



NEWSLETTER

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION LTD.

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**2024 Australian Women's Team: Renee Cooper,
Ella Jacob, Jenny Thompson, Jane Reynolds**



2024 Summer Festival

by Lauren Travis

It's not every day you get to play bridge with a world champion. After she dominated the 2023 National Women's Teams with a team of international stars, I was delighted when Kate McCallum agreed to partner me in this year's event.

Continuing with the format established in 2023, this year's National Women's Teams and National Seniors' Teams incorporated the National Playoffs to select the representative teams for the coming year. The National Women's Teams and National Seniors' Teams retain their status as national events, and these were won by Fuller (Marnie Leybourne, Leone Fuller, Dagmar Neumann and Jodi Tutty) and Free (George

Smolanko, Jonathan Free, Attilio De Luca and Ron Cooper). However, after the event, the top four teams from each field (not including non-contending teams, such as teams with international players) move on to the Australian Playoff semi-finals.

In one of our practice games, at a local club in Adelaide, Kate advised me of one of her cardinal rules: never bid grand unless you can count 13 tricks. Of course, she only had reason to tell me this after she had broken her own rule, punted grand, and I had gone down. Imagine my horror on the following deals:

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Front cover image: 2024 Women's Team (photo by Stephen Lester).

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**IMPROVE
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with
Ron Klinger
Solution on page 21

Teams, dealer South, East-West vulnerable

♠ 10 5 3
♥ 5 4 2
♦ A Q J 7
♣ A K 8



♠ K 7 4
♥ K Q J 9 6
♦ 10 9 5
♣ 10 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
dbl ¹	5♣	dbl	3♣
			all pass

1. For takeout.

West leads the ♠A: three - four (low-like) - two, followed by the ♥A (dummy playing the two). Which heart do you play as East?



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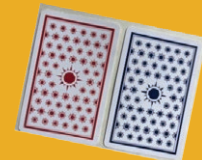
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

David Fryda

david.fryda@abf.com.au



I am not very good at keeping personal statistics about the number of times I have played in specific bridge tournaments or how well I did in a particular year. However, as I sit down to write this article I can honestly say that having attended many summer festivals in Canberra, this year's was very different for me! I asked Allison the week before if I should put in for annual leave to cover the time I would be playing bridge. As I have found over the past three months, Allison is very wise, and her response of, "No, you will be working," was on the money!

My teammates and especially my partners may have regretted my taking on this role but I must say, it was one of the more enjoyable "Canberras" I have attended. It was great to spend time with and meeting several of the youth players who were there for Youth Week. Laura Ginnan did an amazing job organising a very successful Youth Week program which was appreciated greatly by everyone in attendance. This group of players are always special to the ABF and we are keen to grow on the success of Laura's hard work and have them all playing again next year with even more under-30s joining them.

The last three representative teams (Youth, Womens and Seniors) were determined during the Canberra events. These teams along with the previously determined Open and Mixed Teams will now be focused

on preparing to do us all proud in Poland (Youth) and Argentina (Others).

There is a sixth possible team that would like to represent us. A team of six women have put forward a proposal to enter the Under-26 Women's Teams event at the Youth Championships. Unfortunately, the ABF does not have the funds to subsidise this team's travel and accommodation, but we have agreed to ratify them and cover their entry fees. You will likely see this team undertaking several fund-raising activities over the coming months and I urge you all to support them as generously as you can.

In Canberra I also had the pleasure of hosting an event for the Presidents and Secretaries from around the States and Territories. I took the opportunity to not only meet several of these hard-working volunteers but also to speak to them about the value of us working together going forward and minimising duplication of effort.

In line with this the first cab of the rank in this respect has been a Marketing workshop which we have just held to which every state and territory was invited to send a representative. We explored as a team the opportunities for the ABF to focus its marketing efforts going forward so that states, territories and clubs can get the maximum benefits. A common thread throughout the workshop was that the ABF needs to play a leading role in promoting bridge in Australia to existing, lapsed and potential new players. Over the coming months I will be working to deliver resources for the broader Australian bridge community to utilise to help grow the number of bridge players across the country.

In addition to Marketing I am also looking at how the ABF can help improve our technology platform (MyABF), promote youth bridge, review the master-point scheme, attract more people to become Directors and improve the resources available to bridge teachers. And then next month I will... Only joking, all of these areas will require a lot of thought and careful planning. If any of you reading this article have any good ideas to contribute, I would love to hear from you!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Allison Stralow

president@abf.com.au



A Happy New Year to you all from the ABF Board, which now includes the ABF Executive director, David Fryda. My New Year's Resolution is to play in more Licensed events in 2024 and I hope yours is the same.

2024 will see our Australian Open, Women's, Seniors' and Mixed teams competing at the WBF World Bridge Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina in October and November. The Under-26 Youth Team of Jack Luke-Paredi, George Bartley, Bertie Morgan, Alex Goss, Lara Topper and Tomer Libman will compete at the 19th World Youth Championships in Poland in July. I wish all the teams every success as they com-

pete as our Australian Teams at International Bridge Tournaments in 2024.

Congratulations again to Ian Thomson and his team for another successful Summer Festival of Bridge. There was a wonderful friendly, relaxed atmosphere at the event, even though the play at the table was very competitive. It was particularly pleasing to see several youth players at the event. They are wonderful ambassadors for bridge and the next generation of players. Congratulations to the place getters in all events. Special mention to the Thompson team, Ben Thompson, Renee Cooper, Peter Newman, and Matthew Thomson who defeated the Ashton team, Sophie Ashton, David Beauchamp, Maurits Van Der Vlugt, Andrew Spooner and Matt Mullamphy in a closely fought final.

This month will be the 62nd Gold Coast Congress. The theme this year is Sport. Bridge is a mindsport for all ages and has a role to play in connecting people and challenging our minds. I look forward to catching up with my bridge family and making new connections at the Gold Coast and other ABF Licensed events in 2024.

If you have any issues that you would like to raise with the ABF Board, please email:

president@abf.com.au



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frustrating and humbling,
but never boring!

Summer Festival

Lauren Travis

(continued from page 1)

Board 5. Dealer North. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH Kate	EAST	SOUTH Lauren
	1♣	pass	1♦
pass	2♥	pass	2♠
pass	2NT	pass	3♣
pass	3♦	pass	4♣
pass	6♣	all pass	

Playing a strong club system, our auction was uncontested. 1♣ was 16, with a 1♦ negative. 2♥ was a puppet to 2♠, with the 2NT rebid showing 24+ balanced, and I tried Stayman to check for a heart fit.

In the context of a 0-7 HCP negative, my hand was off the charts. When I bid 4♣ (natural), I was planning to keycard if Kate cuebid agreeing clubs. Her 6♣ bid foiled my plans, but also indicated she had an extraordinarily good hand. Torn between doing what felt right on the hand and what is generally right in bridge, I opted to pass. After a heart lead, Kate drew one round of trumps then claimed, breaking my heart.

Later that day, I picked up a fairly lacklustre collection:

Board 2. Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

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

Lauren and Barbara Travis, 2nd place in the National Women's Teams with respective partners Kate McCallum and Candice Ginsberg



WEST	NORTH Kate	EAST	SOUTH Lauren
		3♠	dbl
pass	6♦	pass	?

I made the normal takeout double, my left hand opponent passed, and my partner jumped to 6♦.

Once again, my hand was suddenly super-powerful – I had first round control in two suits as well as four good trumps! Painfully, I decided there was no way that punting grand would be right twice in one day. I was wrong. (Luckily this was in the last match, so I wasn't put to the test again.)

