



Final Butler fields decided

Stage 3 starts this morning, a mere 182 boards to go. Looking at the strong Open field, it's virtually identical to the leaders' board halfway through Stage 2 (see yesterday's Bulletin). The **only** change is seeing Fordham - Prescott IMPed out by ACT locals Quail - Delivera.

The carry forward

Some of the pairs who just snuck into Stage 3 face an uphill battle, starting up to 15 VPs adrift of the leaders. This seems fair enough to me but Australians are used to events where each new stage means a clean slate.

What is a Senior?

Flicking through a Bulletin from the recent European Championships, I came across an interview with Eric Kokish where he said that a major change he'd like to see would be raising the qualifying age for Seniors from 55 to at least 60, even 65.

He didn't say why. Kokish is also known as a strong opponent of single-sex events

ABF events

Exact times to be confirmed!

Stage 3 (& Seniors' B)

Wed 11am, 1.30, 7.30
Thur 11am, 1.30, 7.30
Fri 11am, 1.30

Restricted Butler

Wed - Fri 1.30

Butler Presentation

Fri at 6pm in the Menzies Room.
Also interstate welcome.

Pairs (all 5 categories)

Sat 21st 1.30 & 7.30

ANC teams (4 categories)

Sun - Fri 10.30, 2.30, 8pm

Victory Dinner – Fri at 7pm

at Great Hall, Uni House, ANU

Hands from yesterday

Stage 2, Session 2, Bd 13

N/Both ♠ K 3
♥ A Q 9 7 6 3
♦ K
♣ A 9 5 2

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

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

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 1♥ No 1♠ ?

Unless constrained by 2-over-1 game force, South is worth 2♣ rather than 1♠. However, theorists often recommend 1♠ on hands not worth a game-forcing reverse on the next round. That would probably keep you out of this cold 6♣ after West pre-empts in diamonds. Open Datum was +730 NS, not a star performance.

2♣ works a treat:

 1♥ No 2♣
3♦ 4♦ No 4♠
No 4NT etc

How much did you go for here:

Stage 2, Session 10, Bd 14

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

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

 ♠ 9 8 7 3
 ♥ 10 8 7 6 5 3 2
 ♦ 3
 ♣ 7

-1400 in 5♣/♦/♥ was not uncommon. The Open Datum was -950 NS. An indictment, considering that 4♠ often failed! It's good to see bad bidding punished occasionally.

Stage 3 fields

These are the Stage 3 fields with carry forward, which reflects the finishing order from Stage 2.

Open	c/f
Neill & Roberts	25
Marston & Thomson	25
Del'Monte & Hans	23.7
Hinge & Chua	22.2
Klinger & Dyke	21.5
Gaspar & Richman	20.7
McManus & Nunn	20.5
Chadwick & Morrison	20.5
Seres & Nagy	20
Allen & Fuller	19.2
Frenkel & Henbest	15.7
Quail & Delivera	15.7
Gumby & Lazer	14.5
Robson & Lee	13.5

Women

Booth & Shields	25
Lusk & Tully	25
Robb & Bashar	23.7
Cummings & Feitelson	22.7
Folkard & Kaplan	21.7
Murray-White & Snashall	21
Kalmin & Urbach	20.2
Beale & Smart	19.7
Renton & Hay	16.5
Creet & Bird	16
Moses & Halvorsen	14
Faranda & Berger	12.7
McKinnon & Zines	12.2
Eddie & Szabo	10.7

Seniors

Daws & Schwabegger	25
Ali & Riszko	25
Rothfield & Rothfield	24.2
Muntz & Tencer	23.2
Klofa & Collins	22.5
Ezra & Fredericks	21
Brockwell & Jackman	20.7
Ramshaw & Bourke	19.7
Westwood & Januszke	18.7
Powell & Jamieson	16.5
Thorp & Skinner	16.2
McDonald & Walsh	16
Thomas & Thompson	14
Bayliss & McGeary	13.5

Stage 2, Match 12, Bd 11

S/Nil ♠ AKQ
 ♥ —
 ♦ K962
 ♣ AK9742

♠ 82 ♠ 1076
 ♥ AK107543 ♥ J962
 ♦ AJ54 ♦ 10
 ♣ — ♣ Q10865

♠ J9543
 ♥ Q8
 ♦ Q873
 ♣ J3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			No
4♥	Dbf	No	4♠
No	No	5♥	No
No	Dbf	End	

This was one route to -650 NS. (Datum was -560 NS). Similar results when West opened 1♥, which looks the right start.

