the table comes **flow**. So much wanders into view when flow is present; so many presents, so to speak. When a partnership experiences this gorgeous feeling of flow, it is usually referred to as being "in the Zone".

Sometimes it's fleeting, and sometimes quite prolonged. Indeed, it can last for an entire session. When one emerges from such a session, in my experience anyway, there is an amazing feeling of love for my partner. It somehow makes all my growth, setbacks, and horrendous days worthwhile.

I don't think we can try to get flow; it's not about effort! However, I am sure we can apply ourselves better in particular ways. For instance, quit bickering over the hand just played at the table. Move on to the next hand smoothly. Discuss the hands later if necessary; that's what the hand records are for.

After a while of applying these principles you will find yourself dropping into that place where you will find the love affair for which you have always yearned.

*Mary Lynch (Trumps BC)*

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**BRIDGE SESSIONS RUN BY GREG EUSTACE and GAYE ALLEN**

## PLAY THESE HANDS

Test your declarer play with the following hands.  
Solutions on Page 20.

### HAND 1

Dlr South ♠ J 7 5 3  
Both Vul ♥ 6 4  
♦ A 7 2  
♣ 10 9 6 5

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

West	North	East	South
			2NT (20-21 HCP)
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

West leads the ♦K. What is your plan?

### HAND 2

Dlr South ♠ J 10 8  
Both Vul ♥ A J 10  
♦ J 10 5 4  
♣ 8 5 2

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

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

West leads the ♥9. What is your plan?

### HAND 3

Dealer North ♠ 7 6  
All Vul ♥ A K 3  
♦ 9 2  
♣ A Q 10 6 5 3

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

West	North	East	South
	1♣	1♣	2♣
4♣	5♣	All Pass	

East leads the ♠A, then ♥Q. What is your plan?

*Autumn Nationals Winners Under Life Master Teams:  
Cathy Thredgold, Sally Fraser, Joanne Bakas, Tassi Georgiadis*

## PEPSI

This article, by Nigel Rosendorff, is reproduced from the IPBA Bulletin, March 2017.

As declarer, it often pays to false-card, as you have no partner to fool, only the opponents. Declarer does this to avoid an opponent reading the lead as a singleton, so as to forestall a ruff.

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

West	North	East	South
		Pass	3♦
4♣	All Pass		

This deal is from the semi-finals of the National Open Teams (January, Canberra), West was world champion, Jacek Pszczola (Pepsi), Polish-born, now residing in the U.S.A. North led the ♦9 against Pepsi's 4♣ contract.

Pepsi played low from dummy and, when South won with the ♦A, he played the ♦2. This made it clear to South that North had led a singleton and, after a little thought, South returned a diamond which North ruffed. North returned a heart, but Pepsi was in command. He won with the ♥A, cashed two top trumps, led a club to dummy's ♣A and played a good diamond for a heart discard. North ruffed in, but that was the last trick for the defence.

At the other table, the Australian declarer, after the same auction and opening lead, dropped the ♦J under South's ♦A to try and avoid a diamond ruff. South, world champion Jacek Kalita, was unsure whether the lead was a singleton or doubleton. In any case, South knew that heart tricks were needed for the defence and shifted to a low heart at trick 2. Now the contract went one off.

Pepsi's play was inspired and far-sighted. Making it obvious that North had led a singleton, inducing South to return a diamond, could hardly cost and could easily safeguard the contract. South should have smelled a rat: why had a world-class declarer made it so obvious that the leader had led a singleton? Because he wanted a diamond return. Therefore, with that reasoning, perhaps South should have found the heart switch, as Kalita did at the other table.



## ROOM FOR READING

Dealer North : East-West vulnerable

North  
 ♠ K 6  
 ♥ 6 5 4 2  
 ♦ Q 10 6 2  
 ♣ K 8 2

West  
 ♠ Q 9 5  
 ♥ A Q J 9 8  
 ♦ 9 5 4  
 ♣ 9 7

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	3♣	3♣
		All pass	

West leads the ♣9 – 2 – Queen – 4. East switches to the ♥3 – 10 – Jack – 2.

What should West play at trick 3?

The deal arose in the final of the National Open Teams, 2017. One West did the wrong thing and 4♣ made, +420. At the other table, West did the right thing and 4♣ was defeated, +50 and 10 Imps.

Some questions can guide you to the winning defence:

1. What does East's ♥2 tell you?

The ♥2 is singleton or East began with three cards headed by an honour, K-x-2 or 10-x-2. A pre-emptive opener in first or second seat is expected not to have a side 4-card major. Anyway it cannot be four cards headed by an honour once South follows.

2. What did East play at trick 1?

The ♣Q.

3. What does that tell you?

East has the ♣A, or else South would have taken the trick. A defender wins with the cheapest card possible. Therefore, winning with the ♣Q denies the Jack. This is the same as third-hand-high playing the cheapest of equally high cards.

4. What did South play at trick 1?

The ♣4.

5. What does that tell you?

Since the ♣Q denied the ♣J and South played the ♣4, South still has the ♣J. You can ensure defeating the contract by playing the ♣7 at trick 3.

Here is the complete deal

♠ K 6  
 ♥ 6 5 4 2  
 ♦ Q 10 6 2  
 ♣ K 8 2

♠ Q 9 5  
 ♥ A Q J 9 8  
 ♦ 9 5 4  
 ♣ 9 7

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

♠ A J 10 8 7 4 2  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ A K J  
 ♣ J 4

You will not find East's 3♣ opening in any textbook on sound pre-empts, but the auction was the same at both tables, as was the play to tricks 1 and 2.

At trick 3, one West assumed East's heart switch was a singleton. He returned the ♥A. South ruffed, played ♣K, ♠A and four diamonds, pitching the ♣J. That gave South 10 tricks, +420.

At the other table, after the ♣9 lead – 2 – Queen – 4, and the ♥3 – 10 – Jack – 2, West returned the ♣7 to the ♣A. East played a third club, ♠J ruff, ♠Q over-ruff, one down. Once East plays a third club, South cannot prevent West from making a trump trick.

Curiously, neither South played the ♣J under East's ♠Q. Given the 3♣ opening, West's ♣9 looks like a singleton. South should drop the ♣J to give the impression of a singleton. That would not fool East, who began with only six clubs, but it certainly might fool West in the later defence.

Note that it is not good enough for East to play ♣Q, ♣A and a third club at the outset. South would pitch the ♥10. It is also not good enough for East to play ♣Q, ♣A and then switch to a heart. South can then pick up West's trumps by leading the ♠J or ♠10 through West on the first round of trumps. East did it just right, but West slipped. The only excuse for West might be that he thought that East's ♠Q was a false card from A-Q-J-10 to seven, but that would be a risky and unnecessary play by East. It rarely pays to fool partner.

*Ron Klinger*

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Last time we took a look at the Bath Coup, a common ducking play by declarer. This month's coup is not quite so well-known and, to be honest, opportunities to use it do not come along very often.

Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♠	2♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West, who overcalled 1♣, leads the ♠K against 3NT. The situation in the black suits is identical to the one we saw last time out. Does that mean that declarer should play in identical fashion?

Let's see what will happen if declarer wins the ♠A. When East gets in with the ♣K he will return a spade and down will go the contract. So it must be correct to duck the opening lead, mustn't it?

However, declarer follows with the ♠8 and West can see that he has just used the Bath Coup, so will switch to a heart, and that will see the contract defeated once again. So is there no hope?

The solution is a little sleight of hand. Suppose that declarer ducks the spade lead, but does so by dropping the ♠J! That is the Pigpen Coup (no bath). If West is taken in and continues spades, declarer wins the ♠A and takes the club finesse in safety, since East has no spades left.

It takes a very strong defender to overcome this play. It should always work against people who use attitude signals but, in theory, should fail against people who show count on the lead, as West should know that East has only a doubleton spade.

