

# ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

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## Gold from the Gold Coast

The Gold Coast Congress celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. The tournament is held in Broadbeach at a magnificent convention centre with tons of rental apartments and restaurants within easy walking distance. That, the magnificent weather and superb organisation have made the GCC the most popular tournament in Australia. Broadbeach is like South Beach without the attitude, drugs, violence and poseurs.

This year I was invited to join the Daily Bulletin team of David Stern and Barry Rigal.

Despite my bulletin duties, I played both main events, the pairs and the teams. My partners, Anton Blagov from Toronto (teams) and P.O. Sundelin (Stockholm) for the pairs are 50 years apart in age. Anton is a multi-talented kid, having graduated from the University of Toronto at the top of his class in Actuarial Science, currently making his living playing poker and having played on Canada's Junior bridge teams for the past five years.

On the following hand he used his poker skills to get a 'read' on his opponent and make a successful anti-percentage play:

Board 11, South deals, nil vulnerable

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



South Beach, also nicknamed SoBe, is a neighborhood in the city of Miami Beach, Florida. It encompasses roughly the southernmost 23 blocks of the main barrier island that separates the Atlantic Ocean and Biscayne Bay. This area was the first section of Miami Beach to be developed, starting in the 1910s. The area has gone through numerous artificial and natural changes over the years, including a booming regional economy and tourism.

West	North	East	South
Blagov		Carruthers	
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
3♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
3NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

1. Checkback Stayman
2. Three-card heart support
3. Checking for a four-card spade suit
4. Denies four spades

North led a diamond against 6NT. Blagov won in hand to find out who had ♦Q. He led a club to the jack and a low heart from dummy. When South played ♥4 smoothly, declarer put in ♥9! When that forced the king, he was home. Had South split ♥J10 - and how could he know to do so - Anton could have squeezed him in the majors to make his contract.

Had ♥9 lost to ♥10 or ♥J, Blagov planned to run ♥Q next, trying to pin the other honour. If that did not work, a 3-3 spade split or a squeeze on South in the majors might still be available (as long as Anton's 'read' was correct and ♥K was with North).

The teams has a unique format: three days of Swiss Qualifying (12 x 14-board matches) with the top six teams qualifying. Teams 1 and 2 have a bye to the semi finals and Team 3 picks its opponent for the quarter finals. (Team 1 picks its semi final opponent.)  
*Ed: The format for the latter part of the teams has been modified in recent years - it used to be possible to "Swiss it" in the last round, to miraculously find oneself in the two team final. I know from experience, having been in that position myself!*

*From the GCC Daily Bulletin, March 1:* "We have a definite policy towards retaining the basic format. Changes are introduced, but slowly. In recent years, for example, we have moved to a longer finals series for the teams - now with six teams making the playoffs. This has freed some time at the end of the week for extra events for those not in the finals."

The GCC Daily Bulletins provide hours of great reading. This excerpt can be found by following the link: [http://www.qldbridge.com/gcc/2011/bulletin\\_04.pdf](http://www.qldbridge.com/gcc/2011/bulletin_04.pdf)

David Appleton of *TRAVIS* displayed skilful declarer play on the following deal from the quarter finals:

*Board 9, North deals, EW vulnerable*

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

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

♠ A K J 8 2  
♥ A 3  
♦ 5 3  
♣ J 6 3 2

West	North	East	South
Reid	Appleton	Jacob	Reynolds
	1NT	Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1. Transfer

Three very good declarers failed in 4♠ here when the spade finesse lost.

Appleton received ♥9 opening lead. He won the ace, just in case there was a ruff about, and played another heart. West won the king and shifted to a diamond, declarer winning his ace.

Appleton now played ♥Q. Can you blame East for ruffing? When he did so, Appleton placed West with ♠Q and cashed the two top spades, felling the doubleton queen, for plus 420 and 10 IMPs in.

*John Carruthers, The Kibitzer, Summer 2011*

### **Results from the Gold Coast Congress**

#### **Open Pairs - 11 sections Final A**

Michael Ware - Geo Tislevoll  
Ishmael Del'Monte - Ashley Bach



*Teams winners, NOBLE, Tom Jacob, Martin Reid, Barry Noble, Ashley Bach, Ishmael Del'Monte & Gianarrigo Rona, visiting WBF President*

#### **Seniors Final A**

Hashmat Ali - Bal Krishan  
Tony Marinos - Peter Grant

There were four sections in the Seniors' field.

#### **Open Teams Final**

*NOBLE* (see above) defeated Bill Hirst - Andrew Hirst - Howard Melbourne - Michelle Brunner - John Holland (Great Britain)

#### **Seniors' Teams Final**

John Brockwell - Eric Ramshaw - Arthur Robbins - Gary Ridgway defeated Martin Bloom - Steven Bock - Les Grewcock - Alex Yezerski

#### **Intermediate Teams Final**

Patrick Bugler - Yolanda Carter - Craig Francis - Nikolas Moore defeated Alexander Cook - Robin Ho - Tony Allen - Kelela Allen

#### **Restricted Teams Final**

Ian Bailey - Graham Markey - Robin Devries - Richard Lock defeated Anna Bell - Anne Nothling - Robyn Palethorpe - Penny Schmalkuche

#### **Novice Teams Final**

Jillian Tuckey - Rozanne Thomas - Denis Moody - Monty Dale defeated Kevin Balkin - Pauline Balkin - Hope Tomlinson - Barry Foster

#### **Mixed Teams:**

1. Lindsey Guy - Stephen Gray - Greer Tucker - Steve White
2. Brian Callaghan - Christine Duckworth - Nick Hughes - Nicoleta Giura



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## One of our boys stars in the USA

Congratulations to *FLEISHER*, Marty Fleisher, Michael Kamil, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby, Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein, who are 2011 Vanderbilt Champions! The final score was 126 - 115 IMPs. Our hats are off to *GRUE*, Ishmael Del'Monte, David Bakhshi, Les Amoils, Joe Grue, and Curtis Cheek, following their hard-fought battle.



Ishmael

These two teams treated the Vugraph spectators to a thrilling fourth quarter. *FLEISHER* picked up 5 IMPs on the first board of the fourth quarter to tie it up with 15 boards to go, when Levin judged correctly to not double 4♠ holding ♠ K7543, ♥ 2, ♦ 752, ♣ A632 after partner overcalled 1♥. His counterpart in the other room doubled. 10 tricks were scored at both tables.

Then came this hand where Bakhshi opened 2♥ that helped propel Martel - Stansby too high (or in the wrong strain). 13 IMPs to *GRUE*.

Board 19, South deals, EW vulnerable

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

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

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

♠ 5 4  
♥ K Q 10 5 3  
♦ 9 5 3  
♣ 6 5 3

West Cheek	North Levin	East Grue	South Weinstein
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	2♥
3♦	3♥	4♠	All Pass

West Stansby	North Del'Monte	East Martel	South Bakhshi
			2♥
2♠	3♥	Dbl	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

*Ed; The Vanderbilt, or the knockout teams championship at the Spring NABC, was held in Louisville, Kentucky, USA in March. The Vanderbilt Cup was donated by Harold Vanderbilt in 1928, and was competed for as an individual event until 1958 when it was incorporated into the annual Spring NABC.*

## Showcasing bridge

Brisbane's Channel 7 shot footage at the Queensland Contract Bridge Club on 14 April for inclusion in 'The Great South East' program which is due to air some time in May.

