

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009



Daily Bulletin

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From the President

The ABF congratulates the Bridge Federation of the ACT and Lyn Turner on the success of the 70th Australian Bridge Championship. Lyn was supported by a dedicated committee working to ensure the event was a success.

This years' event was sponsored by Visit Canberra. I ask all 32,000 registered bridge players to access the Visit Canberra web site www.visitcanberra.com.au. The information will prove helpful in planning your trip to Canberra for the 2010 Summer Festival of Bridge. The Hellenic Club of Canberra and their staff have been excellent in assisting players and organisers.



I trust all participants have wonderful memories of the 2009 ANC and the generous hospitality. There has been some talk of phasing out the ANC because of a lack of enthusiasm. I would charge you with the task of returning to your home state to "sell the event" as an important National event on the Bridge calendar. The battle cry should be Hobart in 2010 !

Keith Mc Donald.
President (ABF)

Open Teams Round Robin

1.	ACT	308.5
2.	SA	212.7
3.	NSW	174.8
4.	Tas	28.6
5.	Vic	-2.7
6.	WA	-121.6
7.	Qld	-269.5
8.	NT	-341.3

Women's Teams Round Robin

1.	Qld	161.1
2.	NT	76
3.	NSW	21.1
4.	WA	19.6
5.	ACT	18.7
6.	Tas	-32.8
7.	Vic	-73.9
8.	SA	-191.6

Seniors Teams Round Robin

1.	ACT	173.4
2.	SA	169.3
3.	Vic	101.8
4.	NSW	52.3
5.	Qld	-88.4
6.	WA	-185.4
7.	Tas	-226.4

Youth Teams Round Robin

1.	Vic	165.6
2.	NSW	124.7
3.	ACT	-13.9
4.	SA	-19
5.	WA	-262.2



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 at www.leridaestate.com.

The logo for d'browes features the brand name in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' in "browes" is stylized with a yellow-to-orange gradient.

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!

It seemed like a good idea at the time

by David Hoffman

S9 Board 13 Dealer North Vul both

♠Q9843	A2
♥6	AJ82
♦AQ9	8632
♣Q752	A96

Having bid 1NT-2H-2S as EW, I received the ♥K lead. This is a standard duck at NTs (Bath Coup). It seemed OK to do the same here as the ♥A would allow a diamond discard later. As well, it may have been difficult for South not to play partner for the ♥A.

However, on the diamond switch, to the Queen and King, a diamond was returned, ruffed by South. On the heart return, I won with the Jack

(so my duck gave me two hearts as I hoped). Unfortunately Ace and another spade produced two winners for North.

South then made no mistake in discards to make the last trick with a heart, beating the contract.

The full hand was

♠Q9843	♠KJ76
♥6	♥97
♦AQ9	♦KJT75
♣Q752	♣43
	♠A2
	♥AJ82
	♦8632
	♣A96
	♠T5
	♥KQT543
	♦4
	♣KJT8

Next year it's Hobart's turn

July 15th to July 31st 2010 at Wrest Point

And before that—the Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs and “The Mercury” Australian Swiss Pairs Championship—1st to 4th October 2009 Launceston

Thanks to Keith McNeil

by Richard Hills

Keith McNeil directed Australian Bridge's Bidding Forum for a record twenty years. Keith reluctantly admitted that negative doubles had some utility at matchpoint pairs, since using a negative double to find a 4-4 fit and then scoring +110 is worth many more matchpoints than not having that toy available and therefore scoring a mere +100.

But at imps scoring Keith was of the firm opinion that penalty doubles were vastly superior to negative doubles.

After eight of the nine matches in the Burley Griffin Teams, the Hills team (Richard Hills, Hashmat Ali, Peter Kahler, Stephen Mendick) led the Grenside team (Richard Grenside, Roy Nixon, Ian Robinson, Arjuna De Livera, Chris Quail) by the narrow margin of 2 VPs, with the rest of the field nowhere.