Mind you, the only time I ever used it was against a pair of international calibre count signallers, and West got it wrong. He trusted declarer rather than partner.

Brian Senior

DAVID APPLETON

## OVERCOMING AN OBSTACLE

David Appleton

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

Chen

♠ K 7 4  
♥ Q J 6  
♦ K Q 10 8  
♣ K Q 2

Furuta

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

Peter Reynolds

♠ void  
♥ 9 8 5 3  
♦ A J 7 6 4 3  
♣ A 6 5

This hand is from the 2009 Bermuda Bowl against Japan. Arjuna de Livera and Ian Robinson had played in 4♣ X for -300 in the other room.

West	North	East	South
1NT	X *	4♣	X **
Pass	5♥	Pass	Pass
X	All Pass		

\* Double is either 5 Major and 4 any other, or very strong.  
\*\* Double is correctable.

The lead was the ♦5. This screamed a singleton to me, so after lengthy dithering, I took the Ace and led a heart. When West played low, it was possible to finesse the ♥10, but I like to make things hard for myself and rose with the ♥A. Then I played a diamond.

West won and, knowing that a club back was insufficient (as I can ruff three spades in dummy and set up diamonds on the board for a club pitch), played back the ♥Q.

After winning that, the play went spade ruff, diamond ruff, spade ruff, diamond ruff, setting up dummy's diamonds. However, if I now crossed to the ♣A, I can only throw one of my two losers on the fifth diamond since West ruffs in to cash a setting trick.

So I stripped the last spade from West by cashing the Ace (noting that it doesn't matter whether East started with seven as West cannot profitably ruff this), and exited my losing (and last) trump.

Poor West had only clubs left, and had to give dummy the final three tricks, for +850 for 11 IMPs.

David Appleton



Tony Bemrose  
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# Noosa Bridge Week

## 15 to 21 October, 2017

Four seminal lessons  
Two fun & friendly events

**JOIN PAUL MARSTON, PETER BUSCH AND ANNE WEBER** for a week to remember. The venue for all the bridge is the Tewanin Bowls Club, three minutes by car from Noosa Lakes Resort. Paul presents the lessons and Peter runs the bridge while Anne makes sure that everyone is getting the best out of their holiday. The bridge is played in a fun and friendly atmosphere with players from all around the country. Good partners available. Only one 22-board duplicate session per day, leaving plenty of time to enjoy all the wonderful things that Noosa has to offer.

### Noosa lessons are different

The lessons are a major part of the bridge week. The aim is to raise your bridge to a new level. This is done by focussing on core topics that enhance understanding rather than the latest gadgets, which might come and go.

The training starts long before you reach Noosa. You will receive a lesson-primer and video setting out what you are going to learn and why it will make a big difference to your game. This helps you to grasp the key points more quickly when they are presented in Noosa.

Then lesson 5 is all about reinforcement. First you get a summary of the key points then you play 8 deals illustrating those key points followed by a board by board discussion.

### Timetable

<b>Saturday 14</b>	2 pm on, Noosa Lakes check in
<b>Sunday 15</b>	10 am - 12 pm, Lesson 1 1:45 pm - 4:30 pm, Sun Pairs 1 4:45 pm - 5:45 pm, Finger food dinner party
<b>Monday 16</b>	10 am - 12 pm, Lesson 2 1:45 pm - 4:30 pm, Sun Pairs 2
<b>Tuesday 17</b>	10 am - 12 pm, Lesson 3 1:45 pm - 4:30 pm, Sun Pairs final 5 pm, BBQ dinner with barefoot bowls
<b>Wednesday 18</b>	11 am - 11:45 am, Talking point - cue bidding 1:45 pm - 4:30 pm, Ivory Pairs 1
<b>Thursday 19</b>	10 am - 12 pm, Lesson 4 1:45 pm - 4:30 pm, Ivory Pairs 2
<b>Friday 20</b>	10 am - 12:45 pm, Ivory Pairs final 1 pm, Prize giving lunch
<b>Saturday 21</b>	10 am - 12 pm, Lesson 5 <i>Thanks for coming – safe journey home</i>

### Feedback from 2016

Last year 78 people completed a survey. 67% said the bridge week was excellent and 31% said it was good. And 98% said their bridge had improved as a result of the lessons.

### Lesson program

#### Lesson 1 – When to push - when to pass, at the 2 & 3 level

When both sides are bidding, your aim is to play 2 & defend 3. Learn two strategies that will help you to achieve this.

#### Lesson 2 – The opening lead against suit contracts

Learn the priority of choosing which suit to lead, including trumps.

#### Lesson 3 – When to push - when to pass, at game level

Learn when to compete at the four and five level. This includes sacrificing against the opponents' game.

#### Lesson 4 – Entries & communication in a suit contract

Learn techniques for preserving and creating entries as declarer.

#### Lesson 5 – Putting it all together

Play 8 deals based on the lessons then a board by board discussion.



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### Charges without accommodation

The charge without accommodation is \$435. This covers everything listed in the timetable (including the three meals).



The lounge area of the one bedroom apartment

**BOOKINGS** <https://www.grandslambooks.com/noosa-bookings.html> or phone 02 9327-4599

**HAND 1**

Dlr South ♠ J 7 5 3  
Both Vul ♥ 6 4  
♦ A 7 2  
♣ 10 9 6 5

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

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

West North East South  
2NT (20-21 HCP)

Pass 3♣ Pass 3♠  
Pass 4♣ All Pass

West leads the ♦K.

Given the mirrored hand shapes, the contract hinges on the club finesse. However, if the black suits break badly, some entry management will be required, and the lead is removing one of your entries to dummy immediately.

Win the ♦A, and lead a small club to the ♣J at trick 2. When that works, draw trumps, starting with the ♠A and ♠K. When the 4-1 spade break is exposed, finish drawing trumps, with the ♠Q and a spade to the ♠J, making sure to finish in dummy. Now you can lead the ♣10 and repeat the finesse, making 4 trumps, 4 clubs, and 2 red Aces.

**HAND 2**

Dlr South ♠ J 10 8  
Both Vul ♥ A J 10  
♦ J 10 5 4  
♣ 8 5 2

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

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

West North East South  
1♠

Pass 2♣ Pass 4♣  
All Pass

West leads the ♥9.

There are 9 top tricks, with many possibilities for a tenth trick. Given the ♥9 lead, which seems to deny the ♥K (not 4th highest), rather than playing low from dummy, which allows East to win the trick with the ♥K and switch to a club honour through the ♠K, consider finding a line that allows you to develop an extra trick whilst keeping East from the lead.

10 tricks are there as long as trumps are no worse than 3-1 and diamonds 4-3.

At trick 1, win the ♥A, then cash the ♦A and ♦K (leave trumps alone for now, because they are entries to dummy.)

Next, cross to dummy with a low trump and lead the ♦J.

When East follows low, discard the ♥Q. West wins the trick with the ♦Q and has to exit with the diamond to prevent dummy's ♦10 from being a winner. East ruffs, so you over-trump with a high trump (♠A), to ensure that dummy's spades are able to be used for entries.

Cross to dummy with another low spade, then lead the ♥J. East covers so trump high again (♠K). Now, return to dummy with another low trump to lead the ♥10 for a club discard.

Finally, try a club towards the ♣K, and when West wins the ♣A rejoice that all your safety plays ensured the contract.

**HAND 3**

Dealer North ♠ 7 6  
All Vul ♥ A K 3  
♦ 9 2  
♣ A Q 10 6 5 3

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

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

West North East South  
1♣ 1♠ 2♣  
4♣ 5♣ All Pass

East leads the ♠A, then switches to the ♥Q.

To make 5♣, the heart loser needs to be dealt with by using the diamond suit for a discard.

