



NOT NEWS

2005

Editor: Mark Horton

Production Team: Carly Sebestyen and Thomas Ellis

The Show Must Go On

It was quite a day in the Bulletin room yesterday. A number of problems meant that several articles intended for publication in today's issue have been omitted. Congress Convenor John Scudder worked throughout the day and into the night, and thanks to his efforts normal service will be resumed in time for tomorrow's issue, but meanwhile we hope that you are not bored over breakfast today!

The bridge events are in full swing, and in the *Women's Teams* the early leaders are **Tucker**, whose total of 69 VP gives them a two point lead over **Havas**, who in turn are two clear of **Askew**.

Mitchell and **Lindsay** are tied for the lead in the *Seniors*, both on 68 VP, with **Daws** occupying third place on 66 VP.

The tongue twisting *National Non Life Teams* is led by **Ahrens** and **Ferguson** whose total of 63 VP see's them just one ahead of **Midgley**.

In the *National Novice Teams* puts **Breden's** total of 43 VP them one ahead of **Cariola**, and three clear of **Beaumont**. Spare a thought for the team designated as **Unknown**. They are in last place with zero VP and are -177 IMPs.

] [] { } [] [] { } [] [] { }



The Three Directors.

Are you Alert?

In response to a request from the directing staff we would like to remind you of the alerting regulations that apply to all events held by the ABF.

The following aspects of the alerting procedures are effectively unchanged:

1. All doubles, redoubles, cue bids and calls at the 4-level or higher are self-alerting.
2. A cue bid is defined as a bid of a suit shown by an opponent **or** of the denomination bid by an opponent.
3. Skip bids are not given any special status - generally they should be alerted if conventional and not alerted if natural.
4. A natural bid is alertable if it is forcing or non-forcing in a way the opponents may not expect, or if its meaning is unexpectedly affected by other agreements (e.g. canapé sequences, jump responses to an opening bid or overcall that are weak, a 1 [opening that denies 4+spades etc).

Cont. on page 3

In this issue

Page 2-3: Lights, Camera, Action!

Page 4-6: Overture

Page 6: The Oz Chronicles

Page 7: Why bridge is better than sex

Page 8: Kamikaze returns to Canberra!, Ethics of the Highest order.

TIMETABLE (Thursday - Friday)

National Womens Teams

Thur 13 - Fri 14 January
at the National Convention Centre
Stage One Session Times:
11.30, 3.00, 8.00

National Seniors Teams

Thur 13 - Fri 14 January
at Rydges Lakeside Canberra
Stage One Session Times:
11.30, 3.00, 8.00

National Non-Life Masters Teams

Thur 13 - Fri 14 January
at the National Convention Centre
Session times:
Thurs 11.30, 3.00, 8.00
Fri 11.30, 3.00

National Novice Teams

Thur 13 - Fri 14 January
at the National Convention Centre
Session times:
Thurs 11.30, 3.00, 8.00
Fri 11.30, 3.00

Lights, Camera, Action!

Simon Cochemé

I went to Istanbul for the second week of the Bridge Olympiad – to watch some bridge, meet some old friends and do a bit of sightseeing in a city I hadn't visited before. On my first day there I met David Warner, head of New Bridge Assets, a company formed to bring major bridge events to television. They were filming the knock-out stages of the Olympiad to produce six one-hour programmes to be shown on Sky Sports channels. It had all been agreed with the WBF at short notice and the planning was being done in a bit of a hurry. Neither David Warner nor David Turner, the producer, knew much about bridge and they were looking for some help.

"You know the famous bridge players," they told me. I didn't contradict them. Am I not the Italian squad's first point of call if they want to know anything about the weak no-trump? Do Cezary Balicki and Boye Brogeland not consult me about Rolling Gerber?

And so it was that I joined the NBA team for a week. Philippe Cronier was already on board, in charge of selecting the hands that would be included. Zia was recruited to present the programmes and Sabine Auken was added to take part in panel discussions. My role was to work with roving cameraman Jean-Michel Tibi, and get players to say pieces to camera.

