# NEWSLETTER AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION LTD. 

No. 226 April 2024
ABN 70053651666

# Gold Coast Dress-Up Day 

Players at the Gold Coast Teams were invited to come dressed in a sports theme, with prizes for the best-dressed teams




## APRIL 2024

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Front cover images: Gold Coast Theme Day. Photos by Anne Russell.

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Teams, dealer East, East-West vulnerable.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { A K J } 105 \\
& \vee K 53 \\
& \text { J } 10 \\
& \text { \& } 1086
\end{aligned}
$$

A 743
--

- KQ 8763

\& AKJ 9

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $3 \boldsymbol{1}$ | $3 \boldsymbol{1}$ |
| pass | $4 \boldsymbol{a}$ | all pass |  |

You, West, lead the \&A: six - three - four. As you play low-like, you continue with the \&K: eight - two seven. East's \&3-then-\&2 is discouraging. What do you play at trick 3?

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Novice Online Edition

$\$ 25$ per year for 6 issues

It has been a busy couple of months for the ABF since our last newsletter.

My congratulations to the QBA and especially Tim Runting and Kim Ellaway and their teams on another successful Gold Coast Congress. We were lucky with the weather this year and some of us were luckier than others at the table! Next year's congress will be earlier in February due to the availability of the Conference Centre. We are hoping this offers an opportunity to our overseas players to join us for the Summer Festival in Canberra then do some touring before coming to the Gold Coast. The ABF hopes that Australian players will join us at both events as well.

I did receive some feedback regarding some overseas players in the Restricted sections being overqualified. The organisers work hard to validate entries but unfortunately it is a very difficult task given we do not have access to overseas masterpoint databases and each country has its own masterpoint scheme. I have received some great constructive suggestions on how to deal with this issue and am working on trying to improve the situation for the future.

In March I visited Tasmania for the first time in over 30 years to participate in the Tasmanian Festival of Bridge. The venue in Glenorchy just north of the city of Hobart is excellent. The room is spacious, well airconditioned and has terrific lighting. And at lunch time you get to enjoy a stunning view over the Derwent River. The TBA did a marvelous job organising the event and the only letdown was that there were not enough people interested in attending the Dinner on the Saturday night. If you haven't been to the Festival before, I encourage you to try it in 2025 and hopefully we can socialise over dinner as well.

In recent weeks we have revamped our Social Media presence on both Facebook and LinkedIn. I recommend to everyone who uses these social media platforms to follow the Australian Bridge Federation as it will be a way for us to keep you better informed between newsletters.

Many of you will know Jane Rasmussen, who has been the ABF's Secretariat for many years. Jane is retiring in July this year, so we are in the process of making a few changes to the role and recruiting a replacement. The role can be performed either by working from home or be based in the ABF's office in Canberra. It would suit someone who is looking for a part-time administrative role. More details are included in an advertisement on page 6.
Also in the newsletter (page 5) you will find more details regarding the online youth lessons that will be presented by Paul Marston during the month of May at a time that should work irrespective of where participants are in Australia. The link to the registration page is now open, so please let your young (14 to 24 years old) friends and relatives to know about this wonderful opportunity to learn the basics of bridge for free! We are reliant on the bridge players of Australia to promote these lessons so please, spread the word.
Finally, we have several events coming up in May and June that I hope you will have the opportunity to attend. In May we have the Autumn Nationals in Adelaide, the Barrier Reef Congress in Mackay and the River City Gold Mixed Pairs in Brisbane. And in June Melbourne will be hosting the Victor Champion Cup at Moonee Valley Racecourse. Happy bridging!


To keep up with all the latest Bridge news in Australia follow the Australian Bridge Federation on Social Media
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## Know Any Potential

 Young Bridge Players?
## Opportunity for 14-24 year olds to learn Bridge - FREE!!

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Practice Sessions: Sunday 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th from llam-12pm AEST

Course Teachers: Paul Marston \& Nevena Djurovic

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(v) Have FUN

## About Our Course

Led by experienced Bridge teachers, Paul Marston and Nevena Djurovic, this course helps the next generation of bridge players master the important basics of the game.

Players enjoy using their new skills playing with and against the other emerging young bridge talent before advancing to level 2.

Spaces will be limited. Don't Miss Out!

Registration Opens - Monday 1 April.
https://bridgelounge.online/youth-bridge-registration/abf/

## Allison Stralow

## President

president@abf.com.au
www.abf.com.au

Bridge is a fascinating game full of all sorts of people, of all ages, with different card-playing experiences and from all walks of life. Unfortunately, sometimes the other sides of people's natures are revealed at the bridge table, and when we experience badly behaved players it can ruin our enjoyment of the game and often result in beginners not continuing to play. Like other sports, bridge has a clear set of rules and laws that we as players need to abide by. These rules are not a secret; we all have access to them. The rules ensure that the game is fair for everyone. We are not expected to memorise the entire Laws of Bridge, (unlike other games) or to interpret them and make decisions. However, we are expected to exercise our right to politely call the Director if we think a rule or law has been broken. A Director will present the ruling, and as in any other game, we should not argue with their ruling. "The Laws are primarily designed not as a punishment for irregularities, but rather as redress for the rectification of situations where non-offenders may otherwise be damaged."

Players often get upset if the opponents call the Director to the table, but this should not be the case. Calling the Director should not be interpreted as a personal insult, but as the correct avenue to ensure that the irregularity is sorted out fairly and in accordance with the rules/laws. The Director's job is to ensure that the play flows smoothly. They will deal with any infringements of the rules/laws that occur. The decisions of the Director should be followed and always respected. Unlike many other games, if you strongly disagree with the Director's ruling, it is possible to challenge the decision.

I have booked my flights and accommodation for the ANC in Orange in July. It will be a walk down memory lane for me as I first learned to play bridge in the regional town of Cobar. Before Orange, I will be playing the Barrier Reef in Mackay and the River City Gold in Brisbane. I look forward to seeing new faces and hearing your suggestions on matters relating to the ABF.

## Dxecutive Administrator Wanted

The Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) is looking for an Executive Administrator to join their team. Your new position will report to the ABF's Executive Director. This is a recently created role offering permanent part-time working mainly from home.