Win the ♥K, and start working on diamonds immediately. Lead a diamond to the ♦A, then exit a diamond. There are four entries to dummy via the trump suit, and two of these can be used to trump the diamonds (using high trumps) despite the 4-2 break, making the fifth diamond in dummy into a winner.

Win the next heart lead with the ♥A, cross to the ♣8 in dummy, then ruff a diamond in hand. Cross back to dummy with the ♣9 (drawing the last trump) and trump another diamond. Now re-enter dummy by trumping the spade, and use the last diamond to discard the heart loser. This line of play loses just 1 spade and 1 diamond.

*This play can also be used when you have a 5-1 suit. If the suits breaks 4-3, it makes the long card into a winner, allowing you to discard a loser.*



Charlie Snashall Restricted Teams winners at the VCC: Jane Gray, Teena McKenzie, Janet & John Ham

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MAY 7 – 20, 2018

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The Ireland and Iceland Discovery holiday includes three nights in the O'Callaghan Davenport Hotel, near Trinity College, followed by a 10 day cruise from Dublin to Iceland aboard the luxury cruise ship Celebrity Eclipse. Whilst at sea you can join in on the instructional lessons that will hone your playing abilities and in the afternoon try out what you've learned in the duplicate games whilst at sea.

**The cost of the 13 day Holiday**, (excl. flights) in a **Verandah Stateroom** on board the Celebrity Eclipse is from \$5,515.00 per person (twin or double) OR \$9,360.00 for a single. Upgrades to higher categories available. Cost includes the Cruise, \$300 on board credit, accommodation in Dublin (3 nights) at the gorgeous O'Callaghan Davenport Hotel with two half day tours, two dinners, three breakfasts and transfers to the Cruise.

Options post cruise: Stay on board and join Dani and Nigel for an eight day Norwegian Fjord cruise (limited places available) ending in Dublin OR we can arrange a tour of Ireland to fully experience the Irish warmth and traditions.

**EARLY BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR THIS VERY POPULAR CRUISE**

**Places are limited, to book phone Julie at Travel Phase on 02 9326 11 66 or email [bridge@travelphase.com.au](mailto:bridge@travelphase.com.au).**

For more information phone Dani or Nigel on 02 8084 5558 or 0488 422 045 or email [bridge@bridgecentre.com.au](mailto:bridge@bridgecentre.com.au)

## ITINERARY

### MONDAY MAY 7

Welcome to Dublin, find your way to your hotel - The O'Callaghan Davenport where you will be free to relax after your flight – Dinner in the hotel is included.

### TUESDAY MAY 8

In the morning we take a coach tour and visit St Patrick's Cathedral, the largest church building in Ireland and Dublin Castle. The afternoon and evening is free for you to explore.

### WEDNESDAY MAY 9

Today a half day tour to Russborough House and a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

### THURSDAY MAY 10

Transfer to Dublin Port for cruise departure.

### FRIDAY MAY 11

Explore Belfast.

### SATURDAY MAY 12

A sea day, with a one hour optional morning bridge lecture at 10am and afternoon duplicate 1.30-4.00pm.

### SUNDAY MAY 13 AND MONDAY MAY 14

Reykjavik the capital and the largest city in Iceland.

### TUESDAY MAY 15

Akureyri Iceland – 2nd largest city with a cool café scene.

### WEDNESDAY MAY 16

A sea day with a one hour optional morning bridge lecture 10am and afternoon duplicate 1.30-4.00pm.

### THURSDAY MAY 17

Explore Lerwick/Shetland Scotland.

### FRIDAY MAY 18

A sea day with a one hour optional bridge lecture and afternoon duplicate followed by farewell cocktail party.

### SATURDAY MAY 19

Return to Dublin

### SUNDAY MAY 20

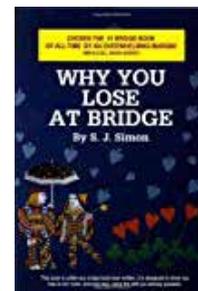
Disembark in Dublin OR continue on with Dani & Nigel for another 8 days and cruise the Norwegian Fjords\*.

## TOP 20 BOOKS EVER WRITTEN: to 1994

In 1994 the ACBL (American Contract Bridge League) surveyed expert players and writers to come up with a list of the top 20 bridge books of all time. This list follows.

### 1st **WHY YOU LOSE AT BRIDGE** **S.J. Simon**

Win more consistently with the skill you already possess by following this simple advice. A wealth of common sense, philosophy, and "how to attain the best possible result, not the best result possible." *"If you think a book published in 1946 has nothing to offer you, think again! What Simon has to say is classic, relevant, and a delight."* ACBL Bulletin



### 2nd **KILLING DEFENCE** **Hugh Kelsey**

This was the book that single-handedly confirmed Hugh Kelsey's reputation and should be read by any serious bridge player. A lucid presentation of how to count out a hand by the defenders. Focuses on working out declarer's hand whilst not giving away too much information to declarer by over-signalling. This is a book that should be re-read a number of times.

### 3rd **RIGHT THROUGH THE PACK** **Robert Darvas & Norman de V. Hart**

This brilliant fantasy, first published in 1947, sees each card in the deck telling its own fascinating story. Robert Darvas was a Hungarian, famous for his extraordinary gift of discovering the unusual features of hands; Norman de V. Hart helped create the fictional world of cards and wove the deals together into this unique tale. The delightful humour sets it apart from all other bridge books and each of the 52 stories contains shrewd and helpful advice for all levels of players.



### 4th **REESE ON PLAY** **Terence Reese**

This book was first written in 1948, and is still recognised as one of *the* books on declarer play. It covers every form of advanced play technique and lays maximum stress on the need to play all 52 cards, not just the 26 in sight. For the aspiring player wanting to take the next step, this is one of the books that you can't afford to miss.

### 5th **BRIDGE IN THE MENAGERIE** **Victor Mollo**

If you are not familiar with the characters at the Griffins, then you are to be envied, for the pleasure of meeting them awaits you. This is an amusing look at a unique club, featuring many diverse bridge players that you have already met at the bridge table (in kind, at least). This book is a benchmark by which all other humorous bridge books are now measured.

### 6th **TO BID OR NOT TO BID** **Larry Cohen**

The Law of Total Tricks is a simple and effective tool which makes bidding judgment decisions much easier. Here the principles are laid down in a clear, orderly and concise manner, with realistic suggestions on how to incorporate these ideas into your own bidding methods, even if partner is unaware of the LAW. This is one of the few books of the modern era to be selected within The Top 20 Books list.

### 7th **ADVENTURES IN CARD PLAY** **Geza Ottlik & Hugh Kelsey**

The most advanced book ever written on the play of the cards. The hands feature in the main, advanced squeeze plays which are rarely discussed in bridge books. The chapters involving trump elopements are magnificent reading and worth the price of the book itself. *"Perhaps the most exceptional bridge book ever."* Zia Mahmood



### 8th **THE EXPERT GAME** **Terence Reese**

Covers advanced play by declarer and defenders with many illustrative deals. It is selective rather than comprehensive. Topics covered include: discovery and assumption, timing and control in the trump suit, loser-on-loser plays, deception, and communication.

### 9th **DEFENSIVE BRIDGE PLAY COMPLETE** **Eddie Kantar**

A mammoth book covering all aspects of defensive play. The text is illustrated with hundreds of example hands and quizzes at the end of each chapter. This makes it an ideal book for bridge teachers and the intermediate bridge player alike.

### 10th **PLAY BRIDGE WITH REESE** **Terence Reese**

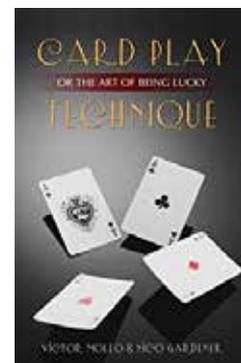
The author presents 75 hands in which he gives his thought processes during the bidding and then during the play of the hand. First the reader sees only their own hand during the bidding, then dummy's hand during the play, and finally all four hands during the post-mortem. A classic book which is as instructive today as when it was first written. The book has had many imitators over the years, but none has measured up to the original by Reese.

