



# Spring Nationals Bulletin

No 1 Thursday 8 November 2001  
Editor Nick Hughes

with Americans starting to fall into line. You finish the day's bridge at 7pm then either go home to your family, or to one of Bondi's restaurants (try Jaffas at Hakoah) for a relaxed meal with a few glasses of wine.

## The SNWT

The field will be about 32 teams, slightly down on last year. Perhaps the recent increase in airfares is a factor. Two teams stand out as likely final candidates:

*Margaret Bourke - Jan Cormack  
Felicity Beale - Diana Smart  
Sue Lusk - Therese Tully*

*Val Cummings - Candice Feitelson  
Linda Stern - Berri Folkard*

Qualifying is over nine 20-board matches, then the top two play a 64 board final on Sunday. Winners receive 36 play-off points, 18 to the runners up.

## Smoking

The smoking area at the Hakoah Club is on the ground floor, in the gaming area.

Any player discovered smoking in any other area, in particular the stair wells, will be suspended for either the remainder of the current session, and/or for the following session.

There will be no warnings! **Smoking in the stair wells is against the law!**

## Mobile phones

Mobile phones must be switched off in the playing area. A procedural penalty of 3 IMP applies to any player whose mobile phone is switched on unless the director determines that there is a valid (e.g. medical) reason.

## Lunch menus

Menus will be provided during morning sessions for collection before 12.30. Coffee is available, including cappuccinos etc. There is a bar on the ground floor, as well the bar next to the playing area will be open at the end of a day's play.

## Last year

35 teams played the Women's last year, with the final featuring a number of foreign players. Here's a hand from that final featuring three Kiwis and an Englishwoman:

## Welcome

Welcome to the 2001 ABF Spring Carnival. This year we have a new venue, new order of the events, new schedules for both the Women's and the Open and the open qualifying has been reformatted to twelve 16 board rounds. We also have a new fun event to run concurrently with the open final.

These changes were made as a result of representations by the players in previous years. As with all change some or all the revisions will not suit everybody. The changes are not set in concrete and as always the tournament committee and the conveners will welcome your views.

We wish you all good luck.

*Frank Budai & John Mottram  
Conveners*

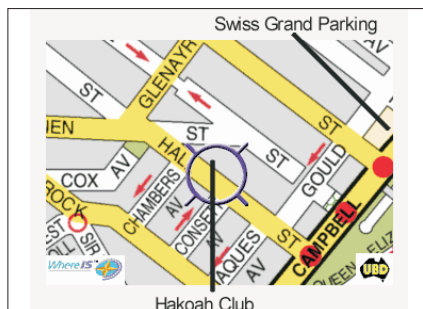
## Women first

Some firsts for women: the USA team that won the recent Bermuda Bowl in Paris included the first ever female winner, Rose Meltzer. We saw the first Melbourne Cup winner trained by a woman and the SNWT

has moved to the start of the Spring Nationals.

## Parking

On-street parking is metered and the Hakoah car park is generally unavailable so go to Secure Parking under the Swiss Grand. If you present your ABF card, you'll find the daily rate is **\$3!**



## No evening sessions!

This is a big change for the better; good for locals and interstaters. Now you can devote 9 hrs for bridge with shortish breaks (1 hour for lunch, 30 minutes at 4pm). Previously, you would have to set aside 12 hours with longer breaks between matches.

This is the WBF and European way,

### Spring National Women's Teams (SNWT) 9 x 20 bds

Thu 8th SNWT 1-3 at Hakoah 10am, 1.30pm & 4.30pm.  
Fri 9th SNWT 4-6  
Sat 10th SNWT 7-9  
Sun 11th 7 Round Congress Teams, 10am start. \$100 per team  
(SNWT final from 9am, start time to be confirmed)

### Spring National Open Teams (SNOT) 12 x 16 bds

Mon 12th SNOT 1-4 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm  
Tue 13th SNOT 4-6 10am, 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.30pm  
Wed 14th SNOT 7-9 10am, 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.30pm  
Thur 15th Charity Pro-Am IMP Pairs 10am start  
(SNOT final from 9am, start time to be confirmed)

