

AUSSIE YOUTH BRIDGE BULLETIN

Bulletin Editor: Andy Hung

ISSUE 28

2018 Australian Youth



2018 Australian Youth Team: Mike Doeke (npc), Matt Smith, Renee Cooper, Jamie Thompson, Francesca McGrath, Andrew Spooner, Tomer Libman.

The Australian Youth Team had a great experience this year. Competing in the APBF Youth Team Championships, they narrowly missed out qualifying for the Semi Finals, and had an unlucky final day in the World Youth Team Championships to miss out on qualifying for the Quarter Finals.

This was the first time Andrew and Tomer had played for the Australian Youth Team, and they will be back again trialling together in the upcoming 2019 Youth Week Championships.

Jamie and Matt have had a great result this year. Not only did they take home the ANOT Open Pairs, but they also won the VCC Open Teams (with Stephen Williams and Shane Harrison), as well as beating the Cayne team (which had the big guns of Lauria and Versace!) in the finals of the Jon Sutherlin Knockout Teams (in Hawaii) over 24 boards, winning by a big margin of 66-12 IMPs!

Renee also won the 2018 GCC Open Teams (along with English internationals), so it's great to see that the youth players are more than competitive in the open field!

New Editor(s) Takeover

Dear Readers – I hope you have thoroughly enjoyed the revival of the Youth Bulletins! Next year, your new editors will be Johnno Newman and Nico Ranson – they have already been preparing a new format and material, and they will no doubt keep you updated and informed about the latest news of the Australian Youth Bridge! Peace out – Andy.

ABPF PRE-ALERTS!

For 2017			
DATES	EVENT	WHERE	
JAN 5 - 11	2019 Youth Week	Canberra	
JAN 9 - 20	Summer Festival	Canberra	
JAN 25 - 28	2019 Mixed Team Playoff	Sydney	
FEB 15 - 23	Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach	
APR 5 - 11	ABPF Youth Team Champs	Bangkok, Thailand	
MAY 2 - 6	ANOT	Adelaide	
JUN 6 - 10	VCC	Melbourne	
JUL 13 - 25	ANC	Melbourne	

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CHECKBACK (Results)

2018 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

6 JAN – 12 JAN, 2018 (Canberra)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

	Place	Team
Youth Teams (Round Robin)	1 ST	HENBEST: Lucy Henbest, Nathan Mill, Peter Hollands, Justin Mill, Laura Ginnan, Max Henbest
	2 ND	RANSON: Nico Ranson, John McMahon, Renee Cooper, Francesca McGrath
	3 RD	GOSNEY: Paul Gosney, Matthew Smith, Jamie Thompson, Johnno Newman

	Place	Pair
Youth Pairs Final	1 ST	Matthew Smith – Jamie Thompson
	2 ND	Renee Cooper – Stephen Williams
	3 RD	Francesca McGrath – Max Henbest

	Place	Pair
Youth Pairs Consolation	1 ST	Andrew Gosney – Mitch Dowling
	2 ND	Kirstyn Fuller – Zachary Neulinger
	3 RD	Keiren Crowe-Mai – Christy Geromboux

	Place	B-A-M	Team
Cliff Wake Playoff	1 ST	6	HENBEST – Lucy Henbest, Nathan Mill, Peter Hollands, Justin Mill, Laura Ginnan, Max Henbest
	2 ND	2	WARE – Griff Ware, Daniel Geromboux, Mike Doecke, Will Jenner-O'Shea
	= 3 RD	Lost SF	JOHNSTON – Brad Johnston, Nik Mitchell, Matthew Brown, Feitong Chen
	= 3 RD	Lost SF	SPOONER – Andrew Spooner, Tomer Libman, Matthew Smith, Jamie Thompson

	Place	Pair
NZ/U35 Butler	1 ST	Jarrad Dunbar – Charles McMahon
	2 ND	Nick Jacob – Johnno Newman
	3 RD	Paul Gosney – Justin Mill
	4 TH	Matthew Brown – John Yoon
	5 TH	Max Henbest – Peter Hollands
	6 TH	Zac Yan – Vincent He