### 11th **HOW TO READ YOUR OPPONENTS' CARDS** **Mike Lawrence**

Subtitled: "The Bridge Expert's Way to Locate Missing High Cards". This book is a winner. The mysteries of the hidden hands revealed in one of the easiest texts to follow. Each chapter takes a principle, helps the reader to understand it, and gives examples, plus a quiz on the subject. This book is a great help if you seem to guess right half the time or less when declaring a hand.

**12th CARD PLAY TECHNIQUE****Nico Gardener & Victor Mollo**

Still a bestseller after 40 years. Card Play Technique is recognised as one of the best books ever written on card play. Complex coups, which rarely occur, receive little prominence in this book. Rather, the authors concentrate on the plays which win matches and bring in the matchpoints. In every chapter, and in the exercises, the spotlight is on everyday situations and how to handle them. Alternate chapters cover declarer play and defence.

**13th FIVE WEEKS TO WINNING BRIDGE Alfred Sheinwold**

After a brief introduction covering the mechanics and scoring, there are 35 chapters on bidding and play. The portion on declarer play begins with simple finesses and proceeds through squeeze plays. The section on defensive play covers opening leads, signals and rules for defensive play. Loaded with example hands, full deals and quizzes.

**14th BID BETTER, PLAY BETTER Dorothy Truscott**

Winning advice on bidding and play for the intermediate, based on 5-card Major openings. The Standard American methods advocated are very simple, logical and natural, with little room left for misunderstanding. An excellent in-depth analysis of basic plays, advanced plays and "special hands" by a World Grand Master and World Champion.

**15th (equal) BRIDGE SQUEEZES COMPLETE Clyde Love**

The classic work on all aspects of end-game strategy and squeezes. This is not a book for the beginner. Starting from the most basic of squeeze plays, the reader gradually progresses through some of the more difficult squeezes. An excellent exposition for any player wanting to improve this aspect of declarer play.

**15th (equal) MATCHPOINTS Kit Woolsey**

The general strategy at matchpoint duplicate pairs is covered, and there is some discussion of declarer play and defence. However, the bulk of the book is concerned with bidding at matchpoints, with particular emphasis on competitive bidding. There are hundreds of example hands and problems at the end of each section. Compulsory reading for the serious tournament player.

**17th BRIDGE WITH THE BLUE TEAM Pietro Forquet**

The Italian Blue Team dominated international bridge for many years. Pietro Forquet was one of the leading players on that team. The book summarises the artificial club systems used by the team and also lists the successes of the team in championship play. However, the bulk of the book consists of hands played by this legendary team. It is a showcase of their amazing technical expertise.

**18th THE OFFICIAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BRIDGE (5th Edition) Henry Francis (Editor-in-Chief)**

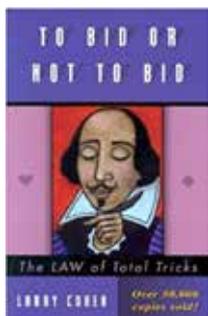
The most complete volume of information, guidance, and instruction ever published. This comprehensive work deserves a place in every bridge player's library. Contains thousands of descriptions of bridge terms, conventions, systems and the top personalities throughout the world.

**19th ALL 52 CARDS Marshall Miles**

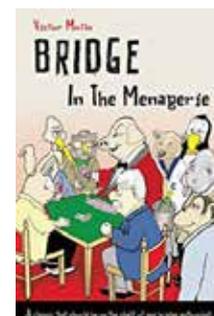
An excellent book on the counting out of a bridge hand, with many example hands. Miles covers both declarer play and defence, under chapters such as "Playing on an Assumption", "Deductions from the Bidding" and "Inferences from the Opponents' Play".

**20th THE PLAY OF THE HAND AT BRIDGE Louis Watson**

One of the best books on the play of the cards by declarers and defenders ever written. Part I is "Fundamentals of Play" and begins with the play of a single suit, and then continues with various aspects of play at both notrump and suit contracts. Part II is "Advanced Play and Expert Technique" and covers less common finessing situations, end-plays, safety plays, counting, squeeze plays, coups and various miscellaneous plays. Everything is clearly explained with numerous example hands and full deals.



*Many of these titles would still feature among the top books ever written, but I have sought an updated list from Tim Bourke, who is both a bridge expert and an expert on bridge books.*



Tim Bourke is a bridge book aficionado, has won many national titles, and has co-authored many books, including "The Art of Declarer Play" which won the IBPA's book of the year award in 2014. He regularly provides hands to bridge magazines and fellow authors for use in all sorts of bridge publications.

My qualification for undertaking this task is that I have avidly collected bridge books, pamphlets, ephemera, devices and magazines since 1970. Over the years I have accumulated about 8,000 books and pamphlets as well as over 10,000 magazines. Alas, the other parts of the collection remain uncounted.

One of the interesting things about bridge books and pamphlets is that the majority have been published by the author, either directly or through one of the self-publishers such as today's Createspace or Lulu. Another is that the number of bridge books presented by mainstream publishers has declined almost to zero: only Weidenfeld & Nicholson of London has more than a dozen titles in print by multiple authors. The major publisher of bridge books for the last 22 years has been Master Point Press (MPP) of Toronto. Its total of 287 titles dwarfs every other imprint.

In recent years, the focus has been on items for newcomers, either as notes for classes or summaries and cheatsheets for them.

Regarding my very subjective list of "best" books in recent years, I warn that they are my choices alone and I expect that few would agree with all my choices. My choices reflect that my main love in the game is declarer play and to a lesser extent defensive play.

However, before proceeding to the list proper, my first choice is a modern introduction to the game: "**BRIDGE FOR DUMMIES**" by Eddie Kantar gives a good introduction to the game. ("The Smart Guide to Bridge" by Brent Manley might suit too.)

The next group is largely for non-experts who want to improve their game, with the first choice a blockbuster that generated many title-related sequels:

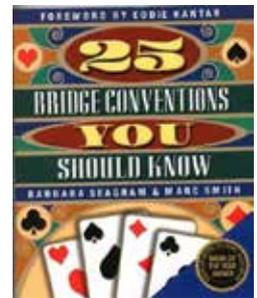
"**25 BRIDGE CONVENTIONS YOU SHOULD KNOW**" by Barbara Seagram and Marc Smith

delivers on what it promises. It is the biggest selling bridge book of recent times by far and it has spawned eight further "25" books to date including "25 Steps to Learning 2/1" by Paul Thurston.

While you can get a general manual on play (but do avoid the somnolent "Watson's Play of the Hand"), the following books target specific areas of play and defence:

"**THE BRIDGE TECHNIQUE SERIES**" of 12 books by David Bird and Marc Smith address 12 topics in play and defence. The good news is that there is a companion series:

"**TEST YOUR BRIDGE TECHNIQUE**" by David Bird and Tim Bourke that provides practice material to reinforce the lessons learnt from the former series.



Eddie Kantar's "Defensive Play Complete" was on former "best" lists but it had the drawbacks of being printed in an awkward size and having double spaced lines of text. A much better choice in this field is this pair of replacements: "**EDDIE KANTAR TEACHES MODERN BRIDGE DEFENSE**" and "**EDDIE KANTAR TEACHES ADVANCED BRIDGE DEFENSE**" by Eddie Kantar which, together, give significant improvements over his 1970s classic.