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( Willingness to learn new skills
( Knowledge of Bridge is desirable - either already a Bridge player or a willingness to learn

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { The ABF will offer the successful candidate flexible working hours that meet their needs. Hours will range from } 15-25 \text { hours per week, } \\
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& \text { This is a remote role working from home with the ABF assisting with home office set-up, if required. } \\
& \text { Some travel may be involved including at least } 2 \text { weeks in Canberra during the first month for handover. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Interested? Contact David Wurth from Wurth HR BEFORE applying Email: david@wurthhr.com.au or Phone: 1300900741
When applying please include current resume and cover letter outlining your claims to the position

#  27xe deyNDITy <br> <br> by Paul Lavings, paul@bridgegear.com 

 <br> <br> by Paul Lavings, paul@bridgegear.com}

## YOUR ACTION AFTER RHO OVERCALLS 3*

What would you call on the following hands, neither side vulnerable?

|  | WEST | NORTH 1A | $\begin{aligned} & \text { EAST } \\ & \text { (3* } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SOUTH } \\ & ? \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | A 653 | - Q J 52 | -KJ 62 | \& 43 |
| 2. | AKJ 94 | $4 \vee 32$ | - Q 1064 | \& 875 |
| 3. | A Q J 97 | 7 VKQ6 | 4 - 72 | \& 63 |
| 4. | A Q 83 | -K8 | - A Q 52 | 2 * 64 |
| 5. | A A 943 | $3 \vee A K$ | 1054 KJ | Ј \& 65 |
| 6. | AJ 82 | -AK 63 | - AJ 108 | 4 \& 3 |
| 7. | ^ 74 | - Q 972 | - AQJ95 | \& 75 |
|  | A 86 | v AK 54 | - AQJ87 | \& 75 |
|  | A 76 | - KJ764 | 3 - 97 | \& J 2 |
|  | KQJ2 | $2 \vee A$ | 4 | 87 |

## SOLUTIONS

1. Pass. A 3A bid here would show a "good" 2A raise, 8-11 HCP or the equivalent. You have a poor 7 -count and 3 could well be too high. Your hand is much better on defence and it would not be surprising if both $3 \boldsymbol{*}$ and $3 \boldsymbol{A}$ were not making.
The 3\% bid took away a whole round of bidding and your partnership needs a revised plan of operation that fits in all the various hand-types. It makes sense that there is no bid available to show a poor raise to 2A.
2. 3A. You have only 6 HCP , but four good trumps and a hand that figures to fit well with partner's hand. You should expect to make 3A, and if partner carries on to 4A your four-card trump support, doubleton heart and $Q$ should make a welcome dummy.
3. 4A. Normally a jump to game over a 1 IV or 1A opening would be preemptive but it is the opponents who are the preemptors in this auction. Your 4 $\boldsymbol{A}$ simply says you are bidding 4 $\boldsymbol{A}$ to make, probably with a minimum opening bid.
4. 3^. You have a limit raise, top of the range, but just satisfy yourself with 3n. You have no tens or nines and the $3 \%$ overcall indicates likely bad breaks so it is not the time to push to game.
5. 4\%. The cue of opponent's suit shows support and slam interest. With the limited number of bids available this is one of the few ways to show a strong hand, most likely with four-card trump support. Note 4\% does not show a control in clubs, simply a good hand with fine trump support and at least mild slam interest.
6. $3 \uparrow$. Take the opportunity to show your strong side suit before showing your spade support. Opener now has a good picture of your hand - a sound opening with a good diamond suit and three-card spade support. On a good day opener will rebid $3 \boldsymbol{V}$, which figures to be a better trump suit than spades. Now you could cue 4* to show your heart support with a club control.

On a better day opener has a great hand with diamond support and your side bids slam or grand slam in diamonds.
7. Double. A negative double, at this level guaranteeing the two unbid suits. If opponents now continue with $4 *$ or $5 \%$ opener will be able to choose whether to compete in one of your suits.

If the overcall were a jump to $3 \boldsymbol{v}$ or $3 \boldsymbol{A}$ over $1 \boldsymbol{*}$ or $1 *$ then double would show the other major rather than the other two suits.
8. $3 \downarrow$. With such a strong hand it is recommended to start by bidding your long suit rather than make a negative double. Perhaps you can make slam in hearts or diamonds, but you need to start by showing a good hand with 5+ diamonds.
9. Pass. You are not strong enough for a free bid of 3V. I have often seen good players make a negative double with this type of hand. The problem is that if opponents now bid $4 \boldsymbol{*}$ or $5 \boldsymbol{\%}$ your partner can't compete in hearts or diamonds in case you have a hand like this.
10. 5\%. Exclusion Keycard Blackwood, asking for keycards excluding clubs, where presumably you are void. If opener shows one keycard with 50 you will sign off in 6a. If opener bids 5 $\boldsymbol{A}$ (two keycards and no AQ) you will bid 5NT asking for specific kings. If opener now bids $6 \mathbb{V}$ showing VK you can bid 7A with complete confidence.


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# 2024 Gold Coast Congress 

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither side vulnerable.


Gold Coast Teams semifinallist JOSHUA TOMLIN reports on a slam-centred match from the Open Teams qualifying rounds

The 2024 Gold Coast Congress was once again an incredible event, a highlight for the year. I missed out last year with the limited entry availability, so was delighted to be back at Broadbeach. I played with David Gue on team HAFFER featuring Joe Haffer, Ron Cooper and the Bobby Richman Open Pairs champions Ella Jacob and Phil Markey.
Here are some slams we bid from the Teams qualifying, all in the same match!
Board 11. Dealer South. Neither side vulnerable.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \wedge \text { Q } 6543 \\
& \vee 963 \\
& \qquad 9842 \\
& \& 4
\end{aligned}
$$

| A 8 |  | A A 107 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark$ AKQJ | 54 | $\checkmark 2$ |  |
| - K Q 6 |  | - A 53 |  |
| * A Q 9 |  | * KJ 10762 |  |
| AKJ 92 |  |  |  |
| -1087 |  |  |  |
| - J 107 |  |  |  |
| \& 853 |  |  |  |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 2\% | pass | 3* | pass |
| $4 \%$ | pass | 4- RKCB | pass |
| 5\% | pass | 7NT | all pass |

Imagine my shock when I picked up the East cards and partner opened $2 *$ ! Two aces and a decent sixcard club suit was more than enough for a 3* bid. Partner did well to set trumps with 4*, making it easy for me to check on keycards then bid grand. Gue was a bit embarrassed to fess up to only $2^{1 / 2}$ keycards, but was pleasantly surprised to hear that that was enough for grand!
Out of 148 tables, 59 got to grand with 26 in the highest scoring 7NT. Without agreeing a fit early, it's conceivable to not have access to Blackwood, which may be why many pairs missed a grand slam with 16 top tricks available.

A 865

- Q 52
-K 54
\& J J 1063

| A AKQ 93 |  |  | A 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark 3$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ AK 10964 |
| - A J 102 |  |  | - Q 963 |
| * A 42 |  |  | \& 85 |
|  | A J 10 |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ J 8 |  |  |
|  | - 87 |  |  |
|  | \& K |  |  |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 14 | pass | 1NT | pass |
| 3 | pass | 4 | pass |
| $4{ }^{1}$ | pass | 44 ${ }^{2}$ | pass |
| $4 \mathrm{NT}^{3}$ | pass | $5{ }^{4}$ | pass |
| 6 | all pass |  |  |

1. Kickback.
2. One keycard.
3. Asking for the queen of trumps.
4. Trump queen plus the VK.

With working cards, ruffing values and a potential source of tricks I decided to make a forward-going 4 bid. With lots of controls and his own source of tricks, partner proceeded to check on keycards and bid slam.

The ${ }^{\circ}$ lead went to the ace, followed by two rounds of spades pitching a club. Gue ruffed a club, then played two rounds of hearts pitching a spade. He now ruffed the third round of hearts with the $\leqslant 10$, ruffed his last club and played another heart in the below position.


South ruffed the heart with the 8 and Gue overruffed with the $>$. Now North is helpless. If he discards declarer can ruff a spade, ruff a heart with the $\forall A$, then score the $\vee Q$ en passant at trick 12.

