

Australian National Bridge Championships 2015



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Optional Minor Suit Keycard

By Chris Mulley

Whilst kibitzing Ron and Rhys Cooper in Round 13 of Stage 2 of the Open Butler, they employed a convention that I have not seen employed outside of Western Australia: Optional Minor Suit Keycard. As I feel that it is an excellent convention worthy of wider use, I thought I'd give an exposition of it.

Minor Suit Keycard is the use of four of the agreed minor as Roman Keycard. With Optional Minor Suit Keycard, the person answering the bid has the option of bidding the first step to "reverse the ask", so the original asker reveals the number of Keycards. This permits the Keycard position to be known to the person who is in the best position to then determine whether or not twelve tricks are available if two Keycards are not missing.

In my opinion, this is an incredibly useful addition. One of the drawbacks of Minor Suit Keycard is that it often occurs so early in an auction that the partnership still has no real certainty of whether there are uncontrolled suits or whether there will be enough tricks for slam. Furthermore, it means that opposite an unlimited partner, you can happily bid 4m on the way to game, knowing that if partner has significant extras and is looking for slam, (s)he can bid the step and ask you for Keycards. Otherwise, (s)he will show you Keycards and you will just sign off in game (as you have no slam interest).

Here's a simple uncontested auction so that you can see how it works:

1♠ 2♦ (GF)
3♦ 4♦

There are two types of hands which might choose to bid 4♦ here. It could be a strong hand wanting to know Keycards for diamonds (as would be appropriate for normal Minor Suit Keycard) or it could be a hand which knows diamonds is the right strain, but is catering for opener wanting to find out Keycards for slam. So, give opener KQJxxx Kx AQJx x and he will happily bid 4♥, reversing the ask, as (s)he can place the contract once the Keycard position is known. If, on the other hand, Opener has AJxxx Kx Qxxx Ax, (s)he will bid 5♦ (2 + the Queen) and leave responder in control of the auction.

Speaking with Ron Cooper after the set, Ron told me that he thinks that it was originally the invention of Peter Rogers and Alida Clark. Certainly I have seen it played by them, as well as Ron, Henry Christie and John Ashworth. It seems a clear improvement over ordinary Minor Suit Keycard.



Thank You

- our very generous sponsors
- Bulletin contributors
- Bulletin Editor
- the Tournament Unit
- volunteers
- players
- ANC Committee
- the staff at the Esplanade Hotel

John Hughes ANC Swiss Pairs



1st Trevor FULLER and Gerry DALY with
Tournament Organizer Sheenagh Young



4th Christy GEROMBOUX and Sebastian YUEN



2nd Bill NASH and James WALLIS



Linda COLI with Mt Romance sponsor Deana
WILSON



3rd Renee COOPER and Johnno NEWMAN

BEST RESTRICTED PAIR:

Linda COLI and Rose MOORE

BEST COUNTRY PAIR:

Marjorie ASKEW and William POWELL



TBIB Butler Pairs – Stage 2

After Round 15

OPEN

	Pair	%
1	Justin HOWARD - Tony NUNN	211.98
2	Terry BROWN - Ron KLINGER	190.92
3	Ron COOPER - Rhys COOPER	187
4	Gabi LORENTZ - Stephen BURGESS	184.4
5	Elizabeth ADAMS - Andrew PEAKE	169.74
6	Nigel ROSENDORFF - Andrew MARKOVICS	168.38
7	Joachim HAFFER - Robert SEBESFI	160.03
8	David APPLETON - Peter REYNOLDS	159.13
9	Margaret BOURKE - George KOZAKOS	157.65
10	Pauline GUMBY - Warren LAZER	156.66
11	Hugh GROSVENOR - Ann PATON	153.21
12	Julian FOSTER - David WESTON	151.96
13	Ian ROBINSON - Andrew BRAITHWAITE	150.09
14	John YANG - Eileen LI	145.38
15	Will JENNER-O'SHEA - Mike DOECKE	142.86
16	Kitty MUNTZ - Leigh GOLD	140.78
17	Kevin STEFFENSEN - Neville FRANCIS	128.17
18	Tony HUTTON - Malcolm CARTER	125.05
19	Dave MUNRO - Pim BIRSS	107.91
20	Tim MUNRO - Michael GEARING	64.91