2018 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Youth Butler Pairs (U25 Team Selection Phase 1)	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Jamie Thompson – Matthew Smith (Qualify)
	2 ND	Tomer Libman – Andrew Spooner (Qualify)
	3 RD	John McMahon – Nico Ranson (Play Phase 2)
	4 TH	Francesca McGrath – Renee Cooper (Play Phase 2)
	5 TH	Rebecca O’Reilly – David Gue
6 TH	Jarvis Dunsford – George Bartley	

U25 Team Phase 2	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Renee Cooper – Francesca McGrath

Youth Test Match	Place	C/F	1	2	Total	Team
	1 ST	0	43	51	94	Australia: Andrew Spooner, Tomer Libman, Jamie Thompson, Matthew Smith
	2 ND	0	14	20	34	NZ: Matthew Brown, Andi Boughey, Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin, Jacob Kalma, Zac Yan, Vincent He



2018 Australian Youth Team
(L to R): Jamie Thompson, Matthew Smith, Tomer Libman, Andrew Spooner, Francesca McGrath, Renee Cooper

2018 GOLD COAST CONGRESS

16 FEB – 24 FEB, 2018 (Broadbeach, Gold Coast)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Bobby Richman Open Pairs Final A	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Matthew Brown – Johnno Newman
2 ND	Ross Harper – Michael Rosenberg	

Open Pairs Final B	Place	Pair
	2 ND	Nye Griffiths – Nick Jacob

Weekend Matchpoints	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Justin Mill – Liam Milne

Open Teams	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Frances Hinden, Graham Osborne, Renee Cooper , Kieren Dyke



2018 GCC Open Team Winners: Graham Osborne, Renee Cooper, Therese Tully (non playing convenor), Kieren Dyke, and Frances Hinden

2018 APBF OPEN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

13 APR – 20 APR, 2018 (Jakarta, Indonesia)
 For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

	Place	Team
U25 Teams	1 ST	 Airlangga University
	2 ND	 Chinese Taipei
	= 3 RD	 Djarum
	= 3 RD	 China Hong Kong
	5 TH	 Australia

2018 ANOT

3 MAY – 7 MAY, 2018 (Adelaide)
 For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

	Place	Pair
Open Pairs	1 ST	Matthew Smith – Jamie Thompson



2018 ANOT Pairs Winners:
 (L to R): John Smith, Matthew Smith, Jamie Thompson



2018 VCC

7 JUN – 11 JUN, 2018 (Melbourne)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Open Teams	Place	Team
	1 ST	Matthew Smith – Jamie Thompson, Shane Harrison – Stephen Williams



2018 VCC Open Teams Winners:
(L to R): Matthew Smith, Stephen Williams, Jamie Thompson, Shane Harrison, Ben Thompson (Presenter)

2018 ANC YOUTH TEAMS

28 JUL – 9 AUG, 2018 (Glenorchy, TAS)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Youth Teams	Place	State	VPs	Team Members
	1 ST	NSW	139 IMPs (Finals)	Charles McMahon (NPC), Nico Ranson, John McMahon, Edmond Lee, Crispy Rhodes, Matt Smith, Tomer Libman
	2 ND	SA	120 IMPs (Finals)	Lauren Travis (C), David Gue, Ben Curtis, Jamie Simpson, George Bartley, Jarvis Dunsford
	3 RD	WA	588.4	Robina McConnell (NPC), Hayley Smeed, Ishraq Bari, Megan O'Reilly, Bec O'Reilly, Francesca McGrath, Renee Cooper
	4 TH	ACT	432.7	Darryl Whitfield (C), Max Mullamphy, Zac Neulinger, Andrew Spooner, Jade Wilkinson, Alex Wilsmore
	5 TH	QLD	366.7	Paul Brake (NPC), Spencer Hamson, Ellen Visscher, Darren Brake, Jasmine Skeate, Jack Luke-Paredi, Ben Leung
	6 TH	VIC	366.6	Peter Hollands (NPC), Jamie Thompson, Victoria Thompson, Danni Fuller, Damon Flicker, John Mai



2018 ANC Youth Team Winners:
(L to R): Chris Rhodes, Charles McMahon (npc), Matthew Smith, Nico Ranson, John McMahon, Edmund Lee.
Absent: Tomer Libman

