

ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

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From the Editor's Desk

The early part of 2009 has been an exciting one for Australian bridge, with the addition of the prestigious Yeh Cup to the normal busy schedule of national events. We had the honour to welcome many foreign visitors to Australia for the first time, and from all reports, they were welcomed warmly.

For those of us not able to attend the NOT, the Yeh Cup or the Gold Coast Congress, BBO and the excellent Daily Bulletins produced by a variety of talented bridge journalists meant that we could participate via the Internet. The photograph below shows Australian officials, as well as international visitors, at a Yeh Cup Dinner.



In the last issue, Reg Busch mounted a strident attack on the Grand National Pairs, a new venture in 2008 on the part of the ABF. I have received a number of letters concerning the issue. It will not be possible to publish all these views, or the further letter from Mr Busch. However, there is a final letter on the matter in *Letters to the Editor* on page 14.

For my own part, failing health has meant that I have returned to New Zealand. This decision was not taken lightly, as my Victorian and Australian friends have been a large part of my life for many years. However, following doctor's orders was paramount. The effects of stress on my renal system over the last year or so has forced me to take vital steps in order to regain some degree of health. In addition, I am an only child, and my elderly mother needs me, so a 'sea change' it is.

With the wonderful world of the Internet, I have been able to complete this Newsletter from a motel room. With the help of regular contributors like Paul Lavings, Laurie Kelso and David Lusk, as well as contributors like Peter Gill, whose report feature in this issue, I hope to be able to continue producing the Newsletter.

Stephen Lester

Yeh Cup and Gold Coast Congress

The most glittering array of overseas bridge champions ever to set foot in Australia, came to Queensland in February, for the Yeh Cup. Many of the stars stayed for the Gold Coast Congress straight afterwards.

A huge 'thank you' goes to the main local organisers, Therese Tully and David Stern, as well as their excellent team of helpers.

Mr Chen Yeh, from Chinese Taipei, had a personal dream to develop the annual \$A250,000 Yeh Brothers Cup into one of the world's premier bridge tournaments. This has more than come true in just a few years. In fact, several of the players told me they regard the Yeh Cup as the best event in the world.

The Yeh Cup field comprised 23 of the world's best teams, plus the Australian Youth Team, who were included in the field to give them experience against the very best.

The Youth Team, Justin Howard – Peter Hollands, Andy Hung – Nabil Edgton in their first two matches defeated last year's World Championship grand finalists, Italy 21-9 and England 20-10.

This prompted the Daily Bulletin Editor, Barry Rigal, to point out that we had just discovered that there were actually 24 top class teams in the field.

The Yeh Cup field included LAVAZZA, current Italian world champions, who came 22nd out of 24 (which shows how tough the event is). Other teams were USA HAMPSON – a rare appearance by America's top pair Meckstroth – Rodwell, without any playing sponsor in their team. Norway had the current Bermuda Bowl winners Helgemo – Helness, and BRIDGE i NORGE had more Bermuda Bowl winners, Brogeland – Sælensminde.

The Chinese World Pairs Champions Fu and Jack were in the full strength CHINA NATIONAL Team, who have taken out the last three PABF Championships. The current World Senior Champions from Japan, and Mr Chen Yeh - Mr Shih from Chinese Taipei, who won the World Transnational Mixed Teams in Beijing last year, were the other current world champions.

Former world champions could be found in teams such as USA STANSBY and LITHUANIA/POLAND. Overall, most, but not quite all, of the world's top players were present in Queensland for the first time. Compared to the US Nationals, where virtually all the world's top players are hired by playing clients, the Yeh Cup had a relative lack of playing clients, and could perhaps be regarded as the strongest annual event in the world.

Does this presence of top international stars benefit Aussie bridge? I think it does.

For me personally, the opportunity to meet and talk to many of the world's best players was invaluable. Just before the Gold Coast Congress, I asked Tony Nunn, who if Playoff Points are the measuring stick, is our top player in recent years, to rank various bidding systems. He rated all systems (five-card majors and strong notrump, five-card majors and weak notrump, four-card majors and strong notrump, strong club) as 7 or 8 out of 10, but he rated "four-card majors and weak notrump" only 2 or 3 out of 10.

I was mildly surprised, so at Broadbeach, I asked Eric Rodwell from USA, perhaps the world's leading bridge theorist, the same question. His answer was almost identical, with the Acol base scoring only 1 or 2 out of 10, and all other system bases 7 or 8 out of 10. The exception was his own Strong Club and five-card major version, which he rated 9.5 out of 10.

Food for thought in my opinion, even if the Acol strongholds in southern and Western Australia are surprised by this.

Anyway, my point is, that having the opportunity to chat to such people about bridge, to go one step beyond talking to Australia's leading players, was an opportunity which we took advantage of.

At the Gold Coast Congress, in the after-session free forums, everyone had the same opportunity to get advice from the world's best players. Many of the overseas champions plan to return to the GCC in future, even if the Yeh Cup moves back to Asia.

Eight of the 24 Yeh Cup teams qualified from the 10 round Swiss into the Knockout Stage, with a double chance. The next eight teams qualified with a single chance, and the bottom eight teams were joined by some new entrants in the Consolation Swiss.

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The teams containing Australians players were:

GLOBAL - Paul Marston – Stephen Burgess (Australia), Alon Apteker – Craig Gower (South Africa), Hugh McGann – Tom Hanlon (the Irish winners of the 2008 Gold Coast Pairs and Teams) – qualified 4th, but losses to ENGLAND by 21 IMPs and INDIA NATIONAL by 27 IMPs eliminated them.

AUSTRALIA YOUTH were qualifying for the entire event, until the very last board, on which they dropped a game swing to miss out narrowly. They had a tough draw, defeating many strong teams but losing heavily to three of the toughest teams - USA HAMPSON, CHINA and GLOBAL.

AUSTRALIA PABF, who shone by coming 2nd in the PABF last year, came 24th in the Yeh Cup.

AUSTRALIA OPEN, Ron Klinger – Matt Mullamphy, Bobby Richman – Peter Gill, Ian Thomson – Richard Brightling moved into a qualifying spot on the very last board. They qualified 13th, but were eliminated by INDIA NATIONAL by 16 IMPs.

AUSTRALIA SELECTED, Tony Nunn – Sartaj Hans, Ishmael Del'Monte – Rob Fruewirth qualified 6th, then lost to the top qualifiers, NETHERLANDS, before defeating NEW ZEALAND by 14 IMPs. They then took part in a three-way match, with one survivor guaranteed prize money of at least \$A15,000.

In this three-way match, as the last Aussies still flying the flag for us, AUSTRALIA SELECTED defeated INDIA NATIONAL by 57 to 13 IMPs, and lost narrowly to the very strong USA HAMPSON team 23 to 29 IMPs.

With both Aussie pairs having finished play, and with one board to go in the very close USA HAMPSON – INDIA NATIONAL match in the other three-way, the Aussies needed India's top player, Subhash Gupta to make 4♠.