If NS somehow stumble into 5♠, the result may be surprising. It's true the defence can cross ruff the first six tricks but a top heart is a more likely lead. Ruff this, then draw two rounds of trumps, cash ♣A-K and cross to hand with a club ruff and draw the last trump. West is marked with 2-7-4-0 so try leading the ♦Q. Bingo and +450.

This result was nearly as good:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Tina Z		Denise Mck
			No
1♥	Dbf	4♥	4♠!
5♥	5♠	No	No
6♥	6♠!?	No	No
7♥	No	No	Dbf
End			

That's a case of trusting your opponents too much.

Stage 2, Match 13, Bd 1

N/Nil ♠ Q632
 ♥ Q98653
 ♦ AQ3
 ♣ —

♠ 7 ♠ 85
 ♥ K2 ♥ J107
 ♦ J9874 ♦ 1065
 ♣ AKJ64 ♣ 108753

♠ AKJ1094
 ♥ A4
 ♦ K2
 ♣ Q92

This is a fair grand slam, needing

reasonable breaks. Butler fields soon learn that it's silly to bid grands, because you usually pick up enough just by bidding to six. And so it proved. +1010 was worth a useful 6 IMPs against a datum of +780 NS. Bidding the grand here stands to risk 19 IMPs (13 out instead of 6 in) to gain an extra 6.

Sartaj wrestles over half an IMP:

Stage 2, Match 5, Bd 8

W/Nil ♠ 1065
 ♥ AQ5
 ♦ AJ108
 ♣ 754

♠ KQ3 ♠ 9872
 ♥ KJ4 ♥ 10832
 ♦ Q95 ♦ 74
 ♣ A1092 ♣ J83

♠ AJ4
 ♥ 976
 ♦ K632
 ♣ KQ6

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hans	Fordham	Del'Monte	Prescott
1♣	No	No	Dbf
No	2♦	End	

A club lead went to the king and ace. Declarer drew trumps with the finesse, then exited with ♣Q-another. Ish won the ♣J and led a spade to West's queen. Sartaj led the ♥J to declarer's queen then threw the ♥K under declarer's ace to reach partner's ♥10 and avoid the endplay. All that work for -90!



Sar-taj Mahal

We need hands!

If something classy or weird happens at your table, tell us about it. Grab a *What happened?* form, or speak to Nick or Nicoleta.

Ring any time (1 am is good, just before the deadline) on 0414 876 175. We're in Room 215.

Or send an email to nhughes@bigpond.net.au.

Appeal #2

Open 2, Match 7, Bd 5

N/NS ♠ J763
 ♥ —
 ♦ AKQJ3
 ♣ KQ96

♠ Q983 ♠ K104
 ♥ K76532 ♥ AQJ104
 ♦ 7 ♦ 1082
 ♣ 82 ♣ A4

♠ A2
 ♥ 98
 ♦ 9654
 ♣ J10753

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Fuller	Peake	Allen	Moir
	1♦	1♥	2♦
4♥	5♦	Dbf*	No
5♥	End		

Result: +50 NS

Director's report (S Mullamphy):

This was the match on bridge-cam, using bidding boxes. I was called at the end of the auction. Before doubling, East had pulled and replaced the Pass card, then produced the Double card. I ruled that West was in receipt of Unauthorised Information. After discussion with directing staff and senior players, it was decided that Pass was a logical alternative. Score adjusted to +750 NS.

EW appealed: By agreement, double shows a good original overcall. East is required by system to double with these cards. West has one extra heart and no defence. 5♥ is automatic at this vulnerability.

Committee (I Dahler, E Ramshaw, A Walsh, M Scudder, P Evans):

Director's decision upheld. Unauthorised Information was conveyed and Pass was a logical alternative for West.

Bidding boxes – These are commonplace around the world and making inroads in Australia. They avoid some of the problems of written bidding (variations in writing style, lingering, full stops after bids!) but create other problems for new users. It's important to decide on your bid before reaching for the box. They are designed to be used on a player's RIGHT.