The highlight of that day was this cute Morton's Fork after we bid an aggressive 3NT:

Board 18. Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

	♠ K 3		
	♥ K J 9 2		
	♦ 10		
	♣ A Q J 9 7 4		
♠ A J 10		♠ 9 6 5 4 2	
♥ A 10		♥ Q 8 6 4	
♦ A J 8 7 6		♦ Q 4 2	
♣ 10 5 3		♣ 6	
	♠ Q 8 7		
	♥ 7 5 3		
	♦ K 9 5 3		
	♣ K 8 2		
WEST	NORTH Kate	EAST	SOUTH Lauren
		pass	pass
1♦	2♣	pass	3♣
pass	3♥	pass	3NT
all pass			

West made the normal lead of her fourth-highest ♦7, to Kate's 10, East's queen and my king. I had six club tricks and one diamond, so required a trick in each major suit – but couldn't afford to let East on lead as they would return a diamond and pick up my positional stopper of the ♦9. If I led a heart to the king and it held, I may now be in trouble if West can take her ♠A and put her partner in with the ♥Q for a diamond through. Therefore, I played a spade towards dummy at trick two. A classic Morton's Fork – if West won her ace now, I had two spades to go with my seven tricks in the minors, and if she didn't then I would cross to my ♣K and play a heart to the king. She opted to duck, but my line was foolproof and resulted in a full game swing as no other pairs made it to the 22-point 3NT.

Congratulations to the winners of the National Women's Teams - Leone Fuller, Marnie Leybourne, Jodi Tutty and Dagmar Neumann.

With Dagmar and Jodi having already qualified for the Australian Mixed Team at an earlier playoff, and our team also being non-contending, teams 3 through 6 moved on to the Women's Playoff semi-final. Well done to Ella Jacob, Jenny Thompson, Renee Cooper and Jane Reynolds who were victorious in that event. The Seniors' Playoff was won by Stephen Burgess, Paul Lavings, Gabi Lorentz, Robert Krochmalik, Andrew Braithwaite and Arjuna de Livera. I look forward to following their adventures at the 2024 World Championships in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The main event of the second week of the festival is the South-West Pacific Teams, followed by the National Open Teams. In Australian Bridge Magazine, Brad Coles and Nick Hughes reported a pair of sur-round plays (one successful, one less so) from the final weekend of the festival:

Board 9. Dealer North. East-West vulnerable.

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

This deal is from the NOT final, which was won by Renee Cooper, Ben Thompson, Peter Newman and Matthew Thomson.

North opened 2NT (22-24), and a Puppet Stayman auction placed South with four spades and North with four hearts before settling in 3NT.

Both declarers won the ♣Q lead and took a losing spade finesse. At one table, West tried the ♦J at trick three, giving declarer an easy path to three diamond tricks and the contract.

At the other table, West exited passively with a spade, leaving declarer to do all the work himself, and declarer did not manage to find a winning line.

West's ♦J switch is the correct way to approach this suit if partner has the ace, but if you trust declarer's 22-24 notrump, there is no room for East to hold that card.

This play from the Mixed Pairs final was more successful:

Board 26. Dealer East. Both sides vulnerable.

		<div>♠ 5 2 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ K 9 8 7 3 ♣ K 8 2</div>	
<div>♠ K Q 6 3 ♥ A J 8 ♦ 6 5 ♣ A Q 6 4</div>		<div>♠ 7 ♥ K 9 5 3 ♦ 4 2 ♣ J 10 9 7 5 3</div>	
		<div>♠ A J 10 9 8 4 ♥ 10 6 4 ♦ A Q J 10 ♣ —</div>	
WEST Jacob	NORTH	EAST Thompson	SOUTH
1NT	pass	pass	1♠
2NT	pass	2♠ ^{clubs}	dbl
4♣	4♦	3♣	3♦
		all pass	

Declarer won the trump lead and drew trumps, followed by the ace and jack of spades. Ella Jacob won with the second spade with the queen, and switched to the ♥J, collecting three heart tricks for +100 and a 64% score. Ella's score for this play should have been much higher, but some East-West pairs were allowed to play in 3♣ for 110 and a shared top.

The Mixed Pairs was won by Nicoleta Giura and Nick Hughes. See page 14 for a list of other winners from the Summer Festival.

The Cliff Wake Challenge

Josh Tomlin

At Youth Week in 2008, the Youth Teams ended in a two-way tie for first place, and the event was decided by a four-board playoff. This created such an exciting atmosphere that the organisers decided to hold a four-board playoff every year.

This now-annual event is held between the winners of the Youth Teams and an Open team nominated by Mr Cliff Wake or his representative. The event is known for its huge viewing audience, terrible spelling, and the prized Cliff Wake Trophy donated by Christy and Daniel Geromboux.

Josh Tomlin reports on his first win in Youth Week's most prestigious event.



From 6-12 January, Youth Week was held at the Canberra Accommodation Centre, formerly known as Fenner Hall. The week consisted of Pairs events, a Teams event, and a selection event for the Australian Junior Team, with a plethora of fun side events in the evenings. The most exciting side event, in my opinion, is the Cliff Wake playoff. Every year the winners of the Teams event play a four-board BAM playoff against an expert team. This year my team (Jamie Thompson, Danni Fuller, Ella Jacob, Jamie Simpson and myself) played against Peter Gill, James Coutts, Lauren Travis and Renee Cooper. We had a team of five, since Ella was also busy winning the Women's playoff, but Jamie Simpson elected to sit out for the Cliff Wake.

The name "Cliff Wake" originates from the early 2000s when administrative things used to be done on paper. It is a misinterpretation of the name "Griff Ware", undoubtedly caused by his atrocious handwriting. The winners of the event get their names engraved on the glorious Cliff Wake Trophy, although everyone's name is comically misspelt in one way or another. This symbolises the countless trophies out there with misspelt names or blatantly incorrect information. The last youth team to take home the trophy was Tom Jamieson, David Guetta, Andrew Forker and Renee Copper back in 2020.

The Cliff Wake is a primarily a spectator event, with everyone from Youth Week kibitzing one or both tables. The stakes are high with eternal glory on the line, and the crowds of people standing around you

certainly adds to the pressure. It's difficult to play your best when everyone is watching!

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither side vulnerable.

♠ J 10 5
♥ K 3 2
♦ 10 6 5
♣ Q 9 8 6

♠ A Q 7
♥ 9 5 4
♦ 4 3
♣ A K J 4 3

♠ 8 4 2
♥ A Q 10
♦ K 9 8 2
♣ 10 5 2

♠ K 9 6 3
♥ J 8 7 6
♦ A Q J 7
♣ 7

WEST
Tomlin

NORTH
Gill

EAST
Jacob

SOUTH
Coutts

pass

pass

1♦

dbl

pass

1♥

all pass

I hate overcalling five-card minors at the two-level, especially when balanced, but with such good clubs there may be an argument for doing it. I think Pass is too passive, not vulnerable at BAM scoring, so with my doubleton diamond I decided to make a takeout double. I was dreaming of scoring a major-suit fit, even a Moysian, which could easily outscore a club partial.

When the auction got passed out in 1♥ I was overjoyed – it looked like we were robbing the opponents blind! However as you can see, the opponents made a wise choice to let us play in our 3-3 fit. A Burn's Law violation on the first board! Ella told me later that she forgot that 1NT was an available bid – the pressure of the match is already showing.

James led his stiff club and I had to put down dummy. I started with my heart suit, although one of my hearts got stuck with my diamonds, so I unintentionally made the classic joke of only putting down two trumps for partner. This caused a thunderous laughter between the spectators and Ella; little did I know that hers was a laugh of panic.

She won the ♣A and played a diamond to the nine and jack. Obviously she's trying to ruff a diamond in dummy (the 'short' trump hand), so James returned a heart to the king and ace. Next came the ♦8 from Ella, and James had to decide who had the ♦10. Was Ella trying to pull a fast one on him? He decided to duck so that Peter could win the trick and put another heart through. Ella rose queen, ruffed a diamond and led the ♣K in the following position:

James has an awkward decision to make. If he ruffs the ♣K with a natural trump trick, he will be endplayed into playing a spade into declarer's potential Jxx. So he decided instead to pitch a spade and make Ella play from the board. She played a club to the ten which Peter won and, to James' surprise, played another heart! James won the ♥J and cashed the ♦A, Ella pitching two spades from dummy.

Things were looking great from my side of the table. Hearts are 3-3, Ella has the 13th trump, and I have a bunch of club tricks and the ♠A entry. Peter agreed with me and we tried to claim eight tricks for declarer, to which Ella and James gave us a stern no. James came out a spade to the now stiff ace, Ella tried playing clubs but James could ruff in and take his ♠K for down one. Going off at the one-level with 23 HCP did not feel like a good score!

