### 2010 Victor Champion Cup

he VCC is Victoria's annual national event, and drew an unprecedented number of entries this year. The conveners were concerned that they would not have enough space. The 30% increase



in numbers in 2010 has led them to revise plans for 2011. It will be held in the same venue, however, and it is envisaged an Open event without playoff or Gold Points will be run in conjunction with the Wednesday and Thursday events.

The Victorian Bridge Association and conveners were determined to run a "great event," even if they incurred a small loss. Victoria wished to showcase the city, and I think the venue chosen achieved that, and blow me down if they didn't run at a small profit. The Melbourne Convention Centre is on the Yarra in the city, close to fine restaurants, accommodation and theatres.

So, was it all about eating, drinking and watching Australia get drubbed by the Germans in the Soccer? Well, yes it was!

Morrison and Hinge had to work out what parties to attend, which restaurants to eat at, where to get a Guinness, in addition to setting the alarm for 4:30 am to get up to watch the soccer. So it seems you can do more than play bridge!! Now on to the tournament.

This is how *EBERY* (Seed #6) performed:

Downs	Орр	onents	Caara	IMPs	
Round	Number	Name	Score	IIVIPS	
1	48	Allgood	25	93	
2	17	Hans	15	2	
3	5	Neill	24	37	
4	2	Noble	16	7	
5	31	Yezerski	19	15	
6	42	Paton	25	40	
7	4	Klinger	19	16	
8	7	Braithwaite	15	-1	
9	20	Nagy	20	19	
10	8	Bilal	25	41	
			203	269	

Ebery – Gold carried us through on datums, with +160 whilst Hinge – Morrison lagged behind on +156.

**NO. 145 SEPTEMBER 2010** 

The team averaged over 20 VPs a match, which is over 1 IMP per board: clearly all the good players were at the Barrier Reef Congress.

Anyhow the top 14 placegetters....

Place	Team	Name	Score	IMPs
1	6	Ebery	203	269
2	4	Klinger	195	190
3	2	Noble	191	209
4	5	Neill	180	118
5	3	Edgtton	179	150
6	7	Braithwaite	178	193
7	42	Paton	176	193
8	22	Leibowitz	175	107
9	24	Watts	174	112
10	17	Hans	172	135
11	14	Morgan	171	137
12	9	McManus	171	106
13	8	Bilal	170	128
14	1	Horwitz	169	127

It is true that if a team batted above their weight, it was PATON, Ann Paton, John Mottram, Sandra Richman, Andrew Richman. They had no easy ride, and their only significant loss was to EBERY.

On the other side of the ledger was HORWITZ (Seed #1), Helen Horwitz, Paul Gosney, Justin Howard, Michael Whibley, Nabil Edgtton, who just didn't seem to get out of the starting barrier.



2010 Victor Champion Cup winners with VBA President, Jeannette Collins: Jamie Ebery, Simon Hinge, Leigh Gold, Kim Morrison

Ed: Thanks to Simon Hinge for the herculean effort put into this report. Deals from earlier rounds of the event, plus more about the 2010 VCC can be found in the August edition of Australian Bridge.

#### Decipher the Code

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

What does it mean? After an initial pass your partner has found two free bids, so did he find an extra ace? Or is it the case that Leigh Gold just cannot help himself, and needs to be involved in the auction action?

What would be your next bid with the following hand opposite that bidding?

**A** Q ♥ J 9 8 ♦ J 10 8 3 **4** Q 9 6 2

Well, now it's time to decipher the code. Each bid in an auction builds up a story about your partner's hand. Each subsequent bid cannot contradict a previous bid.

So what does South have?

- 1. Pass: clearly a non-opening hand let's say less than 11 HCP.
- 2. The double equals takeout, so he must have 4+ clubs and 4+ hearts, and approximately 9 10 HCP. With 5 5, his partnership would open 2♥, systemically showing less than an opening hand with hearts and a minor.

You presume partner has noted you have some values for your 2 bid over 1NT, and is saying they are willing to compete to 3 but would like to show a five-card heart suit along the way. They already know you don't have four hearts, because you would have bid that suit in preference to clubs, even holding five. So, by showing hearts, partner is saying he has five hearts and four clubs, and a maximum hand (for the bidding).

Hence with the hand above, you should pass and pick up 2 IMPs for your analysis.

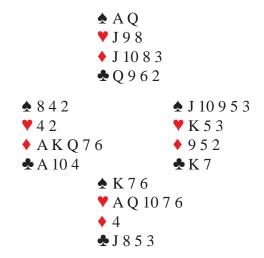
### **Copy Deadline**

for Issue No 146, November 2010, the deadline is: October 26, 2010

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 147, January 2011, at the discretion of the Editor On the deal you can make 3♥.

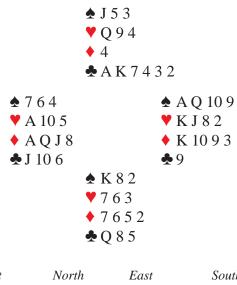
The full deal:

Round 8, Board 7, South deals, all vulnerable



Next case:

Round 9, Board 4, West deals, all vulnerable



West	North	East	South
Hinge		Morrison	
1♦	2♣	Dbl	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	<b>5</b> ♦	All Pass

This time Hinge held  $\checkmark$ A105, and had to bid them at the three-level. It still led to a contract of  $5 \diamondsuit$ .

There wasn't much to the play after North cashed ♣A and switched to a low spade. It seemed like finessing spades twice was simplest, and putting in ♠10 saw all roads lead to home.

What was curious was that the 'weak no-trumpers' largely had nothing in their armory to get them to playable spots. 62 of the 84 teams played in an unmakeable spot!!

*EBERY* picked up 9 IMPs on the deal when Ebery - Gold played 2♣ doubled on the NS cards, failing by a trick.

# Noosa Bridge Week Saturday 6 to Saturday 13 November 2010

With Paul Marston & Nigel Rosendorff



TWO FRIENDLY BRIDGE EVENTS, each of three sessions, one session per day, with \$1,000 of cash prizes.

Five lessons, GUARANTEED TO SHARPEN YOUR GAME, with

Paul Marston & Nigel Rosendorff.

All bridge is at the leafy Noosa Bridge Club, Noosaville.