Instead, North overruffed the $\leqslant$ with the $\leqslant$ and exited a spade, hoping to tap dummy if his partner held the $\wedge$ Q. Gue won the queen, then drew trumps ending in dummy and scored a high heart for his twelfth trick.

Last board of the set, fourth seat unfavourable you pick up

| A AKQ 5 | A 108 | $\bullet 10$ | \& K J 985 |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 1 | 5 | pass | $?$ |
| Your call? |  |  |  |

If partner has only has AKQ to seven diamonds and out for their unfavourable $5 \leqslant$ overcall, then we have 12 top tricks on a non club lead. I think they are never leading a club on this auction, but even if they do, partner could easily have a singleton or the $\%$ Q could be onside. If partner is missing the ace of trumps then I would expect him to have the club ace given the vulnerability. I know my partner's 5 m preempting style is more aggressive than most, but we don't mess around vulnerable, so I talked myself into bidding $6 \downarrow$. This was the full layout:
Board 3. Dealer South. East-West vulnerable.
A 107632

- K Q 9
- 83
\& 1043


Sure enough the defence led the $V K$ and as you can see partner has the bare minimum. Gue won the $\checkmark A$ and with the doubleton $>K$ onside, brought the slam home quickly. "Everything works for them!" an amused South exclaimed as he put his cards away.
After the 12 rounds of Swiss, the top six teams qualified to play the final. My team was never in the top six until the last round, where we shot up to third! The top two qualifiers were fast-tracked straight to the semi-final, while seeds 3-6 played a two-set quarter-final called the 'Round of Four'.

Not liking any of our options, we chose to play team BEAUCHAMP (David Beauchamp, Avinash Kanetkar, Sophie Ashton, David Wiltshire). Unfortunately there was no VuGraph, and some scoring software issues meant that there were no online results until the end of the day, so here is a recap of some of the excite-
ment in our match. After the first set we were down 25 imps, so we went into the second set needing some good scores.
Board 15. Dealer South. North-South vulnerable.
A 84

- 1096
- J 1062
\& A 976


A 10932
-Q 743
-K 4
\& K J 4

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Wiltshire | Tomlin | Ashton <br> Gue |  |
| pass | pass | pass | 10 |
| pass | 14 | pass | 2NT |
| pass | 3NT | all pass |  |

After this auction, Gue found the inspired lead of the \&K. When this held he continued with the \&J to the queen, ace and ten! I switched to a heart which ran round to the queen, and he played the $\% 4$ through dummy's 85 sitting under my 97 for one off.
The $\%$ opening lead would have been a more swift kill with the defence taking four tricks off the top, although it would be more difficult for me to read. The last thing partner wants is for me to hop up with the A and try shifting to another suit. It also looks unnecessary to start with the \& while holding all the outside entries. On this hand, it turns out that even on a different lead there is still time to switch to the \& ${ }^{\circ}$ later.

## Board 23. Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

A J 10

- K 42
- Q 10952
\& AK 10

| A 96532 |  | A A 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - AJ76 |  | - Q 10985 |
| - 3 |  | - AK 874 |
| \& 832 |  | \& 9 |
|  | A K Q 74 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 3$ |  |
|  | - J 6 |  |
|  | \& Q J 7654 |  |


| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| pass | pass | $1{ }^{1}$ | $1 \downarrow$ |
| dbl | $3 \downarrow$ | pass | $4 \downarrow$ |

all pass

1. $5+$ diamonds or 4441.

A trump lead from South is the only way to beat $4 \checkmark$ double dummy since it cuts down on the crossruff, however Gue made the natural lead of the $\gg$ - his partner's suit. Declarer won the $\forall A$ and ruffed a diamond. Best would have been to cash the $\quad K$ first, although this risks being ruffed by South. She continued with a spade to the ace and another diamond ruff on which Gue pitched a low club. Now declarer ducked a spade. Gue overtook with the $\mathbb{A} \mathrm{Q}$ to play a heart through dummy. Declarer rose ace and led a third spade in the following position:

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\vee K 4$ |  |
|  | - Q 10 |  |
|  | * A K 10 |  |
| A 965 |  | A - |
| $\checkmark$ J |  | - Q 1098 |
| - - |  | -K8 |
| \& 832 |  | \& 9 |
|  | A K 7 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ - |  |
|  | - - |  |
|  | \& Q J 765 |  |

Declarer has taken five tricks already. If I ruff high she can pitch a loser and claim four more trump tricks and the $\leqslant$. If I pitch a diamond she ruffs, then plays a trump and claims with the $\checkmark$ setting up for her tenth trick.

If I pitch a small club she ruffs, then ruffs a diamond, but when she tries to ruff a spade back to hand I can pitch a diamond. Now she cannot cash the $\leqslant$ and cannot draw trumps without getting tapped out. However, instead of ruffing a spade back to hand she can get off dummy with a club. When I win this,
she has time to cash her $\leqslant$ K and claim only one more trump loser. Instead, I pitched the \&A. That way I can let partner win the club exit so that he can tap declarer with the fourth round of spades while I pitch my last diamond.
In the above seven-card ending, declarer can still make by cashing the $\leqslant$ K before ruffing a diamond, however this requires guessing the trump layout. At the table she ruffed a diamond without cashing the king, then played a spade off dummy, on which I pitched a diamond as planned. She ruffed and led her second last trump. I won with the VK , cashed the \&A, then played another club which promoted my last trump for the setting trick.
With 69 imps flung over the last 14 boards (roughly 5 imps per board), we ended up winning the match by 8 imps . The above deal was the second-last board of the match and gained us 12 imps to put us ahead. Unfortunately we lost our semi-final to the DALLEY team (Arlene Dalley, Ashley Bach, Tony Nunn, Paul Dalley) who dominated the qualifying, finishing 13 VPs in front of second place. DALLEY went on to play WARE in a final that came down to the last board. Congratulations to Michael Ware, Brian Mace, Hugh McGann, Tom Jacob, Pete Hollands and Matthew Thomson on their victory and their impressive performance throughout the event.

## Winners of the Gold Coast Theme Day (front cover photos by Anne Russell):

1st: The Shuttle Cocks (Bigi Cameron, Tim Tigter, Rochelle van Heuven, on ground Emma Russell)
2nd: Grand Slam Ball (Ruth Hemmerling, Kate Hartley, William Morgan \& Peter Wilson)
3rd: The Jockey (Julia Caldwell) and The Trick Tricks (Dina Charpentier, Val Smith Mary-Lou Dwyer, Annie Dennis)

## The Real Deal Workout with Ron Klinger

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TBIB
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## 2024 Tasmanian Festival


#### Abstract

GEORGE KOZAKOS reports on two of the events from last month's Tasmanian Festival of Bridge. With partner Pele Rankin (pictured receiving one of their two trophies), they won both the Open Pairs and the Mixed Pairs.