At the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Travis	Thompson	Cooper	Fuller
	pass	pass	pass
1NT	pass	3NT	all pass

Danni decided not to open her 11-count and Lauren made a routine upgrade into a 1NT opening with her great five-card suit. Blasting game on a balanced nine-count is a standard aggressive IMP approach, but it can easily backfire at BAM scoring. With the

awful club and diamond layout, my brilliant teammates managed to get this contract two off to win the first board! BAM!

Board 2. Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tomlin	Gill	Jacob	Coutts
		1♥	pass
3♣ ¹	pass	3♥	all pass

1. Mixed raise, 7-10.

On any normal day, especially at IMPs, I would call my hand an invitational four-card raise with the sharp cards and two useful doubletons. However, we had just off at the one-level and I was desperate for a plus score, so I decided to go low. Ella thought for a bit before signing off in 3♥, which made me nervous about my decision.

The ♦J was led to the king, followed by a club to the king and a heart to the queen, going for an outright win on the board! South showing out was not welcome news, but it made me hopeful that going low was right. Ella played ♣A and ruffed a club, followed by two top diamonds.

It looks like it could be right for North to pitch a club here, not wanting to ruff in with a natural trump trick. If so, declarer will pitch a second spade and follow with another diamond from dummy. Ruffing this would be pointless, so declarer will score their ♥3. With her trumps shortened and eight tricks in the bag, declarer could now exit a spade and the defence would be endplayed into letting her score the ♥10 for ten tricks.

Instead, Peter accurately ruffed in with the ♥J (the king or nine would also do). Ella pitched a second spade, and now North has to find the difficult play of ♠A and a low spade to partner, playing them for the ♠Q, so that they can safely exit a diamond. North will later score the ♥K to hold the contract to nine

tricks. Peter instead returned the ♥9 and Ella took the marked finesse for ten tricks.

Making ten tricks was a good effort on this hand. Unfortunately our opponents also made ten tricks, and they were in 4♥ to win the board. Tied match.

Board 3. Dealer South. East-West vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tomlin	Gill	Jacob	Coutts
4♠	pass	pass	1♥
pass	4NT ¹	pass	dbl
all pass			5♦

1. Two places to play.

I led the ♠A against 5♦, not liking any of my other leads. Looking at dummy, it might be crafty to switch to a low club now. If declarer had Q10x for example, they might read this as a singleton, in which case it would be too risky to finesse. Instead, they would rise ace and put their hopes on the diamond finesse, so I could win my stiff ♦K and cash the ♣K for down one. However, this could be the only way to blow the contract if declarer had something like Qxx in clubs. I decided to play it safe and continued with the ♠Q.

Double dummy the road to make 5♦ is easy – ruff the ♠Q, rabbi the ♦K, and establish the hearts for two club discards. Single dummy at IMPs the play is fairly straightforward too: ruff ♠Q, cross to the ♣A, hope that the diamond hook is working and that you can get a fourth heart trick while still having an entry to hand.

At BAM scoring the problem is not so simple. If you ruff, play ♣A and take a losing diamond hook, you’re exposed to losing two clubs, a diamond and a spade for down two. Instead of crossing to the ♣A, you might choose to lay down the ♦A. However if the diamonds aren’t breaking, it will be difficult to establish the fifth round of hearts and maintain an entry to hand. On this auction and the play so far, it is unlikely that the hearts are 3-3.

Given all these complications, James played for one off by pitching a club on the ♠Q. Now I switched to

a low club, he rose ace and took the losing diamond finesse. I cashed the ♣K for down two. Ironically, if he had ruffed the ♠Q and laid down the ♦A, he would have been pleasantly surprised with +400.

At the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Travis	Thompson	Cooper	Fuller
4♠	dbl	all pass	1♥

Jamie chose to make an adventurous double holding a 7-count with only one sure trick, but it does take the pressure off partner when they hold some middling hand. It’s not that likely that 4♠ will make, and getting +200 could easily win the board. The defence got their three red tricks and the ♣A for one off and a win for the home team!

With our team up two boards to one, Peter declared a tricky 3NT on the following deal:

Board 4. Dealer West. Both sides vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tomlin	Gill	Jacob	Coutts
pass	1♦	pass	1♠
pass	2NT	pass	3NT
all pass			

Ella led the ♣5 to the king. I played a club back to the ace and Peter won the third round of clubs in hand. I pitched the ♥7, not wanting to pitch a diamond in case Peter had five. This discard came with the bonus of giving declarer a misguided picture of the hand, since it is natural for a defender to pitch from a five card suit first. Short on entries Peter tried ♠A then ♠J, which was not ideal on this layout!

I played a low heart to the queen, king and ace. Peter cashed the ♠Q and received the bad news. He could now play a diamond to the nine to get out for down one, but instead he played the ♦J to the queen and ace, and cashed the ♦K, leaving the following ending:

♠ —	♠ 10
♥ J 4	♥ 8 6
♦ 9 3	♦ —
♣ —	♣ 8
♠ —	♠ 8
♥ 10 3	♥ 9
♦ 10 8	♦ 5
♣ —	♣ 7

Peter cashed the ♥J and I unblocked the ♥10 so that I didn't get endplayed into giving him a diamond trick. This was a free play since if declarer has the ♥8, he will be endplayed into giving me two diamond tricks. On the next heart, I was happy to see Ella win the eight and cash her black suit winners for down two.

Over to the other table, Renee led a heart after the same auction. Jamie won the ♥Q and tried the ♠J out of hand, losing to West's king. Lauren continued a heart to the ace and Jamie played the ♦J to the queen and ace. Still having hopes of making the contract, Jamie cashed the ♠A and played a spade to the queen, on which Lauren pitched the ♦2. Now he led the four from dummy in the following position:

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

Based on his table feel, Jamie rose with the ♦K trying to drop the doubleton ten. No good! Renee pitched a club and Jamie was heading for three off. He exited the ♥J and Renee cashed two hearts and a spade, leaving East on lead in the following ending:

♠ —	♠ —
♥ —	♥ —
♦ 9 3	♦ —
♣ Q	♣ A 8 6
♠ —	
♥ —	
♦ 10 7	
♣ K	
♠ —	
♥ —	
♦ —	
♣ 7 4 3	

Since Lauren pitched down to the stiff ♣K, if Renee plays a low club then declarer will eventually score the ♦9. If she cashes the ♣A and the ♣8, then dummy's seven grows up to score the last trick. Down two and a thrilling push board to win the match!

I'd like to thank the pro team for such an exhilarating match, and also give a huge shout out to Laura Ginnan for the mountains of effort she put into organising another fantastic Youth Week.



Scoring hack

by Andrew Richman

They doubled me but I made the contract. What's the score?

Here is a simple hack to know the score for any game contract that is doubled and makes.

You simply add the game score to the partscore!

Let's say you are in 4♥ doubled, not-vulnerable and make ten tricks. The game score undoubled is 420 and had you been in a partscore making ten you would have scored 170. So just add them together and viola, you scored 590.

It works for all the games 3NT to 5NT.

To illustrate, here is the full table:

Doubled Contract	Vulnerability	Game Score	Part Score	Total Score
3NT	Not vul	400	150	550
4♥ or 4♠	Not vul	420	170	590
4NT	Not vul	430	180	610
5♣ or 5♦	Not vul	400	150	550
5♥ or 5♠	Not vul	450	200	650
5NT	Not vul	460	210	670
3NT	Vulnerable	600	150	750
4♥ or 4♠	Vulnerable	620	170	790
4NT	Vulnerable	630	180	810
5♣ or 5♦	Vulnerable	600	150	750
5♥ or 5♠	Vulnerable	650	200	850
5NT	Vulnerable	660	210	870

If you make overtricks it is 100 per trick not vulnerable and 200 per trick vulnerable.

BONUS TIP: It works for SLAMS too!