#### **Timetable**

Saturday 6 2pm on, Check in

7am - 9am, Buffet breakfast Sunday 7

9:30am - 12pm, Lesson 1

2:30pm - 5:30pm, Sun Pairs 1

5:30pm - 6:15pm, Drinks and treats

Monday 8 9:30am - 12pm, Lesson 2

4:30pm - 7:30pm, Sun Pairs 2

Tuesday 9 1:30pm - 4pm, Lesson 3

7:30pm - 10:30pm, Sun Pairs 3

**Wednesday 10** 7:30pm, Dinner at *Trios on the River* 

Thursday 11 9:30am - 12pm, Lesson 4

4:30pm - 7:30pm, Ivory Pairs 1

Friday 12 9:30am - 12pm, Play 12 set deals

related to the lessons followed by a

discussion with Nigel and Paul. 4:30pm - 7:30pm, Ivory Pairs 2

9:30am - 12:30pm, Ivory Pairs 3 Saturday 13

1pm, Prize giving BBQ lunch



Dinner on the Wednesday night is at Trios on the River, one of Noosa's finest restaurants. It is a 10 minute stroll from Ivory Palms.

#### Lesson program - COMPETITIVE BIDDING strategy & EXTRA TRUMP TRICKS in defence

Each lesson includes play hands and comprehensive notes. Those attending should have at least two years' experience.

#### Sunday 7, 9:30am - 12pm with Paul Marston

Learn why play two – defend three is the winning strategy. Learn how to use this idea to win the partscore battle.

#### Monday 8, 9:30pm - 12pm with Nigel Rosendorff

Learn how to uppercut the declarer to create extra trump tricks for your partner.

#### Tuesday 9, 1:30pm - 4pm with Paul Marston

Learn how the negative double is a vital weapon when you engage in a partscore battle. Simple ideas used by all experts.

#### Thursday 11, 9:30am - 12pm with Nigel Rosendorff

When defending, how to create extra trump tricks for yourself by refusing to overuff. The fight to gain trump control.

#### Friday 12, 9:30am - 12pm with Paul and Nigel

Play 12 set deals related to the lessons followed by a fun and informative discussion as they go through the hands together.

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(Two share means one bedroom each.)

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Two share \$690, single \$1060

These charges include everything. That is, seven nights at Ivory Palms (in Saturday 6, out Saturday 13) as well as everything on the timetable to the left.

#### **Bridge only charges**

\$220. This covers the five lessons and both bridge events. Alternatively, it is \$30 per lesson and \$60 per event.

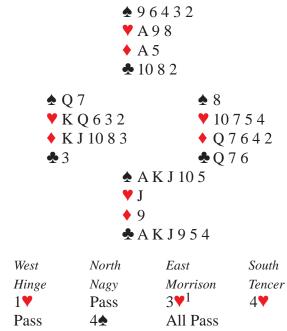
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Round 9, Board 8, West deals, nil vulnerable



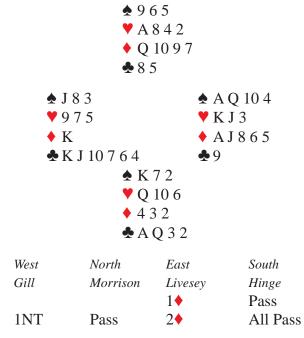
#### 1. Weak

A pretty good auction to 4♠! But single dummy you wouldn't mind being in 7♠, taking a punt on clubs!! That punt would put you to the sword pretty quickly. At tables where North overcalled spades at the one level, they found themselves in 7♠ at the speed of light.

How did they fare? Well, two pairs bid and made 7♠, and I know one of them received a singleton club lead when North did not overcall spades. Even so, a club lead looks downright dangerous. Five pairs went down in 7♠. This suggests that overcalling 1♠ on this occasion was sub-optimal. General opinion is that South should have made another move over North's 4♠.

23 out of 84 pairs, or less than half the field, bid slam. It's a bidders game.

Round 10, Board 6, East deals, EW vulnerable



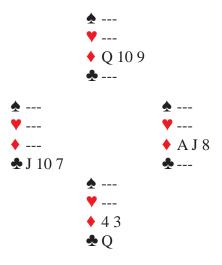
South lead an innocuous diamond. Peter Livesey, East, endplayed North in diamonds to make eight tricks, +90 and a flat board.

I will go through the play.

Peter won ♠K, and played a heart to the jack and queen. South, unaware of what to do, returned a heart. North won ♥A, and switched to an uninterested spade, the nine, ducked. South won and returned a spade.

A club from declarer saw South rise with  $\triangle A$ , and play a third spade to dummy's  $\triangle J$ ,

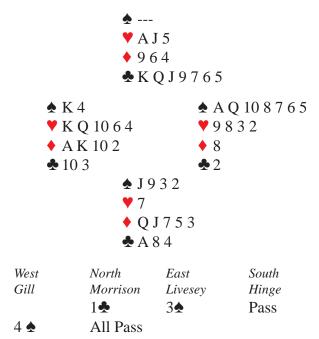
Peter cashed ♣K, and discarded the 13th spade, as all followed. He led a third round of clubs and ruffed, leaving this three-card ending.



Reading Hinge correctly, as not having led a trump from the queen, Peter led ◆ 8 to ◆10 and finessed ◆J on the way back. Contract. Well done!!

Some might say "Well, what else could he do, the contract played itself." A beautiful ending makes it just like chess endings.

Round 10, Board 1, North deals, nil vulnerable



Board 1 of these two boards seemed quite innocuous, really. It seemed routine to beat the contract a trick on a heart lead from South. Morrison, North won ♥A and returned a non-heart, as South glowered!! Meanwhile, Seamus and Bilal had misjudged an auction to save, or make, at the six-level. Saving at the five-level was a mistake. Maybe Morrison and I are too conservative in some of our actions; many might say that 5♣ is automatic, or a double of 4♠ is automatic, etc, - well, we passed it out, fortuitously, to gain 8 IMPs.

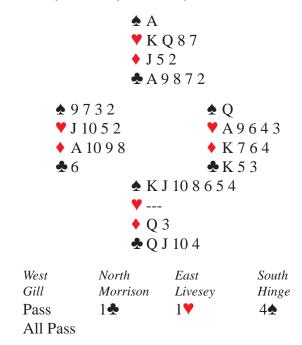
In the other room the bidding proceeded:

West	North	East	South
Gold	Browne	Ebery	Bilal
	1♣	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
?			