### Grand National Open Teams (GNOT)

Fri 16th Qual 10.30am - 11.30pm  
(some teams start with byes)  
Sat 17th Qual 10am - 11.30 (80 boards!)  
Sun 18th Semis from 9am  
(also Provincial Pairs)  
Mon 19th GNOT final at Double Bay, from 9am

## 2000 SNWT Final

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Weal	Hay	Yule	Godfrey
No	4NT	No	5♦
No	6♥	End	

6♥ is safer as a glance the West hand shows but that's hard to diagnose. Sue Weal knew she had to find partner's black ace and chose an unlucky ♣J.

Despite this setback, the top seeds Margaret Bourke - Lidia Beech (Lidia died 2 months ago) Felicity Beale - Di Smart, Sue Weal - Kathy Yule hung on to win by 5 IMPs.

### Paris

As you know, the Australian teams didn't go so well in the World Championships, the Open Team came 12th of 18, the Women a disappointing 15th. Tough European and American teams made the final stages, as expected. In the Women's, Germany came from the clouds to defeat France in a thriller.

In the Open, USA2 trailed Norway by 80 IMPs at half time but powered home to win by 20.

Here's a hand from midway through the open final:

### BBowl final, USA2 vs Norway

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Stansby	Helness	Martel	Helgemo
3♠!	No	4♦!	No
4♠	No	6♠	End

Against this auction, Helgemo led the ♣A for -1430 and a 26 IMP swing against 4♠ at the other table.

After Stansby's bold limit raise, Martel was always going to bid at least six and started with a psychic short suit slam try.

A club or a heart lead looks normal enough but a trump lead would have shot it and probably stopped the recovery in its tracks.

### ABF Alert Regulations

Alert by circling partner's call and saying "Alert" but don't offer an explanation unless asked (then aim to be concise, yet complete).

**Don't alert** these 'self-alerting' calls:

- any double or redouble
- any call beyond 3NT
- a bid in a suit **bid** by an opponent

At the end of the auction, the declaring side should offer an explanation of any 'self-alerting' calls.

### Do alert:

- all other conventional calls (including Stayman)

Note: This natural-sounding bid:

2♥ = hearts & a minor

is conventional because it conveys a meaning other than a desire to play in hearts.

- 'unusual' natural bids

These include: weak jump shift responses, pre-emptive jump raises, inverted minors, canapé tendency, negative free bids, transfer accepts that deny four trumps, etc.

### Pre-alerts

The Pre-alerts section of your system card should include 'unusual' self-alerting calls, such as a double of 1NT that shows a 1-suiter; lack of negative doubles.

Also list methods that may require a prepared defence – complex defences to 1NT or a strong club; RCO Twos; transfer pre-empts; etc.

### If partner stuffs up

If partner fails to alert or misexplains, wait till the end of the **auction** before calling the Director and correcting. If your side ends up defending, wait until the end of the **hand** before piping up.

### If you stuff up

Call the Director as soon you realise, then correct your error. The Director might allow your opponents to change their last calls, or award an Adjusted Score.

### What happened?

If you have a story of interest, the Editor will be here much of the time or contactable on 9365 9934 (Hakoah Bridge Club) or 0414 876 175 or nhughes@bigpond.net.au.

Or just fill out a *What Happened* form and drop it in the bulletin box or hand it to Frank, Chris or John.

### Charity Pro-Am IMP Pairs

for Mission Australia

This will be held next Thursday, 10am start, with 3 x 16-board matches. Scores will be IMPed against the Closed Room results from the SNOT final.

A pair can enter for \$50, or you can enter as an Amateur and bid for a professional partner.



61-67 Hall St Bondi

Ph: 9365 9900

Tournament Conveners:

Chief Tournament Director:

Chairman Tournament Committee:

Chairman Appeals Committee:

Recorder:

Assistant Director:

Scoring and Computing:

Frank Budai and John Mottram

Tony Howes

Eric Ramshaw

Ivy Dahler

John Mottram

Chris Diment

Martin Willcox