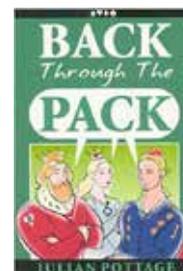
One of the things that has changed is that general areas of play have been addressed for the non-expert. One example I like is: "**PLANNING THE PLAY OF A BRIDGE HAND**" by David Bird and Barbara Seagram which provides clear instruction on the subject.

There has been a spike in material on contested bidding. While Mike Lawrence has updated his relevant books in recent years, I recommend: "**THE CONTESTED AUCTION**" by Roy Hughes as it seems to hit the right level on this subject.



Kit Woolsey has updated his classic book "Matchpoints" recently but you might consider this offering instead: "**WINNING DUPLICATE TACTICS**" by David Bird is just what you would expect on this subject from such a polished writer.

The following choice is at a slightly more advanced level and, in my defence, it was Marc Smith who actually did the writing: "**COUNTDOWN TO WINNING BRIDGE**" by Tim Bourke and Marc Smith which introduces and expands on the idea of counting the unseen hands.



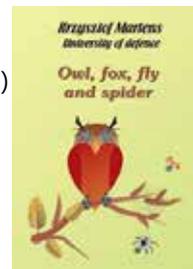
"Right through the Pack" was one of the original "best" books. Two authors have produced wonderful homages to this classic that should appeal to every bridge player:

"**RIGHT THROUGH THE PACK AGAIN**" by Ron Klinger and "**BACK THROUGH THE PACK**" by Julian Pottage are great fun.

In humorous writing the good news is that all of Vicor Mollo's stories of the menagerie except "Bridge in the Fourth Dimension", "Destiny at Bay" and "Masters and Monsters" are now in print through MPP. While the four new titles are a delight, my number one choice in this field is the 2016 IBPA Book of the Year: "**THE ABBOT, THE PARROT, THE WITCHDOCTOR AND THE BERMUDA BOWL**" by David Bird which for me is the best of this remarkable series featuring the bridge-playing monks of St Titus.

One of my core beliefs is that working through collections of single dummy problems multiple times is one of the best ways to improve both as a declarer and defender. Choosing one title for advanced and expert players came down to "**A GREAT DEAL OF BRIDGE PROBLEMS**" by Julian Pottage because he is a master of this genre or, at a more advanced level, "**THE BRIDGE WORLD'S TEST YOUR PLAY**" by Jeff Rubens.

Those looking for a different approach to defending would do well to try **"OWL, FOX AND SPIDER"** by **Krzysztof Martens** which is a fine collection of defensive problems in which the reader is challenged to defend like the creatures in the title. (I'd recommend any other books by this author on play and defence too.)



Another book for which I wrote some very poor drafts before handing the task of producing it over to my co-author was **"THE ART OF DECLARER PLAY"** by **Tim Bourke and Justin Corfield** of which some experts have said "It has changed the way I play for the better".



There have been many books on squeezes and my favourites are by the late Anthony Moon (who sadly was unable to complete his multi-volume project) **"SIMPLE SQUEEZES"** by **Anthony Moon**, along with his four other books on squeezes examines each sub-topic both exhaustively and well.

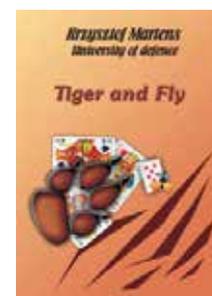
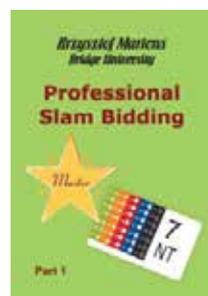
Books on bidding are more difficult to assess. There have been fewer bidding system books produced in the modern era. Perhaps this is because sites such as <http://bridgewithdan.com/systems/>. However, my standout book on bidding system and style of recent times was **"THE POWER OF POSITIVE BIDDING"** by **Wladyslaw Izdebski, Wlodzimierz Krysztofczyk and Dariusz Karda** which details some of the bidding methods of the top Italian pairs and should be essential reading for current and would-be international players.

Also, anyone serious about improving his or her opening leads should study **"WINNING NOTRUMP LEADS"** and **"WINNING SUIT CONTRACT LEADS"** by **David Bird & Taf Anthias** which should revolutionise and improve your approach to many opening leads situations.

Finally, the good news is that other classics from past "best" lists have been modernised and improved. The new editions of **"CARD PLAY TECHNIQUE"** by **Victor Mollo and Nico Gardner (Mark Horton)** and **"BRIDGE SQUEEZES COMPLETE"** by **Clyde Love (Julian Pottage and Linda Lee)** improve significantly on the originals, particularly the latter.

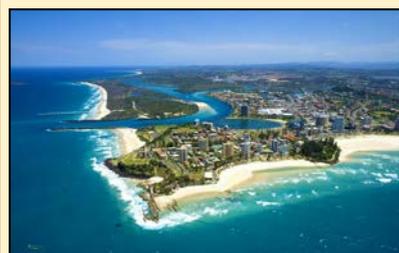
Tim Bourke

By the way, all of the collection will end up at the State Library of Victoria. Those items already donated and catalogued there can be searched for (with the quotation marks) and found under "Tim and Margaret Bourke Bridge Collection" at [slv.vic.gov.au](http://slv.vic.gov.au).



## TWEED HEADS (GOLD COAST) BRIDGE HOLIDAY with Andy Hung!

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017** (6 Days 5 Nights)



Andy Hung invites you to a fantastic bridge holiday getaway at the Gold Coast Tweed Heads. Situated on the far North Coast of NSW, Tweed Heads is a popular holiday spot for its beautiful Tweed River, white sandy beaches and sparkling ocean. Enjoy relaxing walks along the Rainbow Bay, or explore the National Parks, it is a great combination of holiday and bridge lessons with Andy Hung!

### The All-Inclusive Package:

- ♥ Five nights at the Mantra Twin Towns
- ♥ All bridge activities: professional seminars with a full set of notes, duplicate sessions, and hand analysis and discussion
- ♥ All meals incl. breakfast, morning and afternoon tea, from Sunday lunch on arrival to Friday lunch prior to departure (except for one dinner where you are free to enjoy what Tweed Heads has to offer!)
- ♥ Farewell drinks with Friday lunch
- ♥ A great time!

**Pricing:** ♦ Single: \$1450 ♦ Double or T/S: \$1300 pp  
*Bridge Only: \$550pp (incl. all bridge activities and content, morning & afternoon tea, lunch (except on Sun), and prize-giving drinks)*

### The Bridge:

- ♣ Professional bridge seminars with Andy
  - ♣ **Topic focus:** Improving Your Declarer Play Techniques
    - Secrets to handling suit contracts
    - Better entry management in NT
    - Reading the Opponent's lead
- And more!*

### Contact:

♣ **David Stern** (Preferred)  
Email: [david.stern.general@gmail.com](mailto:david.stern.general@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0411-111-655

♣ **Andy Hung**  
Email: [hung.andy.p@gmail.com](mailto:hung.andy.p@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0425-101-094

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### CONTEXT, CONTEXT, CONTEXT

Revered One,

Once again I plead with you to take pity on me and agree (for once) that I have been unlucky. Here is a hand from a recent duplicate on which I thought that I had followed one of the many principles that you have forced me to learn.

See for yourself:

Dealer West

♠ Q 3

♥ A J 4 2

♦ K J 8 3

♣ K J 8

♠ A J 9 8 7 6 4

♥ Q 6

♦ 9 7 5

♣ 3

♠ 10 5

♥ 8 7

♦ A Q 6 2

♣ 10 9 6 5 4

♠ K 2

♥ K 10 9 5 3

♦ 10 4

♣ A Q 7 2

West opened 3♣, Glenda doubled, and I bid 4♥. At least that bit was easy! West led the ♣3 and I won in dummy and played the ♥A. In line with the advice I once received from.....who(?), I took the trump finesse against the player who didn't pre-empt and lost to the ♥Q. Then they got the ♠A and two diamonds as well.