Leigh Gold ,sitting with clearly the biggest hand at the table, had not yet made a contribution to the auction, He looked around the table, and concluded that some of the players were clearly crazed. He couldn't work out who it was. However, he applied the rule of 2 and 3 and decided, with his hand, that 5♠ was in all likelihood the last makeable contract, and thus double was his only real option. Doing so earned +300 and 8 IMPs,

The next deal seemed like just another board.

Round 10, Board 11, West deals, NS vulnerable



After taking 10 tricks for +620, a failing  $5\clubsuit$  in the other room, and -100, saw *EBERY* gain 12 IMPs.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Gold	Browne	Ebery	Bilal
Pass	1♣	1♥	4 <b>♥</b> ¹
Dbl	5♣	All Pass	

1. Void splinter



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#### **Jessel enters Committee of Honour**

At the conclusion of this year's Victor Champion Cup, Jessel Rothfield was inducted into the ABF's Committee of Honour "for outstanding contributions to Australian bridge as a player, sponsor and administrator. His vision, often ahead of his time, has led us to where we stand today ".

Jessel was the first President of the newly constituted ABF (created as the successor to the Australian Bridge Council) between 1967 and 1971. The creation of the ABF was in part a recognition of the need for a more activist and business-like national organisation and Jessel, an experienced businessman, was ready to accept the challenge of reform. He was a strong advocate for promoting bridge, both domestically and internationally. Prior to his efforts, Australian teams had competed only in two Olympiads. Jessel, however,, believed that Australia should build its links with neighbouring countries, and join the Far East Championships. In 1967, he sponsored, captained and played in, the first team to take part in the Far East in Manila, and played the same role for the 1968, 1969 and 1970 competitions. The teams won in 1968 and 1970.

In 1971, he was non-playing captain of the Australian Open Team, Norma Borin, Jim Borin, Dick Cummings, Denis Howard, Tim Seres, Roelof Smilde, with npc Jessel Rothfield that won both tests against New Zealand. The team finished third in the Bermuda Bowl (World Open Teams) in Taipei, the highest position achieved by any Australian Open Team at world level.

Jessel subsequently represented Australia in the Bermuda Bowl teams of 1997 and 1999. He has also been a successful participant in many other overseas events, with wins in the ACBL Fall Men's National Teams and the Maccabiah Games. From Roelof Smilde onwards, many players, and particularly young players, benefitted greatly from the opportunity to play in Rothfield teams in major overseas events.

Domestically, he has been a member or captain of teams that have won the ANC, Victor Champion Cup, the New Zealand Open Teams, the Gold Coast Open Teams and the South Pacific Open Teams.

Prior to and after his period at the helm of the ABF, Jessel was very active in the VBA. He was President of the VBA in 1966-67, 1974-75 and



1980 - '81, and with his brother Nat through unremitting efforts in fundraising, planning and organising enabled the construction of the Association's headquarters,

Jessel was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1917, and migrated to Australia in 1926 with his parents and three brothers. His father had been a jute manufacturer and importer, but came out as part of a Jewish land settlement scheme. The family stayed on the property through the depression, but it did not prove viable, and they moved to Melbourne where Mr Rothfield Senior became very successful in textiles, particularly in manufacturing sewing threads. Jessel worked for his father for some time until he started his own textile business.

This was interrupted by the war, when he served in the air force and army, particularly in New Guinea. After the war he built up a profitable knitting company. He then moved into the motel business in partnership with Norman Rockman, their properties including the well-known Park Royal chain.

For a period he lived in London, and during this time, in his forties, he took up bridge for the first time. He took lessons from G. C. H. Fox, and played in the London clubs frequented by greats such as Terence Reese and Boris Shapiro.

Jessel currently holds the record for the oldest player, at 82, to represent a country as a full international. He puts his competitive longevity down to attitude and physical fitness.

In a 1997 interview with Stephen Lester, he explained:

"Ageing is so much a psychological matter. When I was young and sports-made, I played competitive table tennis, hockey, tennis, soccer, cricket and whatever [he was a State representative hockey player]. In those days, a Davis Cup player was said to be over the hill at 28. I was amazed that players accepted that proposition as inevitable.

I was 48 when I ran across a famous athletic coach, Franz Stampl. As I was very unfit, he took me in hand, and after one year of heavy workouts, I ran for Melbourne University, doing 440 yards in 58 seconds. Later, at 65 I ran a marathon in three hours, 40 minutes. So what's so hot about staying awake at a bridge table for the same length of time? The day I accept praise for playing well because I'm "old" is the day I'm ready for the knackers yard.

At his induction, Jessel gave the following speech that received a standing ovation.

"Friends, Romans, bridge players, and especially the Australian Bridge Federation.

Thank you for honouring me today with this magnificent award.

In my 92 years on this planet, and 50 of them playing bridge, I thought I would share with you what I have learned on and off the table:

- A game of bridge is like riding a horse it's dangerous at both ends and bloody uncomfortable in the middle.
- Bridge, however, is a very lonely game, and it poses a dilemma: it's full of conflict, misery and unhappiness ... but it ends all too soon.

So finally, in the words of Woody Allen, "I don't want to achieve immortality through my bridge - I want to achieve it through not dying!"

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen."

Thank you Jessel Rothfield.

ABF History Project

## **News from the West**

Rockingham Bridge Club has set up a duty dummy for each session. Bridge players not having a regular partner, or visitors to the area, can front up to the club 30 minutes before the session, and be assured of a game. If you are in the Rockingham area, our sessions are Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday afternoons, with a 12.30pm start time. Tuesday evenings start at 6.45pm and Saturday afternoons start at 1.00pm.



**Sunday 28th November** 9:45am for 10:00am Start

Manly Leagues Bridge Club Cnr Federal Pde & Pittwater Rd, Brookvale (Free Parking)

Open Section
1st Prize: \$1,000

2nd Prize: \$400 3rd Prize: \$200

Plus four \$200 prizes to the best remaining teams: <2000MP, <1000MP, from supporting bridge clubs (x2)

#### **Restricted Section**

<500MP, subject to sufficient numbers</p>

1st Prize: \$400 2nd Prize: \$200 ) Margaret Smith

"A grand master with a reputation of being a "grand" partner. Margaret was happy to play with players of any level to put back into bridge the pleasure and social interaction she enjoyed throughout 30 years of playing."

