

Decimal points: Some off-venue readers of the Bulletin have asked about the decimals in the scores. I know you can find the answer in the supplementary regulations but that's a bit like the Vogons expecting people to inspect the plans for the hyper-space by pass in the planning office at Alpha Centauri. Basically, if a team wins or loses by 30 imps or less the $\mathrm{vps}=$ the imps. If the margin is 31 or more, the imps are $30+1 / 10$ of each imp above 30 . A win or loss of 31 therefore translates to + or -30.1 . The maximum score for a win is +32.5 (in other words winning margins are not counted beyond 55 imps ) and a maximum loss is -35 (in other words you cut your losses after 65 imps down). The aim is to stop freak results having too large an impact on the contest.

Day Three and then there was one- unbeaten-with the ACT still dominating the Open . Victoria had strong results today to take the lead in the Seniors and SA and NSW were strong improvers in the Open and Women's events respectively. For many teams though it looks as though the dream may be over for another year. As Roy and HG would say they are playing for pride and to set an example for the kiddies at home-but could still influence the result. Qld has been struggling in the Open but have got the closest so far to the ACT team-and there is not as much difference between the teams as the current scoreboard might suggest.

| ANC Open Teams after S9 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | S7 | S8 | S9 | TOTAL |
| ACT | +30.9 | +32.3 | +9 | 230.4 |
| SA | +30.9 | - 5 | +32.5 | 147.9 |
| NSW | +5 | +32.1 | +10 | 130.4 |
| Vic | -30.9 | +32.5 | -14 | 7.1 |
| Tas | -5 | + 5 | -10 | -42.3 |
| WA | +30.5 | -33.1 | +14 | -59.6 |
| Qld | -30.9 | -33 | -9 | -188.9 |
| NT | -30.5 | -32.3 | -33.1 | -231.3 |
| ANC Seniors Teams after S9 |  |  |  |  |
|  | S7 | S8 | S9 | TOTAL |
| Vic | +16 | +20 | +30.6 | 127.8 |
| ACT | Bye | Bye | +31.7 | 112.7 |
| SA | +31.5 | +32.4 | +32.5 | 108.3 |
| NSW | +14 | -20 | Bye | 57.4 |
| Qld | -16 | +20 | -30.6 | -53.2 |
| Tas | -14 | -20 | -33.2 | -162.9 |
| WA | -31.5 | -32.4 | -31.7 | -193.5 |


| ANC Women's Teams after S9 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | S7 | S8 | S9 | TOTAL |
| Qld | +19 | +14 | +30 | 137.1 |
| NSW | +21 | +30.7 | +32.5 | 80.1 |
| NT | +31.1 | -25 | +28 | 58.7 |
| ACT | -19 | -13 | +31.7 | 33.7 |
| WA | -21 | +25 | -33.8 | -5.4 |
| Tas | +14 | -30.7 | -31.7 | -74.5 |
| Vic | -14 | +13 | -30 | -74.6 |
| SA | -31.1 | -14 | -28 | -156.9 |
| ANC Youth Teams after S9 |  |  |  |  |
|  | S7 |  | S9 | TOTAL |
| Vic | +23 | -5 | 22 | 122.5 |
| NSW | +31.4 | -1 | Bye | 59.7 |
| SA | Bye | +5 | -19 | -23.7 |
| ACT | -23 | +1 | +19 | -37.7 |
| WA | -31.3 | Bye | -22 | -153.4 |

## Eye on Youth Bridge (2) by Leigh Matheson

Rhys Cooper (16 yrs old) from WA produced a fine defensive play in Session 6 on Board 19. See if you can match it.


Bidding: $\mathrm{N} \quad \mathrm{E} \quad \mathrm{S} \quad \mathrm{W}$

| 1 H | 1 S | P | P |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 C | P | 3 NT | All Pass |

The lead was the $\downarrow$. East won the $\bullet \mathrm{A}$ and returned a diamond. Declarer played the $\diamond \mathrm{J}$ losing to West. What card do you play next?

| Board 19 | AQ6 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dealer N | $\checkmark$ AJ974 |  |
| E-W Vul | - |  |
|  | *AKQ53 |  |
| A 3 |  | A AJT72 |
| $\checkmark$ Q3 |  | $\checkmark$ KT86 |
| - T6542 |  | - 3 |
| ¢9762 |  | \& J |
|  | AK9854 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 52$ |  |
|  | - K |  |
|  | ¢T84 |  |

From here there are a few defences that defeat the contract as the cards lie, but Rhys managed the strongest play. He reasoned that the best chance of defeating this contract was to find partner with $\operatorname{KTx}(\mathrm{x})$ in hearts. However, if he leads the $\vee$ Q, declarer will take the Ace and Rhys will never get in again to lead another heart.