2018 ANC Youth Team Runners Up:

(L to R): Jarvis Dunsford, Ben Curtis, Jamie Simpson, Lauren Travis, David Gue, George Bartley



2018 WORLD YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

8 AUG – 18 AUG, 2018 (Wujiang, China)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

	Place	Team
U25 Teams	1 ST	 Sweden
	2 ND	 Singapore
	3 RD	 Netherlands
	4 TH	 Poland
	= 5 TH	 China
	= 5 TH	 USA 1
	= 5 TH	 USA 2
	= 5 TH	 Israel
	9 TH	 France
	10 TH	 Australia



2018 Australian Youth Team:

(L to R): Mike Doeke (npc), Matthew Smith, Renee Cooper, Jamie Thompson, Francesca McGrath, Andrew Spooner, Tomer Libman

The Australian Youth Team was featured in the fifth bulletin of the 17th World Youth Teams Championships when they faced against the eventual winners, Sweden, in the Round Robin. The article, written by Phillip Alder, can be found on page 8.



2018 NEW ZEALAND CONGRESS

29 SEPTEMBER – 6 OCTOBER, 2018 (Hamilton, NZ)
For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Open Pairs Final	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Liam Milne – James Coutts
	5 TH	Nico Ranson – John McMahon

NZ Open Teams	Place	Teams
	1 ST	Graeme Stout, Jeff Miller, Warren Lazer, Pauline Gumby
	2 ND	Martin Reid, Michael Ware, James Coutts, Liam Milne, Peter Newell, Justin Mill
	=3 RD	Andrew Spooner, Matthew Smith, Nico Ranson, John McMahon
	=3 RD	Steph Jacob, Rebecca Wood, Wayne Burrows, Clair Miao

Youth Test Match	Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Team
	1 ST	25	40	18	53	54	80	270	Australia: John McMahon - Nico Ranson - Matt Smith - Andrew Spooner
	2 ND	15	36	22	10	23	3	109	NZ: Brad Johnston - Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin - Jacob Kalma - Feitong Chen - Vincent He - Zachary Yan

2018 SNOT

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Open Teams	Place	Team
	1 ST	Nye Griffiths – Ella Pattison , Simon Hinge – Stephen Lester

2018 GNOT

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Open Teams	Place	Team
	1 ST	SYDNEY 2: Bruce Neill - Avinash Kanetkar - Johnno Newman - Nye Griffiths - Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer
	2 ND	CANBERRA 2: George Kozakos - Arjuna De Livera - Jodi Tutty - Stephen Fischer
	=3 RD	SYDNEY 6: Nico Ranson, John McMahon, Tomer Libman, Lavy Libman
	=3 RD	SYDNEY 1: Peter Buchen - Terry Brown - Ron Klinger - Matt Mullamphy - Kim Morrison - Matthew Thomson





Phillip Alder

AUSTRALIA VS SWEDEN

JUNIORS ROUND 8

Before this tournament began, Sweden was one of the favorites. Would the Australians bring off an upset?

But just before we get to the action, try this defensive problem, with the board rotated to make South the declarer.

Dlr: West
Vul: None

♠ --	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q 10 8 7 4
♥ 2		♥ A Q 9 5 4
♦ A K 10 7 3		♦ 6 2
♣ A K 10 7 6 5 2		♣ 8

West	North	East	South
<i>Partner</i>	<i>Dummy</i>	<i>You</i>	<i>Declarer</i>
Pass	1♣	2♦ (a)	Dble
4♠	4NT (b)	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

- (a) At least 5-5 in the majors
- (b) Minor two-suiter with longer clubs

Partner leads the heart eight: two, ace, three. What would you do now?



JAMIE THOMPSON

AUSTRALIA

Sweden scored an overtrick imp on each of the first two boards, and more here:

Dlr: South
Vul: E-W

♠ J 9	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 8 6 4 3
♥ J 9 7		♥ K Q
♦ A 9 8 5		♦ Q J 10 3
♣ Q J 7 6		♣ A 10

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♦ (a)	2♠	4♥
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (a) A bad weak two-bid in a major!

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Renee Cooper's psychic opening backfired badly when she found partner with length in the majors.