#### **EVENT DETAILS**

- 6 x 8 board Swiss Teams
- B4 red MPs, no yellow systems
- \$120 per team
- Director Tony Howes
- Lunch orders taken before start of play

**Convenor:** David Farmer

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA, with ABF approval for red master points at B4 level.

Enter Online Now! Deadline 24th November (or earlier if full)
AT: <a href="https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/entry/enter.asp?eid=2454">www.nswba.com.au/tourn/entry/enter.asp?eid=2454</a>
OR: <a href="mailto:Em

On Thursday evening, 19th August, Rockingham City Council held their annual Community Awards ceremony. Many organisations were represented, as were local celebrities, councillors and sponsors.

Di Brooks (Life Member of Rockingham Bridge Club and Publicity Officer for Western Australia) was a finalist in the Inspirational Senior Volunteer Award.

She is pictured below with Robert Schmidt,(left) Inspirational Young Person Volunteer Award, and His Worship, Mayor Barry Sammels.



### What should I bid?

## Sponsored by Bridgemate

Maura Rhodes of Perth made the best submission for June - July.

North deals, EW vulnerable





West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	<b>3</b> ♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	$3NT^2$
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	<b>6</b> ♥
All Pass			

- 1. Bergen, four-card trump support, invitational
- 2. RKCB

**Comments:** Kieran, should South open 1♥ or 2♣? After the Bergen raise, is it right to immediately use RKCB, or is there a better action?

#### Kieran's Reply:

#### Maura,

I strongly prefer  $1 \checkmark$ . For one thing, the hand is hardly a game force. For another, opening  $1 \checkmark$  gives you your best chance to evaluate fits. Look how much better off you are with  $1 \checkmark : 3 \checkmark$  compared to  $2 \checkmark : 2 \checkmark$ ,  $2 \checkmark : 3 \checkmark$  - you know so much more.

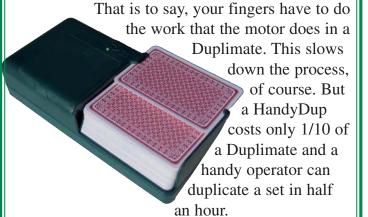
After 3♠, RKCB is best. Opposite one Key Card, play 6♥. Opposite two Key Cards and the trump queen, you could try seven if you're feeling bold, making any time dummy has only six black cards (clubs can be discarded on spades).

Since you're not worried about any specific control, cuebidding or something like that is pointless.

Regards, Kieran

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2011 Summer Festival of Bridge - 17th to 31st January 2011

Changes to the 2011 Summer Festival of Bridge

- Summer Festival moves back to the refurbished Rydges Lakeside!
- NO night play in 2011!
- National Swiss Pairs now 2 days
- NO Multi Pairs
- Flighted Swiss Pairs now Match-point Swiss scored

There are now several new restaurants in a new complex directly behind Rydges
Lakeside, a supermarket, café and also new accommodation within 3 minutes walk of the
hotel. Rydges has refurbished Cahoots Bar and built another new bar and Italian
restaurant on the ground floor.

Nearby in the city there is a vast choice of restaurants of all types to choose from. It will be a great year at the Summer Festival in 2011.

For full details visit <a href="www.summerfestivalofbridge.com">www.summerfestivalofbridge.com</a> Looking forward to an exciting 2011 Summer Festival of Bridge





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### Penalty and Rectification

know the title of this article sounds a bit like a Dostoevsky novel, however, the players who really do equate rulings with 'Crime and Punishment' fail to understand the true intent of the laws in respect to infractions and irregularities.



The first assumption is that no one intentionally breaks the rules. The introduction to the law book says that the laws "...are primarily designed not as punishment for irregularities, but rather for the rectification of situations where non-offenders may otherwise be damaged."

The word 'rectification' actually appears countless times throughout the laws. In the most recent edition it has almost completely replaced the word 'penalty' which was used in earlier texts. This change was a conscious effort by the drafters to actively remove all connotations of a penalty from what is really a simple attempt to redress the balance.

The laws that cover most of the common infractions tend to be prescriptive in nature. In many of these situations, each irregularity has a specific defined remedy. This means that they are relatively easy for the Director to enforce. The objective is always to remove any potential advantage that might otherwise have been gained. Simple examples of this type of ruling are the possible barring of partner following an opening bid out of rotation or the transfer of one or more tricks following a revoke.

This class of so-called 'mechanical' rulings sometimes leads to unexpected windfalls for the non-offending side, while on other occasions they just break even. If after applying the standard rectification, the opponents are still worse off, then the laws instruct the Director to adjust the result back to the original status quo.

There is also a second group of laws, which simply tell the Director to immediately award an adjusted score if the infraction has caused damage. Law 12B1 says that, "Damage exists when, because of an infraction, an innocent side obtains a table result less favourable than would have been the expectation had the infraction not occurred". This often involves what is called a 'judgment' ruling, because the Director first has to determine if damage really has occurred and than he has to decide upon the appropriate adjustment. Judgment rulings arise most frequently from situations involving mis-explanations or as a consequence of the use of unauthorised information. A judgment ruling is invariably more complex and time consuming for the

Director than a simple mechanical ruling.

'Equity' is another key concept within the laws. Whenever the Director is authorised to award an adjusted score, he seeks to rule as equitably as possible. Law 12B1 says, "The objective of score adjustment is to redress damage to a non-offending side and to take away any advantage gained by an offending side through its infraction." Again there is no concept of trying to simply 'punish' the offender.

Having discussed 'rectification' at length I should finally mention that Law 90 does still provide the Director with the authority to penalise breaches of procedure, whenever he believes that such action is necessary. Penalties really have little place within a club environment, however, the regulations governing major tournaments and national events often stipulate mandatory penalties (in the form of score reduction) for actions that inconvenience other contestants. Typical breaches include being late for a session, the fouling of boards, or allowing one's mobile phone to ring and disturb others. The levying of these types of penalties should always be a Director's last rather than first resort and often the regulations simply prescribe a warning in the first instance, with penalties only actually being levied on repeat offenders.

So next time you commit an infraction and end up with a poor score, remember the Laws (and Director) are not trying to punish you, they are just trying to protect the other side.