Thus Rhys played the THREE of hearts. After this fine play, declarer has no way of avoiding the loss of two heart tricks.

Leigh also wrote yesterday's Eye on Youth Bridge and more to come.

An anonymous contributor, possibly from the Northern Territory, has rightly drawn our attention to the performance of the NT Women in the Butler and pairs events. In addition to Therese Demarco and Rosemary Mooney's national title, all four pairs in the Butler reached stage 2 and Jodi Tutty and Cathy Warthold reached Stage 3. The NT teams extend a warm (literally) welcome to all players to visit Darwin in September for the Territory Gold competition.

## d'bronss

One of our restaurant sponsors is D'Browes restaurant in Narrabundah. Not far from Manuka or Kingston, 'Browes contemporises traditional dining at its best - candle-lit tables, crisp linen and designer decor, combined with the finest food from Asia to Europe.

This restaurant is a return to the good old days of simple style and sophisticated dishes. Why not make a booking on 62956990 . If you like lamb shanks they are among the best in Canberra!


Lerida Estate wines are a main sponsor at this year's ANC. It is located close to Canberra on a picturesque site adjacent to Lake George on the road to Sydney. The winery was designed by world renowned architect Glenn Murcutt.

Lerida produces trophy and medal winning wines including its well known chardonnay, pinot gris and shiraz viognier. There is a Cellar Door and on the weekends Café Lerida is open for lunch. Visit their website

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## The Swing Boards

As in previous days, some boards in sessions 7 and 8 produced noticeable swings in a majority of matches. If you got it wrong (or right) you were in very good company.

Board 1 of S7 was a good example of those innocuous looking part-score swings that mount up over a match.

| Dealer: North Nil vul | AK532 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\checkmark$ A975 |  |
|  | - Q53 |  |
|  | \&A5 |  |
| ^8 |  | AAQT7 |
| $\checkmark$ KQT |  | $\checkmark$ J84 |
| - JT92 |  | -K76 |
| ¢JT964 |  | \&Q72 |
|  | A J964 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 632$ |  |
|  | - A84 |  |
|  | \&K83 |  |

This produced swings every time but one it was played. Sometimes just a couple of imps but quite a few handy fives and fours. Depending on whether NS were in 1NT making or going off,
$2 \uparrow$ not making, $3 \diamond$ by East making and $3 *$ making or going off.

On Board 11 of S7, it was very rare for both EWs to bid the diamond slam, creating a lot of big swings.

| Dealer: South Nil vul | AT762 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\checkmark$ J65 |  |
|  | -82 |  |
|  | ¢J952 |  |
| A K4 |  | A A85 |
| $\checkmark$ K987 |  | $\checkmark 42$ |
| - AQ53 |  | - KJT964 |
| $\because A K Q$ |  | ¢83 |
|  | AQJ93 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AQT3 |  |
|  | -7 |  |
|  | \&T764 |  |

On Board 16 of S7, bidding 3NT on the unprepossessing 24 point holding was the key to a good or no-loss board but was bid by both E-Ws
in only four matches. A surprising number of N $S$ vindicated the law of total tricks when playing at the two and three level in their seven card fits.

Board 20 of $\mathbf{S 8}$ seems to win the award for the most contracts played in the worst suit.

| Dealer: West <br> All vul | A J63 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - QJ7 |  |
|  | - KQJ |  |
|  | ¢AJ84 |  |
| A 8 |  | - AKQT |
| $\checkmark$ AT62 |  | $\checkmark$ K853 |
| - AT983 |  | -764 |
| \& KQ2 |  | \&T5 |
|  | ه97542 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 94$ |  |
|  | - 52 |  |
|  | \&9763 |  |

Twelve N-S pairs found a way of bidding their spade suit and playing at the two level. This prevented E-W getting to $4 \vee$ (which made most of the time) but, unfortunately, $2 \wedge X$ scored -800 . Interestingly though it was rare for the spade bidders to cancel each other. In almost all matches $4 \vee$ was pitted against $2 \wedge X$ producing swings across the field.

Board 2 of S8 also saw big swings, which seem to depend on how good wests felt about their fine diamond suit.


A goodly number of E-Ws bid to $5 *$ rather than let N-S have their $4 \boldsymbol{A}$. From that point, their fate depended on the quality of the defence and was often ugly. Two N-S pairs chivalrously bid 5 a over 5 ; and in both cases E-W, just as chivalrously doubled them in their making contracts.