Doubled Contract	Vulnerability	Slam Score	Part Score	Total Score
6♣ or 6♦	Not-vul	920	170	1090
6♥ or 6♠	Not-vul	980	230	1210
6NT	Not-vul	990	240	1230
7♣ or 7♦	Not-vul	1440	190	1630
7♥ or 7♠	Not-vul	1510	260	1770
7NT	Not-vul	1520	270	1790
6♣ or 6♦	Vulnerable	1370	170	1540
6♥ or 6♠	Vulnerable	1430	230	1660
6NT	Vulnerable	1440	240	1680
7♣ or 7♦	Vulnerable	2140	190	2330
7♥ or 7♠	Vulnerable	2210	260	2470
7NT	Vulnerable	2220	270	2490

Working out the rest of the doubled scores isn't too tricky either.

Making a doubled 1NT, one of a major, or one or two of a minor is easy, as they are just double the undoubled score. For example, 1NT or two of a minor making without overtricks would both score 90, so if the contract is doubled it scores 180. Likewise, one of a major undoubled and making is 80, so doubled it is 160.

Once you get to 2♥ or above, then doubling means it will attract the game bonus. Say you are making 2♥ doubled, not vulnerable. The undoubled score is 110 (50 for making the contract and 2 x 30 for tricks 7 and 8) but doubling 2♥ means you now get the game bonus of 300 not vul (500 if vulnerable) plus you get the doubled part on the two tricks, so another 2 x 30. So 110+300+60 = 470. *(A similar way to get the same result is to take the partscore, 110 in this case, double it, and add 250 non-vulnerable or 450 vulnerable. – Ed)*

And then you have to add 100 points for each overtrick (200 if vulnerable).

Anyway, have fun at the table spouting off the scores and looking like an expert!

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GOLD POINT EVENT

Tournament results

Photos by Stephen Lester

Summer Festival

NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

B Thompson (Matthew Thomson, Ben Thompson, Renee Cooper, Peter Newman) 134 def Ashton (Sophie Ashton, David Beauchamp, Maurits van der Vlugt, Andrew Spooner, Matt Mullamphy) 116



NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS

Dagmar Neumann, Marnie Leybourne, Jodi Tutty, Leone Fuller



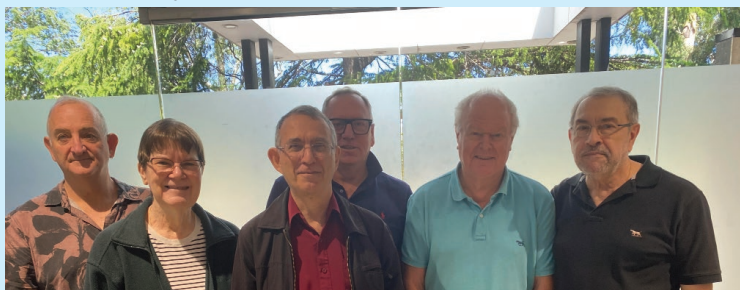
NATIONAL SENIORS' TEAMS

Ron Cooper, Attilio de Luca, George Smolanko, Jonathan Free



SOUTH WEST PACIFIC TEAMS

Ian Robinson, Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Neil Ewart, Andrew Braithwaite, Arjuna de Livera



MIXED MATCHPOINT PAIRS FINAL

- 1 Nicoleta Giura - Nick Hughes
- 2 Mimi Packer - Jonathan Free
- 3 Jane Lennon - Simon Hinge



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- 2 Ben Chosid - Christy Geromboux
- 3 Tony Nunn - Paul Dalley



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BRIDGE SHOP ONE DAY NOVICE TEAMS

Bricet Kloren, Hilary Merritt, James Walcott, John Lee



UNDER 750/300 SWISS TEAMS

Sonya & Shayne Palfreyman, Catherine Chaffey, Jake Andrew



CHRIS DIMENT MP SWISS

Shane Harrison - David Hudson

NOVICE SWISS PAIRS

John Reis - Murray Campbell



BRIDGE SHOP NOVICE

Steve Kyburz - Nick Vonthethoff



TWO DAY PAIRS

Maggie Crawford - Maria Gibbs



Australian Youth Week

YOUTH TEAMS



Danni Fuller, Jamie Thompson, Joshua Tomlin, Ella Jacob, Jamie Simpson absent (pictured with David Fryda from the ABF)

YOUTH PAIRS

- 1 Joshua Tomlin - Ella Jacob
- 2 Ruitian Lang - James Coutts
- 3 David Gue - Darren Brake

JUNIOR SQUAD SELECTION

- 1 Jack Luke-Paredi - George Bartley
- 2 Bertie Morgan - Alex Goss
- 3 Lara Topper - Tomer Libman



Australian Playoffs

OPEN

Lu (James Coutts, Tony Nunn, Liam Milne, Nabil Edgtton, Charlie Lu, Peter Gill) 372 def Spooner (Andrew Spooner, Phil Markey, Mike Doecke, Will Jenner-O'Shea, Shane Harrison, Matt Smith) 267



SENIOR

Lorentz (Stephen Burgess, Paul Lavings, Gabi Lorentz, Robert Krochmalik, Andrew Braithwaite, Arjuna de Livera) 303 def Free (George Smolanko, Jonathan Free, Attilio De Luca, Ron Cooper) 160



WOMEN

Jacob (Renee Cooper, Ella Jacob, Jenny Thompson, Jane Reynolds) 229 def Lusk (Paula McLeish, Pele Rankin, Jessica Brake, Susan Humphries, Sue Lusk, Viv Wood) 175



MIXED

Thomson, pictured (Maurits van der Vlugt, Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Ian Thomson npc, David Beauchamp, Jodi Tutty, Dagmar Neumann) 245 def Harrison (Shane Harrison, Jessica Brake, Bruce Neill, Sue Lusk) 239



BRIDGE INTO THE 21st CENTURY

by Paul Lavings, paul@bridgegear.com

YOUR ACTION AFTER RHO OPENS 3♣

What would you call on the following hands, both sides vulnerable?

WEST	NORTH	EAST (3♣)	SOUTH ?
1. ♠ K 5 3 ♥ A K 8 2 ♦ K J 9 ♣ J 4 3			
2. ♠ A Q 7 5 ♥ K J 9 8 ♦ 10 8 5 4 ♣ 4			
3. ♠ A Q J ♥ K 8 7 6 4 ♦ A 8 7 6 ♣ 2			
4. ♠ 8 6 5 4 ♥ K Q 4 2 ♦ A 7 ♣ K J 9			
5. ♠ A 9 2 ♥ 10 7 5 4 ♦ K Q J 6 ♣ A Q			
6. ♠ A K 7 6 2 ♥ A Q 10 7 4 ♦ 9 7 ♣ 2			
7. ♠ A K J 8 7 ♥ 7 ♦ A K 7 5 4 ♣ 5 3			
8. ♠ A K J 10 8 7 6 ♥ 3 2 ♦ A Q 7 5 ♣ –			
9. ♠ 5 4 3 ♥ A Q J 10 7 6 ♦ A K 2 ♣ 6			
10. ♠ A K Q J 8 7 2 ♥ A K 6 3 ♦ A ♣ 3			

SOLUTIONS

1. Pass. Length in opponent's suit is a major factor in deciding whether to enter the bidding at high levels. You have a 15-count but your three clubs are a big deterrent. Of course partner is still there.

We live in a time where, in Australia at least, experts believe in stretching their preempts to put opponents under pressure. In one semi-final match of the recent Open Teams Playoffs, both players opened 3♣, not vul vs vul in first seat with:

♠ 7 6 2 ♥ 7 4 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ K Q 10 8 2

2. Double. Only a 10-count but an easy takeout double with a singleton in the opponent's suit. You have the perfect shape, four-card support for whatever partner bids and you have no wasted values. Your hand is "pure", an indication that it is safe to bid.

3. Double. You are going to bid but should you choose 3♥ or double? If you double partner might bid 3♠ with four spades and three hearts, not so good. If you bid 3♥ partner might pass with a moderate hand with five spades and one heart, even worse.

4. Pass. With your length and values in clubs you should pass and await developments. Also what do you do if you double and partner bids 3♦?