Players on the day demonstrated how resilient they are, as their session was conducted whilst filming and interviews took place around them!

Special thanks go to Monica Pritchard (President QCBC), Toni Bardon (Secretary QCBC), Larry Moses (Youth Coordinator Queensland), Joan Butts (National Teaching Officer), David Stern and David Thompson (Youth Bridge) for making this day a success.

Also a huge thank you to some of our younger members who came along to ensure that the image we project to viewers is one where all ages are involved in the sport.

The producer/presenter from Channel 7, Kimberley Busted, congratulated all involved and mentioned that she found it an absolute pleasure to work with such professional and cooperative people.

*Sandra Mulcahy*



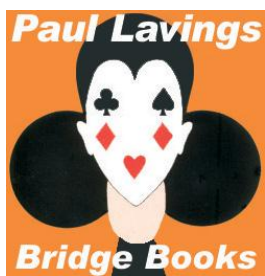
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for Issue No 150, July 2011,  
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**June 26, 2011**

Late submissions will be held over  
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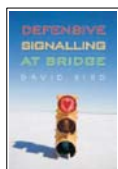


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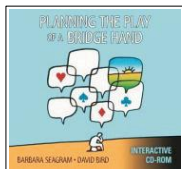
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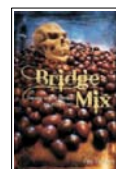
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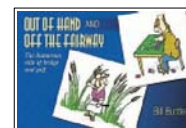
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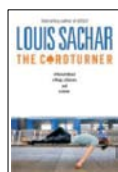
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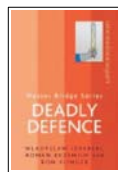
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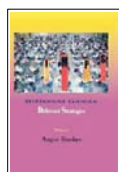
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## It's The Law!

### *All you ever wanted to know about substitutes*



Ideally once play begins, the size and composition of an event should remain constant. However, in reality this is not always possible. Sometimes players become sick, or there might be other unforeseen circumstances that render a player, a pair or even a team unable to continue.

In an emergency situation the Director has the power to take whatever steps he deems necessary in order to ensure the continuation of the movement. One possibility is not to replace the missing unit. This can lead to the creation of a 'sit-out', or maybe even a triangle or a bye in a teams event. In a worst case scenario, there might have to be more than one sit-out in the movement for the rest of a session!

A better alternative is to attempt to replace the missing players. Usually this will just be for one session, but sometimes it has to be for the remainder of the competition.

Players who fill-in for only a small portion of an event, such as a single match or session, are usually deemed to be 'substitutes'. Players who fill in for the majority of the event may assume the rights of an original entrant, whereby the original - but-now-absent player is then deemed to be the substitute.

Most club competitions are played over a number of weeks, and hence a slightly more liberal policy may be appropriate. If not, then the size of the field may be quite limited, with many players unable to play bridge for quite an extended period of time, just because they were unavailable for a single week.

A substitute cannot be someone who is already entered or playing in the event. For example, if they are in a six-person team and not scheduled to play for the current match, they cannot play as a substitute in another team. The folly of this is best illustrated by what happened recently in one club, where the player filling in ended up playing against his own teammates.

A substitute should be someone who would have been eligible to participate. For example, a replacement for a Senior's event should also be a senior, or in a Women's event, a replacement should be another woman.

This all sounds pretty simple, however, clubs often encounter problems because many people are not aware of these principles. It never ceases to amaze me how often supposedly experienced players try to use a player of the wrong gender in a Mixed Pairs event! Another question I am sometimes asked is: "My

partner will be away next week and so will Fred's; can Fred and I be each other's substitute and play together?" The simple answer is - No! Two pairs cannot suddenly become one and then revert back to two for the rest of the event.

The main consideration with any potential substitution is the integrity of the whole competition. Ideally, a substitute should be of approximately similar standard and ability as the person they are replacing. It is inherently unfair to the rest of the field if the best player in the club is suddenly used as a substitute for one of the weakest.

Nevertheless, the attempted use of an inappropriate substitute does occur from time to time, and some organisations try to monitor this by requiring prior notification (where possible) of the planned replacement. Then in situations where a more appropriate alternative is unavailable, they resort to applying score adjustments in respect to what they commonly term 'overweight' or 'illegal' substitutions.

None of the above is necessarily straightforward, however, clubs will from time-to-time encounter such issues, and hence should have some sort of policy in place, otherwise things can get very messy!

*Laurie Kelso*

16<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Barrier Reef Congress



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## What should I bid?

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Pauline Collett submitted the best problem for February.

North deals, nil vulnerable

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

♠ A K 8 2  
♥ K 6 5  
♦ Q 8 3 2  
♣ 8 6



West	North	East	South
	1♦	2♣	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

### Comments:

I believed my 3♣ was game-forcing, and thought partner had something like a 3-2-5-3 shape and bid straight to 5♦. She believes it is a cue raise, forcing for one round. We play 1♦ - 2♣ - 3♦ as a limit raise. Should I make a negative double instead, or after her 3♦ should I bid 3♠?

Many thanks, Pauline

### Kieran's Reply:

You should start with a negative double. Whether it's a game-forcing bid or a limit+ raise, the cuebid isn't about finding fits in majors. With a flexible hand like this, double keeps the bidding lower also, which gives you more ways to sort out major suit fits, club stoppers, or whatever else you might need to know to choose a game (or investigate slams). It's a mistake to think that the negative double necessarily delivers both majors (although it will tend to have them both if weak) - the negative double is necessary with invitational or game-forcing hands with only one four-card major. You do need, however, to have a backup plan if partner bids a major that you don't have. With this hand, you can continue with 3♣ over 2♥ or 2♦, or 5♦ over 3♥ or 4♥. If partner bids spades or notrumps you just raise to game.

It's good to clarify what your cuebid might mean. For most experts, it's a limit+ raise (the jump raise being used by weaker hands). It's perfectly sane, if your 3♦ raise is limit, to use it as a game-forcing raise. But using it as a general forcing bid is unnecessary - the requirements would be: no five+ majors (you'd bid it), no four-card major (you'd double), no club stopper

(you'd bid notrumps yourself)...what's left is diamond raises and game-going hands where clubs is the only suit (some of these can pass and play for penalties,, others can bid notrumps). You might as well play it as explicitly a diamond raise and get some more definition into the bid and some more value out of it.

As the auction went, 3♠ over 3♦ looks like the best chance of recovery. Partner might raise (if she doesn't think for too long about why you didn't double 2♣) and she also has a second chance to bid 3NT, which is a more likely game than 5♦.

I'd be seriously tempted to pass 4♦ if that's all that she can bid. Two balanced minimum opening hands do not an 11-trick game make, especially if you start by losing two clubs.

As it is, you're a little lucky - 4♠ is a poor contract (needing a spade break and a diamond miracle) although you'd have lots of company in 4♠ down one.