Laurie Kelso

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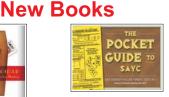


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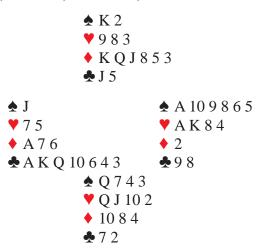
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### A grand time in the Butler Trials

The structure of the Butler Trials changed this year, with two, rather than three stages, and six, rather than seven days. Even so, with 29 rounds of 12-board matches in the Open and Women's, it was still a gruelling event. No night play was a boon, and no days with 70 boards was another plus.

Day 1, Stage 1, Rounds 1-5:

Round 2, Board 17, North deals, nil vulnerable

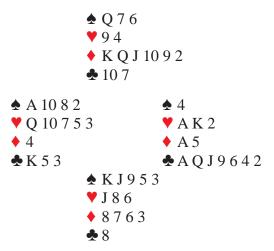


Even if North passes, it is not easy for West to find East has both club support and a diamond shortage. Our opponents reached 6♣, enough for 9 IMPs, with the datum EW 550. If you escape a trump lead in 7♣ – the likely lead is ♦K – you can play ♦A, diamond ruff, ♠A, spade ruff, diamond ruff and return to hand via a third-round heart ruff to draw trumps. On a trump lead, you win, play ♠A, spade ruff, ♦A, diamond ruff, spade ruff high, draw trumps and set up the spades to pitch the diamond loser.

After Rounds 1-5, leaders were Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer in the Open and Marilyn Chadwick - Toni Sharp in the Women's.

Day 2, Stage 1, Rounds 6-10:

Round 6, Board 18, East deals, NS vulnerable



As the cards lie,  $7 \clubsuit$ ,  $7 \heartsuit$  and 7NT all make, but the safest is  $7 \clubsuit$ .

If East is in control after clubs have been agreed, it is not easy to locate  $\heartsuit Q$ .

If East opens  $2\clubsuit$  (intending to show a nine playing-trick hand in clubs) and West responds  $2\blacktriangledown$ , then you are a good chance to find  $7\clubsuit$  if the  $2\blacktriangledown$  response must be at least a suit that is queenhigh.

If you open  $1 \clubsuit$ , you have a tough rebid after  $1 \clubsuit$ :  $1 \heartsuit$ . The East hand is too powerful for a  $3 \clubsuit$  rebid, but what better action is there?

Our opponents bid 6, +1010, collecting 3 IMPs as the datum was EW 910 in the Open and EW 840 in the Women's.

Top three placings at the end of Stage 1:

#### Open:

Ron Klinger, Matt Mullamphy Jamie Ebery, Leigh Gold Sartaj Hans, Helena Dawson (non-contenders)

#### Women's

Nevena Djurovic, Pauline Evans Sue Lusk, Therese Tully Marilyn Chadwick, Toni Sharp

There were 56 pairs in the Open and 20 qualified for Stage 2. With a number of non-contending pairs in the field, the pair qualifying in 20th place actually finished 25th in Stage 1.

Curiously there was no carry-forward from Stage 1 to Stage 2, yet those near the top of the leader board would almost certainly have had a tougher draw than those near the bottom.

#### Day 3, Stage 2, Round 1-5:

Try this problem:

North deals, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	2♣	Pass
$2^{\blacklozenge 1}$	Pass	$2 \spadesuit^2$	Pass
?			

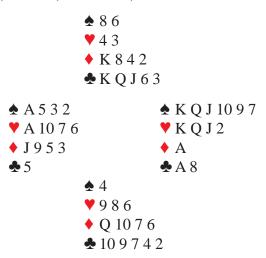
1. Negative or waiting

2. GF, 5+

What would you do as West with:

One thing that struck me throughout the tournament was the poor standard of slam bidding overall. Perhaps the previous two grand slams were difficult to reach, but this should have been child's play:

Round 3, Board 9, North deals, EW vulnerable



You would think bidding  $7 \triangleq$  or  $7 \checkmark$  would be routine, but only two pairs managed it in the Open.

How about this sequence:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	2♣	Pass
$2^{1}$	Pass	$2 \spadesuit^2$	Pass
<b>4♣</b> <sup>3</sup>	Pass	$4NT^4$	Pass
5 <b>∀</b> <sup>4</sup>	Pass	7♠	All Pass
?			

- 1. Negative or waiting
- 2. GF, 5+
- 3. Splinter agreeing spades

RKCB ask and response

Open datum: EW 1460, Women's: EW 1590

After Round 5, the leaders were Ron Klinger

- Matt Mullamphy in the Open and Thea Cowie
- Julienne Masters in the Women's.

#### Day 4, Stage 2, Rounds 6-10:

Consider this situation:

West deals, all vulnerable

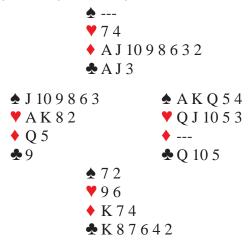
West	North	East	South
1♠	5♦	6♠	?

What would you do as South with:

It is a good principle to let opponents play in their slam if they have been forced to guess whether slam is likely. That would suggest passing with the South cards.

Michael Wilkinson felt confident I knew what I was doing when I jumped to 6♠ in the auction given (definitely misplaced confidence), but he was right when he sacrificed in 7♠.

Round 9, Board 4, West deals, all vulnerable



7♦ doubled was -800, still 5 IMPs for NS, with both the Open and Women's datums EW 970.

After Round 10, just past half-way, the leading scores were:

#### Open:

Ron Klinger, Matt Mullamphy	194
Matthew McManus, Michael Ware	179
Julian Foster, Dave Weston	166

#### Women's:

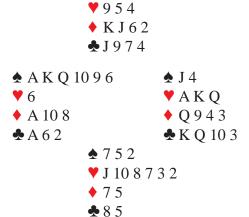
Kinga Moses, Nafi Bashar	190
Nevena Djurovic, Pauline Evans	188
Sue Lusk, Therese Tully	178

#### Day 5, Stage 2, Rounds 11-15:

An easy grand?

Round 12, Board 24, West deals, nil vulnerable

**♦**83



This sequence works well:

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
<b>5</b> ♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	5 <b>∀</b> <sup>2</sup>	Pass
$5NT^3$	Pass	7NT	All Pass

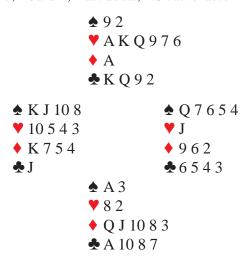
- 1. 1 or 4 Key Cards
- 2. Asking for the trump queen
- 3. 'I have it.'