I equipped myself with a clipboard and went off in search of interviewees. I soon discovered that if I mentioned TV in the first sentence, then people were happy to talk to me. I spotted the captain of the Japanese team. "I am working with the TV crew," I said. "Do you have a player who speaks good English?" Ten minutes later I had a couple of sentences from Hiroshi Kaku in the can (this is a technical term we film folk use to say that the

filming had been completed; please don't confuse it with a similar American colloquialism).

My approach worked well with the Hungarian team and then I tried it on Jill Levin, the USA Women's captain. "Hi, I'm with the TV company. Do you have anyone on the team who speaks good English?" Jill looked a bit blank but Janice Seamon Molson said she spoke English 'real good' and would be happy to talk 'with' us.

Encouraged by this success I went for the really big fish. I walked up to Giorgio Duboin and Norberto Bocchi. "Please could you come and tell us why you played the eight of hearts," I asked Duboin. "Sure," he said. "No problem."

Love all, Dealer W

```
[ AKQ9
] J32
{ Q1076
} 72
[ 108653
] A10765
{-
} AJ10
[ J2
] Q984
{ AKJ85
} K8
```

```
[ 74
] K
{ 9432
} Q96543
```

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Allana</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Fazli</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2}
Pass	2[Pass	3}
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4]	All Pass		

Allana started with the ace, king and nine of spades. Giorgio Duboin had to decide whether to ruff low in dummy or with the queen. He chose the eight and later explained to camera why his line was with the odds.

I used to think that everything I saw on TV was true, but it isn't, you know. On Monday morning (that's Monday of the second week) I went outside to do some filming with Zia. "Well, here we are at the start of the 12th

Bridge Olympiad," he began, pretending it was Sunday, eight days earlier. After the opening piece was wrapped up Jean-Michel pointed the camera in a different direction, Zia changed his shirt, and we were off again, introducing the quarter-finals, which had started the day before. Zia's enthusiasm and love of bridge come across well in these early pieces. When you see them you will find it hard to believe that Zia and the American team had just lost to the Italians, who had come from behind in the last set.

This chronology problem dogged us for the early part of the week. Sabine was a bit naughty with some of her 20-20 'predictions' but Eric Kokish played it straight; when asked (on the second Wednesday) who he fancied to win the gold (as though at the beginning of the event) his list included Sweden (eliminated in the round of 16), USA (likewise) and Poland, who didn't even make it out of the Round Robin.

The high quality cameras that NBA brought to film the players in action produced some great pictures. They captured perfectly the reactions of the players on this board in the Ireland-Netherlands match:

N-S game Dealer W

```
[ KQ975432
] K93
{ Q3
} -
[ J108
] -
{ AKJ10864
} 742
[ A6
] 6
{ 975
} AQ109653
[-
] AQJ1087542
{ 2
} KJ8
```

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

<i>McGann</i>	<i>van Prooijen</i>	<i>Hanlo</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1{	3[3NT	4]
Pass	Pass	5}	Dble
Pass	5{	Pass	6]
7}	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

The bidding was exciting and highly competitive. When Sjoert Brink bids Six Hearts it is clear that the cheers from the VuGraph theatre could be heard in the playing room (three doors that should have been shut had been left open). There is a short pause while Brink works out that, unless there are hundreds of Irishmen in the VuGraph theatre, he has done the right thing. You can lip-read him saying to his screen-mate, Hugh McGann "I must have made a good bid!". McGann sacrifices in Seven Clubs and there are more audible cheers. At this point all the players put their hands down and call for the director. The ruling was that the board was void and, after analysis of the results at the other 27 tables, Ireland were awarded 4 IMPs.

