

Sunday 21 August

## Three-quarter time

Nicely clear and unbeaten after six rounds are Victorians Phillip FENT, Stan KLOFA, Robert GALLUS \& Robert STEWART.
They play Ervin OTVOSI, Jeremi STEPINSKI, Tony NUNN \& Kennet CHRISTIANSEN this morning.
Robert HURST, Rowan CORBETT, Val CARMODY \& Rhonda THORPE continue to lead the Restricted.

## Yesterday's slams

The online results from Matt McManus are great for editors. I quickly found out that 10 pairs attempted that 7a and all failed. (In the open field at least. Tony \& Kelela Allen made it in the Restricted)
This is how you might do it:


| + 104 |
| :---: |
| $\checkmark 98652$ |
| $\diamond 8$ |
| 2 109873 |

It's not tough on a club lead. You fly ace, unblock $\vee A$, cross to a trump, ruff a heart, back to hand in trumps to ruff $\triangle Q$ with dummy's last trump.
Then back to $\diamond Q$ to run the trumps, pitching clubs from dummy. North is squeezed in the minors, as they say.
You might do the same on a heart lead, though it's more appealing to test diamonds after taking the heart ruffs, then take the club finesse. Unlucky.
A trump or diamond lead makes it very tough. You lack the entries to ruff two hearts, then squeeze North. Instead you ruff one heart only, cash \& A en route, then run trumps. This

Editors: Nick \& Will

bizarre play reduces you to 11 tricks. However, there is a repeating triple squeeze on North in this ending:

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E/Both
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~K
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~K
\diamondJ974
\diamondJ974
\& K
\& K

| $\Delta 5$ | $\Delta A K$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\nabla-$ | $\nabla Q$ |
| $\diamond A K 106$ | $\diamond 5$ |
| $\Delta 6$ | $\$ Q J$ |

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Declarer has just four top tricks but cashing the two trumps forces North to give up two tricks. I would be a little suspicious if anyone had found that line.

Voids add a randomizing element to slam bidding. Few pairs reached the right slam here:
Match 4, Bd 22
E/EW \&Q9754
『 87632
\(\diamond\) K 4
2 10
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{¢ K 86} & & A A 2 \\
\hline \(\bigcirc\) - & & & \(\checkmark\) A Q10 5 \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\(\diamond A Q 8\)} & & \(\diamond\) J 10632 \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{¢ AKQ6542} & & - 3 \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{\$ 103} \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{\(\bigcirc\) K J 94} \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{\(\diamond 975\)} \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{¢ J 987} \\
\hline WEST & NORTH & EAST & T SOUTH \\
\hline & & \(1 \diamond\) & no \\
\hline 23 & no & \(2 \diamond\) & no \\
\hline \(48^{\text {voidv}}\) & & etc & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{Modified datums - top 10}

1 R Gallus - R Stewart 134.4
2 R Speiser - P Mann 111.2
3 E Otvosi - J Stepinski 107.3
4 R Crichton - P Crichton 104.8
5 T Mangos - L Foran 95.6
6 T Nunn - K Christiansen 95.4
7 S Tishler - B Richman 92.7
8 F Dreyer - L Dreyer 88.9
9 D Beauchamp - M Watts 88.8
10 D Cartwright - J Feiler 79.3

Teams after 6 of 8 Rnds Open (80 teams)
\begin{tabular}{llll}
1 & 19 & FENT & 131 \\
2 & 4 & OTVOSI & 122 \\
3 & 7 & TISHLER & 116 \\
4 & 6 & TULLY & 115 \\
5 & 67 & ROSE & 113 \\
\(6=69\) & POTTS & 109 \\
\(6=28\) & HOOYKAAS & 109 \\
\(8=\) & 27 & GRAHAME & 107 \\
\(8=25\) & CRICHTON & 107 \\
\(8=3\) & DE LIVERA & 107 \\
\(11=43\) & PHILLIPS & 106 \\
\(11=1\) & GUE & 106
\end{tabular}

Restricted (38 teams)
129 HURST 117

227 HIRSCHHORN 113
3= 15 HERRING 108
\(3=6\) SCOTT 108
523 COLLINS 104
\(5=21\) SHORTER 104
\(5=3\) CAMPBELL 104
\(8=7 \quad\) BOLT 103
\(8=12\) SNOOK 103
10=11 LECKIE 99
10=19 FEATHERSTONE 99