The defenders took one spade, two hearts, one diamond and two clubs for down three.

To make matters worse for Cooper, three notrump did not make. Jamie Thompson won the heart lead with his queen and led the club ten, which held. When the diamond finesse lost, North returned the heart four. Now Mikael Rimstedt did very well, shifting to a spade. If he had established a long heart, or ducked the second heart, declarer could have used dummy's diamond entries to establish clubs and take one spade, two hearts, three diamonds and three clubs. Now, though, the defenders won two spades, one heart,

one diamond and one club.

Plus 500 and plus 100 gave Sweden 12 imps.

Australia got on the scoreboard here:

Dlr: West	♠ 7 5 3		
Vul: Both	♥ K Q 10 6		
	♦ A J		
	♣ 10 7 3 2		
		W N E S	
♠ 10 8 6			♠ A 9 4 2
♥ 4			♥ A 8 7 3 2
♦ Q 8 6 5 4			♦ 9 2
♣ Q 9 8 6			♣ K 5
	♠ K Q J		
	♥ J 9 5		
	♦ K 10 7 3		
	♣ A J 4		

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
Pass	Pass	2♦ (a)	Dble
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (a) Flannery: four spades, five or more hearts and 11-15 points

McGrath's one-notrump overcall with only jack-third worked like a charm. Even though West tried a sneak attack with the diamond five, declarer plugged away at hearts and took two spades, three hearts, three diamonds and one club.

The Swedes had trouble with Flannery. It feels wrong for North to pass over two spades with ten points. The ideal call is a card-showing double. South would be happy to pass, and after a trump lead (as actually happened against two spades undoubled), the contract would have gone three down.

As it was, plus 600 and minus 300 gave Australia 7 imps.



Then came:

Dlr: North	♠ A 5 2		
Vul: N-S	♥ A J 4 2		
	♦ K 4		
	♣ Q 8 6 3		
		W N E S	
♠ K			♠ 10 3
♥ K Q 8 7 3			♥ 10 9 6 5
♦ Q 8 6 5			♦ J 9 7 3
♣ J 10 2			♣ K 7 5
	♠ Q J 9 8 7 6 4		
	♥ -		
	♦ A 10 2		
	♣ A 9 4		

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
—	1♣ (a)	Pass	1♥ (b)
Dble	1♠ (c)	2♥	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

- (a) Natural or a balanced hand outside the range for a one-notrump opening
 (b) Spades
 (c) Typically a weak notrump

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	4♥ (a)
Pass	4NT (b)	Pass	5♠ (c)
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

- (a) Big spade one-suiter with a heart void
 (b) Roman Key Card Blackwood
 (c) Two key cards and the spade queen

With the spade king onside, both declarers took twelve tricks.

A flat board, right? Not so quickly. In the Open Room, North had paused for quite some time before bidding four spades. The Swedes felt that this might have influenced South to bid again. The tournament director who had been called to the table polled various people, and there was a consensus that pass was definitely a possibility, so the result was amended to four spades plus two, giving Sweden 13 imps and the lead by 27-7.

More imps changed hands on the next deal.

Dlr: East
Vul: E-W

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

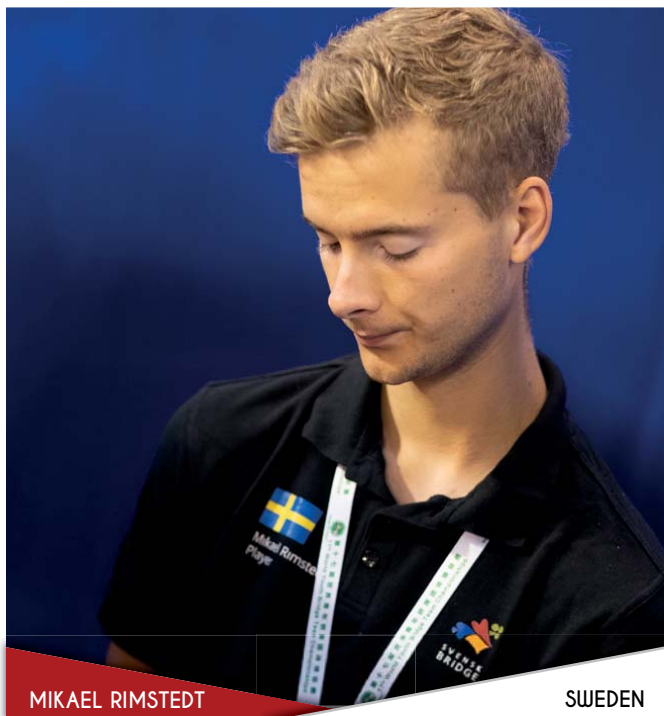
West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	All Pass	