If he makes 4♠ to win India's match against USA, the Aussies make the big time; if he fails, USA go through:

Board 48, Dealer West

Vul: EW ♠ A 10 8 7 6 5
 ♥ A 9 6
 ♦ K 7 2
 ♣ 10

 ♠ Q 4 3
 ♥ Q 10 5
 ♦ Q J 4 3
 ♣ Q 9 2

West passes, you are North and open 1♠. East overcalls 2♣, 2♠ from partner, 3♣ from West, and you, like a real man, bid 4♠, which is passed out.

East leads ♣8 (third best from six) to West's ace, and a low club is returned, which you ruff. Your play?

You play ♦2 to the eight, jack and five, with the opponents giving reverse count.

You ruff another club, West playing ♣4, and play another diamond, won by East's ace as West plays ♦6. East now switches to ♥3.

Your opponents are world class. What is your play?

The Grand Final was won by NETHERLANDS, Sjoert Brink – Bas Drijver, Ton Bakkeren – Huub Bertens from SWEDEN. Third was shared by USA HAMPSON, Meckstroth – Rodwell, Hampson – Grue – Cheek and BRIDGE i NORGE, named after Norway's bridge magazine.

Those results, with the Aussies not in the top four, and not winning the \$A100,000 first prize, indicate that Subhash misguessed hearts. Subhash is coming to Sydney this winter, to play pro bridge for two months, so you can ask him his reasoning - but I have already asked him. East has ♠?x, ♥?xx, ♦Ax, ♣KJ8xxx and West has ♠?x, ♥?xxx, ♦10965, ♣A64, where one of them has ♠K and the other has ♥K in order to make the 2♣ and 3♣ bids make sense.

Who has which king?

West might have switched to a heart at Trick 2 if he lacks ♥K. East might have gone in with ♦A on the first diamond if he has ♥K, as he can see a possible endplay coming up - declarer might have ♥AJ from East's point of view.



The Netherlands, Yeh Cup winners

If East has ♥K, East might have exited with a club instead of a heart (indeed, a club ruff and discard seems to defeat 4♠ genuinely).

The slightly risky vulnerable 2♣ overcall opposite a passed hand is more likely with ♠Kx over RHO's suit. All the clues seem to indicate playing East for ♥Jxx and ♠Kx. That's what Subhash did – but East, Joe Grue, had ♠J9, ♥K43, ♦A8, ♣KJ8753.

One down, and AUSTRALIA SELECTED was eliminated, because even though they had the most IMPs in the three-way match, USA's 33-25 win over INDIA NATIONAL meant that USA HAMPSON had won two matches to AUSTRALIA SELECTED's one. So close, but no cigar . . .

The Yeh Teams Consolation event, won in 2008 in Kaohsiung in Asia by an Aussie team, was won by CHINA NATIONAL, with LITHUANIA 2nd.

The Yeh Pairs Championship was won by the current world champions, Lorenzo Lauria - Alfredo Versace from Italy. 2nd and 3rd were champions from Europe, with Ishmael Del'Monte – Rob Fruewirth a close 4th (only 3 IMPs from 2nd) and Michael Ware – Michael Whibley from New Zealand 5th.



Lauria - Versace

Prize money was US\$20,000 for 1st, US\$8,000 for 2nd, US\$3,000 for 3rd.

The other Aussies who made the 10-pair final were Michael Prescott – Paul Gosney and Richard Jedrychowski, playing with a Polish partner. The youth pair from Melbourne, Justin Howard – Peter Hollands narrowly missed the Final.

The Gold Coast Teams always has an overseas element, but this year was exceptional, with many of the overseas stars backing up after the Yeh Cup in the Gold Coast Teams before heading to the American Nationals in Houston.



CAYNE:
Gold Coast Teams Champions,
2009



OHNO:
Gold Coast Teams Runners-up,
2009



HORWITZ:
3rd Gold Coast Teams, 2009

The Qualifying Swiss was won by fifth seeds HORWITZ, Murray Green, Ishmael Del'Monte, Andrew Peake, Peter Gill, the only local team in the top nine seeds. Six teams qualified, and the strength of the field was such that the second-seeded current World Champion Italians, LAVAZZA came only =7th, tied with a local team captained by Jeanette Reitzer.

Dealer: North

Vul: Nil

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

After North passed, Peter Gill opened 4♣ on the East cards, sensibly raised to 5♣ by Helen Horwitz. The play in 5♣ presented no problems – 400 to EW.

At the other table, in keeping with the Japanese style of relatively conservative preempting, East opened 3♣, with West responding 3NT, which failed by one trick on the heart lead. 10 IMPs to HORWITZ.

In the other semi final, both Easts opened 3NT, which in their methods showed a “four of a minor” opening.

Both Wests chose to pass, and both Souths led a low spade.

Both declarers decided to rise with ♠A, due to the danger of a heart shift, and when North won ♣A, both Norths played a spade to their partner's king, and both

Souths unerringly switched to ♥Q for a rather splendid flat board of 3NT down three tricks.

Peter Fordham, in the ABF's *Ask An Expert* feature <http://www.abf.com.au/members/whattobid.html> (now conducted by Sartaj Hans) in May 2006, suggested at <http://www.abf.com.au/members/whattobid/may06winner.html> that the hallmark of expert bidding is to be able to judiciously use the takeout double, the forcing pass and the cuebid of the opponent's suit at the right times.

Helen Horwitz and I managed to include all three of these bidding tools in one auction:

Board 4, Dealer West

Vul: All

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

Helen opened 1♥ with the West cards, I responded 2♣ (2/1 GF, natural) and South butted in with 2♠.

Helen passed, a delicate forcing pass to show a minimum hand, while leaving more bidding options open than had she rebid 3♦.

I reopened with a double, in case Helen had a penalty pass of 2♠ doubled. Just like partner, I was keeping the bidding lower and thus more flexible.

Helen rebid 3♦, and in case partner had something like ♠Jx, ♥AKJxx, ♦Jxxx, ♣Qx, I didn't yet want to lock us into diamonds, so I bid 3♠.

Helen made the fine bid of 4♣ to show her doubleton honour, which I dubiously raised to 5♣, when perhaps I could have called 4♦.

Warned by our auction that we lacked a spade stopper, South led ♠A and another, holding 5♣ to 11 tricks when ♣Q fell under the king.

At the other table, Japan reached 5♦ by West. Murray Green led a spade, Ishmael Del'Monte won and returned a spade, then Murray found the clever switch to ♣3.

Declarer innocuously inserted ♣10 from dummy, and suddenly the clubs were no longer solid. After two rounds of trumps exposed the bad break, declarer prematurely played a second club, ruffed, for 12 IMPs to HORWITZ.

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Despite having a sound early lead, HORWITZ eventually succumbed 57-88 IMPs.