Another good hand for Exclusion Blackwood. If \(4 \bigcirc\) asks for keycards outside hearts, it's perfect.
West wants to be in \(7 \diamond\) opposite \(\wedge\) \(\& \diamond \mathrm{~K}\). As it is, \(6 \diamond\) is the only making slam. Many Wests put faith in their 7-card suit and paid out to the 4-1 break with \(\diamond K\) offside. Unlucky.
George Bilski played 6NT/E on a diamond lead. North won \(\diamond K\) and switched to a heart to declarer's ace.
6NT can make now. Just run the diamonds then take the spade finesse. The last spade squeezes South.
However, George had no reason to think that clubs weren't breaking so shunned the spade finesse and relied on clubs.

The last bulletin issue will be on the net only, Monday morning.

\section*{Teams (8 x 14 bds)}

Sun 10am Teams 7\&8
Prize-giving
Finish at 2.30


Here's one of our typical efforts with voids:


Not bad on a trump lead. 2-2 trumps or the heart finesse so \(70 \%\). Oh well.

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Match 3, Bd 12
W/NS Q Q10
~A8742
\diamond 8764
* J2

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WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1NT no 3NT end

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A good spot, doomed on the heart lead. The first trick usually went ®2-J-Q-K. When South grabs \(\diamond A\), it's all over.

Peter Gill made it. He crossed to \(\uparrow \mathrm{A}\) at trick 2 to lead \(\diamond J\). This seemed like a finesse to South so he smoothly played low for -400.
Okay, one more slam:

\section*{Match 5, Bd 3}

S/EW 54
- QJ 865
\(\diamond\) QJ53
\& K J
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline د J762 & & ¢ K 93 \\
\hline \(\bigcirc 104\) & & - K 93 \\
\hline \(\diamond 8642\) & & \(\diamond 7\) \\
\hline * 976 & & Q10 8532 \\
\hline & ¢ AQ10 8 & \\
\hline & \(\bigcirc\) A 72 & \\
\hline & \(\diamond\) AK 109 & \\
\hline & - A 4 & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

South's hand looks to be worth around 23 points, so too strong for 2NT. After 2\& and a positive, it's normal to reach slam.
\(6 \bigcirc \& 6 \diamond\) aren't great of course but optimistic hand evaluation is usually rewarded.
Did you avoid 3NT here:
Match 5, Bd 14
E/Nil \(\quad\) K3
- K 32
\(\diamond A K 1084\)
\& K 107
- \(A 84\)
\(\checkmark\) AQ854 \(\quad \vee 10976\)
\(\diamond 532\)
* 53 \& Q 96

4 Q9652
\(\odot \mathrm{J}\)
\(\diamond\) QJ 6
\& A842
\begin{tabular}{llll} 
WEST & NORTH & EAST & SOUTH \\
& & no & no \\
18 & 1 NT & 28 & 34 \\
No & \(?\) & &
\end{tabular}

A bit crude to bid 3NT now, hoping for nine running tricks. East-West have pointed the way, so take your chances in the 5-2 fit.

\section*{Cofis Harbour Bridge Club}
\begin{tabular}{||r|r|r|r|r|}
\hline \multicolumn{5}{|c|}{ Team-wrecker Datums } \\
\hline & R3 & R4 & R5 & R6 \\
\hline \(1 / 15\) & -190 & -20 & -250 & 320 \\
\hline \(2 / 16\) & -110 & 150 & 230 & -90 \\
\hline \(3 / 17\) & -510 & 570 & 630 & 50 \\
\hline \(4 / 18\) & 40 & -20 & 120 & -370 \\
\hline \(5 / 19\) & -140 & 60 & -210 & 470 \\
\hline \(6 / 20\) & 50 & -120 & 70 & -70 \\
\hline \(7 / 21\) & 1010 & 670 & 60 & -410 \\
\hline \(8 / 22\) & 60 & -240 & 660 & -110 \\
\hline \(9 / 23\) & -30 & 640 & 50 & -120 \\
\hline \(10 / 24\) & -630 & 30 & -70 & -30 \\
\hline \(11 / 25\) & -50 & -1350 & -450 & 340 \\
\hline \(12 / 26\) & -90 & -340 & 620 & -1200 \\
\hline \(13 / 27\) & -620 & -310 & -460 & 170 \\
\hline \(14 / 28\) & -50 & 60 & 170 & 100 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}```