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	2♦ (a)	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) At least 5-5 in the majors

In the Open Room, Cooper could have used a two-club Michaels Cue-Bid. When she preferred one spade, and South decided against a borderline one-notrump advance, they had missed a game, and Sweden had another 10 imps. (In the Closed Room, West led a trump.



MIKAEL RIMSTEDT

SWEDEN

South took that and played his spade, which West took with the ace. He led a club, East winning with the ace and shifting to a diamond.

South won with his ace and played another diamond. West returned his second trump. Declarer won in hand and led the diamond nine. When West covered, Rimstedt claimed.)

After a flat game came:

Dlr: West
Vul: Both

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
1NT (a)	Dble	2♣ (b)	Pass (c)
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (a) 8-12, maybe only semibalanced
- (b) A scramble either with long clubs or short in clubs!
- (c) Forcing

In four spades, Renee Cooper played the trumps in the recommended fashion of low to her queen, then low to the ten. As a consequence, she lost tricks only to the missing aces.

The Rimstedts had trouble with the mini notrump, reaching the wrong game. West led his fourth-highest club. Declarer won with dummy's queen and played a heart. East took that trick and returned a club for down two and 11 imps to Australia.

There was a two-trick disparity in the number of tricks taken by the defenses in this deal.

Dlr: North
Vul: E-W

♠ K Q
♥ K Q 7 3 2
♦ K 9 2
♣ K 8 2

♠ 8
♥ A 8 6
♦ J 8 7 6
♣ A J 10 5 3



♠ A 10 7 4
♥ J 10 9 4
♦ A Q 3
♣ 9 6

♠ J 9 6 5 3 2
♥ 5
♦ 10 5 4
♣ Q 7 4



Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
—	1NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	3♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	1NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

When Francesca McGrath bid three spades, Cooper must have been gnashing her teeth. But surprisingly, three hearts could have been made.

In contrast, how many tricks should North take in a spade contract? Place your bets.

Rien ne va plus!



MATTHEW SMITH

AUSTRALIA

In the Open Room, East found the best lead, the club nine. Declarer won with her king and played the heart queen. West won with his ace and shifted to the diamond eight. East won with her queen and might have cashed the ace, but she led her second club immediately. West took two tricks in the suit (East discarding her low diamond) and returned a diamond. That was five tricks to the defense, and East had to get two trump tricks for down three.

Against two spades. East led the heart jack, which made the defense almost impossible. How can East-West defeat the contract?

At the table, West ducked this trick. North won with his queen, ruffed a heart (necessary) and played a trump to his r queen. East won and returned a trump to declarer's king. North continued to play double-dummy, ruffing a heart to bring down the ace and playing a diamond to his nine. East won with his queen and shifted to a club: ten, king. A club disappeared from dummy on the heart king, then North led his last heart, which was ruffed and overruffed. Declarer cashed the spade jack for his contract.

Plus 150 and plus 110 gave Sweden 6 imps.

To defeat two spades after the heart lead, West has to win the trick and shift to a low diamond, and East has to let dummy's ten take the trick! East takes the next trick with the spade ace, plays a club to partner's ace and takes two diamond tricks. Thus the defenders collect two spades, one heart, two diamonds and one club!

With everybody vulnerable, you hold:

♠ J 2
♥ K 8 6
♦ A K 7 4 3 2
♣ 3 2

It goes three passes to you. What would you do?

The Rule of Fifteen (high-card points plus number of spades) advises passing, which is what Ola Rimstedt did. He decided it was unlikely that partner had the heart ace, another ace and enough to give them six diamond tricks.