Top seeds CAYNE, Jimmy Cayne - Mike Seamon from USA, Lauria – Versace from Italy and Balicki – Zmudzinski from Poland won 91-49 IMPs.

The Grand Final was a comfortable 102-38 win for the top seeds over the Japanese. It's a tough game when the Japanese played like this on Board 26, to score 10 of their 38 IMPs:

Board 25, Dealer North

Vul: EW

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

West	North	East	South
Hirata	Lauria	Ino	Versace
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♦ ²
Pass	2♥ ³	All Pass	

1. 15+ or hearts and clubs.

2. 8+ HCP.

3. Hearts and clubs, minimum.

Ino did well to lead a diamond to the ace (not his club), and Lauria took the heart finesse.

♠J lost to the king, and Hirata wisely avoided the temptation to give partner the known (from the bidding) club ruff, since that play allows 2♥ to make. Lauria ruffed the diamond return, and played a spade, ruffed. Once again, Hirata resisted the urge to give partner a club ruff, playing another diamond.

Lauria played a club to the queen and ace, and now was the time for the ruff – Hirata played a club back. Not expecting it to be ruffed, Lauria rose with ♣K, and had to go down. A superb defence by Hirata to trick the World Champion.

At the other table, Kyoko Ohno bid and made 3NT on the NS cards to gain 10 IMPs, but in a losing cause.

For coverage of more hands from the Final refer to Paul Lavings' article in the April issue of *Australian Bridge* magazine.

With the Yeh Cup attracting the limelight with international Vugraph coverage at the free online site www.bridgebase.com, I almost forgot our most prestigious

Pairs event, the Gold Coast Pairs.

Arjuna De Livera from Canberra won this by a massive margin, in a scratch partnership with England's Howard Melbourne. Having won the GNOT in 2006 and 2007, then topping the datums in the 2008 Interstate Open Teams, Arjuna has hit a purple patch in 2009.



Howard Melbourne &
Arjuna De Livera,

So far this year, Arjuna has won four major events – the Open Last Train and the South West Pacific Teams in Canberra, the Gold Coast Pairs, then the big one – the Open Playoff in March which he won with Ian Robinson, Ian Thomson – Richard Brightling and Peter Reynolds – David Appleton. This team will represent Australia in the Bermuda Bowl in Brazil in September.

Peter Gill



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What Should I Bid?

The best submission for March came from Jeanette Reitzer of Sydney's North Shore:

Dealer: East

Vul: Nil

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

Our auction may require some explanation, or maybe justification:

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

Comments: We play Standard American with two-over-one game-forcing.

After 2♥, should I show a second suit, as my hand improved with partner's bid, or bid 2♠ - no extra values?

Sartaj's Reply:

Hi Jeanette,

Your question is both an intelligent one and a difficult one - and I'm on somewhat shaky ground in my answers.

1. 2♠ versus 3♦: I've come to believe that in constructive auctions, one should try and make the cheapest bid possible, whenever that is an option.

While 3♦ shows a good hand, and describes our hand quite well, it makes the subsequent untangling of the nature of our spade fit unclear.

As long as 2♠ is forcing, we should be on good ground.

For example, if partner bids 3♦, we can pretty much bid a slam ourselves.

If partner bids 2NT, we know we don't have a big diamond fit.

If partner bids 3♥, we can cuebid 4♣.

Despite all that, 3♦ is a fine bid too. Any bid that shows our hand can't be that bad a choice!



2. Over 4♦, there are two schools of thought. One believes that 4♠ is a natural bid, showing a good six-card suit and non-forcing. The other believes that 4♦ sets diamonds as trumps, and everything hereon is a cuebid. While someone like Peter Gill would belong to the first school, others like Tony Nunn go for the second. Me, I'm not sure.

If 4♠ is a natural bid, then that's a reasonable choice. Although I would prefer to have ♠109 for this bid, I think again that the space issues referred to earlier have come into play.

3. Over 5♦, I think we have a clear pass. We have already bid our hand and shown the extra values, we have only four trumps, the spades seem to be misfitting. If there is a slam, it's partner's responsibility to do the business.

Cheers, Sartaj

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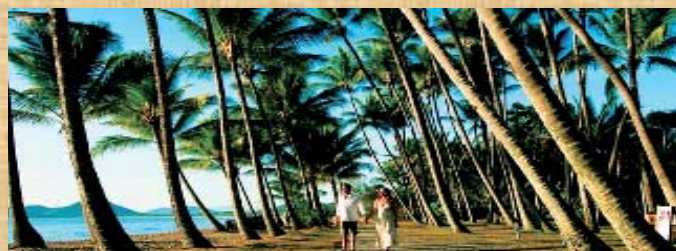
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Important ABF Dates Ahead

June

TBA World Wide Bridge Pairs Contest

Anna Gudge: anna@ecats.co.uk

4-8 VCC Melbourne

Sue Smith: vcc2009@optusnet.com.au

4-5 McCance Senior Swiss Pairs

4-5 Women's Swiss Pairs

4-5 Restricted Swiss Pairs

6-8 Open Teams

6-8 Charlie Snashall Trophy Restricted Teams

6-8 Barrier Reef Congress, Cairns

Kim Ellaway: brc@abf.com.au or (07) 3351 8602

18-28 PABF, Macau

Jane Rasmussen: secretariat@abf.com.au

or (02) 6239 2265

July

3 - 18 ANC Canberra

(Hellenic Club, Woden Town Centre)

Lyn Turner: anc2009@abf.com.au or (02) 6248 0220

August

18-23 Coffs Coast Gold Congress

Coffs Harbour (Opal Cove Resort)

Robyn Bingham: chbridge@midcoast.com.au

or (02) 6651 7845

22-23 Swan River Swiss Open Pairs, Perth

Hilary Yovich: rsrp@abf.com.au or (08) 9341 8116

29 Aug - 12 Sep

World Bridge Team Championships

São Paulo, Brazil

Jane Rasmussen: secretariat@abf.com.au or

(02) 6239 2265

September

2-6 Territory Gold Bridge Festival, Darwin

Pam Nunn: tgbf@abf.com.au or (08) 8981 7287

26-28 HGR Memorial Congress, Perth

Women's Teams

Men's Swiss Pairs

Sheenagh Young: hgr@abf.com.au

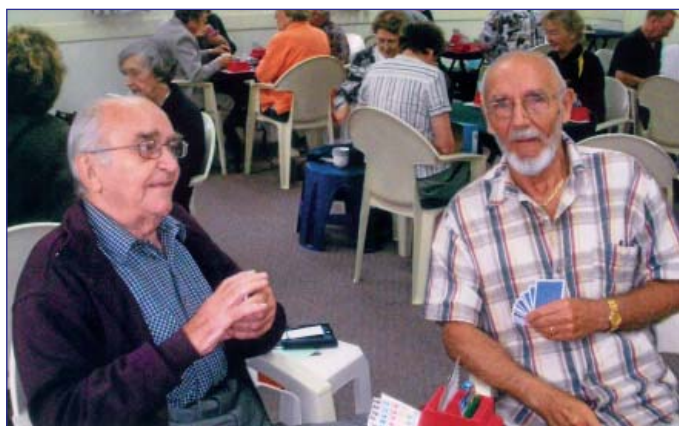
Illawarra Master Players

Illawarra Master Builders Bridge Club will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its inception next year.