That was unlucky, wasn't it?

Your niece,

Cathy

Naïve One,

Mea culpa. I did once give you advice along the lines you have suggested, but I also tried to teach you to think at the bridge table, as I recall.

I hope you stopped to ask yourself what the ♣3 was all about. I would have thought that it was unambiguously a singleton. Now the point about taking your finesses against the partner of the player who pre-empts is still valid, but the notion that West has a singleton club restored the position. Unless West has two singletons, the finesse in trumps will lose. There may have even been a slight case for taking it the other way.

So, the principle here is if the player on lead doesn't lead his or her long suit, then there is a good reason. Usually that reason is that he or she is leading a short suit. Other principles must be applied within that context. *[If the ♣3 is a shortage lead, it must be singleton since it is the lowest remaining club.]*

So (this is going to hurt), I agree that you were unlucky to be punished for your lack of observation. The ♦Q might have been on-side.

Cheers,

David

David Lusk

## BEYOND COUNTING POINTS

### Hand Evaluation

Knowing the strength of your hand is critical to deciding how many tricks you are likely to make. Bridge players have developed various strategies to measure the strength of different hands, but all need some adjustments to take other factors into account.

### High Card Points:

We use HCP to evaluate the strength of hands and to provide a short-hand way of describing this strength to partner. HCPs work best for balanced hands; the more unbalanced your hand is, the more adjustments need to be made to give an accurate reflection of the trick-taking potential of the hand.

### Aces and Kings:

In general, Aces and Kings are good cards! They tend to be slightly undervalued in the 4-3-2-1 counting method. This particularly applies in suit contracts and high level contracts.

### Queens and Jacks:

Queens and Jacks are, on average, slightly overvalued in terms of HCP. Notwithstanding this, they are good cards in long suits and in NT contracts.

### Number of Honour Cards:

In balanced hands and NT contracts the number of honour cards can be relevant. More honour cards are good.

### Long Suits:

Long suits are a very powerful source of tricks, both as trumps and in NT contracts.

### Short Suits:

Short suits are a good thing ONLY in suit contracts and ONLY if the hand also contains a reasonable number of trumps.

### Intermediate Cards:

10s, 9s and even 8s sometimes take tricks but they get no value in the HCP scheme.

### Honour Cards in Combination:

When your honour cards are concentrated in suits they add power to each other and take more tricks. Unsupported honours have less value.

### Honours Supported by Intermediate Cards:

Just as honours work well together, honour cards supported by intermediate cards in the same suit are strengthened. The smaller the gap between the honour card and the intermediates, the more effective this is. So intermediates work best in combination with Queens and Jacks.

### Fitting Honours with Partner:

It is best to have honour cards in suits in which partner also has honour cards. It is generally better to have lower honours (Queens and Jacks) in suits where partner has length.

### Degree of Fit with Partner:

The better the trump fit that you have as a partnership, the more tricks you will make for a given number of HCPs.

### Mirrors:

A mirror is a hand where both players have the same distribution. This is a bad thing since you will not be able to trump anything in either hand!

### THREE SECRETS TO WINNING BRIDGE (not evaluation)

- Concentration and focus.
- Breast your cards!
- Be nice to your partner – they are on your side.

Hugh Grosvenor

## MORE COUNTING

How would you play this hand in 6♠, having had North open a vulnerable 3♦? North leads the ♦K.

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

Firstly, you need to count the diamond suit – North has 7 diamonds, giving South only 1. That will be critical to your play, because it makes South a ‘safe’ defender (in terms of the diamond suit). Win the ♦A, and draw trumps. South follows to four rounds of trumps.

Your next step is to work on the heart suit. Cash the ♥A, ♥K and ♥Q; North discards on the third round. What can you do now? Actually, your contract is now cold. Lead the ♥9 and let South take the trick. South is now on lead, with only clubs and they will have to lead a club around to dummy’s ♠A-Q, giving you two club tricks and your long heart trick. 5 spades, 4 hearts, 1 diamond and 2 clubs.

This neat elimination removes any need for finesses. You always thought that top players are more successful with their finessing and you were right – they make opponents give them finesses if it is possible!

The next hand involves defensive counting. You are on lead after the following auction:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

You lead the ♠10, and see:

<i>Dummy</i>
♠ Q J
♥ A K 8 7
♦ K Q 10 5 3
♣ K 7

*You*

♠ K 10 8 4
♥ J 2
♦ A 7 6
♣ 10 9 8 6

Trick 1 proceeds: ♠10 – 7 – Queen – Ace.

What do you know from the auction and from trick 1?

South has a minimum response, given North’s reverse and the 2NT rebid, meaning he has about 6-8 HCP. With 9 HCP after a reverse, South should be bidding game. Furthermore, you know that South started with the ♠A-J, because partner played the ♠Q to trick 1. That accounts for 5 HCP already.

At trick 2, South leads the ♦J. What is your plan for the defence to defeat 3NT?

Having seen 6 HCP in declarer’s hand already, you should turn your attention to the spade suit as your means of defeating 3NT. You should already have worked out that your partner must hold the ♠A! (Also, if declarer has the ♠A they have 9 tricks.) You also need partner to hold three cards in spades, if 3NT is to be beaten. There is nothing to be gained by holding up the ♦A, so win it and play on spades.

You need to cash the ♠K, then lead across to partner’s ♠A, so that partner is on lead after both dummy’s high spades have been removed. Partner will now be able to return a spade through declarer’s ♠9-7 to your ♠10-8. Here is the full hand:

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

*Barbara Travis*

## MAKING LIFE EASY FOR PARTNER

*This article was written by Jim Borin, and appeared in The Age, 21st August 1994.*

A major attribute of an expert defensive player is the ability to make life easy for partner. Watch Robert Fruewirth, a member of last year’s Victorian and Australian teams (1993), in action on this deal from last year’s Autumn Nationals.

Dealer North	♠ A 5 3
EW Vul	♥ A K 10 6 4
	♦ K Q 5
	♣ K 10

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

♠ K Q 10 8
♥ Q 9 8 5
♦ 6 4 3
♣ 8 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Richman</i>		<i>Fruewirth</i>	
	1♥	4♣	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

At the vulnerability, Fruewirth’s jump to 4♣ on the East hand was the value bid, and South could scarcely justify bidding initially. He was, however, happy to compete to 4♥ when his partner showed a strong hand by making a re-opening double.

Bob Richman (West) won the opening diamond lead and naturally returned his singleton club, declarer playing the ♠10. Fruewirth could see that taking two club tricks was unlikely to defeat the contract. He was sure that North held the ♥AK, ♠A and ♦K, and therefore the only chance of the defence coming to four tricks was to get a spade ruff. The problem was how to make this clear to partner.

Accordingly, he won North’s ♠10 with the ♠A and returned the ♠Q! This unusual sequence of plays alerted Richman to what was needed. Obviously Fruewirth wanted him on lead, so he duly ruffed. Correctly interpreting the high club back as a suit preference signal requesting the higher ranking of the two side suits, Richman complied by leading a spade for one down.

Had Fruewirth wanted to trump a diamond, the lower suit, he would still have won with the ♠A, but would have returned his smallest club. At the other table, the defence was not as brilliant and 4♥ made.

## REVERSING WHEN YOU SHOULDN'T

The next two hands relate to the misuse of Reverses.

1♦                      1♠  
2♥ ...

This was opener's hand:

♠ A Q 8  
♥ K J 6 3  
♦ K Q 10 7  
♣ 10 7

Firstly, the opening bid on this hand is 1NT if playing 15-17 1NT bids. Opener chose not to open 1NT because he didn't like his small doubleton club. However, when you don't open 1NT on such a hand, you run into rebid problems.