Stage 2 datums

Bd	Open 10	Women 10	Seniors 9
11	-200	-120	-110
12	-400	-430	-320
13	730	920	560
14	-950	-320	-650
15	-30	-170	-70
16	130	100	110
17	90	70	50
18	-100	-150	-240
19	-640	-650	-630
20	610	490	380
Bd	Open 11	Women 11	Seniors 10
1	-180	-180	-140
2	250	-40	20
3	-80	-100	-70
4	70	20	60
5	-10	50	20
6	-160	-170	-160
7	-30	100	50
8	430	330	390
9	480	480	480
10	90	-60	40
Bd	Open 12	Women 12	Seniors 11
11	-560	-350	-400
12	-440	-440	-430
13	40	0	40
14	380	360	310
15	570	680	650
16	-600	-470	-410
17	150	320	260
18	-40	-140	-140
19	100	0	60
20	-640	-640	-650
Bd	Open 13	Women 13	Seniors 12
1	780	700	650
2	-440	-410	-440
3	-20	50	40
4	30	20	-10
5	100	80	-30
6	-60	-60	-70
7	0	0	70
8	-20	-40	0
9	270	120	120
10	-220	-210	-120
Bd	Open 14	Women 14	W
11	250	230	a
12	610	610	s
13	670	670	t
14	-450	-450	e
15	-90	-120	d
16	150	120	s
17	-310	-260	p
18	110	110	a
19	680	480	c
20	-100	-20	e

Coleta's Corner

142857 is a cyclic number, the numbers of which always appear in the same order but rotated around when multiplied by any number from 1 to 6.

$$142857 * 2 = 285714$$

$$142857 * 3 = 428571$$

$$142857 * 4 = 571428$$

$$142857 * 5 = 714285$$

$$142857 * 6 = 857142$$

The only 15 letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is "**uncopyrightable**"

The Balanced-hand Double

by David Morgan

If you play a natural system with a weak notrump – and there are many good reasons why you should – then care and attention is needed when opener has a strong notrump and the opponents intervene.

One solution that I have persuaded my partners to play is the balanced-hand double. This is used whenever partner shows some values and opener's right-hand opponent (RHO) bids or doubles: a (re)double by opener shows 15-19HCP with a balanced hand.

Look at these two deals to see how the balanced-hand double fared in Stage 1 of the trials:

Stage 1, Match 3, Board 22/6

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		No	1♦
1♥	Dbl	2♥	?

Partner (Michael Smart) now wheeled out the balanced-hand double, I forced to game with 3♥. Michael denied a heart stop and showed good spades by bidding 3♠ (good spades because I showed only four with my negative double and had denied good spades myself by not jumping to 3♠, forcing). Thus we reached the making 4♠ and avoided the fate of those strong notrumpers who watched the first five heart tricks being cashed against them.

Lament

*To all our gods we mortals pray
As we mill around lowing
Deal us one good hand a day
To keep our spirits glowing.*

Stage 1, Match 13, Board 7

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

Again the balanced-hand double saved us from the fate of many strong notrumpers:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♣
No	1♦	1♠	?

Partner now doubled, showing a strong balanced hand and denying a double stop (with which he would bid 1NT or 2NT). While he didn't promise a stopper, he was likely to have some honour holding there when West passed, so I jumped to 3NT. I wanted to be declarer in notrumps with queen-doubleton, and asking for a stopper would not achieve that. Sure enough, this put the overcaller on lead, ensuring that I had two stoppers in spades.

Many strong notrumpers who received a spade lead put up dummy's queen (often the best play when the lead suggests an honour) and went down.

So, if you want to play the balanced-hand double, you and your partner will need to discuss a few questions, such as:

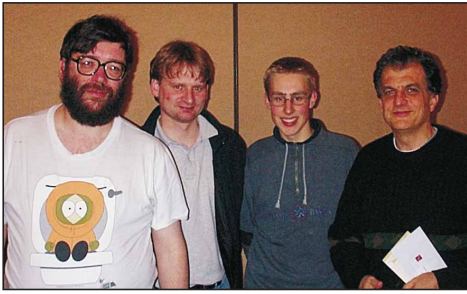
(1) In which auctions does it apply?