The cameras also captured the moment when Norberto Bocchi misguesses the trump suit to go down in Four Hearts against the Netherlands. Bas Drijver had led the queen of hearts from queen-jack doubleton and Bocchi had taken a second round trump finesse, losing to the jack. A small grimace appears on the Bocchi face. Bridge players will appreciate the close-up, but David Turner of NBA was disappointed with the lack of emotion shown at the table. "Maybe we could ask Bocchi to come and film it again," he suggested. "He doesn't have to throw anything or start a fight – raised eyebrows and an anguished cry of 'Mama mia' will be enough." They all looked at me expectantly, but I made my apologies as I left the room; I had just remembered my promise to film Nicola Smith and Heather Dhondy in the hotel swimming pool. And that is why the TV programme had to make do with a slow-motion replay of the Bocchi twitch.

One hundred and fifty hours of film were brought back from Istanbul and, in the expert hands of editor Chris Jackson and commentator David Burn, were turned into six one-hour programmes. The reactions from those who saw them has been very positive and NBA has created a

double DVD pack so that a wider audience may enjoy the programmes and savour immortal lines such as "What!" (David Burn, when the declarer for the US Women plays the wrong card from dummy and goes off in a grand slam) and "The Battle Beside the Bosphorus is aBout to Begin" (the other commentator).

] [] { } [] { } [] { }

Cont. from page 1.

Are you Alert?

New aspects of the alerting procedures.

There are now three stages of the alert procedure, viz

a. The pre-alert stage before bidding starts. This was part of the previous regulations, but is now formally defined. Before the round starts you should draw the opponents' attention to any unusual agreements you have which might surprise them, or to which they may need to arrange a defence (e.g. transfer pre-empts, unusual two level openings, canapé style bidding, etc.) Pay particular attention to unusual self-alerting calls (e.g. very unusual doubles, unusual cue bids of the opponents' suit, etc.) Highly unusual carding (e.g. leading low from doubletons) should also be pre-alerted at this stage.

b. Alerts during the auction. Procedures here have not changed.

c. Delayed alerts. At the end of the auction, the declaring side should draw attention to any unusual features, particularly any unusual self-alerting calls. Delayed alerts should be indicated by a small plus sign (+) in one corner of the appropriate square of the bidding pad. (If bidding boxes are in use, the declaring side should verbally indicate which calls require a delayed alert.) Takeout/negative-type doubles and penalty doubles do not require a delayed alert, but support doubles, single suited doubles and other conventional doubles do. Defenders must not give delayed alerts.

Bidding style is not alertable. Some

players bid 'up the line', some prefer to show a major ahead of a 4 or even a 5 card minor, some skip a 4 card major in making a NT rebid, etc. Be aware of these different approaches and protect yourself by asking where necessary.

Some common auctions and treatments.

Sequences marked with an asterisk (*) are treated differently under the new regulations.

1. *Canapé style bidding should be pre-alerted. During the auction, the natural opening should not be alerted, but rebids in which the second suit is longer than the first must be alerted.
2. *A rebid in a (natural) 3-card minor is not alertable.
3. *A natural 2[opening that promises a four-card major if there are only 5 clubs is alertable.
4. An opening bid of 1[or 1{ is alertable if it may contain less than 3 cards.
5. Acceptance of a transfer bid is alertable if it conveys any meaning relating to hand strength or length in partner's shown suit.
6. A strong, artificial 2[opening is alertable.
7. Any pre-emptive jump raise below 3NT such as 1} ,3} where it is possible for partner to have less than 8 high card points is alertable. Fit showing jumps are alertable.

] [] { } [] { } [] { }

**Important notice to all
Bridge teachers:
'The future of the ABTA'
AGM Sunday 9.30am
All welcome**

Overture

With little time to relax after the overnight flight from Perth I had to make a decision based on the team rosters I had downloaded from the Internet when it came to choosing a match to watch on the opening day of the Women's teams.

Most players are more than happy if the first board is a quiet affair, (ditto the reporter) and you could readily apply that adjective to the opening deal of the match between the teams captained by Marlene Watts and Sylvia Bartlett.