Hobart turned on four days of sparkling autumn sunshine for this year's Tasmanian Festival of Bridge, held at the MyState Bank Arena on the banks of the Derwent River. Although the competition took us underground into a spacious, well-ventilated playing area, in all the breaks between sessions players had the chance to relax in the fresh air of Elwick Bay's recreation area. Some players might even have looked up long enough from their hand records to notice the picturesque scenery!
As well as solid support from local players, this annual Tasmanian event attracts players from all states and territories. This year about 300 players competed across five events, with NSW, the ACT and Victoria particularly well represented. While the festival used to alternate between Hobart and Launceston, since COVID it appears to have settled in Hobart, where the organisers, led by Katherine Marsden, did an impressive job converting a basketball court into a well-managed playing area. Players were well looked after by the directors Simon Edler and Hugh Grosvenor and an army of willing and responsive caddies. Differing starting times across the four days added extra excitement to the challenge of getting all players in their seats for the first board of the day.
The Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs had a field of 24 with most of the country's top mixed pairs participating. Playing in a relatively new partnership, Pele Rankin and I were helped to our win by two slam hands where the significant swings could have easily gone the other way.

## Board 4-10. Dealer East. Both sides vulnerable.

A 1097
$\checkmark$ J
-AKQ10 82
\& Q 107


A AK 65

- A 873
- 6
* AK 65


While bridge textbooks warn against shortening the long trump hand, in this case that was a misplaced concern. On a trump lead, declarer played three rounds of diamonds. When the third round was ruffed, the contract had no play and drifted down two. The swing could easily have gone to our opponents had declarer realized that even if diamonds were 3-3, clubs still needed to be 3-3 to allow access to the diamond winners. A better line was to play the $\bullet$ A and ruff a diamond in hand. Declarer could then draw trumps ending in dummy to run the diamonds.
An even better line is to cash the \&AK and play a diamond to the ten. If that wins, you no longer need the clubs to be 3-3 to make 12 tricks.
The second slam swing resulted from what seemed like a reasonable lead against our 6\% contract.

Board 8-21. Dealer North. NS vulnerable.
A K 10

- A Q 7
-KJ 108
\& 10942



## A 5

--

- 765432
\& AKJ875

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $1 \diamond$ | 2 | $3 \uparrow$ |  |  | Pass | pass |
| 4 | pass | $4 \uparrow$ | $5 \%$ | $1 N T$ | pass | 3NT | all pass |

On the $4 \sqrt{ }$ lead, South won the ace and continued with queen and another heart, keen to give partner the good news about the hearts. However, as South had a sure entry in dummy's long diamond suit, South should play the queen at trick one to force declarer to win the king while the defence still has heart communication. After Pele won the third round of hearts and took the losing diamond finesse to South's $\downarrow$, she made ten tricks as South had no more hearts.

The final placings were:

| 1 Pele Rankin - George Kozakos | 112.15 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 Jeanette Reitzer - Matt Smith | 109.91 |
| 3 Ella Jacob - Joshua Tomlin | 109.44 |
| 4 Giselle Mundell - Andrew Peake | 107.60 |

The weekend event, the TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs, had a field of 90 pairs including Ron Klinger and Avi Kanetkar, Pauline Gumby and Warren Lazer, Ian Thomson and Tony Liebowitz, Nigel Rosendorff and Peter Reynolds.
Pele and I started well with a 16 -imp win against Bob Gallus and George Lovrecz, helped by 12 imps from unusual high-level decisions by both sides.
Board 1-4. Dealer West. Both sides vulnerable.
AK Q 2
$\checkmark$ Q

- AKJ10 84
\& A J 8

| A 8 | A AJ 53 |
| :---: | :---: |
| -AKJ1087643 | $\checkmark 2$ |
| - - | - Q 9532 |
| \% K 104 | \& Q 75 |

A 109764
$\checkmark 95$

- 76

4. 9632

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $4 \boldsymbol{v}$ | dbl | pass | $4 \boldsymbol{a}$ |
| $5 \bullet$ | $5 \boldsymbol{a}$ | all pass |  |

When Bob Gallus continued with 5V, vulnerable, I bid 54 without any real confidence that it would make. 5a escaped being doubled and when the defence did not switch to clubs at trick two, it was only down two. That was worth 12 imps as 5 makes easily, with 12 tricks possible with careful play.

Pele and I led after an 11-imp win in Match 4 against Pauline Gumby and Waren Lazer, the eventual runners up by a mere 0.76 VP . The match swung on this deal, where the opening lead determined whether
Restricted Swiss Pairs winners Seb Wright and Jeremy Reid
our 3NT made with an overtrick for +11 imps or was down two for -7 imps.

## Board 4-6. Dealer East. East-West vulnerable.

AK 109874

- 63
- K Q
\& 432
AQ6
$\bullet$ AKJ 94
$*$ A 943
\& Q 8
and Pele continued with the V8. Nigel won the VJ and played another diamond on which I discarded the $\& 7$, discouraging. Pele won the $Q$ and accurately switched to a low spade. We then played three rounds of spades ending in my hand, with Nigel pitching a diamond, heart and club. I now exited a heart and we endplayed declarer, forcing him to lead clubs from hand resulting in down three, -300 for a 5-imp pickup for us.
Playing against Ron Klinger and Avi Kanetkar, what would you bid in this position:

| A 8653 | $\checkmark$ AK 8 | - Q 754 | * K 9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|  |  |  | pass |
| 1\% | 14 | dbl | 2 |
| pass | pass | ? |  |

I had no clear bid over 2 with my 12-count opposite an opening bid. I knew we did not have a fit and 3NT was unlikely given my four small spades, and so I passed out $2 \checkmark$, despite our known $24+\mathrm{HCP}$.

## Board 10-7. Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

A AK J 10

- 1093
- 109
\& 8543

A Q 974

- Q J 6
- A 3
\& A 1062
A 2
- 7542
-KJ862
\& Q J 7

Pele led the V Q which I overtook to play king and another club. After Pele gave me a club ruff and we took our heart tricks and waited for our diamond tricks, resulting in down three and a 10-imp pickup.
The final placings were:

| 1 Pele Rankin - George Kozakos | 149.06 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer | 148.30 |
| 3 Avi Kanetkar - Ron Klinger | 144.53 |
| 4 Nigel Rosendorff - Peter Reynolds | 142.49 |

The sun was still shining (perhaps it always is when you win) when we emerged from the prize-giving on Sunday afternoon. My wife and I topped off a delightful five-day stay with yet another excellent seafood meal, this time at Mures Upper Deck at Victoria Wharf. Highly recommended! We've already booked our accommodation for next year (the event runs from Thursday 20 to Sunday 23 March 2025), keen to defend this year's hard-won titles and enjoy again Hobart's many attractions.

# MYABF UPDATE with Julian Foster 

## Some statistics

Over 21,000 ABF numbers are now set up in myABF. About 11,500 are "registered users" (i.e. have signed up themselves), the other 9,500 are "unregistered users" (i.e. have been added by their club as a member but have not signed up for their own account). If you are among the latter you may find your club issues you with an invite to sign up - it's very easy to do so and gives you access to enter and pay for events online and, if your club offers it, potentially pay for club sessions through myABF as well.
A regular concern expressed by players is making online payments with their card and potentially saving it to set up "automatic top-up". Rest assured the ABF never sees or stores your card details - all card information is handled securely through Stripe, the online payment provider that myABF links with (Stripe is one of the largest such providers in the world, similar to PayPal). What's more, at the time of writing, 42,775 payments have been made by players through myABF using Stripe with total value of $\$ 5.442$ million. It's continuing to grow as well January 2024 had 3,020 transactions which was the highest monthly figure since MYABF launched.