After 5NT, East can count 13 tricks: six spades, three hearts, one diamond and three clubs.

Open & Women's datum: EW 1260, Seniors datum, EW 1340.

We suffered our worst score of the tournament on the next deal:

Round 13, Board 2, East deals, NS vulnerable



Gryff Ware, North, and Mark Abraham, South, bid to 7♣ by North. I led a trump, and Ware made 13 tricks via the ruffing finesse in diamonds and ultimately picking the heart position to take a second round finesse of ♥9. That was +2140 and +16 IMPs against the datum of NS 830. At another table ♥J was led against 7♣ and declarer finished three down.

Open datum, NS 830, Women's datum NS 280.

285

After round 15, the leading scores were:

Ron Klinger, Matt Mullamphy

#### Open:

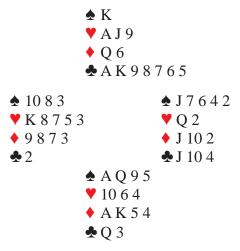
Julian Foster, Dave Weston	255
Ian Robinson, Andrew Braithwaite	246
Women's:	
Nevena Djurovic, Pauline Evans	284
Kinga Moses, Nafi Bashar	275
Sue Lusk, Therese Tully	263

A lead of 30 VPs at this stage was a great cushion, and the outcome was essentially in our own hands. Still, anything might happen since we had a tough run home.

#### Day 6, Stage 2, Rounds 16-19:

In Round 16 we faced Matthew McManus – Michael Ware, playing their artificial CRUNCH system with relays. It was a match where you wanted a lot of flat boards, but that was not the case. We had to shell out on this deal:

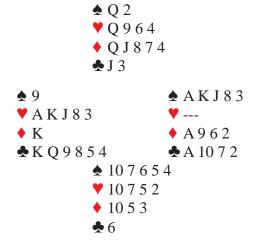
Round 16, Board 21, North deals, NS vulnerable



Ware - McManus relayed their way to 7NT, which required no declarer skill, with 14 tricks once clubs behaved. That gave them +2220 and 12 IMPs, as the Open datum was NS 1530, with the Women's datum NS 1280.

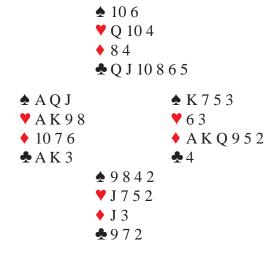
Next round came two grand slams back to back:

Round 17, Board 7, South deals, all vulnerable



Roy Nixon – Bernie Waters bid 7♣ against us and I mentally jotted down another loss. However, practice had improved the field's slam bidding and EW 2140 was the datum. No swing.

Round 17, Board 8, West deals, nil vulnerable



Once West opens 2NT, it should be possible to find 7♦ or 7NT. East can start with 3♣ (some Stayman enquiry or another), and when West does not have four spades, East might bid 4♦. After that, some cuebids and RKCB followed by 5NT, should lead to the grand.

Our opponents stopped in 6♦ for +1390 and this time we picked up IMPs, +5 in fact, as the Open datum was EW 1130 and the Women's datum EW 970.

Was it just my imagination, or were there more grand slams in this event than expected? If you wish to do well at teams, or pairs events scored by IMPs, it will repay you greatly to work on your slam bidding. One easy way is to use the Partnership Bidding feature on BBO, with random deals and 30+ points in your constraints. Then you need to pray that the slam hands come your way in actual tournament play, rather than for the opponents.

We survived the last day with three wins (17-13), (18-12), (16-14) (at that stage we were over a match clear of second with one round left) and a 25-5. Ron Klinger

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### **Coaching Cathy at contract**

#### THE CURSE OF THE MISFITS

Me Again,

know you frequently respond to post mortem questions on bidding with the claim that you bid a lot better with both hands exposed, but I want to know who could have averted the disaster I outline below?

West deals, all vulnerable

West	East
<b>♠</b> A 9	<b>♠</b> K 7 6 5 3
<b>Y</b>	<b>♥</b> K Q 10 62
♦ AJ 9 6 5 2	<b>♦</b> 10
<b>♣</b> K 9 6 3 2	<b>♣</b> Q 7

Our auction, with me sitting West:

West	North	East	South
Me		Partner	
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2 <b>∨</b> 1	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All pass		

#### 1. Fourth suit forcing (not game forcing).

I know *Deep Finesse* says we can make 2NT, but I made a mess of 3NT, and went three down. Clearly, we should not be in 3NT, with only 22 HCP and no fit.

Luv, Cathy

Me Too.

As you suggest, it is much easier to get the bidding right with two hands exposed.

It really comes down to who first gains the realisation that the hand is a hopeless misfit. Both pairs, in this instance, had a chance to bail out into a making contract. East should have the first clue when West rebid 2.

However, it is very hard to give preference to diamonds with only a singleton, but you may note that this would have been a more successful strategy on this particular hand. Then West had a chance to slow things down by giving secondary spade support over  $2^{\blacktriangledown}$ , with  $2^{\blacktriangle}$ . I do sympathise with  $3^{\clubsuit}$ .

In the meantime, East had one last chance and might have passed 34, now knowing that West had a 5-5 or 6-5 in the minors. This was basically the point of no return, and East should have been aware of it.

Sadly, over 3♥, West has nowhere sensible to go. So at least I exonerate you, as West.

I think that the bid that perpetrated the disaster was an extremely optimistic 3♥ bid.

I would like to point out that the views expressed here may not be those of the management!