The two teams clashed in the final round view-graph match, watched by thousands of screaming fans (actually merely interrupted by the stentorian voice of Eric Ramshaw in the next room). This was the decisive board:

Burley Griffin Teams, Match 9, Board 23

Dlr: South; Vul: Both

	Hills	
	♠J52	
	♥QJ	
	♦AKJ9	
	♣QT43	
Quail		De Livera
♠KQ6		♠T98743
♥T63		♥854
♦62		♦T8
♣AKJ96		♣52
	Ali	
	♠A	
	♥AK972	
	♦Q7543	
	♣87	

At most tables South opened 1H, West overcalled 2C and North bid the "obvious" 3NT for +660. However....

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Chris Quail	Richard Hills	Arjuna De Livera	Hashmat Ali
---	---	---	1H
2C	X (1)	Pass	Pass
Pass			

(1) penalty double

After the king of diamonds opening lead, I switched to the ♥Q, then continued with the ♥J, which was overtaken by Hashmat's king. Hashmat now cashed the ♠A before leading a diamond back to my jack.

Following a spade ruff Hashmat led back a suit-preference ♥9, forcing me to ruff Chris's ten. After I gave Hashmat a second spade ruff, Hashmat cunningly gave a ruff-and-discard in hearts, just in case my penalty double had been based on jack-fourth in clubs rather than the actual queen-fourth in clubs, in which case the ruff-and-discard was necessary for a trump promotion.

+1100 and 10 imps to the good guys, thanks to the sage advice of the late great Keith McNeil.



Eye on Youth Bridge:

By Leigh Matheson

In the latter stages of the final round robin, Vic 1 = 10-12 and NSW looked to be locked into the finals. 2 = any single suiter NSW were keen to wipe off the deficit in Session 11, but standing in their way was SA, who won by 15imps. Alex Dunbar (17) and Jarrad Dunbar (18) from SA produced a neat defence on Board 8, contributing to their win over NSW.

Dealer: East	Leigh Matheson	Alex Dunbar	Jarrad Dunbar	Erin Tewes
Nil vul	♠83	♠T	♠AQJ	♠K9764
	♥Q984	♥T	♥-	♥-
	♦A62	♦JT9543	♦87	♦KQ
	♣K872	♣-	♣T65	♣Q
	Alex Dunbar	Jarrad Dunbar		
	♠T5	♠AQJ2		
	♥AKT3	♥62		
	♦JT9543	♦87		
	♣3	♣AJT65		
	Erin Tewes			
	♠K9764			
	♥J75			
	♦KQ			
	♣Q94			

N	E	S	W	
		INT ¹	P	
P	2C ²	2S	X	All pass

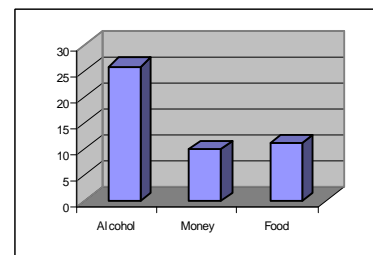
The lead was ♥A. The defence was brutal ♥A, ♥K, heart ruff, ♣A, club ruff. West was now on lead.

Alex realised the potential of his remaining ten of trumps. He led his 4th heart, which Jarrad (who also realised the potential of their trumps) ruffed with the Ace in order to return a club. Declarer was now 3 down for -500.

The Survey

The Form Guide Questionnaire we published most days gave us some valuable information about the various teams.

The first was the best method of bribery. The clear message to all would-be match fixers was that there was no need to involve escort agencies. Sex was of interest to only 1.5% of players. We are getting old. Effective bribery means a good cellar. Red wine was the alcohol of choice with malt a long way behind and beer even further.



We were also trying to resolve the age old question of which star signs make the better bridge players. The data clearly showed that Librans are 400% more likely than Taurans to make a representative team—bridge clubs clearly owe a duty of care to Taurans (and to a lesser extent Aries) to inform them before taking their money that the odds are heavily against their being much good. The other top signs were Aquarius and Capricorn. Leos were about in the middle of the rankings, which is surprising considering how they are the most talented, worthy and creative of all the groups. It is partly that they do things like edit Bulletins rather than play—but it is also likely that most of those who did not respond were Leos as they are least likely of all the groups to believe in this claptrap.