



NOT NEWS

1999

Editor: Peter Jamieson

Assistant Editors: Amy Scudder and Sheena Larsen-Jury

Welcome

by John Scudder
Convener

It is pleasing to see a lot of familiar faces returning to enjoy themselves at the premier bridge event in the southern hemisphere. I hope that my staff will make your stay in Canberra something very special.

Today is the premiere of new event on the calendar of the Summer Festival, the Bridge Buffs Open Teams which has been generously sponsored by Bridge Buffs, the professional bridge agency. My thanks go to Penny Crittle & Dena Blackman for their involvement in this new venture. This event is designed to provide an outlet for those bridge players who are unable to meet the qualifications of the traditional events. An early contender for the name of the event was the middle age spread, too old for the youth events and too young for the seniors.

Following their success in 1998, Bridge Buffs have provided the partnership service for the Summer Festival again this year. My thanks go to Prue Lawford for arranging partnerships for you.

The schedule has been altered this year, moving the Mixed Pairs from being the last event to being run concurrently with the Australian Open Pairs. The same boards are played in both events thus allowing some interesting comparisons as you partake of the splendid restaurants around Canberra. I hope that players who in the past have come for the first three days of the Festival might spend another day in Canberra and take the opportunity of playing in this event. The Flighted Pairs has also been moved from its traditional time spot to this coming Saturday evening. This is designed to cater for those players arriving from the far-flung parts of the nation for the SWPT who like a friendly warm-up game on Saturday Night.

Changing the schedule has meant a change in venue for two events, the AOP will now be played in the function rooms of the Hyatt and the National Swiss Pairs will take over the ballroom at Rydges. Please make sure that you turn up at the correct venue.

On the Friday evening after the completion of the SWPT the ACT Bridge Association is organising a Vu-Graph featuring the winners of the Grand Slam Trophy. Some of Australia's leading players will be there to entertain you as you enjoy the delights of Mario's Deli. Why not stay another night in Canberra, organise a leisurely dinner with friends and then roll up for the Vu-Graph. At this function all members of the 16 teams in the NOT will be introduced to you. Then you will be able to put a face to the names of the players reported in Australian Bridge doing those unbelievable things with the cards.

I hope that you have collected your satchels from the hard working Caddies. Being a new venture I anticipate some congestion in this area with hundreds of players all wanting their satchels in the thirty minutes before play starts, so please be patient. In the satchels you will find two Summer Festival pens, they are for your use throughout the Festival. The new look scoring booklets will be on your table at the beginning of play, you need to keep them for the entire event. Each event will have its own specially designed score booklet. One design error has crept in, there is no total box for the millions of IMPs you are bound to score, you will just have to write your winning total in the margin. On the back is some useful information about this event and for the other ABF events in 1999.

The Hyatt Hotel is putting on a smorgasbord in the Promenade Café for the first five days of the Festival at

Field Sizes

as of 12th January

	This year	Last year
NWT	86	94
Seniors	61	54
Restricted	38	38
Mens Pairs	23	34

TIME TABLE (initial events)

National Women's Teams

13-17 January
at Rydges Canberra Hotel
Qualifying session times:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30

National Senior's Teams

13-15 January
at Hyatt Hotel Canberra
Session times:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30

National 0-149 Teams

13-15 January
at Hyatt Hotel Canberra
Session times:
Wed, Thurs 11.00, 3.00, 8.30
Fri 11.00, 3.00

Men's Pairs

Friday 15 January
at Rydges Canberra Hotel
Session times:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30

Walk-In Pairs

13th -17th January
at Rydges Canberra Hotel
Session Times for 13th-15th:
11.00, 3.00, 8.30
Times for 16th: 1.30
Times for 17th: 2.00, 7.30

Bridge Buffs Teams

13-14 January
at Rydges Canberra Hotel
Session Times: 11.00, 3.00, 8.30

the enticing price of \$20 per head. The Burley Griffin Restaurant at Rydges continues with its traditional buffet at \$17.50 per head, booking is essential for both restaurants. On Saturday the Burley Griffin is closed for a wedding but for this night only you can get the same fare in Bobby McGees.