In February this year, two of our members had a most impressive score. Jan Deveski and his partner George Czubula, who have played at our club together for over 40 years, achieved a score of 85.8%. The game was held just two days before Jan's 88th birthday. George is 76 years old.

We feel very proud of them, and wonder "Is there in Australian bridge history, any record of such a percentage?"

Anne Smith, President



Jan and George

ILLAWARRA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION INC 14th ANNUAL CONGRESS

will be held at the IBA Hall,
11 Princes Highway, Figtree

Saturday – Pairs 13th June
starting at 10 am

Sunday – Teams 14th June
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Playoff Representation, 2009

There are two target events for our international representatives in 2009.

The first is the PABF Championships, which will be held in Macau, with amended dates of June 18 - 28.

The second is the 39th World Bridge Championships, which includes the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. This will be held in the Transamerica Hotel, São Paulo, Brazil, from August 29 - September 12.

OPEN TEAMS

Macau

Laurie Kelso (NPC)
Jamie Ebery
Leigh Gold
Theo Antoff
Albert Simpson
Tony Nunn
Sartaj Hans

São Paulo

Roy Nixon (NPC)
Ian Thomson
Richard Brightling
Ian Robinson
Arjuna De Livera
Peter Reynolds
David Appleton

WOMEN'S TEAMS

Sue Lusk (NPC)
Elizabeth Havas
Candice Berman
Cathy Lachman
Helen Snashall
Eva Caplan
Nicoleta Giura

Margaret Bourke (NPC)
Felicity Beale
Di Smart
Alida Clark
Leone Fuller
Sue Lusk
Therese Tully

SENIORS' TEAMS

Ishmael Del'Monte (NPC)

Paul Lavings
Ted Griffin
Mike Hughes
Terry Brown
Avi Kanetkar
Bruce Neill

Ron Klinger
David Hoffman
Andrew Braithwaite
Bill Haughie
Bob Richman
George Gaspar

UNDER 26 TEAM

Cathy Mill (NPC)
Peter Hollands
Justin Howard
Hoi-Ming Chan
Leigh Matheson
Adam Edgton
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<http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/SaoPaulo.09>



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Copy Deadline

for Issue No 138, July 2009, the deadline is:

June 26, 2009

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 138
August 2009, at the discretion of the Editor

Penalty Cards

Rulings that involve penalty cards are amongst the most common situations a director will encounter. In fact, I don't believe I have ever directed a session that has not involved at least one penalty card ruling.



Laurie Kelso

Penalty Cards are solely the domain of the defenders. Neither declarer nor dummy can ever have a penalty card. Whenever a defender's card is exposed prematurely, Law considers there should be no advantage accruing to the offending side. Penalty cards are the mechanism whereby certain restrictions, which are designed to theoretically redress the situation, are applied. Conversely if declarer accidentally exposes some of his cards, the only possible advantage would be to his opponents.

Law 50 states that any card exposed by a defender (whether it be accidentally or deliberately) becomes a penalty card, and must remain face up on the table until a rectification has been selected. If the exposure was accidental (i.e., it dropped out of the hand) and the card is below the rank of an honour, then it becomes a 'Minor Penalty Card'.

If, however, the card is an honour (A, K, Q, J or Ten) or any card that is deliberately exposed (such as when leading or following to a trick), then it is a 'Major Penalty Card'.

When a defender accumulates *more* than one exposed card, they are then deemed to all be 'Major Penalty Cards'.

As the name implies, a Minor Penalty Card is considered fairly insignificant, and by its very nature the restrictions upon the defender reflect this. In essence, whilst the card must remain face up on the table, the player can treat the card as though it were in his hand, with the only requirement being that he may not play another card of the same suit below the rank of an honour. There are no other restrictions to the play of the card, whether on lead, or in discarding, or in following suit.

The possession of 'A Major Penalty Card' carries with it significant limitations on the defence, due to the potential information made available by its exposure:

'A Major Penalty Card' must be played at the first legal opportunity whether in leading, following suit, discarding or trumping (Law 50).

In addition should the offender's partner gain the lead whilst the card is faced on the table, declarer has an option of insisting on or prohibiting the lead of that suit, with the prohibition continuing for as long as that player remains on lead.

Consequently, when a defender has the lead while his partner has a major penalty card, he may not lead until declarer has stated which of the options he wishes to select.

Penalty cards also occur when cards are exposed during the auction period, and the offender later becomes a defender, whereas when the offender becomes declarer or dummy, the exposed cards are simply returned to hand.

When there are two or more Penalty Cards on the table the Law gives declarer the right to designate which of the remaining penalty cards the offender must legally contribute, at each turn to play.

Also, every time the offender's partner is on lead, declarer can require the lead of a suit, or prohibit the lead of any suit or suits so exposed. When any of these options are selected, the offender then, however, gets to pick up every card in the suit or suits named, thus reducing the total number of exposed cards.

A further variation is when a defender forgets about the penalty card, and leads or plays a card from hand instead. Now, the illegally played card becomes a second penalty card, and declarer is given the option to select which of the two cards is played.

Because of the potential complexity of the possible options available, the Director will normally remain at the table until all penalty cards have been either played, or otherwise disposed of.

Some players (believing they understand the Law) neglect to call the Director initially, when the card is exposed. These players often escalate the problem, because they, or their opponents, then subsequently lead or play without fully comprehending the options and/or potential restrictions associated with any exposed card. Very few directors will be sympathetic if they have not been called at the appropriate time. Remember also, that no single player is solely responsible for calling the director, so beware of the pitfalls and avoid later complications.

Laurie Kelso

If you are interested in the interpretation of the Laws in Australia and NZ, go to <http://www.abf.com.au/events/tournregs/InRegGuid09.pdf>



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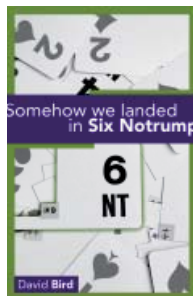
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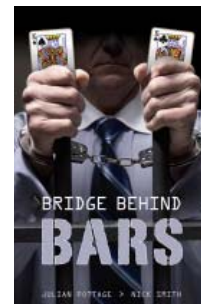


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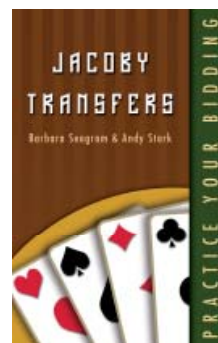
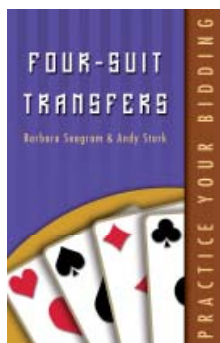
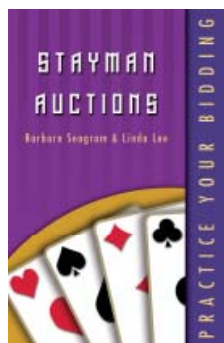
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Letters to the Editor

Slam Zone

It would take some guts, after going down in a small slam, to tell your partner that you would have made the grand slam if (only) it had been bid!