*Kieran*

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## John Hardy

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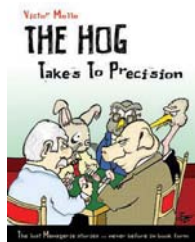
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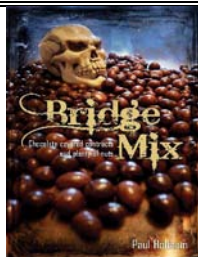
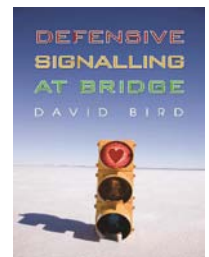
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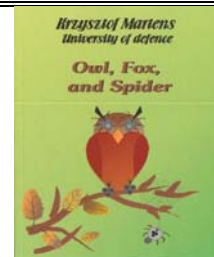
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## Letters to the Editor

The March 2011 ABF Newsletter published a lengthy *Letter to the Editor* about appeals, written by Charles Klassen. These are my answers to some of his key points.

*Charles Klassen:* We all recognise that the appeals process is flawed, and many players won't bother to appeal, accepting a director's decision with the same supine stoicism as a six - nil trump break – it may be outrageous, but nothing can be done about it.

*Richard Hills:* This begs the question, *petitio principii*. There are far fewer outrageous Directors' decisions than there were a decade ago. Thanks to the wonders of the worldwide web, directors who wish to improve their skills can visit the Australian Bridge Directors Association forum at <http://www.abda.org.au/forum/index.php> or the Bridge Laws Mailing List at <http://www.rtlb.org/>

*Charles Klassen:* The problems of appeals are manifold and complex; similar to those in wider society; people are reluctant to serve on Appeals Committees (as on juries) and many are unfamiliar with the complexities of the laws, have limited understanding of deliberative, judicial procedures, allowing personal prejudices to override cool analysis, let alone detached dispassionate judgements.

*In local clubs, when an appeal is held, panellists can naturally develop a hostile siege mentality; closing ranks to protect the director against any attack by an impertinent player. Appellants are not held in high regard but quickly smeared as "troublemakers" to be browbeaten into submission. In national events, much the same attitude persists.*

*Richard Hills:* I disagree with Charles Klassen's last sentence. I do not know whether the directors and/or the Appeals Committee in Charles Klassen's local club act in the way that Charles suggests.

But my three decades of semi-expert experience playing in Aussie national events proves that the better trained the director and the Chair of Appeals Committees, the fewer the violations of due process and natural justice.

For example, at the January 2011 South West Pacific Teams, two of the leading teams in the hunt for qualification were involved in an appeal. To ensure that the Appeals Committee was Caesar's wife, the Appeals Convener (Richard Grenside) selected an expert panel whose teams had no chance of qualifying. As a member of that Appeals Committee I can report that the majority did not smear the appellant as a "troublemaker", but instead overruled the directors.

Best wishes,

*Richard Hills, co-author of  
Index to the 2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge.*

## Country hospitality at its finest

During my plans for relocation to Capel, I visited Geraldton, where the President, Jean Culloton, thought an afternoon of bridge on the Wednesday, with a group of eight, would be lovely. Members heard of my visit and wanted to join in. The 'eight' swelled to six tables. The ladies brought in scones and cakes for a delicious afternoon tea. Everyone had such a great time that this may be a new session in the future.

Many thanks to everyone for making me feel so welcome.

Thank you for publishing the details of my tour of the southwest in the October 2010 Newsletter. Unfortunately, there was a glitch. The photo shown was of Bunbury Bridge Club and not Albany - Albany show herewith.

*Di Brooks*



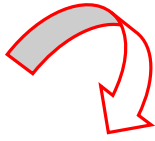
## Important information on how to contact a body that will act on your behalf

The Player Liaison Committee was established by the ABF Management Committee in 2003 to act as a contact between that organisation and the bridge playing public. It is the duty of the PLC to gather the opinions and criticisms of member players and Affiliated Clubs and to make recommendations to the ABF on the basis of these opinions. Consequently any feedback concerning the efficiency of ABF administration should be voiced to this body and can be done so on this page. Diane Marler is Chair of this committee and enquiries should be sent to [playerliaison@abf.com.au](mailto:playerliaison@abf.com.au).

# Sydney Spring Nationals



Note change  
from advertised  
date



## 19 – 27 OCTOBER 2011

**SPRING NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS** 19-23 October

**SPRING NATIONAL RESTRICTED TEAMS** 19-20 October

(each player must have fewer than 300 masterpoints as at 30/6/2011)  
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**DICK CUMMINGS OPEN SWISS PAIRS** 22-23 October

**MANZONI WOMENS TEAMS** 24-27 October

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### Coaching Cathy at contract

**NEVER SAY NEVER?**

Dear Uncle Oracle,

Once again I seek your counsel. A few weeks ago, I was on lead against 4♠ with this hand:

♠A54, ♥J3, ♦Q876, ♣Q1065

The bidding was (Acol, I think):

West	North	East	South (Me)
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

I didn't like leading diamonds or clubs, so it seemed that it had to be a trump or a heart. Because it was an unbid suit, I tried ♥J.

The whole deal was:

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

Knowing that we lead top of a sequence, declarer managed to avoid a heart loser, but lost one trick in each other suit. Some made 4♠, but a few went down, so this was a bad board for us. Was ♥J such a bad lead?

More recently, I was on lead against a 4♥ contract with:

♠Q8, ♥K3, ♦J652, ♣108532

Another simple bidding sequence:

West	North	East	South (Me)
		1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

In the end, I led a club. Apparently, the only lead to take the contract down was ♠Q!

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

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

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

You can see what happens if I find the ♠Q lead. We get the first three tricks, and my ♥K when partner leads her last spade. Would you have found this lead?

*Continued on page 15*

## Upsetting News

The Australian Seniors' Selection Trials took place at the beginning of April. Hot favourites to win were **BROWN**, Terry Brown - Avi Kanetkar, David Anderson - George Smolanko David Lilley - Zoli Nagy. The first four were in the team that won the Pacific-Asia Seniors' Teams in 2010, and all six were in the team that dominated the qualifying rounds and Stage 2 of the 2011 National Seniors' Teams, before winning the final convincingly. If you backed this team in the Seniors' Selection Trials at threes-on, you would think you were stealing money from the bookmakers.

Four teams entered the Seniors' Trials, plus the team from the Seniors' Last Train, held in January. Perhaps the others were scared off by **BROWN**. A wild card entry was accepted to bring the number of teams to six, four of whom would qualify for the semi finals. Here are three competitive decisions from the qualifying rounds of the Seniors' Trials:

### 1. West deals, all vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♦ <sup>1</sup>
3♠	Pass	4♠	?

1. Artificial, game forcing

What would you do as South with:

♠J, ♥J104, ♦QJ3, ♣AQ8654

### 2. North deals, nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3NT
4♥	Pass	Pass	?

1. 15 - 17

What would you do as South with:

♠A107, ♥87, ♦AK9765, ♣92

### 3. East deals, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
1♠	3♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	5♦
6♣	?		