Marlene Watts

Board 1

Dealer N, Vul Nil

[A8
] K852
{ QT3
} AK93

[KJ9
] J94
{ 98752
} Q5

[T7654
] T7
{ AK4
} T86

[Q32
] AQ63
{ J6
} J742

[53
] 975
{ AKQ432
} J8

[872
] AKJ2
{
} A97643

[AKQT94
] Q63
{ 975
} K



Jillian Hay

West	North	East	South
<i>Lowry</i>	<i>Tildesley</i>	<i>Hay</i>	<i>Millman</i>
	1}	Pass	1[
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

Facing a 15-18 rebid, South was happy enough to pass rather than go back to Two Spades.

East led a thoughtful two of spades and when West put up the king declarer took the ace and played three rounds of clubs. The contract was secure, but the defenders collected all the tricks they were entitled to record -90. The same contract was reached at the other table and this time East led a heart. Now the same play in clubs gave declarer an overtrick, +120 and a 1IMP swing.

It was not long before something more testing appeared and both teams got into trouble:

Board 4.

Dealer W, Vul ALL

[J6
] T84
{ JT86
} QT52

your turn, so one can sympathize with West's opening bid although a heavy weak two in diamonds might be a better choice. It was not easy for West to pass her partner's reopening double - it would have produced an easy +500.

Four Hearts was hopeless. South started with three rounds of spades and when declarer pitched a club from dummy North ruffed with the eight of hearts and switched to the two of clubs. Declarer put up the ace and played a club, ruffing when South discarded a diamond. Now declarer tried three top diamonds, but when North followed three times she ruffed the last one with the two of hearts and South overruffed and played a spade, so declarer was two down, -200.

West	North	East	South
Moritz	Folkard	Bartlett	Watt
Pass	Pass	1}	1[
Dble	Pass	3]	Pass
4]	All Pass		

Some serious overbidding saw East/West reach the same contract. The defence started in the same way, but this time declarer ruffed the third spade and North overruffed. Worried about the diamond suit North tried the jack of diamonds and declarer played four rounds of the suit, discarding three clubs and ruffing the fourth round with the jack of hearts. South overruffed and played a trump and North was wide awake, refusing to put up the ten. Declarer played a diamond and pitched another club but South ruffed and played the king of clubs. This time the contract was three down, -300 and 3 more IMPs to Watts.

The first major swing came on the next board:

West	North	East	South
<i>Lowry</i>	<i>Tildesley</i>	<i>Hay</i>	<i>Millman</i>
1{	Pass	2}	3[
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4{	Pass	4]	All Pass

The modern approach to bidding is just about to bid whenever it is

Board 5

Dealer N, Vul NS
[QJ9
] AK
{ AQT
} KJ873

[84
] QJ974
{ K43
} AT4

[AT532
] 3
{ J8652
} 52

[K76
] T8652
{ 97
} Q96

West North East South
Lowry Tildesley Hay Millman
2{ Pass 2]
Pass 2NT Pass 3{*
Pass 3] Pass 3NT
All Pass

East led the five of diamonds for the king and ace and declarer went after the clubs. West won and played back a diamond and declarer's goose was cooked. When East got in with the ace of spades she could cash her diamond winners for one down. You have to give East credit for not leading a spade that would have given declarer an easy route to nine or ten tricks. If declarer had guessed to set up a spade trick before attacking clubs she would have got home.

West North East South
Moritz Folkard Bartlett Watts
2} * Pass 2{*
Pass 2] Dble All Pass

West picked a very ad moment to get involved in the auction. Eight tricks are possible in a heart contract, but only for North/South! Declare won the opening lead of the queen of spades with the ace and tried a diamond to the king. North won and played a spade to South's king. South switched to a club and declarer put up the ace

and played a diamond. North won and played her remaining diamond for South to ruff. Declarer ruffed the spade return and played a club but North won, cashed the ace of hearts and the king of clubs. The contract was three down, -500 and 12 IMPs for Watts, ahead 16-6. That lead was immediately increased:

Board 6
Dealer E, Vul EW

[975
] 93
{ AQ32
} KT42

[AQ8642
] T87
{ 97
} J6

[J3
] A5
{ T85
} AQ9875

West North East South
Lowry Tildesley Hay Millman
2[3} 3{ Pass
3] 4} 4] 5}
Pass Pass Dble All Pass

East's Three Diamond bid made sure her side got to game.