Here is a hand that I played on *BridgeBase Online*. The contract was 6♠.

Dealer: North

Vul: All

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

West	North	East	South
	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦ ²	Pass	3♣ ³
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

1. Forcing club.

2. Strong hand - enquiry.

3. 10+ HCP, 5+ spades.

I could count 11 top tricks (six spades, two hearts, two diamonds and one club).

There are a number of possibilities to make a twelfth trick: (a). play towards ♣Q – this works if the king is onside, (b). finesse ♥10, (c). ruff out the third heart and hope for ♥10 to drop, and (d). endplay one defender with a heart throw-in, forcing them to lead a club away from the king.

I tried option c, and when ♥10 failed to drop, fell back on option a, when I was lucky to find ♣K onside. It would have been embarrassing, however, if ♣K had been with West. Irrespective of where ♣K was, declarer could have made 13 tricks if the contract had been 7♠!

In 7♠, declarer's task is considerably easier. There is only one line of play: that is to find West with ♥K-10, and a possible squeeze for the 13th trick.

The play is 'forced' on declarer: Win ♦Q lead with the king. Advance ♥Q, covered and won by ♥A. ♠A, ♠Q must be overtaken by ♠K in hand (this is necessary, in order to create an entry back to hand later with ♠10, to run the suit and effect the squeeze).

Play a heart to the nine, followed by the jack (discarding a club from hand). Cash ♣A and return to hand by

overtaking ♠9 with ♠10.

Now run the remaining spades. The three-card ending will be:

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

On the last spade, West will have to part with a diamond, and dummy's (now) useless heart can be thrown away.

East is also forced to throw a diamond. Dummy's two diamonds are now good for the last two tricks. Note that if ♣K was with West then ♦9 is a significant card, but since East held ♣K, even a small diamond is good for the 13th trick.

It's ironic that a hopeless-looking grand slam contract should make, and yet you could go down on a more sensible small slam on the same deal. So the next time you are pushed to a corner and it looks hopeless, just remember that it could be a blessing in disguise.

Sanmugaras Kamalarasa, Gold Coast

A different angle on the Grand National Pairs

Dear Editor,

I was disappointed to read the letter from Reg Busch in the last edition of the ABF Newsletter. Mr Busch is a Grand Master, and a Life Member of the ABDA, and, as such, his opinions should be informed and valued. As a relatively new bridge player, however, I found them to be bordering on the narrow-minded and selfish.

I am a member of the Eastern Region Bridge Association, which represents seven enthusiastic and active bridge clubs in Eastern Victoria. The combined membership is approximately 400, with an overwhelming majority of the players being under Life Master status.

Phillip Island and South Gippsland in the western end of the region, are reasonably close to Melbourne (1.5 hours), but the remaining five clubs suffer the "tyranny of remoteness," described by Keith McDonald, with Lakes Entrance (the most remote) being 3.5 hours from Melbourne. In addition, Lakes Entrance has a large number of members who travel from Orbost, so add another hour to that journey.

For players in the eastern end of the region, to compete in an event at the VBA usually involves an extremely early start, an overnight stay, or a very late return home. An overnight stay in Melbourne, combined with petrol costs, makes for a very costly bridge day, even though the VBA generally reduces the entry fees for country members.

Opportunities for players in our clubs to receive Gold Points are rare, so I was delighted when the GNP event was launched in 2008, and despite being barely out of kindergarten myself in bridge terms, was happy to take on the role of Regional Co-ordinator for Gippsland. The cooperation and assistance of the ABF (Jane Rasmussen and John Brockwell) was outstanding, and I felt the event ran smoothly at both club and regional levels. The six pairs who went on to Canberra to represent our region were made to feel welcome, and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience and came back to their clubs energised, and keen to compete again in 2009. Their enthusiasm has had a flow-on effect amongst other players in the clubs, who can now see that playing bridge in Canberra is not just for the elite.

I do take on board Mr Busch's comment about the generous nature of the Gold Points for this event, that there is no factoring down for a restricted event, and the distribution (75% of the field in club events, and 100% of the field in Regional and Grand Final) – perhaps this is something the Management Committee could revisit.

I cannot speak about the political or economic ramifications of the GNP, but can assure Mr Busch that the concept and execution of this event in 2008/2009, was probably as exciting for the players of my level as representing Australia would be for the top state players. We roll up week after week, enjoying the occasional Green Point success, and turn up at congress events to be the “cannon fodder” and provide “bums on seats,” with little hope of securing too many Red or Gold Points, so to be recognised by the ABF with our own national event was inspirational and encouraging.

Within ERBA, most of the clubs participate in the nationwide events, and run four or five B4 events during the year, so we do get the opportunity to compete for Red Points, but I note that Mr Busch would see these killed off together with the GNP and GNOT.

Interestingly, immediately following Mr Busch's letter in the ABF Newsletter last month, was a story about an initiative to encourage more novices to move from lessons to club duplicate sessions. I believe we need more - not less - encouragement, and opportunities for our newer players – they are, after all, the future of bridge.

Christine Heesom, Paynesville Bridge Club

A new director problem?

Sometimes movements get stuffed up ,but this is the first time I have seen this!

At Coolangatta today, we were playing a Howell movement, and the director was called to the table next to ours. The pairs had moved and bid a board when they discovered that one pair was sitting NE and the other SW. They didn't even notice that their partner was not their partner until the bidding was over and they started to play the board.

I bet that hasn't happened before. Might be a good one for your magazine. I could give you the names if you are game to print them.

Regards Ean Quested

Ed: Names withheld to protect the red-faced!

Nonagenarians abound

Dear Editor,

Our club, Oatley Charity Bridge Club, has 27 members, of whom six are nonagenarians, i.e. 21.1%

The Great Lakes have a greater number of members over 90, but their percentage is only 5.8%

It is pleasing to see so many “seniors” playing the game of bridge. We meet each Monday at 12.15 pm at the Oatley RSL, with all players welcomed.

Phyllis Lavers, Oatley Charity Bridge Club.