WOMEN'S

	Pair	%
1	Jenny THOMPSON - Eva CAPLAN	195.3
2	Marilyn CHADWICK - Toni SHARP	189.71
3	Shizue FUTAESAKU - Jane REYNOLDS	186.77
4	Leone FULLER - Val BILTOFT	183.23
5	Cynthia BELONOGOFF - Judy MOTT	180.64
6	Inez GLANGER - Marcia SCUDDER	177.5
7	Paula MCLEISH - Pele RANKIN	176.53
8	Doreen JONES - Catherine HOOD	173.61
9	Deborah FRANKEL - Deidre GREENFELD	170.83
10	Annabel BOOTH - Lauren SHIELS	164.97
11	Frances LYONS - Heather CUSWORTH	162.25
12	Jeannette COLLINS - Dianne MARLER	160.72

13	Val HOPWOOD - Di HAWKE	152.76
14	Nazife BASHAR - Kinga MOSES	148.6
15	Vivian ZOTTI - Therese GARBUTT	137.42
16	Carolyn MILLER - Janeen SOLOMON	136.21
17	Jan BLIGHT - Linda BEDFORD-BROWN	124.98
18	Shira SHILBURY - Pauline HAMMOND	119.65
19	Janet KAHLER - Gwen GRAY JAMIESON	117.81
20	Cassie MORIN - Elizabeth MCNEILL	85.36

TBIB Seniors' Butler Pairs

	Pair	%
1	Therese TULLY - Richard WALLIS	201.35
2	Bruce NEILL - Simon HINGE	193.58
3	Roy NIXON - Bernard WATERS	177.31
4	Peter KAHLER - Niek VAN VUCHT	174.12
5	Ross HARPER - Paul LAVINGS	172.3
6	George BILSKI - Nicky STRASSER	170.58
7	Liz QUITTNER - Joe QUITTNER	166.08
8	Martin BLOOM - Peter GILL	165.76
9	Di BROOKS - John WIGNALL	163.54
10	Frank VEARING - Jo-Anne HEYWOOD	159.94
11	Richard GRENSIDE - Sue GRENSIDE	149.15
12	Margaret GIBBS - Richard COOKE	147.86
13	Normand MACLAURIN - Michael DRAPER	147.56
14	Tirza COHEN - Bruce MAGUIRE	145.3
15	Connie SCHOUTROP - Terence O'DEMPSEY	142.53
16	Bev CROSSMAN - Bruce CROSSMAN	140.78
17	Ken ANDERSON - Lindy ANDERSON	132.6
18	Geoffrey NORRIS - Pat KENNEDY	132.48
19	Stella STEER - James STEER	131.31
20	Frances THOMPSON - Ken SMITH	131.13
21	Martin BROOME - Valerie BROOME	122.7
22	David SARTEN - Susanne SARTEN	117.12
23	Tony MARTIN - Philip OLDERSHAW	108.74
24	Joanna TENNYSON - Jennifer BANDY	104.13
25	David DALE - Ian BAILEY	103.39