1. Weak

What would you do as North with:

♠1086, ♥Q87, ♦AJ10943, ♣3

The double round-robin qualifying went along predictable lines. The four qualifiers for the semi finals were:

**BROWN**: 8 wins, 2 losses, +189 IMPs, 193 VPs

**HOFFMAN**: David Hoffman - Richard Brightling, Peter Chan - David Lusk, Roger Januszke - John Zollo: 5 wins, 1 draw, 4 losses +119 IMPs, 176 VPs

**KLINGER**: Peter Buchen - Henry Christie, Andy Braithwaite - Bob Richman, Bill Haughie - Ron

Klinger: 6 wins, 1 draw, 3 losses, +48 IMPs 162 VPs

**BAILEY**: Kirsten Bailey - Gavin Bailey - Ian Afflick - Blaine Howe - Barry Noble - George Bilski: 5 wins, 5 losses, -36 IMPs, 141 VPs. The team had varying partnerships.

The Wild Card team came fifth and the Last Train team sixth.

### Answer to problem 1, Round 2, Board 20:

West deals, all vul	♠ K Q 7	
	♥ K Q 9 6 5 2	
	♦ 10 7 5 2	
	♣ ---	
	♠ A 10 8 6	♠ 9 5 4 3 2
	♥ 8 7	♥ A 3
	♦ 9 8 4	♦ A K 6
	♣ J 10 3 2	♣ K 9 7
	♠ J	
	♥ J 10 4	
	♦ Q J 3	
	♣ A Q 8 6 5 4	

In this situation, South should pass and leave the decision to partner. South is too weak to bid on to 5♥. North will double, and 4♠ doubled figures to go -800, or if the defence slips, maybe -500. If you bid 5♥, East will double and NS go for 500. Three pairs were in 4♥ -100, one was in 2♥ +140, one in 3♥ +140 and one in 5♥ redoubled -1000, after the auction started as described.

### Answer to problem 2, Round 3, Board 1:

North deals, nil vul	♠ Q 8 4	
	♥ Q J	
	♦ Q 4	
	♣ A Q J 10 6 5	
	♠ K	♠ J 9 6 5 3 2
	♥ A K 6 5 4 2	♥ 10 9 3
	♦ J 10 8 3 2	♦ ---
	♣ K	♣ 8 7 4 3
	♠ A 10 7	
	♥ 8 7	
	♦ A K 9 7 6 5	
	♣ 9 2	

After this start, South should double 4♥. South should not bid 5♦. There is no reason to expect 5♦ will make, and surely you can do damage to 4♥.

If North sensibly leads a trump against 4♥, the result should be three down, +500, as the defence has a chance to lead a second trump after West has ruffed a diamond in dummy. After a low spade lead, the defence can collect 300.

If you did bid 5♦, West will double, and that should



be two down.

One West was in 4♥, -50; two Norths were in 4♣, +130 and +150, two Norths were in 5♣, -50 and -200, while one South was in 5♦ doubled when the auction described finished, for -300.

**Answer to Problem 3, Board 22, Round 8:**

East deals, EW vul ♠ 10 8 6  
♥ Q 8 7  
♦ A J 10 9 4 3  
♣ 3

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

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

North should pass 6♣. A preemptive bidder should not bid twice unless forced or invited to do so by partner. North's weak-jump and South's raise to 5♦ has worked very well. To bid 6♦ undoes all the good work. EW will not find 6♥ now, and that is the only slam that is a genuine make.

One West was in 4♠, +620, two Easts were in 4♥, +680 each on a club lead, one East was in 5♥, +650 on a diamond lead, one North was in 5♦ doubled, -800, and one was in 6♦ doubled after the conclusion to the auction described for -1100.

The leader after the qualifying had the choice of opponent for the semi-finals and BROWN chose BAILEY. The regulations provided a carryforward equal to 1 IMP for every VP difference in the scores of the two teams, with a maximum of 16 IMPs. Thus BROWN started with a c/f of 16 IMPs and HOFFMAN with 14 IMPs.

Try these problems from the semi finals:

**4. South deals, all vulnerable**

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♣	Pass	Pass	?

What would you do as South with:

♠Q84, ♥AQ94, ♦K72, ♣872

**5. North deals, nil vulnerable**

West	North	East	South
	2♦ <sup>1</sup>	?	

1. Weak two in hearts or spades

What would you do as East with:

♠K7, ♥K107, ♦Q732, ♣AJ10

BROWN versus BAILEY went as expected, with BROWN winning 199 - 80 IMPs. The other semi final

figured to be closer. In the round robins, HOFFMAN had trounced KLINGER 24-6 VPs in their first encounter, and their second match was a tie.

After the first session of the semi final the scores were level. HOFFMAN won the second set and led 83-64 IMPs at halfway. Although KLINGER won the third set 19-8 IMPs, HOFFMAN was still ahead by 91-83 IMPs with one session to go.

The scores were tied at 104 IMPs apiece when Board 55 appeared:

**Answer to problem 4:**

South deals, all vul ♠ A 10 9 2  
♥ J 6  
♦ Q J 10  
♣ A Q 6 3

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

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

West	North	East	South
Christie	Lusk	Buchen	Chan
			Pass

1♣ All Pass

Lead; ♣3

West won and played a heart to the king and ace. South returned a club and North drew trumps. ♦Q switch came next, and West could make no more than one spade, one diamond and one club for -400.

West	North	East	South
Brightling	Klinger	Hoffman	Haughie
			Pass

1♣ Pass Pass Dbl  
Pass 3NT All Pass

Lead; ♥2

There is a case for North overcalling 1♣ with 1NT, but being vulnerable, that did not appeal opposite a passed hand. Swap the East and South cards and how would you like to be in 1NT doubled?

After 1♣ : Pass : Pass, South is certainly worth some action, and double is eminently sensible. As South is a passed hand, North will not expect more than this. Had I known then what I know how, I would have passed the double, but 3NT looked like a practical shot.

♥J won at trick one, and a spade went to the eight and jack. West switched to ♣J, ducked, followed by ♣10, won by ♣Q. North continued with ♦Q, taken by the ace, and West returned a diamond, won with ♦K. After ♠Q, ♠K, ♠A, there were no more problems, and the

*Continued on page 16*



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Restricted Pairs

## *Coaching Cathy concludes:*

Looking at these two totally different stories, both with unhappy endings for me, is there any rule of thumb about leading a doubleton honour?

*Your dreary dearie, Cathy*

*Dear Dreary,*

I had a partner who once led ♣K against a 6♥ contract from king doubleton. I was quite pleased with that, because I had the ace and we took the first two tricks. He later berated me for not giving him a trump-in! The fact was that the opponents' bidding flagged the weakness in clubs during a very revealing auction. My partner's reasoning for this off-the-wall lead was that he would have had no hesitation in leading a low club if he had started with Kxx or similar.

Please don't take this as authority to lead doubleton (or even singleton) kings at every opportunity. The reverse principle should prevail. Whether you are looking at doubleton 10, jack, queen or king, the higher the honour, the greater risk associated with leading it.