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Best performing Of all Masters

DE LIVERA, ARJUNA	166.91	KILVERT, YVONNE	40.61	GOLDSMITH, GARY	25.11
WILKINSON, MICHAEL	149.33	HOLLANDS, PETER	40.60	WILEY, VICKY	25.09
GOSNEY, PAUL	135.54	SLUYTER, HENK	40.59	FRAZER, KIM	24.11
LAVINGS, PAUL	134.82	PURBRICK, PENNY	40.28		
ROBINSON, IAN	131.26	JAGELMAN, DI	40.05	<i>Best performing State Masters</i>	
GILL, PETER	116.52	GEDDES, MARGARET	39.64	KELLY, JOHN	71.09
LEIBOWITZ, TONY	115.97	STEWART, HELEN	37.34	NILSSON, PETER	41.85
GRIFFITHS, NYE	113.32			MCCOULL, FRANCES	38.11
HOFFMAN, DAVID	107.39	<i>Best performing Life Masters</i>		NILSSON, DEBORAH	36.90
HORWITZ, HELEN	103.07	CARTER, YOLANDA	52.92	MURABEN, DARYO	32.65

Best performing Silver Grand Masters

DE LIVERA, ARJUNA	166.91	DOECKE, MIKE	40.63	HIGGINS, JAMES	25.30
LAVINGS, PAUL	134.82	BROUGHTON, ROSALIE	40.45	GINNAN, LAURA	25.21
ROBINSON, IAN	131.26	PARKIN, CHRISTINE	36.73	PALFREYMAN, SONYA	24.57
GILL, PETER	116.52	HAMILTON, ALAN	36.04	PALFREYMAN, SHAYNE	24.57
HOFFMAN, DAVID	107.39	LEMON, KAYLEE	34.56	MCALISTER, DIANA	24.06
BROWN, TERRY	99.25	SLAUGHTER, CATHY	33.32		
KLINGER, RON	98.72	MEDHAT, MARLEEN	33.23	<i>Best performing Regional Masters</i>	
NUNN, TONY	97.88			GREGORY, LYNNE	11.73
GREEN, MURRAY	97.44	<i>Best performing **National Masters</i>		HATTERSLEY, HELEN	11.69
DEL'MONTE, ISHMAEL	97.00	MEERBACH, FERDINAND	30.41	PARTRIDGE, MARGARET	10.98

Best performing Grand Masters

WILKINSON, MICHAEL	149.33	CHARLESWORTH, IAN	22.22	PERERA, ARTHUR	10.30
GOSNEY, PAUL	135.54	MOLINO, BRUNO	23.84	SILBERSTEIN, SANDRA	9.97
LEIBOWITZ, TONY	115.97	CHARLESWORTH, IAN	22.22	MEDLYCOTT, IAN	9.31
GRIFFITHS, NYE	113.32	MCERLEAN, TINA	20.79	ROMAN, DANUTA	9.15
WILLIAMS, JUSTIN	102.46	DAGLISH, BRUCE	20.18	SMITH, MICHAEL	8.85
DE JONG, HENRI	85.43	KIERAN, JANET	18.00	EDWARDS, MARGARET	8.80
BOYLSOON, CHRISTINE	82.72	KIERAN, PETER	17.99	CURRELL, JOHN	8.35
HARKNESS, JUSTINE	82.02	HEPBURN, JANICE	16.09		
HUTTON, HELENA	81.10	MILNER, SANDRA,	15.67	<i>Best performing Regional Masters</i>	

Best performing Gold Life Masters

HOWARD, JUSTIN	72.51	<i>Best performing *National Masters</i>		WILLIS, EDWINA	24.41
LEIBOWITZ, LOUISE	55.48	LEACH, ELAINE	63.34	HEMING, TERRY	19.52
LIVESEY, PETER	54.07	CASEY, RON	61.13	CLARKE, HELEN	18.54
PORTER, MATTHEW	50.24	FOX, MIKE	59.22	TENNER, KEN	18.10
JENNER-O'SHEA, WILLIAM	49.79	WHIDDON, CATHERINE	47.73	ANDREWS, TONY	17.70
CLARKE, GARRY	43.01	MACQUARRIE, CHRISTINA	43.86	BANERJEE, SADHAN	17.64
DRURY, DINA	42.75	ALLISON, MARY	41.58	DEVRIES, ROBIN	16.40
HOWES, ROSLYN	41.75	YUEN, SEBASTIAN	37.44	FARRINGTON, ALAN	15.82
STEPHENS, ADRIENNE	40.00	WYLIE, MERLEINE	37.29	LUCK, DAVID	15.00

Best performing Silver Life Masters

FOREMAN, CAROLE	39.02	PIERCE, JACK	35.21	SCHAEFFER, JUNE	14.13
HORWITZ, HELEN	103.07	<i>Best performing National Masters</i>			
FISCHER, STEPHEN	56.15	TREDINNICK, MICHELE	57.84	<i>Best performing **Local Masters</i>	
HEGEDUS, ANDREW	51.09	CROSSMAN, BRUCE,	57.62	MOSKOVSKY, ELLENA	31.21
REITZER, JEANETTE	49.42	CROSSMAN, BEV	57.41	TRAVIS, LAUREN	22.65
DAWSON, HELENA	48.64	BUGLER, PATRICK	45.81	CODOGNOTTO, JENNIFER	21.59
STEFFENSEN, KEVIN	46.53	HIRST, ANDREW	40.26	FRASER, ARCHIBALD	19.34
LINTON, ERICA	43.29	LONG, KEITH	33.16	GILMOUR-WALSH, BRIDGET	18.73
KELLY, MAGGIE	40.80	HISCOX, MARY	32.91	LARCOMBE, MICHAEL	17.04

Best performing Bronze Life Masters

BURKE, TONY	61.96	WINKLER, STEPHAN	32.85	BARDA, RACHELINE	15.86
BIRSS, PIM	42.52	ISLE, VALERIE	31.57	ROGERS, JOHN	15.03
FRASER, BRUCE	41.47	SCHALLER, GEOFFREY	30.91	CARROLL, WAYNE	14.22
		<i>Best performing State Masters</i>		PERKINS, YVONNE	13.20
		THORNBERRY, REBECCA	34.40		
		MATHESON, LEIGH	30.94	<i>Best performing *Local Masters</i>	
		HANNIGAN, MICHAEL	30.68	JEFFRIES, JULIE	22.99
		MAYNARD, ALISON	28.83	JEFFREY, JOHN	16.04
		HURST, ROBERT	28.22	ZHANG, PATRICK	15.84

		JENSEN, BILL	27.35	BRETNALL, JEANETTE	12.37
		CARMODY, VAL	25.43	HORSFIELD, SUDI	11.52
				CAMPBELL, MYONG	9.87
				MANDER, EVELYNE	9.74
				MORGAN, DIANE	9.24
				GALLAGHER, BRIAN	9.12
				NESS, JACKIE	8.69



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Coaching Cathy at Contract

Slam Happy

Me Again,

I have had some hard luck stories in recent times, when I have picked up really large hands and partner has opened the bidding.

I really think I was let down on one hand when partner (a beginner, dare I suggest?) passed my Blackwood bid.