This year the caddies have been kitted out in yellow polo shirts to make them more visible. When you need a board please look around for a yellow shirt, call "Caaaaddy!!" in the appropriate direction and finally put your hand up so that the caddies can find you. With the use of circles of six for a set of boards wherever possible in teams events this year the board movement should be smooth and the number of caddy calls limited. You will find that there are two colours of boards in play in each session, these colours alternate between circles. Please do not play a board which is of a different colour to the colour that you have been playing. This ensures that boards do not migrate from one circle to another causing a bank up of tables wanting the missing board.

The bulletin that you are now reading needs your support. When your partner does a brilliant thing at the table, write it up and hand it to one of the editorial staff (if your partner does not notice your brilliancy, then I guess you will just have to write it up yourself). The editorial staff have left contribution boxes at both venues, they can accept articles on floppy discs, on paper or by email. If you feel that you have not got time to write up partner's brilliancy, just jot down the salient facts and hand it to one of the editorial staff, they might expand it into an article for you or use it in a Column 8 (NOT) article. You know the style – Who bid 7NT missing all four Kings, finessed two of them successfully and then squeezed defenders for the last two tricks ... happens all the time at the Festival!

The staff of the two hotels are operating the buses that will transport you to and from the venues. This year they are running on a strict timetable of a bus leaving both the Hyatt and Rydges every ten minutes. The last bus is 20 minutes before session time and thirty minutes after session time. Please do not abuse this bus service, I rely on the hotel's goodwill to operate these buses and everyone would be in a

mess if this service were withdrawn. With a little bit of planning, you should be able to get to the other venue with plenty of time.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere within any venue for the Summer Festival. When you want to smoke you will have to venture outdoors. During the session be wary of the time that will be needed to light up.

I wish all contestant good luck over the coming days, may you meet old friends, make new friends and enjoy the bridge.

John Scudder
Convener



Opening lead Problem No.1

What do you lead as West against 7♦ after the following auction?

North	South
1♠	2♦
2♠	3♦
4♦	4♠
4NT	5♠
7♣	7♦

Your hand is:

♠ J
♥ K 7 5 2
♦ 10 8 3 2
♣ Q 9 6 4

Answer on Page Three!



Opening Lead Problem No. 2

You hold as West:

♠ K J 3
♥ A 8
♦ A 9 8 3
♣ Q 8 4 2

You open 1NT (12-14) at favourable vul, IMPS.

LHO (North) doubles, partner bids 2♠, RHO bids 3♥ and LHO's 4♥ completes the bidding.

It's your lead to 4♥ by South. Which card do you select and why?

Answer on Page Three!

ALERTING

All events at the 1999 Summer Festival of Bridge are subject to the ABF Alert Regulations as amended 1st May 1998. There is a summary of these regulations on page 15 of the information brochure for this Festival.

You may obtain a copy of the full ABF Alert Regulations from the Convener of this Festival, John Scudder. Also these regulations are posted prominently on noticeboards at each venue.

As an aid to memory here are some common bids that **DO NOT** require alerting:

- Doubles
- Any bid at the 4 level or higher
- any cue bid (includes bidding in suit shown but not actually bid by an opponent)
- opening bid of 2 of a suit where the *spoken suit is* guaranteed to be held and there is no promise of a second suit (ie 'standard' weak 2 or old fashioned Acol Two Bids or game forcing natural 2 bids).
- 1NT opening bids in the point range 11-18 which are natural and promise essentially balanced distribution and contain no suit information.

*But Note: if a 1NT opening can systemically contain a singleton, a 6 card major or a 7 card+ minor it **must be alerted**.*

Please note the following three matters which form part of the Alerting regulations: -

1. Alerting is compulsory - you cannot ask the opponents not to alert.
2. When partner makes an alertable call, say aloud ALERT and then circle the alertable call on the bidding pad.
3. It is your responsibility at the start of a round (match point or Swiss Pairs) or a teams match to inform your opponents of: your basic system, minimum suit lengths and strength of 1 bids, strength and style of 1NT opening, unusual 2 bids or 3 bids and strength and style of jump overcalls.