Four Hearts was going to make, so in that sense North/South did well to save. West started with the nine of diamonds and declarer put up the ace, drew trumps and tried a diamond. East won and switched to the king of spades and the contract was three down, -500.

West North East South
Moritz Folkard Bartlett Watts
2[3} 1] 2}
All Pass

East/West sold out far too easily. West led the ten of hearts and declarer won, drew trumps and played a diamond to the queen. A

better line is to exit with a heart. Now the defenders are done for because of the opening lead. East has to win and cannot avoid the impending endplay. No matter, one down was only -50 and was worth 10 IMPs.

The Watts team was very much in control of the match, but neither side made much of a fist of this deal:

Board 12

Dealer W, Vul NS

[J976532
] 5432
{ 5
} 9

[AKQ
] AJ9
{ T976
} A42

[T84
] 76
{ QJ82
} Q763

[
] KQT8
{ AK43
} KJT85

West North East South
Lowry Tildesley Hay Millman
1{ Pass Pass Dble
1NT 2[3{ 4}
Pass 4[Dble 4NT
Pass 5[Dble All Pass

If you are going to bid on the East hand the best time to do so is on the first round. A simple raise to Two Diamonds would be fine, but if you are playing inverted minors then you might consider it too weak for a jump raise.

] [] {} [] {} [] [] {}

While you are pondering that, what do you make of South's double and subsequent bid of Four Clubs? Or North's free bid of Two Spades? Whatever your views North/South were in serious trouble and the penalty was -800.



Phillis Moritz

West	North	East	South
Moritz	Folkard	Bartlett	Watts
1{	Pass	3{*	Dble
3NT	4[Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	5}
Dble	All Pass		

It's unsound to double Three Diamonds, as South quickly discovered. It was hard to pass Four Spades, but Five Clubs was even worse.

Inspired defence can hold this contract to just six tricks (ace of clubs followed by a diamond switch) but in practice it was much harder and declarer escaped for three down to produce a flat board.

Watts continued to score well, and they ran out easy winners, 71-20 IMPs.

The Oz Chronicles

A lighthearted look at the day to day running of a major bridge festival.

An aptly named 'red eye' flight from Perth arrives in Canberra just before 06.00.

I notice that the in flight magazine recommends a couple of 2002 Shiraz's – and I have already acquired the one produced by Tim Adams while in Perth.

Booking the flight several months in advance turned out to be a smart move, as some of next week's arrivals from Western Australia will be changing planes twice.

Check in is a formality, but the key card fails to open the door at the first attempt, and two more visits to reception and two subsequent cards also fail to do the trick. I try saying *Open Sesame* but even this proves to be unsuccessful. My suggestion that perhaps I may be occupying a different room proves to be a winning one.

The first person I encounter is Richard Grenside – he is just about to go over to the Convention Centre to help set up the tables, one of the many joys of tournament direction.

After a quick coffee I locate the bulletin room and the somewhat antiquated equipment – if Noah had access to the Internet these might well have been his computers. There is no sign of a USB port, and unless I can find one, some of the material I prepared in advance is going to be difficult to retrieve.

Glancing at the results of the Festival Warm Up Pairs I notice that the section winners include Linda Bedford Brown and Sue Grenside. Could it be that they benefited from the lecture I gave last week at the WABC?

By the time 10.15 arrives the Bulletin office is still minus an Internet connection and a layout Editor, so I decide that the best thing to do is to go over to the NCC and watch some of the action.