I am usually quite miffed when an opponent gets a good result by leading a doubleton jack. Anything such as doubleton queen or king (which are quite rare), I usually look forward to the next encounter, figuring to get that result back with interest. I guess that one reason why these leads are rare is that they are an easy way to make yourself look foolish when the result is not a success.

Obviously I am not advising about the lead of a suit overcalled or preempted by partner. In these situations you are frequently committed to leading partner's suit. So, for a rule of thumb: if you are convinced that the bidding screams for a lead of a particular suit, lead it anyway. If you are leading speculatively, you are courting disaster, for these leads are devastating when they come off, but the result for you is usually disastrous when they don't.

*Your lovin' uncle, David*

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result was 10 tricks, +630, +6 IMPs.

*Answer to problem 5:*

On Board 57, the question was whether your methods could deal with the EW cards after North starts with a multi 2♦.

North deals, EW vul

♠ J 2	
♥ A Q 6 4 3 2	
♦ 8	
♣ 6 5 4 3	

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

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

The Buchen - Christie methods worked:

West	North	East	South
Christie	Lusk	Buchen	Chan
	2♦	Db1 <sup>1</sup>	2♥
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

1. 12-14 or very strong

Lead: ♦K

After cashing a top diamond, South switched to ♥9, taken by ♥J. A club to the jack lost to the queen, and South switched to ♠5: eight – jack – king. After a club to the king, declarer played a heart. North won ♥A and returned a heart. East cashed the clubs, finessed ♠9 and had 10 tricks for +630.

West	North	East	South
Brightling	Klinger	Hoffman	Haughie
	2♦	Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	Pass	2NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

1. Pass or correct

2. Both minors

Lead: ♠J

Naturally, South did not double 3♦ to give EW a chance to find 3NT. Declarer took ♠K and played ♣K, ♣A, club ruff. He then played ♦6: eight – two – nine. South cashed ♦K and the outcome was two down, NS +200 and +13 IMPs to KLINGER.

A 58-20 IMP last set gave KLINGER the win by 30 IMPs.

In the final, BROWN again began with a c/f of 16 IMPs. There was a glimmer of hope, however, as we had beaten BROWN in both matches in the round robin. In the Open and Women's playoffs, the carry-forward is based on the results of the match or matches between the teams (and there is no carry-forward into the final);

in the Seniors, it is based on the qualifying scores and there is carry-forward in the final. It cannot be hard to produce a uniform approach, which combines both the qualifying scores and the results of the head-to-head matches.

Try these problems from the final:

**6. South deals, nil vulnerable**

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1♣	?	

What would you do as East with:

♠KQ92, ♥AQ94, ♦A73, ♣J8

**7. South deals, all vulnerable**

West	North	East	South
2♣ <sup>1</sup>	?		

1. Weak, both majors, 9 playing tricks or 23-24 balanced

What would you do as North with:

♠98, ♥Q7, ♦A1084, ♣AQJ84

**8. East deals, all vulnerable**

West	North	East	South
		2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
3♠	?		

1. Weak, both majors, 9 playing tricks or 23-24 balanced

What would you do as North with:

♠9, ♥32, ♦KQ832, ♣KQ1093

BROWN won the first segment 41-35 IMPs to lead 57-35 IMPs. We had a good second set, 54-15 IMPs and led by 89-72 IMPs at the halfway.

Board 19 went well for us:

South deals, EW vul

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

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

♠ J 8	
♥ K 7 3 2	
♦ K 9 5 4	
♣ 9 6 5	

West	North	East	South
Braithwaite	Kanetkar	Richman	Brown
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Db1	1♥
Db1	2♥	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Lead: ♥2

East won ♥Q and ruffed a heart. A spade to the king was followed by another heart ruff. Then came ♠10: six – queen – jack, ♦A and another diamond. South



took ♦K and shifted to a club. Declarer lost a spade, a diamond and a club, but had +620.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Lilley	Klinger	Nagy	Haughie
Pass	1♣	1NT	All Pass

Lead: ♣5

The strength is right for a 1NT overcall, but the decision to choose 1NT rather than double looks strange. The lead was ducked to ♣Q and North continued with ♣K, ducked, and then ♣10. ♥Q finesse lost and South returned ♠J to the ace. North cashed the clubs and East lost a diamond later for one down, NS +100 and +12 IMPs.

Session 2 might have been better, but for our calamity on Board 24:

<i>West deals, nil vul</i>	♠ 9 8
	♥ Q 7
	♦ A 10 8 4
	♣ A Q J 8 4

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

Kanetkar - Brown had an uncontested auction to 4♠ by South. West led ♥10, taken by ♥Q. After ♥A, heart ruff, spade to the ace and a second spade, South had 10 tricks and +620.

Bill Haughie and I are a relatively new partnership. This board is evidence that we need more discussions:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Lilley	Klinger	Nagy	Haughie
2♣ <sup>1</sup>	2♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Dbl	6♦	Dbl	6♠
Dbl	6NT	Dbl	All Pass

1. Weak, both majors, 9 playing tricks or 23-24 balanced



Our general approach when an opponent shows a two-suiter is to bid their suits for takeout. Thus, 2♥ was intended to show both minors, with extra club length. A 2♠ bid would show diamond preference, and double = takeout with equal length. As the 2♣ opening had three options, Bill thought my 2♥ bid was genuine, so he splintered with 4♣. With nothing to spare and poor majors, I simply bid 5♣. Bill reverted to 5♥, and from here we kept rescuing each other up to 6NT doubled. The lead was ♠5, and the result was three off for -500. I could have passed 6♠ for two off or, even better, simply doubled 2♣ initially and avoided the misunderstanding.

BROWN won the third set heavily, 55-24 IMPs, to lead by 127-113 IMPs with one set to go. The score had reached 135-129 IMPs to BROWN when Board 58 appeared.

<i>East deals, all vul</i>	♠ 9
	♥ 3 2
	♦ K Q 8 3 2
	♣ K Q 10 9 3

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Christie	Smolanko	Buchen	Anderson
1♠	2♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♣
Pass	4♣	All Pass	Pass

1. Strong club raise

Lead: ♠A

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North's doubleton was in the right major, and so South made 11 tricks, +150. At the other table, the Lilley - Nagy 2♣ opening turned up again:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Lilley	Klinger	Nagy	Haughie
		2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
3♠	Db1 <sup>2</sup>	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

1. Weak, both majors, 9 playing tricks or 23-24 balanced

2. Takeout

Lead: ♠A

South also made 11 tricks for +11 IMPs and we led by 139-135 IMPs. There were no swings on the next four deals, but we picked up 1 IMP on Board 63 and 11 IMPs on Board 64 to win 151-135 IMPs. The result was a huge upset.

The organisation of the Seniors Playoffs was excellent. Full marks to David Stern, convener, and Matt McManus, director. Now here's an odd thing. The playoffs are to select teams to play in the world championships where they have 16-board matches. The Open and Women's playoffs had 20-board matches, the Seniors had 16-board matches. In the world championships they have blind seating. So did the Seniors, but in the Open and Women's, teams had seating rights. Which approach do you think is better to prepare our teams for world events?

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## 2011 Playoffs & Youth Teams

The Open and Women's Playoffs were held at the Sydney University Village Conference Centre in Newtown, from March 26 - 31.