NB Editors comment: ***there is no excuse for not knowing the size of your opponents' 1NT opening and basic system before the first board of a round or match!***

(Answer to Opening Lead Problem No.1). This hand was written up in last years world championships in Lille, France and features Kim Del 'Monte.

'DEVIOUS DEL'MONTE DENIED'

♠ A K 10 6 5 2
♥ 8 4
♦ K 5
♣ A K 10

♠ J ♠ Q 9 7 3
♥ K 7 5 2 ♥ QJ109 6 3
♦ 10 8 3 2 ♦ 7
♣ Q 9 6 4 ♣ 7 5

♠ 8 4
♥ A
♦ A Q J 9 6 4
♣ J 8 3 2

West	North	East	South
Del'Monte	Moss	Hopkinson	Shenkin

1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Pass
Pass	4 ♦	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass
Pass	7 ♣	Pass
All Pass		

Brad Moss and Barnet Shenkin (USA) sailed into the excellent 7♦ on this board from the qualifying stage of the Vivendi Rosenblum. Knowing that the club honours had to be in dummy, Kim Del'Monte of Australia found the fine lead of the ♣9!

Barnet Shenkin, a former British international now resident in the States, won the ♣A drew four rounds of trumps, then played ace, king and another spade, ruffing. Next he led a low club towards the dummy and the four appeared.

'What are your leads?' he asked. 'I lead low from an honour and second highest from weak holdings,' was the reply, Barnet thought about that for a while and realised that if the ♣9 was a true card he had no chance of success as it would be from a doubleton. Finally, he decided to go with the odds by finessing the ten and when that held he could ruff another spade and claim his grand slam. At the other table the contract was ♣6 down one so bringing home the vulnerable grand was worth 20 IMPs to the Moss/Shenkin team.

Have you noticed that if Kim had led the ♣6 instead of the nine, and Judy

Hopkinson had co-operated by following to the first trick with the seven, the carding would have been consistent with the lead being from ♣9654? Now Barnet would really have had to be on form to get the position right."

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

Here is another interesting 7♦ contract from Lille, reported by Tony Gordon of the U.K.

'SEVENTH HEAVEN'

"In the semifinal of the Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup, the German team captained by Sabine Auken led the American team captained by Nadine Wood by 12 IMPs (64-52) at the three-quarter mark. However, the last quarter was mostly one-way traffic and Auken eventually triumphed by 50 IMPs to set up an all-European final against Maria Erhart's Austrian team.

On their way to winning the last set 48-10, Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim broke one of their own personal records. In the semifinal of the Venice Cup in Beijing, they had bid to 6♠ with spades being mentioned for the first time at the six-level. Early on in the final set they went one better.

Board 17. Nul Vul. Dealer North

♠ 8 7 6 5
♥ 10 6 5 4 2
♦ 9 5
♣ 6 2

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

♠ 9 3
♥ J 7
♦ J 7
♣ A 10 9 8 5 4 3

West	North	East	South
v. Arnim	Tornay	Auken	Lewis
	Pass	1 ♣	3 ♣
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	7 ♣	Pass
7 ♦	All Pass		

After Ellee Lewis had overcalled Auken's strong club opening with a

weak jump overcall in clubs, von Arnim's 3♥ was game forcing with spades and her subsequent 4♥ was natural. In response to 4NT she then showed one ace and a club void. That was enough for Auken to offer her partner a choice of major suit grand slams with her 7♣ bid.

However, von Arnim then showed that she had a further string to her bow when she introduced her diamonds for the first time at the seven-level. It took some time for the bidding tray to come back at this point as Auken had to decide if she, in turn, was being asked to choose between the majors. Eventually she decided that 7♦ was bound to be a good contract and duly passed. Claire Tornay led a heart, but there were no problems in the play and +1440 was worth 10 IMPs as Nadine Wood and Terry Michaels stopped in 6♠ in the other room.

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

Answer Opening Lead Problem No. 2

♠ A Q 5
♥ Q 10 5 3
♦ K Q 10
♣ A 10 3

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

♠ 9
♥ K J 9 7 2
♦ J 7 4 2
♣ J 6 5

This was Board 6 of the 1995 Venice Cup, Australia vs Great Britain.