This was the deal:

Dlr: East	♠ J 2		♠ 9 7 4
Vul: Both	♥ K 8 6		♥ J 10 4 2
	♦ A K 7 4 3 2		♦ J 5
	♣ 3 2		♣ A J 8 5
	♠ 10 8 6 3	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
	♥ A 5 3		
	♦ Q 8 6		
	♣ K Q 10		
	♠ A K Q 5		
	♥ Q 9 7		
	♦ 10 9		
	♣ 9 7 6 4		

Then came the dynamite Board 14:

Dlr: East	♠ A 6 3		♠ K J 9 5 2
Vul: None	♥ K J 10 7 3		♥ 8 6
	♦ J 9 4		♦ Q 8 5
	♣ 4 3		♣ Q J 9
	♠ Q 10 8 7 4	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
	♥ A Q 9 5 4		
	♦ 6 2		
	♣ 8		
	♠ --		
	♥ 2		
	♦ A K 10 7 3		
	♣ A K 10 7 6 5 2		

In the other room, McGrath opened light:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣ (a)
Pass	2♣ (b)	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (a) Natural or a balanced hand outside the range for one notrump
 (b) Diamonds, either 0-5 points or game-forcing!

North chose to call her hand a game-force. (She could have invited, as I am sure you could guess, by responding one spade; then, over partner's one-notrump relay, would have rebid two spades!)

Playing in two or three diamonds would have gained 3 imps. In three notrumps, declarer went down two when the defenders cashed their clubs in time, which not every East-West pair did. This gave Sweden 5 imps and the lead by 48-18.

In the four remaining deals, two were flat games, Australia gained 5 imps for making one notrump with an overtrick in the Closed Room and defeating an ambitious four hearts by two tricks in the Open Room.



Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>I. Grönkvist</i>	<i>McGrath</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
2♦ (a)	Dble	4♠	4NT (b)
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (a) At least 5-5 in the majors
 (b) Minor two-suiter with longer clubs

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	1NT (a)	2NT (b)
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠ (c)
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (a) 8-12 points
 (b) Both minors
 (c) Void-showing

Six clubs had no chance. West led the heart ace and played a second heart, but declarer did not have the communications to pick up both minors. He led the diamond jack and took East's queen, then cashed his top trumps. Down one.

Six diamonds was another story. East led the heart eight. West won with his ace and shifted to a spade. Not good enough! Declarer won with her ace, ran the diamond jack, ran the diamond nine, played a club to the ace, cashed the club king, ruffed a club, ruffed a card, drew East's last trump and claimed.

Plus 50 and plus 920 gave Australia 14 invaluable imps, making the match score 48-37 to Sweden, or 13.23-6.77 in victory points.

The winning defense against six diamonds is for West to lead his club at trick two! Stranded in the South hand, declarer cannot reach the North hand to pick up the diamond queen. Tough!

2017 YOUTH AWARDS

THE HELMAN-KLINGER MASTERPOINT AWARD: **RENEE COOPER**



This award, worth \$200 annually and supplemented with a further \$100 from the Friends of Youth Bridge Fund, is awarded to the Australian Youth Player who earns the most masterpoints in the calendar year in question.

This year Renee won with 144.33 masterpoints (actually Matt Smith won with 301.77 but you can only win this award once). Renee has had some exceptional results in 2017 and is a deserving winner.

THE HILLS-HURLEY TROPHY: **MATTHEW SMITH & JAMIE THOMPSON**

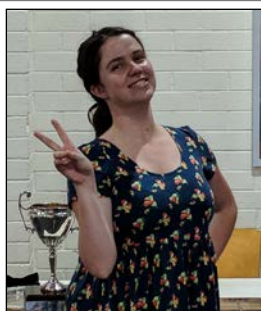


This trophy, donated by Richard Hills and Steve Hurley, is intended to encourage talented young bridge players to form long-standing partnerships and reward a successful pair who has developed a well-organised partnership to harness their full potential.

Matt and Jamie have both proven their commitment to bridge. Jamie's dedication has been acknowledged with the Helman-Klinger award. Matt's dedication borders on obsession! Matt moved from Perth to Sydney to pursue bridge, and owns and has read over 250 bridge books. Matt routinely fine-tunes (and re-writes) his and Jamie's methods, and works religiously on his own game.