Sartaj Hans held this hand in the 2004 Australian Pairs Championship. He passed and passed again



when his partner, Michael Ware, made a takeout double in fourth seat. 3♣x went two down for +500 and 17 out of 18 matchpoints when 4♥ went down on a diamond ruff at many of the other tables.

5. 3NT. You need a minimum of 15 HCP to overcall a three-level pre-empt with 3NT, though I have seen 14 HCP many a time. The hand over you might have 20 HCP and double you for 1100 or more, it does happen.

More likely is that the 18 or so missing HCP are divided evenly between your partner and your LHO and both have 9 HCP. That would give you a reasonable play for 3NT. It would not be good if you doubled and partner became declarer and the club lead went through your AQ in dummy instead of around to it.

6. 4♣. Most partnerships these days play non-leaping Michaels against preempts. Here 4♣ is both majors, 5+5+ and you have done your job. It would be disaster waiting to happen to bid say 3♠ and risk missing a good heart fit.

7. 4♦. This time it is a Leaping Michaels bid, rather than non-leaping. Your jump to 4♦ shows diamonds and a major, 5+5+. Is it game forcing? Theoretically yes, partner bids 4♥, pass or correct and you pass with diamonds and hearts or bid 4♠ with diamonds and spades.

What if partner takes your 4♦ out to 4♠? Does it say they love hearts, so if you have hearts we are looking for slam? Or does it say they have a spade suit of your own? I think the latter since, unless they are a passed hand, they could have anything and a six- or seven-card spade suit is a possibility.

8. 4♠. When you jump overcall over a preempt you are showing a strong hand, rather than another preempt. You are way too strong to bid only 3♠, just ♦K opposite is probably enough to make 4♠. You could double but partner might pass with some clubs and a spade fit. A jump to 4♠ does the job admirably.

9. 3♥. A tough decision between 3♥ and 4♥. This is one of the few situations I would fall back on the Losing Trick Count. You have three spade losers and one in each of the other suits. Six losers doesn't look a good enough hand to jump to 4♥. If partner can cover three of your losers they will likely raise 3♥ to 4♥.

10. 6♠. You may not make 6♠ but you must be at least a 90% chance. I think a greater risk is that you miss 7♠. Gambling in this country is a huge industry and I observe that bridge players love to gamble at the table.

I am a definite non-gambler but sometimes you are forced to gamble. Your choices here are double, 4♠ and 6♠, and 6♠ has the most going for it.



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A GAME AT THE CLUB

Barbara Travis

www.bridgeatbeaumont.com

I'm sure I've mentioned it before, and I'm sure I'll mention it again, but two-level suit overcalls should contain a good suit, and if you have a relatively poor five-card suit think about either doubling or passing. Of course, having a sixth card in your suit alters the scenario... slightly.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
pass	1♥	?	1♦

Sitting East, I held:

♠ 6 3 ♥ A Q 2 ♦ 9 6 ♣ A 10 7 5 3 2

This club suit was not a good suit, but the sixth club allowed me to bid 2♣. Make it only a five-card suit, and I would have passed! I was pleasantly surprised when partner now bid 3NT. I figured, since he had passed the opening bid, that he had a hand unsuitable to double 1♦ and he probably had some fitting club honours.

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

North had listened to the auction (West having their suits held) so led the ♠2. A quick check that they led fourth-highest, indicating that spades were breaking 4-4, left partner reassured that he could win the ♠A at Trick 1 – after all, he did not want a diamond switch.

The club finesse wasn't necessary (with no diamond lead); there are ten or eleven tricks depending on whether the finesse works. At Trick 2, the ♣Q was led, North played the king, and 11 tricks were wrapped up quickly.

By the way, note that if you want the opponents to cover your honour, lead the higher honour. If you want the opponents to duck, try the lower honour.

Shortly afterwards, partner (West) picked up:

♠ 5 ♥ J 9 8 6 4 ♦ 10 ♣ A K Q 9 8 2

I'm fairly confident our auction was different from many. North opened 2♠ showing a 5-4 in spades and a minor, and South raised to 4♠. With such a shapely hand, despite being vulnerable, you must enter the fray, even at the five-level. With a two-suited hand (at least 5-5), your best action is to bid 4NT, which shows a two-suited hand (not specifically minors). If East bids 5♦, that should say they are happy for you to 'correct' to 5♥ if you have hearts and clubs.

As it happened, I bid 5♣ which was passed out. South, with three clubs, was possibly thinking that this would be 'corrected', but when it wasn't he should have realised his partner's minor was diamonds. Given that he held:

♠ K Q 9 6 ♥ 2 ♦ A K J 9 2 ♣ 6 5 4

the auction now revealed that North-South had a massive double-fit in spades and diamonds.

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

5♣ failed by one trick (it can go down more if they get a heart ruff or two), but that proved to be an excellent save against any North-South spade game (or even slam).

Whilst South had an obvious 4♠ bid, it may have been wiser to respond 2NT, which is a serious bid, asking for partner's minor. If North holds diamonds, you are happy to keep competing. If North holds clubs, you are happy to defend. Once you find out which suit partner holds, you can bid 4♠, knowing what to do over any sacrifice bidding.

Whilst some people play that three of a minor over a two-suited two-level opening bid is natural and to play, I play that three of a minor is "pass or correct" and that 2NT shows serious interest in partner's minor, even if the opponent bids.

I imagine that, if the auction had gone this way, it would have been:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	2♠	Pass	2NT ¹
3♠ ²	4♦ ³	4♥	4♠
5♥	pass	pass	5♠
?			

1. Asking for opener's minor.
2. Hearts and a minor.
3. Natural, as the 2NT invited him to compete.

It's not clear what our side would have done, and we wouldn't have wanted to push the opponents to their slam (potentially makeable after West's two-suited bidding).

On a similar theme...

Would you balance, nil vulnerable, if West opened 4♠ and you held:

♠ K ♥ 7 5 2 ♦ K J 5 2 ♣ A K 5 4 3

It's borderline, but you do know your ♠K is unlikely to be useful.

What if you were playing against the wildest bidder in the room as West? Then I think it would be mandatory to double, in case partner had a penalty pass or some long suit.

As it happens, many did bid, and 5♥ played moderately well, though East-West can get a cross-ruff going for four down (800!).

If you have preempted and the opponents bid, a double can be used to indicate a void; then partner should lead their long club suit, and you establish a club-spade cross-ruff.

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Would you have succeeded as declarer on my final hand?

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

Against South's 4♠ contract, West led the ♥9. Plan your play!

You have six spade tricks, one diamond trick and, now, two heart tricks. Do you need the ♣A onside to make the contract? If you play the ♥Q at trick 1, a wise West will duck, given they hold five hearts.

Think about how you would have played the hand on a trump lead... You have only one entry to dummy (those spade spots are unkind). So you should cash the ♥A then lead another heart, creating two heart winners, on which you can discard your diamond losers (keeping the ♠A as your entry to dummy).

So, despite the heart lead, that's how you play this hand. You have to decline the Greek gift, the free finesse in hearts, and play a low heart, winning the ace in hand. Draw the trumps in two rounds, keeping the ♠A in dummy, then lead your losing heart. Now you will lose two clubs (the ♣A is offside, with West), but you have two heart winners in dummy for diamond discards, making ten tricks.



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TWEAKING YOUR SYSTEM SLIGHTLY

This month's workshop didn't cover many new conventions or plays, but we looked at refining a few bids within your system. There are a few useful ideas that might help your system and judgement.

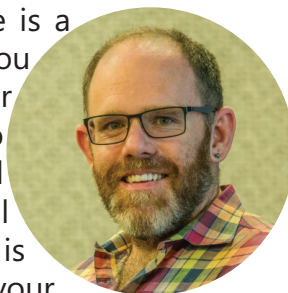
The first concept is the point range "Six To Nine". That range was often taught to new players, and sadly still is. It applies to a simple raise of partner's suit, and also to a 1NT response. The problem with "Six To Nine" is that 10 points is not what it used to be. In the olden days of 13-point openings, and a 16-18 1NT, when partner opened the bidding with a suit, they usually had 13-15 points. Opposite 13-15 points, responder's 10 points might be enough for a game. These days, with a lot of 12- or 11-point openings, and a 1NT opening range of 15-17, when partner opens a suit, they are usually 11-14 points. Having 10 points and knowing that partner does not have more than 14 means that game is unlikely. I recommend making a small switch to two simple auctions – make a 1♥-pass-2♥ simple raise 6-10, not 6-9. If you are playing Standard, make a 1NT response 6-10, not 6-9. Those playing Two-Over-One have already embraced the 1NT wider point range, but perhaps not the Simple Raise. This has a small beneficial knock-on effect to your invites. Playing Limit Raises, 1♥-pass-3♥ now shows 11-12, which is a much tighter range, and easier to handle. Side note for Acol players, you can keep your "Six To Nine" range if you want, since partner would have opened 1NT with 12-14 points.