The Open Playoff was won by *HANS* - Sartaj Hans, Tony Nunn, Paul Gosney, Nabil Edgton, Ishmael Del'Monte and Hugh Grosvenor from *COURTNEY*, Michael Courtney, Stephen Burgess, Kieran Dyke, Peter Gill. In a close (and entertaining) match for those watching on BBO, the final score was 177 - 172 IMPs

**Target events for the Open Team:** The APBF Open Championship, the Zone 7 Open Championship and the Bermuda Bowl.

The Women's Playoff was won by *CLARK* - Alida Clark, Candice Berman, Catherine Lachman, Helen Snashall, Paula McLeish and Pele Rankin from *BILSKI*, Margaret Bourke, Elizabeth Havas, Berri Folkard, Di Smart, Sue Lusk, Therese Tully

As can be seen from the running total of the Women's match, *CLARK* started slowly, then went into overdrive for the last set.

	Set 1	End Set 2	End Set 3	End Set 4
BILSKI	28	62	103	116
CLARK	4	18	58	144

**Target events for the Women's Team:** The APBF Women's Championship, the Zone 7 Women's Championship and the Venice Cup.

The Seniors' Playoff, held from April 6 - 10 at the same venue, was won by *KLINGER* - Ron Klinger, Bill Haughie, Andy Braithwaite, Bob Richman, Peter Buchen and Henry Christie from *BROWN*, Terry Brown, Avi Kanetkar, David Anderson, George Smolanko, David Lilley, Zolly Nagy, 151 - 135 IMPs.

**Target events for the Seniors' Team:** The APBF Seniors Championship, the Zone 7 Seniors Championship and the Seniors' Bowl.

### 2011 APBF Youth Teams

The Australian Bridge Federation Youth Committee is pleased to announce the following teams to contest the 48th Asia-Pacific Bridge Federation Championships to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15 June 2011 to 24 June 2011:

**Under-26:** Liam Milne - Michael Whibley, Nathan Howard - Alex Lockwood, Jane Reynolds - Orlando Wu, Cathy Mill (non-playing captain)

**Under-21:** Ellena Moskovsky - Jamie Thompson, Daniel Braun - Shane Harrison, Lauren Travis - Stephen Williams, Nye Griffiths (non-playing captain)

**David Stern, Chairman ABF Youth Committee**



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## Why me, Mr Nakamura?

*Reported in the Sydney Morning Herald, February 21 by Ron Klinger*

Try this problem:

*South deals, EW vulnerable*

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

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

You are in 6♠, with no opposition bidding, from the South seat. West leads ♦7: four – 10 – king. You play ♠J: three – seven – six. How would you continue?

*(Answer later)*

The annual NEC Cup was held in Yokohama from February 8-13. Two Australian teams were invited, *Oz Players*, Justin Howard – Michael Whibley, Matt Mullamphy – Ron Klinger and *Oz 2*, Sartaj Hans – Tony Nunn, Adam Edgton – Paul Gosney.

After a 12-round Swiss qualifying, *Oz 2* finished first, while *Oz Players* were in an undistinguished 17th position.

*Oz 2* lost in the knockout quarter-finals by 58-97 IMPs to *Heng Sha Ke Ji*.

The powerful *NED-UK* team (Netherlands – United Kingdom): David Bakshi – David Gold, Louk Verhees – Ricco Van Prooijen won the final against *Heng Sha Ke Ji* 142-82 IMPs, who conceded after three sessions.

### Country Congresses coming up



**July 23 - 24:** Taree Teams Congress.  
Contact Judy Scott, [judithscott@bigpond.com](mailto:judithscott@bigpond.com)

**July 23 - 24:** Orange Bridge Congress  
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tel: (02) 6362 8241.  
[marob@netwit.net.au](mailto:marob@netwit.net.au)



For me, this was the best played hand at the NEC:

Round 11, Board 3

*South deals, EW vul* ♠ A Q 7  
♥ 4 2  
♦ A Q 6 4  
♣ J 9 8 3

*Masahuki Hayasaka*

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

*Ron Klinger*

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

*Matt Mullamphy*

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

Yoshiyuki Nakamura, South, opened 1♠, rebid his hearts, and finished in 6♠. I led ♦7, and felt confident we were about to score +50. I had a sure trump trick, and ♥K over South's heart suit figured to be our second trick. Nakamura soon proved that my confidence was misplaced.

He took trick one with ♦K and led ♠J, which held. Then came ♣A, ♣K, a spade to the queen and ♣9, queen, ruffed. He continued with a diamond to the ace and ♠A.

These cards remained:

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

South cashed ♣J, pitching a heart, followed by ♦Q, ditching another heart. West could do nothing. In practise, I ditched a heart too, but South played the fourth diamond, ruffed it and claimed. A very elegant +980.

Next time, Mr Nakamura, please choose someone else on whom to inflict your fine play. At the other table, 6♠ was one down.

Two others made 6♠, both on ♣4 lead. There were 22 declarers who went one down in 6♠, 11 on ♦7 lead, seven on a low club lead and four on ♠2 lead.

*Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together - Vincent van Gogh*

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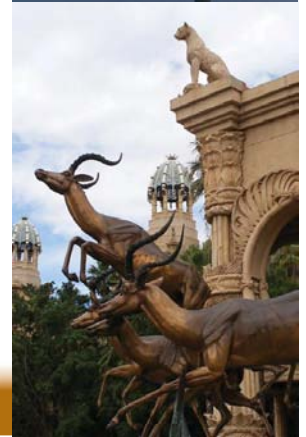
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### THE 3NT OPENING

Most play an opening bid of 3NT as gambling, a solid seven-card minor with no ace or king outside. The problem with the method is that it breaks a well-known principle, that the stronger hand should be declarer. Not surprisingly, there is a growing list of alternatives.



This year the system cards from the playoffs for the Australian Open, Seniors', and Women's Teams are on display on the ABF website. There are 62 different cards.

Most popular, with 29, is still the Gambling 3NT.

Next, with eight, was Namyats, 3NT as a four-level minor suit preempt, leaving 4♣ as a strong 4♥ opening, and 4♦ as a strong 4♠ opening.

Then, with six, came 3NT as a strong 4♥ or 4♠ opening.

Equal, on five, was 3NT as any solid suit with no ace or king outside, and Kabel 3NT, asking for specific aces, as recommended by Ron Klinger.

I emailed Ron, asking for details. Ron replied that although Kabel only crops up around twice a year, it solves a significant problem very well. He considers the Gambling 3NT to be rubbish at top level, with little interest in 4♣/4♦ Namyats and 3NT as a four of a minor preempt.

Two pairs each played 3NT as six clubs and five diamonds, or six hearts and five spades, and to play. Both these six-fives are difficult to bid, so opening 3NT makes some sense. In true Australasian style, you could use 3NT as either six clubs, five diamonds or six hearts, five spades, with pass or correct responses. You might miss a few slams, but you'd lump two problem hands into one bid.

In the USA, such openings are not permitted: the opponents must always be allowed an opposition suit they can cuebid to show a good hand.

One recent innovation (from Fred Gitelman of BBO fame) is to play 3NT as any six-five in the majors.