## What are we currently doing?

At present our focus is still mainly on Club Administration - we are working on enhancing the email and member/contact management systems for clubs.

## Tips and tricks

## PAYMENT FOR CLUB SESSIONS - AND HOW TO CHANGE YOUR CARD DETAILS

Several more clubs have started using MYABF to take table money payments for their club sessions. That has meant more players have been setting up "Auto top-up" - i.e. enabling their bridge credits account to operate like a public transport card which automatically tops up by the amount they set once it drops below $\$ 20$. This feature makes paying for your bridge so convenient - both for you and for your club.

But one thing several players have been asking is how to update their saved card details if they change cards or after their current one expires. It's done via your Bridge Credits statement - there is an Update button right next to where your automatic top up details are displayed:

# Bridge Credits - Julian Foster 

## Sydney Bridge Centre

## Balance: 510.5 credits

## mombion -1



Click that button and you will be taken to a screen where you can change either the amount you want your account to be topped up by each time, or your card details, or both.


## PASSWORD RESETS - BUT HAVE YOU ACTUALLY SIGNED UP IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Periodically we get support requests from players saying either that we must have the wrong email for them, or that they have tried to reset their password but the reset email isn't arriving.
Upon investigation, surprisingly often the reason is that the player doesn't actually have a myABF account in the first place. Hence they don't have a password to reset!

If you aren't sure whether you have registered for MYABF one way of checking is to try and sign up again - the system will advise you if your ABF number is already registered.

To do that access myABF from the ABF website:
Either from the very top right corner:

$a$
Or from the link on the right hand side:

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Click the Sign Up at the top:
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Then in the Sign Up screen key in your ABF number and put your curser in the email box. If you are already registered you will get an error message at this point:

| Sign Up. It's free for members! |
| :--- |
| Error: User already registered |
| Error: |
| Email Address |
| Create Your Password |
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If you are not already registered, your name will be populated automatically from the ABF masterpoint centre records and you can now complete the oneoff sign up process by adding your email address and creating a password.

If you are already registered then there will be another reason why you are not getting a password reset email. Four possibilities are:

- Your account was set up but never activated (an activation link is sent upon initial creation).
- The email address in your account is different from the one you are keying in when trying to do the reset. Have you changed email since you registered? Did someone else register for you?
- The email is going to spam (always check this - it varies by email provider).
- Your email is on a "suppression" list - either because something bounced or because you flagged it as spam at some point.
myABF support can help in these instances.
Julian Foster, MYABF Project Manager
julian.foster@abf.com.au

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# IMPROVE YOUR DAFENGE with Ron Klinger <br> Solution to problem on page 2 

## DECEIVING PARTNER

Teams. East dealer. East-West vulnerable.
A K J 105

- K 53
- J 10
\& Q 1086
A 743
-     - 

-KQ8763

\& AKJ 9

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $3 \boldsymbol{\eta}$ | $3 \boldsymbol{\wedge}$ |
| pass | $4 \uparrow$ | all pass |  |

You, West, lead the \&A: six - three - four. As you play low-like, you continue with the $\$ \mathrm{~K}$ : eight - two seven. East's $\& 3$-then- $\& 2$ is discouraging. What do you play at trick 3 ?
This deal (2021 USA Trials Selection for the 2022 World Open Teams) was nominated for the 2022 Defence of the Year.

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.
A K J 105

- K 53
- J 10
\& Q 1086
A 743
-ー
- KQ 8763
- Q 1087642
* A K J 9
-A 954
* 32

A A Q 9862

- AJ 9
- 2
\& 754
Joe Grue (East) opened 3V, South bid 3ヘ and North 4A, all pass. Brad Moss (West) led the \&K: six - three
- four. East-West play low-like, but with no trumps, East did not want to encourage clubs. West cashed \&A: eight - two - seven. In theory, East's \&3-then-\&2 showed an odd number, but with $\% 5-3-2$, East would have played the $\& 5$ at trick 1 as a more emphatic way of denying interest in clubs.
Realising East had no trumps and was out of clubs, West switched to the $\vee$, ostensibly denying the $>K$. East won and, placing South with the $<$ K, switched to a heart as another diamond was futile. West ruffed. One down!


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## BID ONLY HANDS (FOR COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS)

The traditional method of teaching bridge is a spoken lesson followed, for the rest of the time, by prepared hands for bidding and playing. When I started teaching bridge 45 years ago, I did just that, but I soon realised there had to be a better way.


I now do a spoken lesson for 15 to 30 minutes. For the next 30 to 45 minutes there are intensive exercises on the topic of the day, then it's a 15-minute tea break followed by an hour of random hands with post mortems. The class is in four stages and the students enjoy the variety.
The unique part of my classes is the 'exercise'. If the topic is card play, then the exercise is 'play only'; if the topic is bidding, it's usually 'bid only'. The random hands in the second half of the class revise all the lessons that have gone before and, if I teach something which doesn't come up in my random hands, it wasn't that important anyway.
In the December 2022 issue I introduced my bidding tents which are a very efficient way of practising the uncontested auction. However, these tents are not suitable for the contested auction, which is a huge part of bidding.
For contested auctions, I use prepared hands in boards. These are bid in the normal way but not played - that would take far too long, and is a distraction from the topic, which is bidding. After bidding the hand without discussion, they lay out the cards on the table as four dummy hands and compare their bidding (recorded on the yellow pages see June 2021 issue) with the recommended bidding on the traveller (see example on the right).

Each bid is explained and all possible contracts are worked out by computer analysis and shown on the top right of the traveller. In this example EW can make $1 \uparrow, 1 \diamond, 5 \checkmark$ and 1 NT , while NS can make 1 A . If a likely contract makes six tricks or less, I show the tricks instead - thus 3t means North-South make only three tricks in notrumps. The students can see how many tricks can be made in whatever contract is reached - and those not reached. There is no need to

play the hand. The traveller is A6 size so four hands can be printed on an A4 page. Small cards are usually shown by an ' $x$ ' as this makes the hands easier to make up.
The hands are self-teaching and discussion among the students is both helpful and enjoyable. The teacher goes round the tables to comment and answers questions as required.
I design 20 hands on the topic of the day. This is built around five bidding sequences - if I'm teaching doubling 1 NT , the sequences might be:

| WEST | NORTH <br> pass | EAST <br> pass | sOUTH <br> pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | sOUTH |
|  | 1NT | pass | pass |
| pass |  |  |  |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | sOUTH |
|  | $1 N T$ | dbl | $2-s u i t$ |
| dbl | etc. |  |  |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | sOUTH |
|  | $1 N T$ | dbl | $2-$ suit |
| pass | pass | $2 / 3-$ suit | etc. |

## Letter to the editor

Ethics to be congratulated and emulated
Pamela and I played against Caroline and Murray Wiggins at the Gold Coast Congress. Caroline usually directs here, but this year she wanted to play, and she was dummy on this interesting deal:
Reg and Joan Trophy, Day 1, Round 6.
Board 21. Dealer North. North-South vulnerable.
A 5

- A 103
-A98652
\& 642

A 9
-K2

- KQJ 7
* K Q J 873

AKJ108643
$\bullet 754$

- 1043
\& -
WEST
2/3-suit etc.