However, I digress. Please be gentle.

Slam (un)happy #1

I was playing with someone new, and I thought that it would be best to keep it simple. My partner opened 1♥, we were playing five-card majors, and I held:

♠ A Q 10 7 3
♥ K J 5
♦ A Q 7 6
♣ 5

Anyway, I wasn't sure whether 4♣ would be Gerber, so I just bid 4NT.

Partner was a bit confused by this and PASSED. Well, that was a bit of a let-down. Even though I managed to make 11 tricks in 4NT, obviously we got a bad score, because 6♥ was easy.

Slam (un)happy #2

This one was with Glenda. She opened 1♦ and I had this hand:

♠ A 6 5
♥ A 5
♦ K Q J 7 6 5
♣ 43

Well, we play Gerber, Key Card style, so I bid 4♣ and she showed 2 Key Cards.

Then I asked for kings and she showed two.

So now I wasn't sure, and settled for 6♦ instead of 6NT.

Actually, she made 7♦, but it was only an average score.

Her hand was:

♠ K Q 10 4 ♥ K 3 ♦ A 10 4 3 2 ♣ A 7

Slam (un)happy #3

Glenda opened 1NT (15-17) and I had:

♠ K Q J 9 7 3
♥ K 5 2
♦ 3
♣ A J 5

Well, I'm ashamed to tell you that I tried 3♠ and when partner didn't support, I signed off in 4♠, making 12 tricks. I think I was a bit pessimistic.

Your thoughts, please, Guess who?

Dear Cathy,

Did you have a bus to catch on those first two hands? What was the hurry?

Let me remind you what happens when you respond 1♠ on a hand such as the first one. Even your not so well trained partner will give you some excellent insight into the strength and shape of the hand. Then you can ask for aces. If your partner supports spades, you may well find an alternative trump suit. I accept that you were trying to keep things simple for your less experienced partner, but I suspect that you did so by creating a situation that a novice has never yet experienced, so little wonder that he got confused.

I guess that the moral of hand number 1 is that you usually get the best information by making a one-over-one response.

The same principle applies on hand two, but I can well understand the potential for disaster if you respond 1♠ and partner supports your three-card suit. However, 2♣ can do little harm.

On this hand, you would have seen a 2♠ rebid from partner, confirming 5-4 shape and extra strength. I don't blame you for not reaching 7♦; after all, it is only a make if ♠J comes down, but 6NT starts to look good opposite 16+ HCP.

This is a more difficult hand to bid because you don't have a second suit, but the principle illustrated on the first hand still holds true.

The third hand was clearly more of a misjudgment on your part. However, over 1NT, this is the sort of hand that Gerber was designed for.

In the modern game, Roman Key Card is better but, holding solid spades apart from the ace, a simple ace ask is all you should need. If partner shows two aces, have a go!

Yours, David

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Venue: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Corner of Flinders Street and Spencer Street, Southbank, Melbourne

Tournament Organiser: Sue Smith

Email: vcc2009@optusnet.com.au

Home: (03) 9886 8809

Mobile: 0429 056 445

Website: www.vba.asn.au/vcc2009

Bridge into the 21st Century

The Semi-Forcing 1NT Response to One of a Major

The Forcing 1NT response to one of a major was invented by Alvin Roth in the 1950s, along with the Unusual Notrump, Weak Twos, and Negative Doubles. It was later modified to “Semi-Forcing” by Marty Bergen.



The original idea was that the 1♥ or 1♠ opener promised another bid over the response of 1NT, even if it be in a three-card minor. Most F1NT adherents, certainly in the USA, now play the Semi-Forcing 1NT response, where the opener may pass the 1NT response with a balanced 11 or 12 HCP.

Those who play Two-over-one game forcing need a F1NT response to a major, and the SF1NT response is a logical progression.

The SF1NT response allows the responder to bid 1NT on more hand types.

Let's say the opening bid is 1♥. What do you respond holding:

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

1. 1NT. This is a great hand for the system. Opener will pass your 1NT with 11-12 balanced, and you will be better placed than other partnerships, who may finish higher. If opener continues with 2♦ you will raise to 3♦, otherwise you will rebid 2NT over 2♣ or 2♥, showing a maximum 1NT, 10-11 HCP.

2. 2♥. The single raise is a good 6 to a poor 10 HCP, as normal.

3. 1NT. Muddying the waters for the opponents, who may find it difficult to judge their level correctly.

4. 1NT. Intending to jump in support of hearts at your next turn. Many pairs use the jump in the other major to show this sort of hand. Those bids are now free to use as natural weak jump responses, or perhaps splinters.

5. 1NT. Planning to show your diamond suit later.

In Example 1, it worked well if opener passed with 11-12 balanced, but in Examples 3, 4 and 5 you would not be so comfortable playing 1NT.

With the SF1NT you must be prepared to take the good with the bad.

What does the opener rebid over the SF1NT response? Try these hands after 1♠ - 1NT:

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

1. Pass. With 11-12 balanced, quit the scene. You may not be in the best strain, but at least you are at a low level.

2. 2♣. With 13-14 balanced, opener rebids the cheaper three-card minor. Responder returns to 2♠ with two spades, even when holding four of opener's “minor”.

3. 2♣. The normal bid. When opener rebids a minor, it may be a three-card suit, but it also could be four, or five.

4. 3♥. This hand is too good to bid just 2♥. Some partnerships play that opener's 2NT rebid over 1NT is an artificial game force. This works well, but leaves you without a natural raise to 2NT.

5. 3NT. Looks a better shot than 4♠, or an invitational 3♠. With your solid six-card suit, nine tricks will probably be easier than 10.

Let's have a look at what responder does when the bidding proceeds 1♠ - 1NT, 2♣:

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

1. 2♠. The return to opener's major will invariably show doubleton support. Do not pass 2♣; opener may only have a three-card suit.

2. Pass. If opener has three clubs (and therefore 13-14 balanced), you will be in the best spot. DO NOT raise to 3♣, as that shows 10-11 HCP.

3. 3♠. You always planned to jump support, showing 10-11 HCP and three-card support.

4. 2D. The takeout to a new suit is a six- or seven-card suit and 6-9 HCP.

5. 2NT. Again, you always planned to rebid 2NT to show 10-11 HCP. Of course, if opener had rebid 2♦ you would have raised to 3♦, also showing 10-11 HCP.

There are a number of awkward situations.

Opener may have a 4-5-2-2 shape. I recommend pass (with 11-12 HCP) or rebidding 2♣ over the 1NT re-

sponse. Responder to 1♠ may have a 1-4-4-4 shape, bid 1NT, and hear 2♣ or 2♦, which may be a three-card suit. Pass is recommended, even though opener may have a three card minor.

Recommended reading:

Understanding 1NT Forcing

Marty Bergen, \$13.95 postfree.