Matt also gets involved with discussions about how to make sure there is a strong youth contingent rising up in the future. They practice online typically four to five nights per week, in stints of often four to five hours. Matt and Jamie both take initiative to seek out knowledge to improve their partnership abilities, and their individual weak spots.

THE HELMAN-KLINGER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: **RENEE COOPER**



This award, worth \$400 annually and supplemented with a further \$200 from the Friends of Youth Bridge Fund, is presented each year to the Australian Youth Bridge Player whose ability, achievements, sportsmanship, attitude, contribution and commitment during the calendar year are most deserving.

Renee has had a few very strong performances in Open competition, including a silver medal at the ANC in the Open Butler Pairs. She is always nice as pie at the table and has put a lot of work into developing her partner Francesca.

THE ANDREW REINER TROPHY: **MATTHEW SMITH & JAMIE THOMPSON**



This award is granted to the best performed pair in international competition taking account of performance in the events themselves, commitment to preparation and contribution to team success.

The choice of the two non-playing captains at the PABF Championships Korea, Matt and Jamie performed consistently throughout the round robin event. They were also successful in winning the Open Swiss Pairs event.

2018 INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Australians Matt Smith, Paul Lavings and Liam Milne were honoured at the 2018 International Bridge Press Association awards in Sanya, China in November.

Matt received the Richard Freeman award for the Junior Deal of the Year (written by Paul Lavings) while the the Gidwani Family Trust Best Defence of the Year award received by GeO Tislevoll was written by Liam.

This was Paul Lavings' article reproduced here (original article can be found [here](#)):

A MATTER OF TIMING

BY PAUL LAVINGS, SYDNEY

Playing for New South Wales in the ANC Youth Interstate Teams event, Matt Smith faced this problem in Round 7 of the Qualifying Round Robin on a board where many declarers failed to make their four-spade contract:

Dir: S Vul: Nil R7, Brd 11	♠ Q 10 9 7 3 ♥ K 4 ♦ 8 6 5 2 ♣ A 10										
♠ 6 5 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ A J 10 7 ♣ K 9 8 3	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 8 4 2 ♥ Q 9 7 6 5 ♦ Q 9 ♣ Q J 6
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A K J ♥ A J 3 ♦ K 4 3 ♣ 7 5 4 2										

West	North	East	South
	<i>Ranson</i>		<i>Smith</i>
			1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

*Transfer

Smith played with great foresight. West led the eight of hearts; Smith won with the king, cashed the ace of clubs, finessed to the jack of hearts and pitched the ten of clubs on the ace of hearts. He then ruffed a club high, came back to hand with a low trump, ruffed a second club high, came back with another low trump and ruffed a third club. In all, he scored three trump tricks with ace-king-jack, three club ruffs in dummy with the queen-ten-nine, three hearts and a club for ten tricks and 10 IMPs.

If you let the heart lead run to the jack, the timing is gone for the three club ruffs in dummy. Smith's line succeeds when the heart finesse wins (by no means a certainty), hearts are no worse than 5-3 and the club ace stands up.

To read about the other awards, you can view it [here](#).

FREE ROBOTS For JUNIORS!

BBO's generous offer of FREE leasing of GIB Robots on BBO is still available!

If you are an Australian youth player, and under 26 years of age (or 26 that year), simply send in your name, date of birth, and your BBO I.D. to Dave Thompson at dave@amontay.com.

Matt and Jamie's scorecard against the Cayne team (playing against Lauria and Versace in both sets)

ACBL Team Private Score

Set	Contract	Score	IMPs
1	4♥ N	450	
2	4♠ S	480	1
3	4♥ W	650	
4	3NT S	630	1
5	3NT N	100	5
6	1NT W	500	9
7	4♠ W	650	
8	3NT S	490	
9	3NT E	600	2

Match #	Contract	Score	IMPs
10	7♠ S	220	
11	3NT N	400	3
12	2♠ E	110	4

Match #	Contract	Score	IMPs
1	3NT S	430	
2	3NT S	200	3
3	6♠ S	980	14
4	4♠ N	620	
5	4♥ E	50	6
6	6♠ S	920	14
7	5♠ E	680	13
8	4♠ S	480	
9	4♠ S	450	

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY]

S/All ♠ J 7
 ♥ A 6 2
 ♦ A K 10 5 3
 ♣ 6 4 2

♥ J



♠ A K 4 2
 ♥ K Q 3
 ♦ Q J 8
 ♣ A Q 7

South to make 6NT (IMPs)

Lead is ♥ J.