One other simple idea is *How Many Points Are Needed For Game?* The traditional wisdom was 26 points, but I don't know any players who haven't lowered their sights. Most players are happy to go

for game with 25 points. There is a slight issue with bidding that you don't always get to know your partner's exact point count, so you are dealing with a small range of points. I think a useful tip is to go for game if 25 points is the least that you can have. If your partner opens 1NT (15-17) and you have 10 HCP, nothing extra, no features, no length, no majors, then your combined strength is 25-27. Bid 3NT. However, if 25 is the best case scenario, then I recommend being cautious, and not even inviting. Some partners accept an invite whenever one is offered to them, which means that you will end up in a lot of games with 25, or 24, and maybe even 23 points. At IMPs this strategy is fine, but at match-points, which is the majority of bridge played in clubs, this is probably a losing proposition. If your partner opens 1NT (15-17) and you have a boring balanced 8 point hand, I recommend passing 1NT. Your combined points are 23-25. If 25 is the best case scenario, then I recommend not even inviting. There is a twist! If you have some other upsides, then perhaps you should reconsider. Here is an example hand, where your partner opens 1NT (15-17). You hold

♠ A J 9 2 ♥ K 8 4 3 ♦ 3 2 ♣ 10 4 3

This is the 8-point hand that I warned you about, but this time you have two four-card majors, and if you did find a fit, the hand improves. I would bid Stayman, and then invite game. If the suits were swapped around so that you had weak majors, and four cards in both minors, then I would pass 1NT, and recommend that you do the same.



For those bridge players who care about the environment, the ABF's sponsor, PENLINE, makes Reusable Coffee cups and Water Bottles, as part of its "War on Waste". If you are interested in more information, please contact Maryo Derofo by email: maryo@penline.com.au



IMPROVE YOUR DEFENCE

with Ron Klinger

Solution to problem on page 2



SIGNAL FAILURE

Teams, dealer South, East-West vulnerable

♠ 10 5 3
♥ 5 4 2
♦ A Q J 7
♣ A K 8



♠ K 7 4
♥ K Q J 9 6
♦ 10 9 5
♣ 10 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
dbl ¹	5♣	dbl	3♣ all pass

1. For takeout.

West leads the ♠A: three - four (low-like) - two, followed by the ♥A (dummy playing the two). Which heart do you play as East?

The deal comes from the 2022 Norwegian K-O Teams:

Teams, dealer South, East-West vulnerable.

♠ 10 5 3
♥ 5 4 2
♦ A Q J 7
♣ A K 8

♠ A Q 9 8 6
♥ A 10 8 7
♦ K 8 4
♣ 6

♠ K 7 4
♥ K Q J 9 6
♦ 10 9 5
♣ 10 2

♠ J 2
♥ 3
♦ 6 3 2
♣ Q J 9 7 5 4 3

Against 5♣ doubled, West led the ♠A and then ♥A: two - king - three. Unsure which major to play next, West chose his shorter major and continued hearts. South ruffed, finessed in diamonds, played ♣A, then ♣8 to ♣Q and finessed diamonds again. When the

♦A dropped the ♦K, the ♦7 allowed South to discard the spade loser and make 5♣ doubled, +550, +10 imps.

How to defeat 5♣? West would be most unlikely to have six spades and quite likely to have four hearts, giving South a singleton heart. East should rely on the ♠K as a trick and so should discourage a heart continuation. How? By playing the ♥Q (denying the ♥K) under West's ♥A.

At the other table, it also began 3♣ - Double. What would you do with the North cards?

Tom Holland (N) made the excellent lead-directing bid of 3♦. East bid 4♥, all pass. South led the ♦2 (low from an odd number): four - jack - ten. North switched to the ♣8!: ten - jack - six. South returned the ♦6. North collected two more diamonds to take 4♥ one down. Holland was nominated for the 2022 Defence of the Year Award.

BACK! A bridge cruise with Ron & Suzie Klinger for 16 nights

Sydney - New Zealand - Sydney
January 25-February 10, 2025
on board Oceania's Regatta

See the www.ronklingerbridge.com
website for details

The Real Deal Workout with Ron Klinger

Now available at: www.ronklingerbridge.com

Bridge questions and answers emailed to you and featuring deals from actual events, local and overseas.

Details and samples available on the website.
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MYABF Update

with Julian Foster

10,000 users!

On 11 December 2023 the 10,000th user registered for MYABF (the first was on 24 December 2020)! Congratulations to Micki Summers from Blue Mountains Bridge Club. The ABF is providing a certificate to mark the milestone.

At the time I write this we now have 10,417 registered users and a further 8,367 "unregistered users" (those are people who clubs have added in their membership lists but who have not themselves signed up for their own MYABF account).

New developer

I am pleased to say that we now have a new developer in place – John Grosvenor from Tasmania. John is a bridge player who plays regularly at the Tasmanian Bridge Association. He has many years of experience in the software industry and I look forward to working with him to deliver further MYABF functionality during the year.

What next?

We are initially working on assorted bug fixes and small improvements to give John the chance to gain familiarity with the MYABF code base. After that our first focus will be on parts of the Club Administration area – primarily to enhance the existing membership and communication management areas to give clubs an even more complete solution. Then we will be starting work on migrating the Masterpoint Centre functions into MYABF (bearing in mind that what we call the Masterpoint Centre today actually covers a lot more than just masterpoints – it also handles memberships as well as being a billing system for masterpoints and capitation fees).

Masterpoint centre – annual cancellation of members for clubs

Speaking of the masterpoint centre, an increasing number of clubs are uploading their member lists into MYABF to be able to send communications to them or calculate table money for club sessions. It is important for clubs to understand that **for 2024 the Masterpoint Centre remains the arbiter of your home club members**. It is what is in that system on 31 March 2024 which will drive the capitation fees you will be invoiced in April – NOT what is in MYABF. **Therefore, during the Jan-Mar quarter this year you still need to process your annual cancella-**

tions in the Masterpoint Centre, regardless of what you have for members in MYABF.

Yes, we understand clubs don't want to maintain home club members in two places, but please bear with us – this year is a transition and our aim is to have it all within MYABF by 31 March 2025.

Gold Coast Congress – app notifications and MYABF presentation

A highlight of the bridge calendar for many players is the Gold Coast Congress. Two things to mention that are relevant to MYABF:

Notifications of results and your next round draw:

These are now delivered via the MYABF app (available in the Apple or Android app stores). See the MYABF article in the December 2023 ABF Newsletter for more details and how to get the app:

www.abf.com.au/abf-newsletter-december-2023/

MYABF Presentation – Wednesday 21 February:

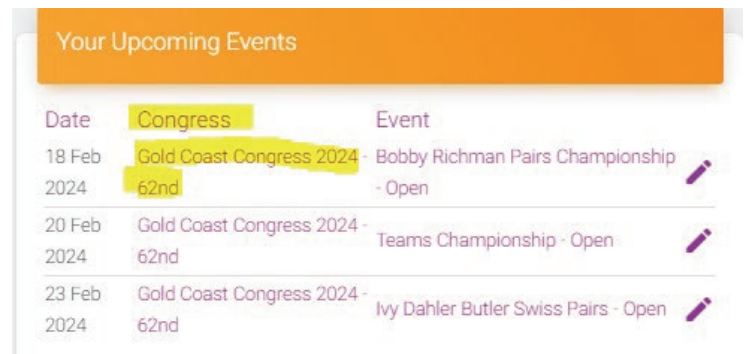
During the Gold Coast Congress I will be doing a presentation about MYABF at lunchtime on Wed 21 February. Feel free to come along and see what we are doing and have a chat.