Best wishes, David

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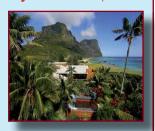
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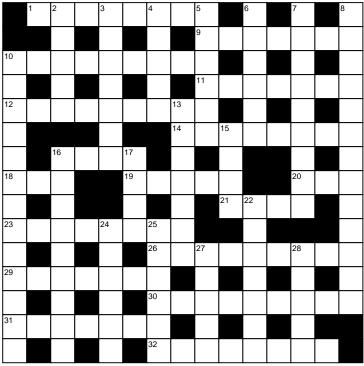
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## Puzzle 1093 Solution page 21



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#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Bird that involves snap heat.(8)
- **9** Guacamole ingredient that is one against a backward company making a big fuss.(7)
- **10** Childs bed becomes unwell and joins a charged particle to make up a formal dance.(9)
- **11** African capital has fall returning to sash in Japan.(7)
- **12** Every ring is pale at church giving a stipend.(9)
- **14** Warn handsome man aboout taking in top model's hat.(8)
- 16 Divot a fizzing drink?(4)
- 18 Enter the Dragon, Bruce is also downwind.(3)
- **19** Alloy with supports at bend.(5)
- 20 Fire remains like, hot.(3)
- 21 Drag the booty from a heist.(4)
- 23 Most tawdry look, pass away on street.(8)
- 26 Niagara is a raindrop, so it seems.(9)
- 29 Crackpot seed holder.(7)
- 30 The bad owl makes killing strike.(9)
- 31 Small Fish State with redhead going to eat.(7)
- **32** Old bowling game returns in direction of a backsnip.(8)

#### **DOWN**

- 2 So warm the Spanish think it is a spa!(5)
- 3 Let everyone remain still unpaid.(7)
- 4 Negatively charged particle or article I am on!(5)
- 5 Very brown leather after being beaten?(6)
- 6 500, zero, 1000, in no game tile.(6)
- 7 Authentic religious material makes a laconic headnurse jumpy.(9)
- **8** Crazy how we lot fight, yet allow it to unfold around us.(2, 4, 3, 4)
- **10** Continuation forever...stop reduction on Scottish headland.(13)
- 13 Tin-like small thanks to get to a card game.(7)
- 15 Press mother quietly.(4)
- **16** South Eastern impression on a railway is inactive.(9)
- 17 Can do tar.(4)
- **22** Blimp with Artificial Intelligence before going on right vessel.(7)
- 24 men from Baghdad start quarterly inquests for Gershwins to hold.(6)
- 25 Country that maybe South West of Eden.(6)
- 27 Mark makes model state in two?(5)
- 28 Actor Tim is everyone's measure.(5)



the Australian internet bridge club

## Dare to be Australian - play Australian

### **2011 Summer Festival Update**

ext year's Summer Festival of Bridge has seen changes, in accordance with player requests:

- Summer Festival moves back to Rydges!
- No night play in 2011!
- National Swiss Pairs now two days
- No Multi Pairs
- Instead Flighted Swiss Pairs Matchpoint Swiss scored

#### Venue

Extensive renovations have been made to Rydges since the Summer Festival was last held there. There are new convention areas, a new bar and a new restaurant. *Cahoots* has retained its old character, and a new development directly behind the hotel also offers new restaurants, bars, accommodation and shopping facilities. It will be a great venue in 2011.

#### Event changes

The National Teams events (Women's, Seniors', Novice, Life Masters, Non-Life Masters, South West Pacific & Mixed) will all feature daytime play only. Start of play will be 10.00am each day.

The National Swiss Pairs, which was held on Sunday only, has been expanded to a two-day event, starting at 11.00am on Saturday, 22 January. It will now be 11 rounds of nine-board matches, making it a much superior event. There will be category winners for Women's, Men, Seniors', Youth, Mixed, Novice and a new Country category. Pairs eligible for more than one category, will have the opportunity to compete in each of their eligible categories. Of course, a pair can only win one category in the end.

The National Multi Pairs has been decreasing in popularity, and will no longer be contested. Instead, the National Flighted Swiss Pairs will become a matchpoint pairs event on the final weekend of the festival. This will remain a Swiss Pairs event, but will be scored as matchpoints converted to VPs.

A full schedule can be found on the Festival webpage www.summerfestivalofbridge.com

Sean Mullamphy, Convener

### **Expressions of Interest**

#### ABF National Marketing Officer

The ABF is seeking an enthusiastic person to lead and coordinate the marketing of bridge in association with the states and territories and their affiliated clubs.

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- Manage the development and delivery of specific marketing campaigns
- Promote and market the ABF in the wider community
- Promote ABF events
- Support or produce development and educational programmes, lessons, material, publications or other aids designed to encourage participation in the game

#### Attributes and Skills Required:

- Can communicate effectively
- Is positive and enthusiastic
- Is well organised
- Is a member of the bridge community
- Has marketing experience

Retainer - \$10,000 per annum, with renewal of appointment reviewed annually. The starting date will be December 1, 2010.

Email confidential expression of interests to, Dianne Marler, Secretary – Australian Bridge Federation Inc <u>ABF Secretary@live.com.au</u>. To be received no later than 15 October, 2010.

### **Congresses and events**

#### Roger Penny Senior and Australian Swiss Pairs

September 30 - October 3

Convener: Catherine Elliott, Tel: (03) 6344 9303

Email: asp@abf.com.au

#### Commercial Club Albury 30th Super Congress

Friday October 8: Pre-Congress Pairs Saturdaym Swiss Pairs, Sunday, Swiss Teams Contact Dianne Barrow: colbarrow@yahoo.com.au

#### **Bairnsdale Congress**

16 - 17 October

St. Mary's Parish Centre, Bairnsdale.

Convener: John Brazier, johnbrazier@y7mail.com or bbridgeclub@bigpond.com.

#### Taree Congress

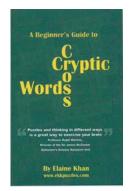
16 - 17 October

Swiss Pairs Saturday, Swiss Teams Sunday Contact Judy Scott, judithscott@bigpond.com

## A Beginner's Guide to Cryptic Crosswords ONLY \$9.95 + P&P

#### By Elaine Khan

Using this simple guide, written in easy language, you can begin to decipher the secrets of Cryptic clues. You will find that you CAN work out the answers after reading just a few pages of this handy little book.



Great value at only **\$9.95** plus postage (\$4) and is available to you online at <a href="www.EKKPuzzles.com">www.EKKPuzzles.com</a> (to pay by credit card )or by phone 1300 885 762.

**Professor Ralph Martins**, West Australian of the year & Director of the Sir James McCusker Alzheimer's Disease Research Unit says this about 'A Beginner's Guide to Cryptic Crosswords'. "Puzzles and thinking in different ways is a great way to exercise your brain. Cryptic Crosswords are particularly beneficial because you have to approach and inspect clues in different ways; therefore you're constantly challenging your brain. It's not as simple as looking at a thesaurus or dictionary for the solution; you have to crack the code through mental work and concentration. These crosswords are never boring! There is a growing body of evidence showing that "lifestyle modifications" like exercising the mind, play an important role in preventing dementia, particularly

Alzheimer's disease. I hope that you enjoy this book as much as I did. Work at it until you have conquered the cryptic clues. Aside from the satisfaction you'll get from solving the puzzle, you'll also be giving your brain a better chance at warding off diseases that attack memory."