We use it after we open one of a suit, partner makes a negative double or a bid that does not promise game-forcing values or a fit, and RHO doubles, raises his partner, responds to partner's takeout double or two-suited bid, bids a new suit or overcalls. So, in addition to the auctions in the examples above, some other auctions where opener's double shows a strong balanced hand are:

1♥	No	2♣	2♦
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Double

(to be concluded)



Festive Teams winners

Henry VII's GST

Richard Hills

The team of George Finikiotis, Richard Hills, Arian Lasocki and John Maddison won the Festive Teams. This was the final hand of the event:

George
 ♠ AKJ
 ♥ K87
 ♦ A86
 ♣ K853

Richard
 ♠ Q9753
 ♥ A1094
 ♦ Q3
 ♣ Q6

After I had foolishly opened 1♠ on my ratty 10-count, George could not be deterred until a perilous 5♠ contract was reached. A diamond was led to East's king and a diamond returned to my queen.

I cashed dummy's trump honours, with East discarding clubs on the second and third round. Then came a club towards my queen, impaling East, who held the ♣A, on Morton's fork. If he ducked, I would win the ♣Q, draw the last trump, cross to the ♥K and discard my remaining club on the ♦A. Then it would be a question of playing hearts for one loser – 3-3 break or doubleton honour.

At the table, East hopped with the ♣A but now the ♣K and ♦A provided discards for the two losing hearts.



Congress Results

The Canberra Pairs (20 tables) was won by **Jill Courtney and Jon Hunt**. As well, it qualified pairs to Saturday's ANC Pairs events:

Open: M Watts & A Sarten
 Women's: H Motteram & P Wagner
 Mixed: A Kettle & M Weddell
 Seniors': S Wenger & G Rothman

Restaurant review

To 'cross the Rubicon' is to commit oneself irrevocably on a course of action. Can we interest you in an aperitif?

If you've been benched for the night or happen to have a few hours between events at lunch time, it's worth taking a trip across Commonwealth Bridge to head for the suburbia of Griffith to wine and dine at the Rubicon.

With only the best interests of the ANC 2001 participants in mind, a bevy of us set out for a tasting last week and agreed that the food, wine, warmth, atmosphere and discrete service were extremely satisfying.

Here are some items from the tantalizing menu to wet your appetite.

Entree. Crispy fried butternut and ricotta gnocchi in a saffron lemon cream topped with oyster mushrooms, tomato and baby spinach. (\$11.90)

Main Course. Chargrilled lamb loin with wild roquette and herb farce,

bocconcini and bacon suppli, topped with saffron aioli. (\$29.90)

Salad. Rubicon style Caesar salad. (*It was Julius Caesar who "crossed the Rubicon."*) (\$6.00)

Desserts. French influenced hot, upside-down caramelised apple tart with a warm butterscotch sauce, crème anglaise and vanilla ice cream. (\$8.90)

Cheese. Queso Azul, cow and goats milk wrapped in chestnut leaves, Madrid.

BYO if you prefer. Chef's specials.

Opening hours:

Tuesday to Saturday
 12noon - 3pm Lunch
 6pm - Close Dinner

Address:

6a Barker Street Griffith
 (At the Griffith shops; extra parking behind restaurant)

Telephone (02) 6259 9919
 Probably wise to check bookings.

Review by Mim Flynn

Congress Events

Walk-in Pairs every morning at 9.30 (exc Sat 21st)

Other walk-ins Sat 21st at 1.30 & 7.30.

Consolation Butler Wed 10am & 1.30, Thu 10am & 1.30, Fri 1.30
 *** Gold Points ***

Restricted Butler Wed, Thur & Fri at 1.30
 *** Gold Points *** For pairs with < 300 MPs

JP Morgan Teams Wed, Thur & Fri at 7.30

ACT B of Sport Teams Sun 22nd at 9.30 & 1.30

Barton Graded Pairs Mon & Tue at 1.30

Chifley Teams Mon & Tue at 7.30

Social Players' Day Wed 25th, 10am - 3pm

Hurry Back Teams Wed & Thur at 1.30

ACTEW Swiss Pairs Wed & Thur at 7.30