Solution on Page 17

Interesting Bridge Problems

Johnno Newman is giving out free bridge problems from real life play! If you would like to try these out, sign up over at <http://eepurl.com/ctNI5n>



51th Australian Youth Week

Sat 5th to Fri 11th Jan 2019

Open to all players born in 1984 or later. For more info, check out the website/brochure [here](#).

- ◆ NZ & 26-35yo Butler event returns!
- ◆ Lots of Bridge, Fun, and Games
- ◆ Free BBQ on Friday afternoon open to all
- ◆ Book prizes generously donated by Paul Lavings
- ◆ Proudly sponsored by the TBIB



KIBITZER'S CORNER



For more photos, click [here](#).



For more photos, click [here](#).





SUIT COMBINATIONS

THIS ISSUE

(Assume unlimited entries)

K 10 9

**Target:
1 trick**

4 3 2

To establish one trick in the suit, you should aim to take *two* finesses instead of one. Playing low to the king will gain a trick if the ace is on the left (50%).

By playing low to the nine, and assuming it loses to a quack (queen or jack), play low to the ten. This will win whenever West has a quack, irrespective of the location of the ace. This is approximately 75% chance to collect a trick.

A 10 9

**Target:
2 tricks**

Q 3 2

Playing the ace then the ten, you will find yourself having to guess whether to run the 10 (playing East for the jack), or play the queen (playing East to have ducked with the king, which is possible). This is approximately 50% since you will have to guess.

A better play would be to take two finesses, by running the queen, then low to the ten. This will take two tricks whenever West has one honour which is about 75% chance.

A slight (albeit very unlikely) improvement is to play low to the 9 first (rather than running the queen first) in case the suit is 0-7 and you can chance tack by playing the ace!

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

[DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION

(Problem on page 15)

S/All

♠ J 7
♥ A 6 2
♦ A K 10 5 3
♣ 6 4 2

♥J



♠ A K 4 2
♥ K Q 3
♦ Q J 8
♣ A Q 7

South to make 6NT (IMPs)
Opening lead is ♥J.


You have eleven top tricks, with the potential twelve coming from the club finesse. If the ♣K is onside, there is no rush to take it, so is there any other additional chances?

One possibility is to run all of your red suit tricks, hoping that the defenders make a mistake of discarding one too many spades. If so, you can cash ♠A, ♠K, and hopefully the third round of spades will establish your fourth spade. The danger (problem) with this play is that you must discard two of your clubs when you cash five diamonds, and this prevents you from taking the backup club finesse.

The better play is to take your extra chance in the spade suit – by playing a low spade to the jack! If West has the ♠Q, dummy's ♠J will be the twelfth trick. If the ♠J loses to East's ♠Q, then you can still fall back on the club finesse (or alternatively, cash ♠AK, and cash your red suit tricks – if East has the spade length and the ♣K, he will be caught in a show up squeeze).





STATE ASSOCIATIONS - UPDATES


	EVENT (QLD)	DATES
	For More INFO: http://www.qldbridge.com/	


	EVENT (NSW)	DATES
	Youth Bridge Nights Email: johnno.newman@gmail.com Web: http://www.nswba.com.au/	Contact Johnno!

	EVENT (ACT)	DATES
	Email: youth@bfact.com.au Web: http://www.bfact.com.au/	

	EVENT (VIC)	DATES
	Contact: http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php	

	EVENT (SA)	DATES
	Contact: http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/	

	EVENT (WA)	DATES
	Contact: http://www.bawa.asn.au/	

	EVENT (NT)	DATES
	Contact: http://www.ntba.com.au/	

	EVENT (TAS)	DATES
	Contact: http://www.tasbridge.com.au/	