#### CALL NOW 1300885762 or visit EKKPuzzles.com

Part Proceeds to McCusker Foundation

Special Offer- Send in a club order of 10 or more- get one copy free

From the Editor: Sorry to ignore the 2010 ANC Interstate Teams, but there was simply no room. Go to abf.com.au to find the Daily Bulletins on this great event

#### Congresses and Events continued:

#### **Dubbo Congress**

16 - 17 October

Pairs Saturday, Teams Sunday

Commences 1pm Saturday with gourmet lunch on Sunday.

Contact Anne Hazelton, ah@northandbadgery.com.au

#### Southern Highlands Congress, Bowral

November 6 - 7

Contact Anne Wood, Tel: (02) 4862 2435

Email: shbc.sec@gmail.com

#### Tumbarumba Congress

6 - 7 November

Contact Margaret Horwitz on (02) 6948 8626 or email snow.goose@bigpond.com



Fuzzle 1093

#### **Recent Results**

#### Victor Champion Cup

- 1. *EBERY*, Jamie Ebery, Leigh Gold, Simon Hinge, Kim Morrison.
- 2. *KLINGER*: Ron Klinger, Matthew Mullamphy, Ben Thompson, Bill Jacobs
- 3. *NOBLE*, Barry Noble, George Bilski, Michael Prescott, Ishmael Del'Monte, Robert Fruewirth

#### McCance Trophy

- 1. Margaret Bourke, Ron Klinger
- 2. Martin Bloom, Edward Chadwick
- 3. Marlene Watts, Paul Lavings

#### Women's Swiss Pairs

- 1. Cathy Lachman, Helen Snashall
- 2. Paula Schroor, Sally Murray-White
- 3. Felicity Beale, Diana Smart

#### Charlie Snashall Teams

- 1. *HAMILTON*, Irene Hamilton, Dorothy Hayes, Dianna Middleton, John Adams
- 2. *MORGAN*, Brian Morgan, Margaret Morgan, Chandradee Chakravorty, Kevin Sertori
- 3. *EASLEY*, Warren Easley, James Simpson, Louis Veenstra, Lynne Veenstra

## Coffs Coast Gold Congress Open Pairs

Sartaj Hans - Helena Dawson Marlene Watts - David Beauchamp Ishmael Del'Monte - Arjuna de Livera

#### Open Teams

1=, *POWELL*, Anne Powell, Margaret Bourke, Tony Marinos, Peter Grant

1=. *MORRISON*, Kim Morrison, Simon Hinge, Paul Wyer, Phil Gue

Andrew Peake, Arjuna De Livera, Sartaj Hans and Helena Dawson

3, *PEAKE*, Andrew Peake, Arjuna De Livera, Sartaj Hans, Helena Dawson

#### 010 Western Seniors' Pairs

- 1. John Beddow Egmont Melton
- 2. Clifford De Rosario Jacek Majewski
- 3. John Ashworth Fiske Warren

## Orange Congress

#### **Pairs**

Michael Ross - Phillip Williams Kerry Wood - Charles Howard Henry Chu - Agi Szollos (3=) Julie and Mark Guthrie (3=)

#### **Teams**

Kennet Christiansson, Ervin Otvosi, Brad Coles, Erin Tewes (1=) David Brennan, Vince Kelly, Jan Rava, Tori Horder (1=) Lloyd Cleaver, Rosemary Hummelschoj,

Lloyd Cleaver, Rosemary Hummelschoj, Diane Kajons Liz Scorer

#### Open ANC Butler:

Sue Lusk, Therese Tully

Ron Klinger, Matt Mullamphy	361
Julian Foster, Dave Weston	333
Ian Robinson, Andrew Braithwaite	327
Women's ANC Butler:	
Nevena Djurovic, Pauline Evans	354
Kinga Moses, Nafi Bashar	347

#### Seniors' ANC Butler(12 round event):

George Bilski, Nicky Strasser	237
Les Varadi, Elli Urbach	233
Bob Richman, Sarah Tishler	228

342

### **Youth Coordinator appointed**

The ABF Youth Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of David Thompson as the National Youth Coordinator, commencing 1 July 2010.

This re-established role will involve liaising with State Coordinators to provide the resources and support necessary to increase youth participation in bridge. This will include stimulating interest in bridge in both secondary and tertiary institutions.

In addition David will provide

- ◆ Secretarial support for the ABF Youth Committee
- Valuable input into the Australian youth international representative program
- Organisational assistance in the running of national youth events

David has had a long association with youth bridge, having successfully represented Australia at the youth level on several occasions in the early 1990s, and more recently taking a keen interest in youth development in his local community of Echuca-Moama, on the border of Victoria - NSQ.

Outside bridge, David is a Chartered Accountant working in a senior executive position at a large hospital in rural Victoria.

David would be delighted to hear any ideas people may have as to ways in which youth bridge can be grown and can be contacted by email at dave@amontay.com.

#### South-West Pacific Teams - \$840 per team 2011 Summer Festival of Bridge Entry Form The Seniors' Last Train - \$200 per pair ABF No ABF No Name Amount **Amount** The Women's Last Train - \$200 per pair ABF No Name Amount National Flighted Swiss Pairs - \$140 per pair ABF No Amount **First Week Teams Events** \$540/team \$480/team \$480/team 0-49 National National Life Non-Life National Women's Seniors' Masters' Masters' Novice 0-99 Teams Teams **Teams** Teams **Teams** 0-149 Australian Mixed Teams - \$300 per team ABF No Name Name ABF No Amount **Amount** The Open Last Train Event - \$200 per pair Please make cheques payable to Summer Festival of Bridge; or Total ABF No Please charge to my credit card the TOTAL amount shown Name Amount Card Holder Name: Please Print in BLOCK LETTERS Mastercard National Swiss Pairs - \$180 per pair ABF No Amount Expiry Date: Telephone Number Signature Post Entries to: The Summer Festival of Bridge, PO Box 4173, WESTON ACT 2611



## Rydges Lakeside Hotel, Canberra | 17th - 31st January 2011







See www.summerfestivalofbridge.com for dates and entry details.





Call **0401 509 616** for further information or alternatively email **not@abf.com.au**