The students bid five hands with these sequences, taking turns to open 1NT. They then do another batch of hands with similar sequences; the players remain in the same seats but are in a different position in the auction. If they have time to bid all 20 hands, each player will have experienced each sequence in all four positions at the table: opener, doubler/ overcaller, responder, and advancer (the name for the partner of the doubler/overcaller). They rarely have time to bid all the hands but the exercise ensures everyone understands the topic and they have the option of studying the hands at home from the homework/printout.
If you would like a free PDF and/or Word copy of 40 'bid only' hands on the 'weak no-trump battleground' with the text of two lessons, then email

## ildalziel@gmail.com

If you are a bridge teacher and like this teaching method, you can use the Word version as a template for your own hands on any aspect of competitive bidding.

Previously published in Mr Bridge, UK

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | pass | $1 \downarrow$ | $2 \boldsymbol{1}$ |
| 3\% alerted | pass | $3 \star$ | pass |
| 4NT | pass | $5 \boldsymbol{1}$ | pass |
| 6 | dbl | all pass |  |

Playing Acol, West's 3\% bid was alerted by East as asking for more information about opener's hand. East's 3 was intended as artificial, showing five hearts and a non-minimum. 4NT was RKCB, and 5a was two aces and one queen. 6 was to play.
6 was a total misfit and declarer went for a telephone number. $60^{\circ}$ is cold. $6 \mathbb{V}$ is probably two off if we get the defense right.
I asked Caroline why she bid $6 \leqslant$ and not $6 \uparrow$ ? She replied she had unauthorised information from the alert, as 3\% was natural.
I said rebidding 6\% would not have bothered Pamela and me. Caroline responded, "No, but it would have bothered me."

I was now regretting my double; an ethical bid like 6 does not deserved to be punished.
This was extremely ethical of Caroline. She has always been a very good director.

James Evans, Queensland


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## Wellness Guidelines

Players and officials are asked not to attend any event if they are infectious, or if they are supposed to be isolating or quarantining. Those who come to play and, feeling unwell, self-diagnose that they may be infectious, should inform the director and leave the venue.


# The Aces on Bridge by Bobby Wolff 



This article is taken from Bobby Wolff's daily bridge column, The Aces on Bridge, which appears in various publications across the USA. The Aces On Bridge was started by Ira Corn, founder of The Aces, the first professional bridge team. Wolff, one of the original Aces, took over the column in 1982. In it he reveals the secrets of a championship bridge player to both tournament and at-home players.

Today's deal, our final one showcasing Margaret Bourke, might be posed first as an opening lead problem.

| N/NS | A 6 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | - KQ 974 |
|  | - Q 73 |
|  | \& Q 975 |

AK 10983

- J 853
- 4
-4 1083
AJ 752
- 106
-A 10962
\& J 4

A A Q 4
$\bullet$ A 2

- KJ 85
\& AK 62

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $2 \boldsymbol{V}^{1}$ | pass | $2 N T$ |
| pass | $3 \boldsymbol{v}^{2}$ | pass | $6 N T$ |

all pass

1. Five hearts and a minor.
2. Maximum with clubs.

Opening lead: diamond four.
It often pays to lead passively against 6NT when your opponents have bid there on raw power. If you lead from an unsupported honour only rarely
will you be able to cash two tricks, or set up a trick to go with a sure winner. More frequently you will surrender a trick for no return.

West has no truly safe lead today, though. A major suit seems out, while leading from ten-third in a suit an opponent's suit is not so appealing (partner could have the queen and dummy the jack, for example). But maybe this is better than leading a singleton around to a hand that could easily have length there.
When West selected a diamond, now whether East inserted the nine or won the ace, declarer had three diamond tricks. East actually won and returned the suit. Bourke won it on table and ran her minor-suits, West pitching four spades to retain his heart guard.
When declarer cashed three hearts ending in dummy, East showed out, leaving declarer with a guess. Had West started with five spades to the king and been squeezed between the majors, when declarer would need to play to the spade ace now, or did declarer simply need to take a finesse?
The clue lay with West's choice of opening lead. With a spade sequence headed by the jack-ten-nine-eight, West would have led that suit. Bourke duly played a spade to the ace, dropping the king.



I've recently had loads of hands that demonstrate 'counting'. Let's start with one where the counting is relevant for both sides:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { AK 8 5 } \\
& \text { \& K Q J } 2 \\
& *-109764
\end{aligned}
$$

A A J 109
-A53
-AJ852

* 8

ค 64
$\vee 974$

- 107643
\& 532
A Q 732
- 1086
-K Q 9
\& K Q J

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | dbl | pass | 3NT |

all pass
First of all, South's 3NT is a practical bid - the values for game, no long suit (and North has only guaranteed 3+ spades).

West leads the $\leqslant$, dummy throws a spade, $\leqslant 10$ Q. Declarer has six club tricks, but needs to establish two more tricks. So, let's analyse the points on the deal. North-South have 26 HCP between their hands, so West will have all three aces in order to give them an opening bid. That makes it safe to lead a heart now (leading the clubs first will exert some pressure on the South hand, and also separate your transportation).

Meantime, West should think about the points too. South responded 3NT, so they probably have 13 HCP. After the lead, dummy reveals their 13 HCP. West has 14 HCP. Therefore, West already knows that East has 0 HCP! That means that when they win the VA, they
should just cash their aces, otherwise 3NT makes 11 tricks, rather than 10 tricks.

Here's a hand where you can actually work out partner's hand shape during the bidding. Sitting East, you hold:


You are playing support doubles, so a double of $2 \downarrow$ would show three spades (and 2^ would guarantee four spades). So, using the auction, you know that partner has two spades and one diamond (given you have four diamonds). It is likely that they would rebid 3* with 7+ clubs, so they actually hold six clubs and four hearts. It is easy to rebid $2 \mathbb{V}$ and reach 4V. Partner held:

| A 84 | A A Q J 75 |
| :---: | :---: |
| - K 984 | - QJ 63 |
| - A | - 7652 |
| \& A J 10987 | \% - |

For the next hand, take the West seat. Here is the auction and your hand:

A Q 97

- A Q 1097
- 7
\& J 642
Dummy
AK 8
- J 854
- Q 92
* K Q 73

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| pass | 1 | pass | $1 \%$ |
| pass | $2 \%$ | pass | $3 \%$ inviting |
| pass | $3 N T$ | all pass |  |

Partner leads the $\mathbf{~ 4} 4$ - eight - queen - three. At the table, the 9 was returned but...

Think about North's auction and hand shape. North has shown 5-4 in the minors, but denied four spades (they would have rebid 1A rather than 2*). Therefore partner has five spades (which can also be worked out from the spade 'spot' cards. What does that mean for the heart suit? It means that declarer has only one heart. Cash the VA now, dropping declarer's VK! Now you can return the $\uparrow 9$, which partner ducks to dummy's king, keeping spade communications open.

Declarer leads the $\vee$ - seven - three - king. Partner now leads a heart, finessing dummy's jack; you win the $\geqslant 9$ then return the spade to partner, who cashes three spade tricks, then leads their last heart through dummy, and you take another three heart tricks. Five hearts, four spades and one diamond $=$ down six tricks!

The contract went down three tricks on the spade return, since the VJ blocked the suit, but it goes to show what stopping and analysing the hand can tell you about hand shape.

