



Thursday's program

If your team misses out today, by all means do the tourist thing tomorrow. A good alternative is to come here and watch some of the 60 board finals (40 boards in the Youth) starting at 10am. Or fire up your computer and watch on BBO (BridgeBase Online) with expert commentators including Ron Klingler, David Stern and David Beauchamp.

Make sure you come back at 7.30 tomorrow for the VuGraph. We have a treat in store for you!

Into the home straight

In the **Open**, the top four will play each other in a round robin today. Yesterday, NSW blitzed the bottom half to make a break while Victoria had a costly 29 IMP loss to South Australia. ACT vs Queensland could be the crucial match.

Another round robin in the **Seniors**, where Queensland have taken over from WA, who had a bad loss to Victoria in a grumpy match – they certainly kept Sean busy.

The **Women's** is now too close to call, after NSW blitzed leaders Victoria. The **Youth** is still an intriguing threesome.

Teams 2/2, Bd 20

W/Both ♠ K 9 4 2
♥ K Q 8 4 3
♦ K 7 6 2
♣ —

♠ Q 8 7 ♠ 6 5 3
♥ J 10 9 6 2 ♥ 7 5
♦ Q 8 5 4 3 ♦ J
♣ — ♣ AKQJ965

♠ A J 10
♥ A
♦ A 10 9
♣ 10 8 7 4 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
no	1♥	3♣	no
no	dbl	end	

This looks normal. 3♣ can go for -1100 if the defence stops declarer from scoring a second small trump.

Open datum was +730 NS.

There were youthful variations. One West came to the rescue when 3♣x doubled came round. He redoubled and was soon writing -1600. Bolder Easts bid 4♣ (or 3♥ stopper ask) and usually shelled out an extra 300. However, one of these was passed out in 4♣. Shame North, shame.

Here's a good decision by David Appleton:

Teams 2/3, Bd 11

S/Nil ♠ Q 6
♥ K J 10 4
♦ Q J 8 6
♣ Q 6 4

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

♠ A J 9 8 4 2
♥ Q 8
♦ 7 2
♣ A 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Horowitz	Appleton	Cherry	H'sworth
			1♠
2♦	dbl	no	2♠
no	3NT	end	

Effectively he bid 3NT over 2♦. ♦QJxx is worth heaps in notrumps – too good to invite – not much use in spades. This made on the combined 22-count, while 4♠ should fail – ♦A lead, heart switch, club. Pity it wasn't vulnerable.

The vulnerability proved costly on the next hand:

Teams 2/3, Bd 12

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Horowitz	Appleton	Cherry	H'sworth
1NT	no	2♣	?

♠ 8 7 6 ♥ J 4 ♦ AK10 9 4 2 ♣ Q 7

Kokish would say that "Peter Hainsworth committed a vulnerable 2-level overcall for the lead. West obliged by doubling and leading the ♥10. -800."

Queensland won by 3 IMPs – maybe not enough considering their tough run home.

ANC Teams after 11 of 14

Open

1st	NSW	246.2
2nd	ACT	190.5
3rd	Qld	160.1
4th	Vic	113
5th	SA	39.1
6th	Tas	-173
7th	WA	-186.9
8th	NT	-398

Women's (before last night's)

1st	Qld	76.3
2nd	NSW	60.2
3rd	Vic	50
4th	ACT	31.6
5th	Tas	-12.9
6th	WA	-85.5
7th	SA	-121.5

Seniors

1st	Qld	190.2
2nd	WA	159.3
3rd	NSW	122.3
4th	SA	85.6
5th	ACT	-12.4
6th	Vic	-19.5
7th	NT	-213.3
8th	Tas	-327.3

Youth (before last night's)

1st	SA	95.2
2nd	Qld	89.7
3rd	ACT	54.6
4th	Vic	-54.2
5th	WA	-56.4
6th	NSW	-132.7

Friends in high places

Spotted the following among the 74 entries for the Spingold, the main event in America's Summer Nationals in Atlanta:

Rita Shugart, Andrew Robson, Boye Brogeland, Ishmael Del'Monte

Pam & Matthew Granovetter, Bob Jones, Paul Marston, Martin Jones, David Bakhshi

Queensland Seniors

Tony Jackman played his first ANC in 1962. He enjoys being known as the only survivor of all 44 Gold Coast Congresses, an event he convened for many years, recently handing the baton to Therese Tully.