Opener knew he was reversing, which was pleasing, and he knew he was a point short for a reverse because "that shows 16+ HCP". He failed to realise that by reversing he also showed 4 hearts and longer diamonds because, by default, he could not be balanced. (If you are balanced, you either open 1NT if 15-17 HCP, rebid 1NT when 12-14 HCP or jump rebid to 2NT with 18-19 HCP.)

Partner's hand was:

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

If there had been a 1NT opening bid, they would play in 2S. However, after the reverse, responder was forced to bid again, and now they got too high.

Playing Pairs is all about ensuring you get a 'positive' score – meaning that on your hands you make your contract, although on opposition hands it can be good to score -50 – so it is important on your hands to bid accurately to a sensible contract.

Immediately after this hand, there was the following auction:

1♦     2♣  
2♥     3♣  
3NT

2♥ was also a reverse, bidding beyond opener's barrier of 2♦. The 'barrier' exists because you are bidding a suit your partner has already by-passed in the auction. (With a response of 2♣, opener should be thinking that responder is unlikely to hold 4 cards in a Major suit.) A reverse after a 1-level response is forcing for one round, but after a 2-level response (showing 10+ HCP) it is game forcing.

Opener actually held:

♠ A J  
♥ 10 9 8 5  
♦ A K J 8 6 4  
♣ 8

Rather than reversing, the correct rebid is 2♦ showing 6+ diamonds and a minimum opening hand (12-15 HCP). Game would still have been reached, given that responder had long clubs and 13+ HCP, but usually these auctions lead to over-bidding, and failing contracts.

Firstly, opener has a built-in 'barrier' which is 2-of their first-bid suit. To repeat what an opener's reverse shows (i.e. when

you bid a new suit at the 2-level that is beyond your 'barrier'):

- \* 4 cards in your second suit
- \* 5+ cards in your first suit (even if it was a minor)
- \* 16+ HCP
- \* it is forcing for one round (and may be a game force)

We should look at a few hands that are appropriate for reverses:

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

You	Partner
1♣	1♠
2♥	

You have reversed by rebidding 2♥ (you have bid past your barrier, which is 2♣), but that is fine because your hand complies with all the requirements for a reverse bid.

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

You	Partner
1♥	2♣
2♠	

You have reversed by rebidding 2♠, having gone through your barrier of 2♥ (your first suit). When you do this after partner's 2-level response, showing 10+ HCP, you are forcing to game, with your final contract to be decided.

A typical hand which catches players unawares is:

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

You	Partner
1♦	1NT
?	

You have to remember not to rebid 2♥, because your partner has already denied 4 hearts or 4 spades with their 1NT bid. In fact, the suit they will have is clubs, so you should settle in 1NT.

You need to be very careful of reversing when your partner has responded with 1♠ (or 1NT), in particular. You should find that you have to rebid 1NT on many hands.

*Barbara Travis*



*Roy Nixon & Niek Van Vucht,  
winners McCance Seniors' Swiss Pairs (in the VCC)*

A version of this article appeared in Australian Bridge in the early 1990s, and is reproduced with the permission of the current editor, Brad Coles.

This was the first board of a 20-board match in the 1989 Victor Champion Cup. We were playing against the leading team, two top players whose big weakness was their temperament. My partner was Zibi Zeb, who had played in the Polish Junior Team in the 1980s before moving to Australia. On our convention card, he wrote: "Smile Sweetly After Disaster" as one of our conventions. I was quite happy to try out this agreement.

Dealer North ♠ K 10 6  
 NS Vul ♥ 2  
 ♦ 7 5  
 ♣ Q J 10 8 7 5 4

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

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

West	North	East	South
	Zibi Zeb		Peter Gill
	2NT	4♥	4♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
All Pass			

Playing a Krakow version of Polish Club, Zibi opened 2NT to show either a weak pre-empt in a minor or a good pre-empt in a major. East overcalled 4♥, and having no system notes to deal with interference over the Krakow 2NT, I bid 4♠ on the assumption that my shortage indicated that partner would surely have long spades. When West doubled, I started to worry a little bit, so I redoubled, asking partner to bid his suit. You might think that 4NT would have been more prudent, but the outcome was about to become strangely satisfying.

West led the ♥4 to the ♥K, East switched to the ♦3 to my ♦K and West's ♦A, then West switched to a spade to the ♠A and another spade. I won the ♠Q and carefully exited with a diamond to the ♦J. West played another heart, which I ruffed in dummy. Only now did I play clubs, leading the ♣Q from dummy.

East thought for a while about my apparent club finesse, then discarded a heart, letting me win the ♣A to escape for a mere 4000 penalty. Had I not played the hand so 'carefully', I would have gone for 4600.

Zibi gave me a beaming smile and pulled out his cards for the next hand as if nothing had happened. In return, I managed the best smile I could. Then it started!

West: "Why didn't you ruff the club? You blithering idiot. I've had plus 4000 before, but 4600 would have been my highest score ever."

East: "But why didn't you exit a spade so that I knew what was going on? Or you could have ducked the diamond to my ten. And you blame ME!"

West: "You're just an imbecile. Even a moron could have seen what was going on."

[Ed: I think I know these two opponents!]

At the other table, our team-mates had reached 6♥. The declarer, David Beauchamp, ruffed the club lead, played a heart to the ♥Q, then made the vital play of a spade to the ♠A before South realised it was necessary to unblock the ♠Q under the Ace. Now three rounds of diamonds, taking the finesse, followed by a spade exit, end-played South, who had to concede a ruff and discard. Plus 920 reduced the loss on the board to only 23 IMPs.

The datum (i.e. 'our table') score for the 20-board match was 86-24 in our favour. Zibi and I outscored them by 86 to 0 on the remaining 19 boards, because they were so upset with each other. Our team won the match by a maximum.

I can recommend the Smile Sweetly agreement.

Peter Gill




## 2017 Hans Rosendorff Memorial Weekend Congress - Perth

### NEW FORMAT- Women's Swiss PAIRS Event

Sat 16 & Sun 17 September



GOLD POINTS

PQPs: 1<sup>st</sup> 24,  
2<sup>nd</sup> 18, 3<sup>rd</sup> 12, 4<sup>th</sup> 6



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Lynne Milne: 0414 400 219 <a href="mailto:lynne.a.milne@gmail.com">lynne.a.milne@gmail.com</a>	Bill Kemp CTD: 0478 595 275 <a href="mailto:diggadog@inet.net.au">diggadog@inet.net.au</a> Neville Walker: 0418 944 077 <a href="mailto:nevillewalker1@bigpond.com">nevillewalker1@bigpond.com</a>






CORRECTION

In the May edition, on Page 21, The Most Expensive Swing, I made a mistake with the auction. Congratulations should go to Roger Phillips, from Waverly BC, for bringing the error to my attention. It made the whole discussion bewildering, the term he used in signing off his email. East played in 7♦, not 7♣ (which would have made West the declarer), so North was NOT on lead, making sense of the comment that North's ♠A was a lead out of turn. The actual auction:

West	North	East	South
		1♦	1♠
2♣	4♠	5♦	Pass
6♦	6♣	Pass	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

My apologies to all those I confused! Well noticed, Roger.

## FUNNY STORY: A BIGGER SWING

This deal from the 1990s falls into the memorable category:

Dealer South ♠ Q 10 8 7 6 5 4  
NS Vul ♥ Q J 9 4 2  
♦ 8  
♣ void

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Peter Fordham</i>		<i>Ted Griffin</i>	
Pass	2NT (1)	3NT (2)	Pass
Pass	4♦ (4)	Double	Pass (3)
Pass	Redouble	All Pass	Pass

- (1) Described as, "It's a pre-empt, but not a classic pre-empt."
- (2) Deciding to make a practical bid.
- (3) If this was passed out, it would be a great result for North-South on a top spade lead.
- (4) No one asked!