Tips and Tricks

Quick ways to open the Congress page for something you are playing in:

Sometimes people tell me it's quite cumbersome to find a congress webpage for something they are playing in. Once you have an entry in a congress there are several simple ways to open that page – all easier than going back to the main congress listing and find it there.

The simplest is from the "Your Upcoming Events" box on your dashboard:



Date	Congress	Event
18 Feb 2024	Gold Coast Congress 2024 - 62nd	Bobby Richman Pairs Championship - Open
20 Feb 2024	Gold Coast Congress 2024 - 62nd	Teams Championship - Open
23 Feb 2024	Gold Coast Congress 2024 - 62nd	Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs - Open

The Congress column contains a direct link to the Congress page – simply click where highlighted. (The Event column contains a link to your own entry which is also a very convenient way to reach your entry to view it, edit it, make a payment etc). You can also do this via the Booked Events shortcut at the top of your dashboard.

TASMANIAN FESTIVAL of BRIDGE



Hobart Waterfront courtesy of Kathryn Leahy

MyState Bank Arena, Brooker Hwy, Glenorchy

Thu 14th - Sun 17th March 2024

Wednesday	ONLINE Real Bridge warm-up pairs 7.15 pm
Thursday/Friday	TFoB Restricted Swiss Pairs Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs
Saturday/Sunday	TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs Saturday evening dinner (<i>bookings essential</i>)
Sunday only	TFoB Rookie Swiss Pairs for players with < 25 MPs



Enter on [myABF Congresses](https://myABF.com.au/congresses)

Event Organiser	Katherine Marsden	0418 135 618	kmarsden26@gmail.com
Entries Co-ordinator	Hugh Grosvenor	0447 044 141	hugh.grosvenor@gmail.com



Thanks to TBIB and the Tasmanian Government through Events Tasmania for their support

Annual youth bridge awards

Helman-Klinger awards

At the start of the 21st century, Rabbi Helman, an American lawyer and prominent bridge enthusiast and philanthropist, made a donation to establish a prize to honour Ron and Suzie Klinger's outstanding contribution to bridge in Australia.

The donation was augmented by the ABF to create two annual Youth Bridge awards known as the Helman-Klinger awards.

The **Helman-Klinger Achievement Award** is given to the Australian youth bridge player whose ability, achievements, sportsmanship, attitude, contribution and commitment during the calendar year are most deserving.

The **Helman-Klinger Masterpoint Award** is given to the youth player who earned the most masterpoints in the past year.

Both awards were presented to Kate MacDonald of Queensland (pictured right, receiving the awards from the ABF's David Fryda at this year's Summer Festival).



Hills-Hurley Trophy

The Hills-Hurley Trophy, awarded to Alexis Wilsmore and Jade Wilkinson, is intended to encourage 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.

These two photos from Australian Bridge Magazine, taken at the 2018 ANC in Hobart and the 2023 ANC in Perth, show how long Jade and Alexis have been working on their partnership.



Andrew Reiner Trophy

The Andrew Reiner Trophy is granted to the best-performed pair in the primary target international event, taking account of performance in the event itself, commitment and preparation and contribution to team success.

The winners for 2023 are Jack Luke-Paredi and George Bartley, who are also in the Junior squad for the upcoming year. Jack and George are pictured below (2nd and 4th from the left) with their teammates from the 2023 Junior Team.



Youth Week 2024:

A Bridge Extravaganza to Remember
By Laura Ginnan (event convener)

Youth Week 2024 was full of joy, laughter and skill. The event started off in a strange fashion as everyone made their flights! Luckily, a road-tripping adventure from Melbourne restored the cosmic order when we stopped for a meal break and then headed back in the wrong direction for 45 minutes after getting back on the freeway.

Once we did get underway, tables were buzzing with energy – 12 in most events, 13 in some – with players jetting in from places as far-flung as Perth, Tasmania, New Zealand, Canada, and Germany. You'd be forgiven for thinking that one table was missing a player as pint sized six-year-old Ashley embarked on his first Youth Week! To the superhero parents who not only sent their little champs but also played the roles of chaperones, chefs, cleaners, and expert cat herders. Your dedication deserves a standing ovation!

Before the cards hit the table, we stirred up some excitement with a fundraising bidding challenge. A massive thank you to everyone who got behind the challenge and enjoyed the fun as well as the expert panel who volunteered their time (and secrets). Together, we raised over \$4000 and had a blast doing it! The funds raised played a pivotal part in getting people to the event and supporting the event atmosphere and coaching.

The Pairs kicked off the festivities with Ella Jacob and Josh Tomlin claiming the top spot in the Final and Jasmine Skeate and Paddy Taylor as victors in the Consolation. The Teams event was next, and Tuesday morning featured either a sleep in, a choice of two coaching sessions with Will Jenner-O'Shea, or a panel discussion with James Coutts, Jamie Thompson, and Paul Brayshaw. Back in my day, the sleep in would have had many more takers.

Top Pic: (L-R) Lizzie Brayshaw, Damon Flicker, Reya Shah, Erin Tewes; 2nd pic: Ashley Matheson, Alan Stoneham, Josh Tomlin; 3rd pic: Darren Brake, Jeremy Reid, Alan Stoneham, Damon Flicker, Edmond Lee, Mitch Dowling.



Josh Schwartz, Diya Sha, Dev Shah, Reya Shah, Matthew Sieredzinski, Jasmine Skeate, Andrew Spooner, Lucy Stevenson, Alan Stoneham, Paddy Taylor, Erin Tewes, Jamie Thompson, Joshua Tomlin, Lara Topper, Aaron Wang, George Wang, Heath Watkins, Seb Wright, John Yoon

Territory Gold Bridge Festival



at the

DoubleTree by Hilton Esplanade, Darwin

Wednesday 28th August – Sunday 1st September 2024

All events with Gold Masterpoints, Cash & Voucher Prizes



For more information, session
times, entries and
accommodation options etc visit
www.myabf.com.au



Stay where you play

*Reasonably priced accommodation
available*

*Book your accommodation and
flights as soon as possible as
Darwin is very busy in August*



Chief Tournament Director:
Tournament Organiser:

Matthew McManus
Pam Nunn 0402 852 820
tgbf@abf.com.au



Online course for youngsters

Paul Marston and Nevena Djurovic will present a special online Introduction to Bridge course for young people, aged 14 to 24, in conjunction with the ABF.

The course will be in May 2024. It will consist of 4 lessons and 4 practice sessions of about one hour, and the whole thing will be entirely free. This course is a one-off. It will not be repeated.

The goal is to create a community of young bridge players.

This might be a lofty goal, but we believe we can get there provided we have a good number of students in the class. Here we will need your help. We will need you to encourage all the kids you know to get on board and have a go. Please help us reach a critical mass.

Registrations will open in April. We will provide you with a registration link at the end of March, which you can pass on to any potential new students.

Why should kids learn bridge?

Teamwork: You always have a partner when you play bridge, so the game teaches you how to work together. This also makes it a great way to make new friends.

Cognitive Skills: Since many of the cards are hidden, bridge is a strategic game. It helps to develop a young player's reasoning, logic, and critical thinking skills.

Competition & Travel: Bridge students can go on to participate in Youth Bridge competitions locally, regionally, and internationally. Many trips are partially or fully funded. These events teach sportsmanship – how to be good winners and good losers. They also provide opportunities for kids to travel and see the world.

Why should kids learn with Paul and Nevena?

In short, they can handle numbers. More than 2,000 students graduated from Paul and Nevena's course between June 2020 to June 2023 with greater than 95% retention. True, these were adults and kids are different. That is the challenge ahead.

The course is very hands on. The lessons will follow the first four chapters in Paul's book *Introduction to Bridge*. These chapters focus on the basic conversation of bidding. That is, when to open in a suit, how to look first for a fit, ideally in a major, then decide about game.

This is the essential thinking of a bridge player. Once you understand this, you have reached first base. The opening bid of 1NT, overcalls and doubles can come later.