Why bridge is (might. be ED) better than sex

1. You don't have to hide your bridge magazines.
2. It is perfectly acceptable to hire a pro to play bridge with you once in a while.
3. The Ten Commandments don't say anything about bridge.
4. If your partner takes pictures of you at the table, you don't have to worry about them showing up in the tabloids when you become famous.
5. Your partner doesn't become upset about people you played bridge with long ago.
6. It is perfectly acceptable to play bridge with a total stranger.
7. When you see a really good bridge player, you don't have to feel guilty about imagining the two of you at the table together.
8. When your regular partner is not available, he/she will not mind if you play bridge with someone else.
9. No one will ever tell you that you will go blind if you play bridge by yourself.
10. When dealing with a bridge pro, you never have to worry that they are an undercover cop.
11. You can have a bridge calendar on your wall at the office, tell bridge jokes and invite co-workers to play bridge without being sued for harassment.
12. There are no bridge-transmitted diseases (except the compulsion to play more bridge).
13. You don't have to lock the door when you play bridge on the Internet, and when you visit a bridge website you won't get emails from asianteenagesluts.com for the rest of your life.
14. Nobody expects you to play bridge with the same partner for the rest of your life.
15. Nobody expects you to give up bridge if your partner loses interest in it.
16. You can still do it in your 80's, and people won't gasp in horror if they find out.
17. Your bridge partner will never say, "Not again, we just played bridge last week! Is Bridge all you ever think about?" Oops!....maybe they will.
18. A man doesn't need lots of finesse(s) to be successful at bridge, but then he needs some squeezes.
19. The phrase "could be short" carries no negative connotation.....
20. The principle of "Fast Arrival" would not be regarded negatively.
21. If the partnership agrees on two over one, it wouldn't be considered an orgy.

] [] { } [] [] { } [] { }

] [] { } [] [] { } [] { }

] [] { } [] [] { } [] { }

Kamikaze returns to Canberra!

Lilli Allgood

Session 2, Seniors, board 3.

Dealer N, Vul NS

[AKJ3

] 7

{ AKQT97

} K9

[965

] AQJ654

{ 8

} 654

[QT4

] T93

{ J63

} QT72

[872

] K82

{ 542

} AJ83

BRIDGE DINNER SPECIAL
The Chairman & Yip restaurant
108 Bunda street, Civic

Banquet: minimum of 4 people

\$29.50 per person, includes a complimentary glass of wine

Roast duck pancakes
Sesame spiced mushrooms
Seafood wontons

Fish of the day
Chairman's red curry chicken
Spicy Shantung lamb
Pork chops w/red dates ginseng & honey

Coffee or tea

Available Monday to Saturday from 5:15pm
Tables must be vacated by 7:30pm
Complimentary wine cannot be substituted for other
beverage

Please call 6248 7109 to make a booking

West North East South

Pass

2] ¹ Dble ² Pass 3}

Pass 3] ³ Pass Pass ⁴

Pass ⁵

- 1) Weak 2]
- 2) Strong take out
- 3) We have 3 + no trumps on if you have a 1 + stopped
- 4) Ugh! (Lucky partner didn't have a gun! Definitely a case of justifiable homicide!)
- 5) No double – it will get them somewhere better.

And all Norths' beautiful diamonds got ruffed. 3 down!!

Ethics of the Highest Order

The following incident occurred during the Butler stage of the Australian Youth Team Selection, currently being held here in Canberra at the Australian National University. The contract was 3NT by South and at trick seven, West was on lead with the ace of hearts to cash with his side having already won four tricks. Unfortunately, he had one of his tricks pointed the wrong way. Cashing the ace would set up a trick in dummy.

While thinking about what to play, his partner innocently, but unlawfully, drew attention to the error in the previously played tricks. Rather than cashing the ace, West now exited passively - a play he may have made if the defence still needed two tricks to beat the contract. Subsequently, the contract made.

It is a pleasure and privilege to be able to report this instance of ethical behaviour at the table. It is perhaps even more noteworthy that the player involved was the youngest player in the final field, 12-year-old Nabil Edgton. It is a rare example for all of the way bridge is meant to be played.

HOW TO CONTACT THE STAFF OF THE 2005 NOT NEWS

Mark Horton (and his Editorial Team, Carly Sebestyen and Tom Ellis): Email: bridge@accsoft.com.au

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

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

<http://www.abf.com.au/events/not/2005/info/index.htm>