Partner thought I was some sort of genius on defence on the final deal, but it was just another example of counting - this time, helped by declarer:

AK 3
-QJ 6
-A97643
\& J 7

| A Q 852 |  | A 10974 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -1073 |  | - AK 8 |
| - Q 102 |  | - K 8 |
| \& 1032 |  | \& 9865 |
|  | A A J 6 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 9542$ |  |
|  | - J 5 |  |
|  | \& $A K Q 4$ |  |

A Q 852
10974
1073
\& 1032
A A J 6

- 9542
\& $A K$ Q 4

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| pass | 1 | pass | $1 \downarrow$ |
| pass | 2 | pass | $3 N T$ |
| all pass |  |  |  |

When North played 3NT, the 110 lead ensured defeat. However, where South was declarer the lead of the $\boldsymbol{\sim} 2$ gave an additional spade trick, with the lead running around to the $\boldsymbol{A} \mathrm{J}$.
Personally, I would have tackled diamonds (the odds of a 3-2 break being 67.8\%), by ducking one round of diamonds, then leading to the $\forall A$ and ducking a diamond. The would be the re-entry to dummy.

Declarer took an inferior line, giving the defence a chance. He led a heart towards dummy's Q-J, hoping for 'split honours' for his ninth trick. $\mathbf{V} 2$ - three - jack - king. I returned a spade, to check what was happening in the suit, and dummy's king won. Now declarer led a club to the queen to lead another low heart: seven - queen - ace. This was very revealing. Firstly, it indicated that he held the A-K-Q (and likely a small club too). Secondly, it revealed that he wanted to lead towards the queen in dummy. It seemed that partner held the $\mathbf{V 1 0}$.

Having won the VA, it was time to double-check my plan. I thought that declarer had started with AAJx, \&AKQx, four hearts to the nine, and a doubleton diamond. With three diamonds, he would certainly have tackled the diamond suit for the extra trick(s). As long as he didn't hold the $\bullet$ Q, my plan would work, given partner held the $\vee 10$. I led the $*$. It looked spectacular, but it was based on counting.
Declarer won the ace in dummy, hoping his jack would tangle the suit. But now he was failing in 3NT. He led another heart, partner won her V10 and cashed her $\vee$ Q and $\uparrow 10$, and mouthed "wow" at my switch.

Whilst it did look clever, it was just the product of (a) stopping and thinking, drawing conclusions from declarer's various plays, and (b) counting declarer's shape.
It takes work. It takes training. It takes discipline. But it works.

# TBIB WESTERN SENIOR PAIRS 

$29^{\text {TH }}$ AND $30^{\text {TH }}$ June 2024

## Gold Point Event

For ABF Seniors' events, a player must be born before 1 January 1961.

# Melville Bridge Club 431 Canning Hwy, Melville 

Entries: MyABF (using MyABF credits)
Entry fee: $\$ 200$ per pair
Director: Jonathan Free
Scorer: Brian Wade
Tournament Organiser:
Josephine Dundas. Phone 0411477194. josephinedundas607@gmail.com

Prizes: Reflect 50\% of net income together with the support of TBIB sponsorship. A perpetual trophy will also be provided by TBIB.

## Prize Presentations \& Cocktail Party Sunday approximately 4:30pm.

Please note that there will be no lunch available. Lunches can be purchased 5 minutes away across the road.



## DEFENCE - THIRD-HAND PLAY

This months Workshop had a focus on defending, and specifically, some of the techniques that the partner of the opening leader should use.
If your partner leads a low card at
 trick one, your first priority is to play high. Here is a simple example. Your partner leads the $>5$ and dummy plays the $\downarrow$. Which card do you play.

Dummy

- 8642

| Partner | You |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\bullet 5$ | $\bullet$ K 106 |

Even though your king will likely lose to declarer's ace, you must play the $\leqslant$ on the first trick. If you don't play the king, declarer might win a cheap trick with the jack. Your king will force out the ace, and hopefully your partner has the queen.

## Third Player, Play High.

In a later example, partner leads the $\%$, and dummy plays the $\% 4$ :

| Partner | You |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\& 6$ | $\&$ Q J 5 |

You should play high (not the five), but the $J$ is the correct card to play, not the queen. The main comment from players was, "It doesn't make a difference," and while that is true from your perspective, playing the $\%$ will help partner.
If declarer wins the $\& A$, and your partner is holding the K10863, they can study this trick carefully and note that the ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{J}$ forced out declarer's ace. If declarer has the $\% \mathrm{~A}$ and $\% \mathrm{Q}$, they would have won the $\% \mathrm{Q}$. Your partner knows that you have the $\&$ Q. If you play the $Q_{\mathrm{Q}}$ into declarer's ace, partner has no idea who has the \& ${ }^{\circ}$.

## Play high, but play cheapest of equals.

Sometimes playing the "Cheapest of Equals" can be quite magical. Your partner leads the $\mathbf{V} 2$ and Dummy plays the V3:

> Dummy
> $\vee 1063$

Partner $\checkmark 2$

## You

- Q J 97

You need to play "high", but to play the "cheapest high card" means you should play the V9. Note that the $\vee 7$ is not high enough, and might concede a cheap trick to declarer's V8. If your $\geqslant 9$ forces out declarer's ace, then partner will be able to place you with both the $V Q$ and $\vee J$.
One final technique we discussed was that usually you should "cover an honour with an honour". Here is an example, where your partner leads the 16 :

Dummy
Partner
A Q 73
A. 6
A AJ 92

You

If dummy plays the $\uparrow Q$ you should cover with the AA (Cover an Honour, and Third Player High). Easy. Instead, if dummy plays the A3, you should consider saving your ace to catch dummy's queen, and play the $\boldsymbol{N}$. . If your partner has the $\boldsymbol{A K}$, then the jack will win trick one. If declarer has the $\boldsymbol{A} \mathrm{K}$, they can win that trick, but you can possibly catch dummy's queen later and deny declarer two tricks. Playing the AA would mean that declarer can win two tricks (the A Q and $\uparrow \mathrm{K})$.

## If dummy has an honour, use your honour to catch dummy's honour.

Good players can usually work out where all the cards are, and these techniques will help your partner to be a good player!
When you are defending, try to watch partner's cards carefully to work out where the other high cards are.