Paul Lavings

Postfree Bridge Books

02-9388-8861

postfree@bigpond.net.au

From RonKlingerBridge.com

From the Seniors' Playoffs

What do you lead as West holding ♠1096532, ♥85, ♦A, ♣K653 after this auction:

Dealer: East : EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦ ¹	Pass	4♥ ²
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦ ³
Pass	5♥ ⁴	Pass	6♥ ⁵
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

1. Transfer to hearts.
2. Good hand for hearts.
3. 1 or 4 Key Cards for hearts.
4. To play opposite 1 Key Card, or to bid slam opposite 4.
5. ♥Q but no outside king.

The bridge in the Seniors' Playoffs was not always great, but it was very exciting at times.

This was the very last board of the Final.

At our table, I made a Lightner double of 6♥, hoping West would find a spade lead.

David Hoffman, West, did very well. He cashed ♦A: four – nine – ten, then shifted to ♠10, ruffed. He ruffed the diamond return and played another spade, ruffed. That was three down, for EW +500.

The full deal:

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

To find out what happened at the other table, subscribe to RonKlinger.com, which has a wide variety of material, including blogs on important events.

Bridge Promotion

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Congress Dates

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VCC, Melbourne: www.vba.asn.au/vcc2009

Tournament Organiser: Sue Smith

Email: vcc2009@optusnet.com.au

June 6 - 8

Barrier Reef Congress, Cairns

Contact : Kim Ellaway, tel: (07) 3351 8602

More details on the QBA website

June 27 - 28

Geelong Congress

Secretary: Sue Robinson, (03) 5229 0300

Email: suerob@ncable.net.au

June 26-28

Orange Congress, Walk-In Pairs, Pairs & Teams

Convener: Margaret Robinson, (02) 6362 8241

Email: marob@netwit.net.au

June 27 - 29

Tamworth Bridge Club Swiss Pairs

July 5

Noosa Swiss Teams

Email Kath McKay: noosabridge@bigpond.com

July 12

Gold Coast BC Swiss Teams

Email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

August 18 - 23

Coffs Harbour Gold Congress

www.coffsbridge.com.au (Info & online entries)

Email: jon@australiawideconferences.com.au

August 25 - 26

Swan River Swiss Open Pairs

Convener: Hilary Yovich

August 29 - 30

Dubbo Pairs and Swiss Teams

Contact Secretary, Jane North: (02) 6882 5107

Email: jln@bbso.com.au

August 30

Noosa Novice Pairs

Email Kath McKay: noosabridge@bigpond.com

September 2 - 6

Territory Gold Bridge Festival, Darwin

Convener: Pam Nunn

Email: tgbf@abf.com.au

September 20 - 21

Noosa Swiss Teams & Butler Pairs

Email Kath McKay: noosabridge@bigpond.com

October 3 - 4

Gold Coast BC Butler Pairs & Swiss Teams

Email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

National Tournament Directors - 5.4.09

Active

National 1 - International

Richard Grenside - WA

Laurie Kelso - Vic

Matthew McManus - NSW

Sean Mullamphy - ACT

National 1

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Jon Free - WA

Phil Gue - SA

Peter Marley - Vic

Eric Ramshaw - Vic

Martin Willcox - Vic

National 2

Alan Gibson - Qld

Reg Busch - Qld

Gordon Henderson - ACT

Tony Howes - NSW

Angela Little - Tas

David Lusk - SA

John McIlrath - NSW

National 3

Bill Kemp - WA

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Russell Milburn - WA

Jan Peach - Qld

Geoff Slack-Smith - Qld

National 1

David Anderson - SA

Reg Busch - Qld

Chris Diment - NSW

Simon Edler - Tas

Jon Free - WA

Phil Gue - SA

Peter Marley - Vic

Eric Ramshaw - Vic

Martin Willcox - Vic

Inactive

National 1

John Brockwell, ACT, Jon Hunt, ACT, Ian Robinson, ACT

National 2

Ted Chadwick, NSW, David Hoffman, ACT,

Michael Kent, Qld, Paul Lavings, NSW,

John Roberts, NSW, Richard Ward, Qld.

National 3

Paul Sherman, NSW, John Scudder, NSW, Lii Soots, WA

Disclaimer: This is an ABF, not WBF Register

Coffs Coast Bridge Super Congress 2009

Entry Form

Contact Details (*mandatory)		ABF No:	
Name:			
Address:			
Ph:		Fax:	
Mobile			
Email:			
Payment Methods	Direct Transfer:	\$	Account Name: Coffs Harbour Bridge Club BSB No: 082 551 Account No: 573 093 822 Customer Reference: your ABF number
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque/Money Order enclosed for		\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my credit card for		\$	We accept only Visa or Mastercard
Card Number:		Expiry Date	
Name on Card			
Signature of Card Holder			

Program	Tuesday 18 th August 2009	-	Sunday 23 rd August 2009
	Price/Player	Number	Total
Tuesday Night Welcome Function & Pairs (pre registration essential)	\$20		
Open/Restricted Pairs (Wed/Thurs)	\$125		
Friday Workshop – Directors Forum	Free		
Saturday Night Dinner - Live Entertainment	\$50		
Open/Restricted Teams (Fri Night/Sat/Sun)	\$115		
	(or \$460/Team)	Total	
Please forward entries to: Jon Doland, PO Box 300, Woolgoolga NSW 2456 Ph 02 6654 1104 Fax 02 6654 9777 Email: jon@australiawideconferences.com.au Online entries www.coffsbridge.com.au/congress.html <i>Entries close on 25th July 2009. All entries must be accompanied by entry fee.</i> <i>Table numbers will be capped at around 110.</i> <i>Coffs Harbour Bridge Club may also accept late entries at its discretion.</i>			

			Indicate events being entered (Y/N)		
Event	ABF No	Full Name	Open Pairs	Restricted	Welcome Pairs
Pair 1					
	ABF No	Full Name			
Pair 2					
			Open Teams (Y/N)		Restricted teams (Y/N)
Teams	ABF No	Full Name			
1 Capt					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

18-23 AUGUST 2009

Coffs Coast Super Congress

Venue:
Opal Cove Resort

**G
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POINTS

Programme, Application form and Booking
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www.coffsbridge.com.au

(take the congress link) or fill in entry form on the
inside of the back cover of this Newsletter

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Coffs Harbour Bridge Club

Programme of the Week Events

Tuesday 18	6pm Welcome Cocktail Party; 7pm Welcome Pairs (pre entry)
Wed 19 & Thurs 20	10am & 2.30pm Butler Swiss Pairs
Friday 21	9.30am Directors Forum; 10.30 Workshop; 2.30 Walk in Pairs; 7.30 Swiss Teams
Saturday 22	10am & 2.30pm Swiss Teams ; 7.30pm Congress Dinner
Sunday 23	10am Swiss Teams followed by Prize giving

Workshop held by David Beauchamp & Ted Chadwick

For more details phone Jon/Ian 02 6654 1104