Richard Wallis is a design engineer, still working! Richard has represented Queensland on many occasions and looks like he will go round for many years yet. However, he is older than he looks!

Jenny Han had international success in her native Singapore. Still killing them at the Gold Coast after moving there 11 years ago.

Richard Morey has been a Gold Coaster for nine years. He is a semi-retired university professor (Statistics) who will be heading back to the US for family reasons later this year.

Charlie Howard is an all-singing, all-dancing retired maths teacher – now options trader – who seems to have been around forever. Or at least his cap has!

Kerry Wood is well-rounded and we're glad of it. She has considerable sporting talents on and off the bridge table and reckons she is good in the kitchen and on the dance floor as well.

Ian Afflick (npc) reckons his team is in with a good chance this year, particularly as he is not playing!

More poker

You'll get a genuine Yarborough once every 1827 hands. What's the chance of a hand with at 8-spot as the highest?

Teams 6, Bd 24

W/Nil ♠ A J 9
♥ 10 2
♦ K Q J 10 9
♣ 8 5 2

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

♠ 7 6 3 2
♥ K 9 5 4
♦ 7
♣ A K J 7

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
no	1NT	dbl	rdbl
2♦	dbl	end	

A common enough auction. Khokan played 2♦x on a slightly different auction. He defended his runout to 2♦, claiming it was "routine". Indeed, but Magnus had a better routine!

2♦ is -800 on routine defence. In fact declarer must play well to avoid -1100. (Win ♦A then lead a club honour off dummy)

"Heads I win, tails I break even"

There is a little used Law that allows a player to partially recover from forgetting system. If I open 2♦, thinking it's weak, then instantly (before partner alerts!) remember we are playing Benjamin Twos, the Laws (currently) say that I can have my bid

back and the auction proceeds normally! However, the **best** I can do on the board now is to **lose 3 IMPs**.

This happened in a Youth game. North misbid, said "Bugger" and got his bid back. The Director told the table about the "lose 3 IMPs at best" clause but *kids never listen*. Anyway, N-S bid to 5♥ and EW saved in 5♠x. When this can back to the 5♠x bidder, he thought "We've got 3 IMPs no matter. What the hell, I'll redouble and try for more."

This turned -500 into -1000, which they found they had to keep. The Director deemed himself at fault for not explaining issues like split scores and gave them back their -500.

Timetable – at NSWBA

Interstate Teams

(Open/Women/Seniors/Youth)
Sun - Wed 10.30, 2.45, 8pm

Interstate Finals

Thu **10am**, 2.45
Vugraph at 7.30

then, at Masonic Centre

Interstate Pairs (5 categories)

Fri 10.30 & 2.30

Victory Dinner

Fri 7.30

Stage 1 Butler

Sat 30th 10am, **then tba**
Sun 10am

Stage 3 finishes Friday 5 Aug

Youth triathlon at NSWBA

5-7 August, Fri - Sun

Teams, Pairs then Individual!

World Youth Championships

7-17 August

at Olympic Park Homebush

Wednesday's matches

First-named team is Home and has choice

Rd	time	tbl	Open	Seniors	Women's	Youth
12 (2/5)	10.30	1	ACT v Qld	SA v WA	Vic v ACT	Vic v SA
		2	Vic v NSW	NSW v Qld	Tas v Qld	Qld vs WA
		3	NT v SA	Tas v ACT	NSW bye	NSW v ACT
		4	WA v Tas	NT v Vic	SA v WA	
13 (2/6)	2.45	1	Vic v ACT	WA v NSW	ACT v Tas	SA v ACT
		2	NSW v Qld	SA v Qld	Vic v Qld	Qld v NSW
		3	SA v WA	ACT v NT	NSW v SA	Vic v WA
		4	NT v Tas	Vic v Tas	WA bye	
14 (2/7)	8pm	1	NSW v ACT	Qld v WA	Qld v ACT	SA v WA
		2	Qld v Vic	NSW v SA	Vic v Tas	ACT v Qld
		3	Tas v SA	Vic v ACT	NSW v WA	NSW v Vic
		4	WA v NT	NT v Tas	SA bye	

Support events – week 1

Wed	Willoughby	7.30
Thu	Double Bay	10am
	Kings & Queens	10am
	Willoughby	10.45
	Lindfield	11am

There is a \$200 prize for the top score out of the four Thursday games. Scored across the field.