Three methods had only one adherent each: 3NT as any eight-card solid suit: 3NT as a good 4♣ or 4♦ opening, and one pair chose not to use an opening 3NT bid at all.

The point of preempts is to take space away from the opponents, so to open 3NT, 4♣ or 4♦ with a 4♥ or 4♠ opening gives the opponents extra room, and extra options. Opponents can set up a good lead, or find their own good game or sacrifice. Even pass over 4♣ or 4♦ suggests you don't have a good holding in the suit.

The vulnerability is an important factor against Namyats. Vulnerable versus not, a double of 4♣ would surely just be lead-directing, while not vulnerable versus vulnerable, a double of 4♣ would more suggest a sacrifice.

Any transfer bids at the four level, 1NT - 4♣ and 1NT - 4♦, as well as artificial 4♣ and 4♦ openings, allow the opponents into the bidding cheaply. Beware of employing artificial bid at this level. At the four-level, doubles of artificial bids are much safer than at the two- and three-level.

Try this quiz:

3NT\* (Pass) ?

\**Gambling*

1. ♠ J73, ♥ AK9832, ♦ Q106, ♣ 3
2. ♠ K742, ♥ AK643, ♦ 975, ♣ 2
3. ♠ AKQ52, ♥ 763, ♦ A7, ♣ J43
4. ♠ QJ103, ♥ AK98, ♦ Q106, ♣ 63
5. ♠ A52, ♥ AKQJ, ♦ A765, ♣ J3

1. 4♣.

Pass, or correct to 4♦. The expectation is that you will not make 3NT opposite a long running minor (this time it must be clubs) with no ace or king outside. You have no spade stopper, and diamonds could be a problem. Take a demerit if you bid 4♥. Holding ♠ 65, ♥ 4, ♦ J83, ♣ AKQJ765, this is the last bid your poor partner wants to hear.

2. 4♣.

Pass, or correct to 4♦. Though it's conceivable you might make 5♣, it's heavily against the odds. If partner corrects to 4♦, then continue on to 5♦, which should be at least an even money chance.

3. 4♦.

This is the forcing bid over 3NT, and asks the Gambling 3NTER to bid a major suit shortage. If partner bids 4♥ then 6♣ should be cold (you know opener has clubs because you have ♦A), and you should simply bid 6♣.

4. Pass.

You like your chances in 3NT. You have nine tricks if opponents cannot take the first five, and there is no law against Q10x being a diamond stop, or partner holding ♦J.

5. 7NT.

You can count 13 tricks, seven clubs, four hearts, and two aces, so you can bid 7NT. This is the Gambling 3NT at its best.

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### Celebrity Speakers

The inaugural ‘celebrity speakers’ event conducted during the Gold Coast Congress was big – 1300 people attended the nine sessions. The speakers gave their time free - three from North America (Bob Jones, Barry Rigal and John Carruthers), three originally from New Zealand, now resident in Australia, (Paul Marston, Ishmael Del’Monte, and Andy Braithwaite), and three fair dinkum Aussies (Ron Klinger, Barbie Travis, and Joan Butts).

Some operate bridge clubs, some teach bridge, some write about bridge, all play bridge, but each understood the market they were to speak to – anyone keen to improve at bridge.

There was a good mix of topics. Six were on bidding, (slams, the five-level, competitive bidding, passed hand bidding, and judgement), and three on cardplay and defence, (declarer play, opening leads and counting).

The common theme was developing judgement at the table, *not* relying on, and quoting, points only, but looking way beyond that.

Barbara Travis urged players to use opening leads as clues about the defenders’ cards, distribution, and points. An opponent’s failure to open told nearly as much as if they had opened. “Defer critical decisions until you can gather as much information as possible”, she stressed.

Paul Marston continued on the theme of where values are, rather than what they are, in making critical slam decisions. He discussed two conventions that allow players to pinpoint shortages, first Jacoby 2NT then Splinters.

When you know your partner has a shortage you should revalue your hand, disregarding the wasted honours in the short suit. Now you only need 26 TP for slam. It all sounds so easy!



Joan Butts on doubles. The redouble is a good way to show which side has the balance of power (but no fit) in competitive auctions. The other invaluable bid, the negative double, is used after an overcall. I suggested that with bids such as these, players could use the opponent’s interference to their own advantage.



Bob Jones aimed to help players improve their declarer play. He quoted basic probabilities to help develop “table feel”. His talk must have boosted the confidence of the average player, by helping them realise that success is possible for all.

Ron Klinger – Ron discussed standard leading procedure. What he called “high risk leads”, and when to lead trumps, were of particular interest. A teacher emailed me later to say that she had been encouraged by Ron’s talk because it had given her confidence that she had been teaching the correct things.



Ishmael Del’Monte, who won the 2011 Gold Coast teams, and came second in the pairs, talked about vulnerability and high level decisions. He called favourable vulnerability a “licence to thrill”, and recommended wild action. His general tips were helpful – e.g. you’re declarer, there’s been an overcall, and you’re trying to find a missing queen. Do *not* play the overcaller for that card, but expect *shape* (shortage) in that hand instead. He also mentioned when deciding which of two equal-length minors to open, prefer one headed by an ace.



John Carruthers from Toronto, co-editor of the Bulletin, gave the audience some amusing slam situations that he’d collected over the years, mainly contracts that had succeeded against all odds.

Barry Rigal – Barry, now living in New York, gave us all some new ideas to consider, e.g., what would a pre-empt by a passed hand mean? What is the value of Drury, and what should a help/game try specifically be asking for?

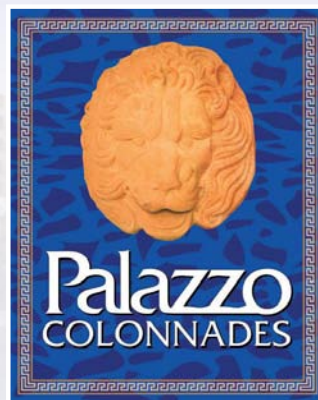
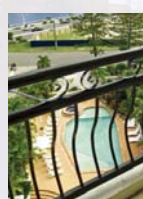
Andy Braithwaite – spoke on hand evaluation: losing trick count. Andy bases all his opening decisions on the losing trick count, and says that it is most helpful when a fit has been found. The level to which the responder bids is decided by the number of losers rather than adding up points.



Let’s hope that all this new information will lead to better judgement, better play, and better defence at the table.

*Sandra Mulcahy*





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## *Territory Gold Bridge Festival*

*at the*

*Holiday Inn Esplanade, Darwin  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Ballroom*

*Wednesday August 31 – Sunday September 4 2011*

*Three events: Swiss Pairs (with play off points),  
Matchpoint Pairs and Swiss Teams*

*All with gold masterpoints and cash prizes  
The evenings are free to socialise or sightsee*

*Entry form and information at [www.ntba.com.au](http://www.ntba.com.au) or contact Pam Nunn  
(Tournament Organiser), email: [tgbf@abf.com.au](mailto:tgbf@abf.com.au) or phone: (08) 89 81 7287*

## ABF Management Committee

*Would you like to know a bit about the unpaid volunteers who give up good bridge-playing time to help run the ABF for you? Read on.....*

The ABF Management Committee comprises five members, elected by the ABF Council. Three are ex officio members - President, Secretary and Treasurer - plus two general councillors. The Management Committee is responsible for directing the activity of the organisation, ensuring it is well run and delivering the outcomes for which it has been set up.