Alida Clark for Australia found the killing lead of the 3♦ from her A983. Declarer won the K and played a trump. Alida grabbed A♥ and played Ace another diamond for her partner Sue Lusk to ruff. The defence still had a club trick to come for a satisfying +100.

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

Your Best Bid at the 1999 Festival is the \$22.50 Twilight Dinner at The Republic

Served perfectly between the afternoon and evening sessions from 5.30 to 7.30, Canberra's most modishly beautiful restaurant offers bridge delegates superb dinner value.

The offer: A special 2 course menu with a complimentary glass of wine - just \$22.50

The food: Mod-Oz with heaps of Style.

The atmosphere: Advance Australia Fair with designer looks.

The company: A popular haunt of politicians, visiting VIP's and Sydney-siders.

The verdict: 'You can dine here confidently in experienced hands' - Sydney Morning Herald '98

The location: Three minutes walk from the National Convention Centre. Just take the park walkway to Casino Canberra and continue through Allara Street. You'll find The Republic at 20 Allara Street, diagonally opposite the Capital Parkroyal Hotel. A short cab ride from the Hyatt or walk from Rydges Canberra.

Open: Monday to Saturday

Bookings: Recommended on (02) 62471717.

Also open for a la carte.

COLUMN 8 (NOT)

This is a new section intended for interesting or amusing items.

To keep this "column" moving each issue of NOT News this year will have some selected items about the History of Bridge.

These history selections have been taken from various sources including the Bridge Encyclopedia, Australian Bridge Magazine and from an article titled "The Origins & Annals of Bridge" in the 1982 IBPA Year Book, written at the request of the IBPA, by Douglas Carter.

1890 - 1910 Bridge Whist was played in many countries in this period. This was a blend of a card game called 'Biritch' and the English card game Whist.

1900 R F Foster published 'Fosters Bridge' - which was the same game as 'Biritch' with two minor differences in scoring. There was no competitive bidding and no vulnerability but there were 4 people in two partnerships and trump suits or no trumps.

1902-1905 Auction Bridge with its key element of competitive bidding began to develop (originally by members of the Indian Civil Service in Rampur-Baolia in Eastern Bengal thence to Bath, England) and this quickly superseded Bridge Whist. These Indian Civil Service players were credited with experimenting with transfer bids.

1910 The first official bidding convention - the informatory double of a 1NT opening was developed. This bid was created by Colonel Patton who was annoyed by the success of R F Foster's weak 1NT opening bids. The idea attracted Wibur C Whitehead, a leading American bridge teacher and writer who proceeded to develop the idea of doubling a suit bid for take-out.

BIDDING PROBLEMS

Here is a sample of the sort of story that would suit Column 8 (NOT)

This hand comes from the first National Open Teams in 1973 which appeared in the Daily Bulletin.

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

brightened up when the dummy came down and duly notched up +920 !

In another match the bidding went Pass, Pass, 1♣ by West, Double by North. East bid 1♠ - a two way bid showing 5-8 points and either ♣ intolerance and 6♣ or ♣ tolerance & ♠ lead director. West (David Lusk) had not heard the double (this was in the days before written bidding) and therefore thought that East (John Horowitz) had a natural 1♠ response. Accordingly he confidently bid 4♣ to make! North applied the axe to that and also to East's 5♣...oops!

George Havas opened the East hand with a very frisky 3♣ at favourable vul.

His partner Bob Richman, before making his bid of 6♣ said "All I need from you George is good trumps. I have the rest". George reportedly went a bit pale but

One last story on this board in another match after 2 passes west, Paul Puusaari, opened 1♠ and everyone passed! 1♠ made but after the match was scored up. . .there was considerable discussion about what should have happened.

HOW TO CONTACT THE EDITORS OF THE 1999 NOT NEWS

Peter Jamieson (Editor): Mobile: 0414 692 023

Amy Scudder (Assistant Editor): Mobile: 0411 562 997

Sheena Larsen-Jury (Assistant Editor): Mobile: 0411 022 997

Email: amy_sheena@bigpond.com

Feel free to contact us at any time, or leave your articles or comments in the NOT NEWS boxes or with the scorers at either venue.

The NOT News will be posted daily on the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.abf.com.au/>