Before Ted Griffin made his opening lead, there were a few questions, South replying, "I am expecting nine solid diamonds!"

North-South were seasoned NSW experts, so when 4♦ XX went down 10 tricks, for a penalty of 5800, it created quite a bit of attention. This is probably one of the biggest penalties of all time in bridge.

Funnily enough, when Peter Gill (*Smile Sweetly*) mentioned his article to the North player, North mentioned this hand to me, not realising I had already found this story! North, Peter Buchen, has offered the 'full details' of this hand:

"We were playing a 2NT opening which showed any bad pre-empt. However, there was one twist. After partner's 3♣ enquiry, you could bid a minor suit you didn't hold and, when that was doubled, you could redouble to show a wild two-suiter with both the suits above the one just doubled. The memory aid was: if you make a 'bad pre-empt', redouble can never be to play!

Hence my redouble of 4♦ showed a wild two-suiter with both Majors. Needless to say, partner forgot the system. It's true that you shouldn't put dangerous weapons in the hands of children. In this case, it really was a weapon of mass destruction – our destruction!

Incidentally, the repartee at the table went something like: Griffin, having put the ♠A face down on the table, asked South, "What's the redouble?"

South: "He must have lots and lots of diamonds."

Griffin then asked me, "What's the Pass of the redouble?"

Me: "He must have lots and lots of diamonds."

So Griffin replaced his planned ♠A lead with the ♦A, and the one trick that I was about to make evaporated. "

### BATHURST & DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB CONGRESS

On the 6th and 7th May, Bathurst Bridge Club held a very successful congress.

#### Pairs:

- 1st John Brockwell & Chris Stead (Canberra)
- 2nd Ian McKinnon & Virginia Dressler (Central Coast)
- 3rd Janet Clarke & Di Coats (Central Coast)

**Best Local Pair:** Rosemary Hummelshoj & Lloyd Cleaver

**Restricted:** Diana Whiteley & Dorothy Woodside (Orange)

**Novice:** Gayle Calvert & Steve English (Blue Mountains)

#### Teams:

- 1st Chris Bayliss, Catherine Chown, Patricia Phillips, Eric Lindh (Bowral)
- 2nd David Priol, Peter Lameks, Tammy Schwarz, Alan Schwarz (Blue Mountains)
- 3rd Jennifer Hector, Terry Bossomaier, Peter Reed, Michele Kerin (Bathurst/Dubbo/Wellington)

**Best Local Team:** Graham Daniel, Liz Scorer, Rosemary Hummelshoj, Lloyd Cleaver

**Intermediate:** Pamela Stuart-Brown, Coleen Street, Ian & Jan Maclean (Bathurst/Leura)

**Restricted:** Diana Whiteley, Dorothy Woodside, Margaret Munson, Kathie Mills (Orange)



*Diana Whiteley, Dorothy Woodside, Kathie Mills: Best Restricted*



### Bathurst & District Bridge Club

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## 28 & 29 October 2017

### Programme

**Saturday: Pairs      Sunday: Swiss Teams**

### Contact Details:

- Email Karin Le Roux: [kle-roux@bigpond.com](mailto:kle-roux@bigpond.com)
- mob: 0428 859 898
- enter via NSWBA website on line entries for congresses

**OPENING ON BALANCED HANDS**

What would you open on the following hands, nil vulnerable in first seat:

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

1. 1NT. Assuming your 1NT is 15-17 HCP, this hand is well worth 15 HCP with all its intermediates and points in the long suits where they count. Good hand evaluation is one of the secrets of winning bridge and it is not easy to see how 10s and 9s can make much difference. Imagine you hold Q-6-5-4 opposite 7-3-2. You would be lucky to make one trick if you had to play this suit in no trumps. Now visualise Q-10-9-8 opposite 7-3-2, you are a 50% chance to make two tricks in the suit and one trick is guaranteed.

2. 1NT. This time you have a particularly poor 15 HCP with no intermediates and 4-3-3-3, the worst shape with only one suit to get tricks from. However, it is dangerous to downgrade hands. It's been many a year since I passed 12 HCP, no matter how anaemic.

3. 1NT. A 5-4-2-2 shape should be no bar to opening 1NT. You do not want your hand to be dummy, making the lead and the later defence easier for the opponents. You also limit the amount of information you supply to the opposition. If partner uses Stayman you can reply 3♣, showing your 5-card suit and maximum. Even if playing Weak Stayman, responder will have either both majors or an invitational hand.

4. 1♦. Despite only 16 HCP, this is a hand of power and quality and you should bid your two suits. With a nondescript hand, such as ♠ K75, ♥ Q842, ♦ AJ2, ♣ A85, partner will reply 3NT if you open 1NT but you make 13 tricks in hearts on a 3/2 heart break. With your two strong suits and controls you should value this hand highly.

5. 1♥. This hand has 17 HCP but is too good for 1NT. One should not upgrade simply because the hand has a 5-card suit, you also need points in the long suit, and the odd 9 and 10 makes a big difference.

6. 1NT. This hand has 14 HCP but is a fine hand. You have more than your share of aces, very important for no trump, and good intermediates. Also, your hand is a little too attractive just to open 1♦ and rebid 2♦. Why not solve your rebid dilemma by opening 1NT? It wouldn't be surprising if you stole the pot, making 7 or 8 tricks in 1NT while the opponents are cold for 9 or 10 tricks in a major.

7. 1NT. This is a better hand for no trumps than for spades with 7 running tricks plus an ace. If partner has the two missing aces you have nine tricks in notrumps but 4♣ would fail. Of course, there are many hands where 4♣ is better but the advantage of opening 1NT is that opponents are kept in the dark.

8. 1♦. The opening 1♦ is easy but what do you rebid when partner replies 1♥ or 1♠? You are too good to rebid 3♦. You have a fine hand that is well worth 18-19 HCP balanced and you want to protect your tenaces from the opening lead. Therefore, open 1♦ and rebid 2NT and do justice to the hand.

9. 1♦. This hand came up at the recent Victor Champion Cup in Melbourne. Many people opened 2NT but I don't favour opening 2NT with a singleton, especially in a major. What would responder do with ♠ 97543 ♥ J63 ♦ 10976 ♣ 6? It seems fairly automatic to transfer to 3♣ and pass, yet 3♣ is a silly contract while there are likely 10 or 11 tricks available in diamonds.

10. 2♣. Even though 2NT is 20-22 HCP and you have only 21 HCP, you should upgrade your hand because of the strong suit and controls. Imagine partner held ♠ 765 ♥ KQ1064 ♦ J63 ♣ 54, they would transfer to 3♥ and bid 3NT. However, if hearts break 3-2 you have 12 top tricks.

*Paul Lavings*



ABN: 70 053 651 666



ABN: 82 057 199 126

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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Tournament Organiser</p> <p>Lynne Milne: 0414 400 219 <a href="mailto:lynne.a.milne@gmail.com">lynne.a.milne@gmail.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Directing team</p> <p>Bill Kemp CTD: 0478 55 275 <a href="mailto:diggadog@inet.net.au">diggadog@inet.net.au</a></p> <p>Neville Walker: 0418 944 077 <a href="mailto:nevillewalker1@bigpond.com">nevillewalker1@bigpond.com</a></p>	
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**18 – 19 October (Wed & Thu)**

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*All players born before 1/1/1960*

**23 – 25 October (Mon – Wed)**

Linda Stern Women's Teams Qualifying

## Pairs Events

**21 – 22 October (Sat & Sun)**

Dick Cummings Open Pairs

**21 – 22 October (Sat & Sun)**

Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs

*Both players fewer than 300 Masterpoints at 30/6/2017*

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Spring Nationals Novice Pairs

*Both players fewer than 100 Masterpoints at 30/6/2017*

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