The Management Committee provides leadership of the organisation by:

- □ setting the strategic direction to guide and direct activities
- □ overseeing the activities of its various sub-committees
- □ monitoring the activities of the organisation to ensure they are in keeping with the founding principles, objects and values
- □ accounting for everything the organisation does, including its spending and activities
- □ ensuring compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements (eg ABF constitution); and
- □ ensuring that appropriate policies and procedures are in place for staff and for our volunteers.

Meetings are held about every six weeks and are usually face-to-face.

Recent key decisions of the Management Committee include:

**1. March Management Committee Meeting** (5 March) – Members voted to waive capitation fees for the period

1 April 2011 – 31 March, 2013. New players (i.e., those who do not currently hold an ABF membership number) will receive free affiliation for the first year of their membership.

This decision provides a wonderful opportunity for clubs to entice new players into the ABF bridge family.

**April Management Committee Meeting** (8 April) – agreed to change the age requirement for ABF Seniors' events. This means to represent Australia as a senior you must accumulate sufficient PQP in the previous year (including 15 PQP in Seniors' events) to qualify for the playoffs. In order for this to be achieved, the eligible age to play in Seniors' events will be lowered to 59.

Therefore, if you turn 59 in 2011 you are now eligible to play as a senior. If you were born before January 1, 1953 you might consider playing in one of the Seniors' events coming up.

Minutes of ABF Management Committee meetings can be found on the website under Quick Links > Minutes.



### ABF Management Committee at their March meeting.

*Left to right* Bruce Neill (Observer), Roy Nixon (Treasurer), Dianne Marler (Secretary), Keith McDonald (President), Professor Eilis Magner (Legal Counsel), Joan Butts (National Teaching Officer – guest), Allison Stralow (General Councillor) and Simon Hinge (General Councillor).



### New Advertising Rates for the Newsletter - effective from July, 2011 issue

425	Base rate for full page	Regular	Including GST	Casual	Including GST
10%	Casual loading	425.00	467.50	467.50	514.24
10%	1/2 page loading	233.75	257.13	257.13	282.84
15%	1/4 page loading	122.19	134.41	134.41	147.85
20%	1/8 page loading	63.75	70.13	70.13	77.14

# Coffs Coast Gold Congress 2011

<b>Contact Details (*mandatory)</b>		<b>ABF No:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>			
<b>Address:</b>			
<b>Ph:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Mobile</b>
<b>Email:</b>			
<b>Payment Methods</b>	<b>Direct Transfer:</b>	\$	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		\$	<b>We accept only Visa or Mastercard</b>
<b>Card Number:</b>			<b>Expiry Date</b>
<b>Name on Card</b>			
<b>Signature of Card Holder</b>			

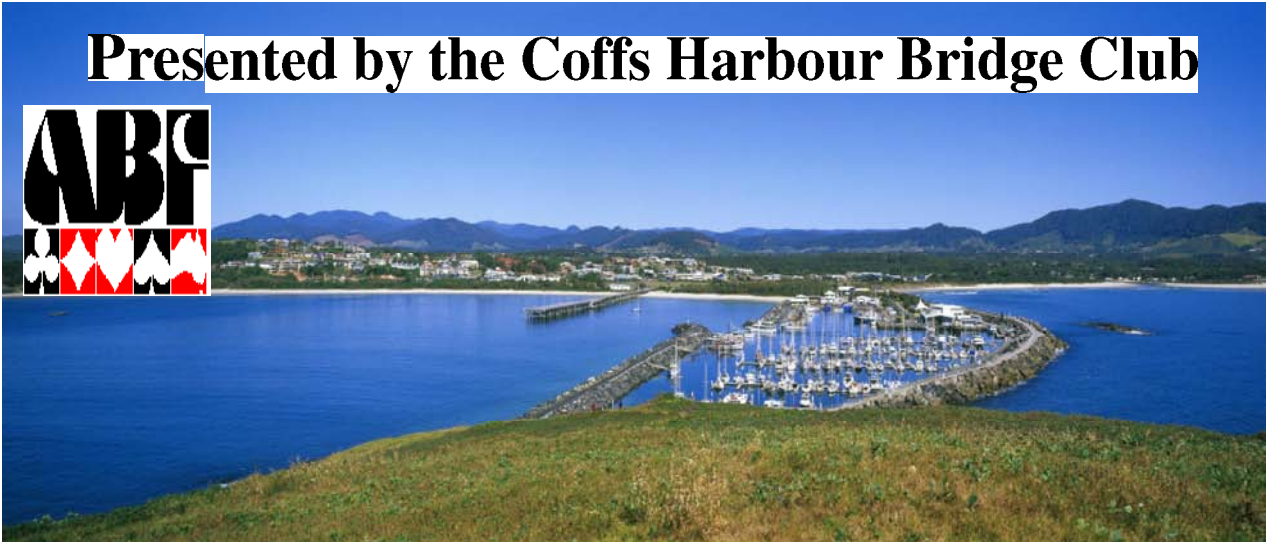
Program Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2011 - Sunday 21st August 2011			
	Price/Player	Number	Total
Tuesday Night Welcome Function & Pairs (pre registration essential)	\$20		
Open/Restricted Pairs (Wed/Thurs)	\$135		
Friday Workshop – Directors Forum	Free		
Open/Restricted Teams (Fri/Sat/Sun)	\$125		
	(or \$500/Team)	<b>Total</b>	

**Please forward entries to: Ian Doland, 61A Safety Beach Dr. Safety Beach NSW 2456**  
 Ph 02 6654 1104 Fax 02 6654 9111 Email: [ian@australiawideconferences.com.au](mailto:ian@australiawideconferences.com.au)  
 Online entries [www.coffsbridge.com.au/congress.html](http://www.coffsbridge.com.au/congress.html)  
*Entries close on 31 July 2011. All entries must be accompanied by entry fee.  
 Table numbers will be capped at around 106.  
 Coffs Harbour Bridge Club may also accept late entries at its discretion.*

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

# Coffs Coast Gold Congress 2011

Presented by the Coffs Harbour Bridge Club



**16<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> August 2011; Venue: Opal Cove**

Programme, Application form and Booking Accommodation form are now on line or fill entry form on the inside of the back cover of this Newsletter. For more information visit:

**[www.coffsbridge.com.au](http://www.coffsbridge.com.au)**

(take the congress link) or contact Ian: 02 66 54 1104)

✉ [coffsbridge@gmail.com](mailto:coffsbridge@gmail.com)

**There have been some changes to the format this year , please note the main change: TEAMS NOW START FRIDAY AFTERNOON LEAVING THE NIGHT FREE**

**Pairs start Wed 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am & finish Thurs afternoon**

**Teams start Fri 2.30 & finish Sun early afternoon**

**\*Complimentary workshop on Friday morning\***