# Tournament results 

Photos by Anne Russell

## Gold Coast Open Pairs


SUNDAY ROOKIE PAIRS (NS)
1 Megan Raaen - Mitchell Raaen ..... 67.28
2 Anita Liu - John Vass ..... 60.88
3 Mark Lyons - Sue Lyons ..... 60.58
4 Gill Long - Glen Lockington ..... 56.06
5 Leonie Swann - Kathy Van Geest ..... 53.53
SUNDAY ROOKIE PAIRS (EW)
1 Jen Pusey - Gillian Hibbard ..... 61.34
2 Jennie Tucker - Mary Doneley ..... 61.25
3 Chantelle Smalbil - Nigel Fellows ..... 60.51
4 Alison Quinn - Bettina Groves ..... 59.01
5 Janette White - Anne Munro ..... 51.59
THURSDAY ROOKIE PAIRS ..... NS)
1 Grant \& Philippa Wickman ..... 68.86
2 Karen Johnston - Suzanne Adams ..... 57.16
3 Brenda Templeton - John Vass ..... 55.11
4 Mark Lyons - Sue Lyons ..... 54.26
5 Jenni Darlington - Judy Bodkin ..... 53.99
THURSDAY ROOKIE PAIRS (EW)
1 Sue Ledlie - George O’Brien ..... 66.56
2 Jenni Hansen - Sandy Spies ..... 59.21
3 Vivienne Polak - Frances Burns ..... 55.93
4 Rosemary McBain - Robyn Gadsby 54.225 Susan Lee - Deirdre Lyell54.10
0-50 MP PAIRS - TUESDAY
1 Bob Ren - Haijai Li123.44
2 Josephine Kelly - Margot Tesch ..... 116.46
3 Allan Adams - Graeme Lean ..... 115.81
4 Pam Tidmarsh - Faye Fatseas ..... 113.24
5 Di Taylor - Helen Ross-Johnson ..... 110.77
0-50 MP PAIRS - WEDNESDAY
1 Paul Ruan - Kevin Gu ..... 129.63
2 Anita Liu - Sharon Michael ..... 124.96
3 Marie Low - Kiran Dutt ..... 119.44
4 Ria Mylrea - Maureen McNamara ..... 116.58
5 Bob Ren - Haijai Li ..... 115.70
0-50 MP BUTLER SWISS PAIRS
1 Stephanie Price - Kyna Foo ..... 86.07
2 Paul Ruan - Kevin Gu ..... 84.82
3 Bob Ren - Haijai Li ..... 78.88
4 Colin McGregor - Jenni Cover ..... 77.87
5 Jenny Munro - Helen Blake ..... 75.36

## REG AND JOAN SWISS PAIRS

## Sunday

Open: Heather Renton - Dianne Marler Restricted: Oliver Goodman - Mingshu Yang

## Monday

Open: Derek Evennett - Judy McLeod
Restricted: Chris Scott - Denise Donald

## Friday

Natalie Bloch - Richard McLauchlan
Open. Derek Evennett - Judy McLeod


## Gold Coast Pairs Events

IVY DAHLER BUTLER PAIRS

## Open

1 Finn Kolesnik - Justin Mill 147.09
2 Liam Milne - James Coutts 135.54
3 John \& Charles Mcmahon 131.02
4 Anna St Clair - Dee Harley 128.70
5 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby 126.77
Intermediate


1 Herman Louie - Christine Louie 143.92
2 Lalita Kanetkar - Ken Hubbell 133.81
3 Max Holewa - Diane Holewa 132.02
4 Jackin Clare - Eamonn McCabe 125.18
5 Oliver Goodman - Mingshu Yang 124.63
Restricted


1 Jan Bennett - Derek Bartosh 141.59
2 Donald Patterson - Don Weerheim 138.23
3 Graham Cheater - Peter Farley 128.94
4 Thorsten Stanley - Bob Ure 125.91
5 Frank Broos - Harry Blamires 125.34

## Novice



1 Susan Macken - Jody Burchall
132.77

2 Helen Gillam - Micki Summers 132.08
3 Annie Shotter - Cathy Mathieson 125.33
4 Carol Findlay - Jenny Thompson 124.95
5 Jen Woodhouse - Greg Brackenreg 116.27

## Gold Coast Restricted Teams Events

## UNDER-1500 TEAMS

Abrams (Jeanette Abrams, Derek Maltz, Margaret Gidley-Baird, Peter Robinson) 149
def Gibson (Wendy Gibson, Christine Newberry, Annette Corkhill, Chris Woolley) 81


INTERMEDIATE TEAMS
Young (Lynda Young, Philip Young, Hannah O'Donnell, Greg Nunn) 116
def Jia (Lilly Jia, Davis Zhang, Jenny McGowan, Vanessa Brewis) 99


## RESTRICTED TEAMS

Hampton (Jo Hampton, Caroline Caseley, Megan Eddy, Bridget Willcox) 128 def
Theriault (Joann Theriault, Brenda Campbell, Sandra Velling, Eve Clarkson) 99


NOVICE TEAMS
Veling (Jeff Veling, Tracey Gieck, Sandy Close, Jamie Luxton) 82 def Lee (Jacinta Lee, Stephen Bennett, Louise Bennett, Debbie Carroll) 73



OPEN TEAMS FINAL
Ware (Michael Ware, Tom Jacob, Matthew Thomson, Brian Mace, Pete Hollands, Hugh McGann) 87 def Dalley (Paul Dalley, Arlene Dalley, Tony Nunn, Ashley Bach) 77

## OPEN TEAMS SEMI-FINALS

DALLEY 105 def HAFFER (Ron Cooper, Joshua Tomlin, Joachim Haffer, Philip Markey, Ella Jacob, David Gue) 45
WARE 116 def SPOONER (Matt Mullamphy, Mike Doecke, Andrew Spooner, Will Jenner-O'Shea) 102


OPEN TEAMS ROUND OF FOUR
HAFFER 56 def BEAUCHAMP (David Wiltshire, Sophie Ashton, David Beauchamp, Avinash Kanetkar) 48 WARE 68 def YOSHKA (Michael Rosenberg, Debbie Rosenberg, Olivia Schireson, Max Schireson, Geeske Joel, Cadir Lee) 34


## TBIB SWISS PAIRS

1 Pele Rankin - George Kozakos
2 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby
3 Avinash Kanetkar - Ron Klinger
4 Nigel Rosendorff - Peter Reynolds
5 Ella Jacob - Joshua Tomlin
6 Andrew Peake - Giselle Mundell
7 Martin Doran - Pauline Collett
8 Jeanette Reitzer - Matt Smith
9 Jenny Thompson - David Fryda
10 Sandra \& Andrew Richman
149.06
148.30
144.53
142.49
139.75
139.69
135.50
135.26
134.61
132.47
Tasmanian Festival Of Bridge

## MIXED SWISS PAIRS

1 Pele Rankin - George Kozakos
2 Jeanette Reitzer - Matt Smith 3 Ella Jacob-Joshua Tomlin 4 Andrew Peake - Giselle Mundell 5 David Beauchamp - Jodi Tutty

## ROOKIE SWISS PAIRS

112.15
109.91
109.44
107.60
106.27

1 Starlette Beaumont - Margaret Cusack 77.74
2 Laura Best - Catherine Catt 68.48
3 Nola Calvert - Rex Calvert $\quad 64.70$
4 Jackie Mair - Penny Padgett 60.35
5 Victoria Vyvyan - Lea Coulston 60.00

## ROGER PENNY SENIOR SWISS

1 Vicky Lisle - Ian Lisle
116.40

2 Meg Sharp - Helen Clayton 114.09
RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS

2 Meg Sharp - Helen Clayton $\quad 114.09 \quad 2$ Anka Saundry - Peter Saundry 132.86
1 Jeremy Reid - Seb Wright
139.10
$110.90 \quad 3$ Geraldine Carey - Engelina Poulton 113.65
5 David Robinson - Phil Beck $\quad 109.03 \quad 5$ Jan Van Riel - Margaret Grant 109.91

# Play like Legends Live like Locals 

# 2024 Australian National Bridge Championships and Butler <br>  

Including the inaugural
Central West Festival of Bridge
$6^{\text {th }}-18^{\text {th }}$ July 2024
Orange NSW