The card play topics are what to lead, the importance of drawing trumps, honour from the short hand, and promoting winners.

So, please spread the word to all the young people in your network and at the end of March look for the link to register in the next Newsletter and on the ABF website.

2023 MCCUTCHEON RESULTS

OVERALL

1 Liam Milne	438.37
2 Peter Gill	425.81
3 Arjuna De Livera	412.36
4 Tony Nunn	399.24
5 Pauline Gumby	377.71
6 James Coutts	373.67
7 Warren Lazer	371.25
8 Gwyneira Brahma	343.85
9 Maurits van der Vlugt	338.34
10 Neil Ewart	334.59

SILVER GRAND & OVER

1 Liam Milne	438.37
2 Peter Gill	425.81
3 Arjuna De Livera	412.36
4 Tony Nunn	399.24
5 Pauline Gumby	377.71
6 James Coutts	373.67
7 Warren Lazer	371.25
8 Neil Ewart	334.59
9 Giselle Mundell	325.63
10 Philip Markey	316.83

GRAND MASTER

1 Gwyneira Brahma	343.85
2 Maurits van der Vlugt	338.34
3 Paul Dalley	301.17
4 Kate McCallum	284.02
5 Sophie Ashton	276.82
6 Shane Harrison	272.68
7 Dagmar Neumann	259.79
8 Axel Johannsson	259.54
9 Hans Van Weeren	253.13
10 Rez Karim	233.36

GOLD LIFE MASTER

1 Andrew Spooner	275.76
2 Lori Smith	214.67
3 Abby Wanigaratne	210.75
4 Kimberley Zhao	209.70
5 Bill Bradshaw	158.73
6 Ingrid Cooke	153.17
7 Ziauddin Kazi	153.00
8 Robyn Pearce	136.81
9 Edward Hahn	128.40
10 Geoff Holman	120.89

SILVER LIFE MASTER

1 David Gue	214.53
2 Rachel Langdon	175.93
3 Phil Bapty	146.48
4 Vinod Nasta	144.86
5 Janelle Conroy	140.04
6 Don Cameron	138.71
7 Jody Swaine	137.03
8 Alan Cransberg	136.84
9 Neil Williams	133.71
10 Joanne Bakas	130.38

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

1 Mardi Grosvenor	332.19
2 Eugene Pereira	161.84
3 Daria Williams	141.88
4 Colin Clifford	120.05
5 Anne Riley	114.73
6 Cassandra Mitchell	112.08
7 Tuya Cooke	110.55
8 Lisa Yoffa	110.48
9 Sue Martin	105.34
10 Richard Spelman	102.81

LIFE MASTER

1 Dianne Dwyer	252.02
2 Shayne Palfreyman	147.15
3 Jake Andrew	127.75
4 Sue Beckman	125.48
5 Frank Hardiman	120.89
6 Mitch Dowling	114.64
7 Tony White	109.25
8 Megan Grant	103.78
9 Maryanne Bird	100.65
10 Clive Klugman	97.75

SILVER NATIONAL

1 John Grosvenor	150.77
2 Marieta Borthwick	99.98
3 Margaret Boniface	86.89
4 Di Barrow	72.32
5 Trevor Henderson	71.49
6 Henry Tan	71.24
7 Barbara Giizel	65.22
8 Herb Neumeister	62.13
9 Harish Patney	61.59
10 David Samuels	60.70

BRONZE NATIONAL

1 Colin Speller	144.05
2 Sonya Palfreyman	136.16
3 Arlene Dalley	128.85
4 Tomoko Nakamatsu	109.21
5 Robbie Feyder	108.00
6 Patrick Jiang	96.83
7 Bertie Morgan	94.26
8 Raman Jegatheesan	92.82
9 Vesna Markovic	91.62
10 Voyko Markovic	91.57

NATIONAL MASTER

1 Joshua Tomlin	228.96
2 Lilly Jia	112.13
3 Hamish McCracken	95.22
4 Robert Fulcher	93.01
5 Jamie Simpson	85.71
6 Philip Young	85.63
7 Maria Christensen	83.66
8 Hui Li	81.84
9 Oliver Goodman	76.83
10 Mukesh Parekh	76.19

BRONZE STATE

1 Jenny McGowan	122.97
2 Vanessa Brewis	116.63
3 Simon Tissera	109.66
4 Damon Flicker	106.33
5 Seb Wright	96.45
6 Wendy Harris	84.40
7 Eugene McClorey	80.83
8 Peter Lyons	77.57
9 Felix Shteyman	75.26
10 David Johnson	74.99

STATE MASTER

1 Sachiko Cathcart	152.76
2 Ben Leung	133.82
3 Trish Berry	103.07
4 Alan Stoneham	96.49
5 David Cumming	93.57
6 Matthew Geeve	89.79
7 Don Saunders	85.11
8 Tammy Hubbard	81.80
9 John Rivers	75.42
10 Steven Kemp	70.25

BRONZE REGIONAL

1 Julie Coates	48.51
2 Julie Roberts	41.26
3 Denise McTaggart	40.38
4 Bill Gilmore	39.21
5 Nick Armitage	31.55
6 Lesley Murray	31.15
7 Alexis Keynes	30.59
8 Diane Beasley	28.20
9 Lynn Frankenburg	27.99
10 Kim Dalling	27.90

REGIONAL MASTER

1 Jacqui Dudurovic	68.07
2 Alan Puckey	56.72
3 Julia Caldwell	55.07
4 Joann Theriault	48.68
5 Yulia Koh	47.81
6 Sandra Friesen	47.47
7 Viv Dacey	44.25
8 Jian Williams	43.69
9 Debra Cohen	43.44
10 Simon Hunter	41.64

SILVER LOCAL

1 Kate MacDonald	145.05
2 Davis Zhang	103.93
3 Chris Hamam	74.82
4 Jeremy Reid	61.42
5 Meera Kudva	49.11
6 John Reid	45.61
7 Peter Millington	43.32
8 Julie Barker	42.76
9 Debbie Carroll	40.20
10 Pauline Curin	39.14

BRONZE LOCAL

1 Elizabeth Ward	54.86
2 David Ward	43.85
3 Chris Vinall	30.33
4 Adrian Morton	30.19
5 Gek Low	29.04
6 Anne Lancaster	28.50
7 V Ntoumenopoulos	28.23
8 Michelle Miller	27.80
9 Janine Ovens	27.42
10 Kerry Gibson	27.38

LOCAL MASTER

1 Glen Chick	96.71
2 Duncan Welsh	53.33
3 Erik Moller	48.94
4 Toni Arnott	48.32
5 Matthew Sieredzinski	48.25
6 Zac Ross	39.09
7 Kerri Grant	37.80
8 Dave Reid	37.42
9 Bill Griggs	36.94
10 Stuart Stoddart	35.21

CLUB MASTER

1 Lauren Morgan	70.50
2 Sue Mittermair	50.59
3 John Burrows	30.36
4 Scott Grout	28.34
5 Michael Sput	27.81
6 Tess Lewis	27.74
7 Su O'Mahony	27.73
8 David Hickie	27.13
9 Joanne McCarthy	26.63
10 Melissa Pressley	26.63

GRADUATE MASTER

1 Nalin Samarasingha	26.94
2 H Samarasingha	26.94
3 Joan Lenehan	23.65
4 Margo Solomon	20.86
5 Wayne Mitchell	19.92
6 Jessamy Del Papa	19.82
7 Veronica McCaffrey	19.65
8 Keith Caldwell	16.61
9 Carmel Murphy	16.06
10 Kay Oxley	15.98

NIL MASTER

1 Yiwei Qi	39.20
2 Andreas Ziethen	37.96
3 Bhandra Munasiri	29.18
4 Margaret Cusack	28.56
5 Lucy D'Ambrosio	26.60
6 Oleg Glushchenko	26.51
7 Adrian Le	26.18
8 Duncan Lai	21.51
9 David Fowler	20.34
10 Mike Tang	18.10

Play like Legends Live like Locals

2024 Australian National Bridge
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Including the inaugural
Central West Festival of Bridge

6th – 18th July 2024
Orange NSW