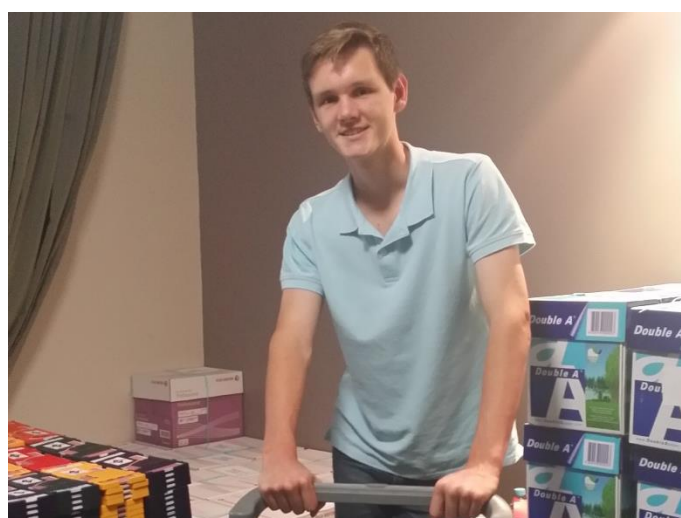
John Hughes ANC Swiss Pairs

	Pair	%
1	Trevor FULLER - Gerry DALY	201.84
2	Bill NASH - James WALLIS	190.3
3	Renee COOPER - Johnno NEWMAN	188.58
4	Sebastian YUEN - Christy GEROMBOUX	179.52
5	Marjorie ASKEW - William POWELL	177.4
6	Marlene WATTS - Michael PRESCOTT	175.49
7	David BEAUCHAMP - Viv WOOD	175.12
8	Sue O'BRIEN - Paul COLLINS	173.47
9	Felicity SMYTH - Jeff TRAVIS	171.02
10	Daniel GEROMBOUX - Daryl WHITFIELD	169.83
11	Beata BIEGANSKI - Tad BIEGANSKI	169.03
12	Bruce FRASER - Chris BAGLEY	165.46
13	Ken WILKS - Rosalie BROUGHTON	162.78
14	Eva SAMUEL - Peter HOLLANDS	161.87
15	Mimi PACKER - Jonathan FREE	161.77
16	John BEDDOW - Egmont MELTON	161
17	Chris KNIGHT - Mark GODDARD	159.93
18	Mary JOHNSTON - Laurie MONEY	159.38
19	Fiske WARREN - Maura RHODES	158.73
20	Moss WYLIE - Nick JACOB	158.62
21	Rosalind TREND - Alan HARROP	156.85
22	Frank FIKKE - Dave PARHAM	156.43
23	Do DEAN - Susan SZABO	154.6
24	Ros WARNOCK - Valerie ISLE	154.21
25	Allayne GRAY - Keith WIGNALL	150.79
26	Eugene WICHEMS - Alan DUNDAS	150
27	Carol FENSOME - Christine JENKINS	149.75
28	Peter GILL - Bill SYMONS	146.64
29	Ann YOUNGS - Dave SLOAN	145.74
30	Sue INGHAM - Michael WILKINSON	145.27
31	Rose MOORE - Linda COLI	144.99
32	Richard FOX - Susanne GAMMON	142.42
33	Deana WILSON - Kate SMITH	140.64
34	Nigel DUTTON - Marie-France MERVEN	139.14
35	Elizabeth COOKE - Bridget COOKE	139.06
36	Annette MALUISH - Andrew MILL	138.95
37	Sheelagh DUPONT - Alfred DUPONT	138.8
38	Robin PATERSON - Marie MUSITANO	138.02
39	Zachary NEULINGER - Kirstyn FULLER	136.87

40	Jo SKLARZ - Jane HENDERSON	136.63
41	Penny STYLES - Suzanne ATWELL	136.18
42	Steven ROGOYSKY - Hugh PROBERT	134.35
43	Pamela SMITH - Judith SELLECK	134.09
44	David KININMONTH - John EWING	133.66
45	Sandy SUTTON-MATTOCKS - Don SUTTON-MATTOCKS	133.33
46	Chris WELLS - Helene KOLOZS	131.52
47	Robert WYLIE - Merleine WYLIE	131.24
48	Gwyneira BRAHMA - Jessica CHEW	121.91
49	Debbie CHAPPELL - Helen COOK	116.63
50	Marion JEFFERSON - Brenda EVANS	104.54
51	Julie SHORT - Debra PRENDIVILLE	100.7
52	Max HAVERCROFT - Brian KAYE	97.52



ANC Caddies Angus YOUNG and Gary HOOYKAAS with Tournament Unit Manager Hilary YOVICH



Joshua LINDSAY

