



# Spring Nationals Bulletin

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 Editor Nick Hughes

## A semi hand

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

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

♠ K Q 10 8 7 5 4  
 ♥ K J 5  
 ♦ 7 6  
 ♣ 8

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Klinger	Chua	Dyke	Hinge
No	No	Dbl	No
4NT	Dbl	No	No
5♣	End		

Ron escaped a heart lead then hooked in trumps for +600, together with +140 in 2♠ at the other table!



Terry & Magnus  
 Provincial winners

## The hard way again

In the 20 board GNOT repechages, **Sydney 1** had a comfortable win against **Adelaide 1** while **Sydney 3** won narrowly against **Perth 2**.

The two Sydney teams, having survived the Swiss and the repechage, had to back up and play unbeaten and rested teams in the 48-board Semis.

As so often happens, the survivors were successful. **Sydney 3** bt **Adelaide 2** (J Haffer - N Croft, P Markey - L Matthews) 122-106.

**Sydney 1** bt **Melbourne 1** (S Hinge - C Chua, C Hughes - B Thompson) 149 - 88.

So the defenders would try for a threeppeat, to use a hideous American term, against another Sydney team.

The 64-board final was played at Double Bay Bridge Centre behind impressive-looking screens.

**Cummings** shot out to a 51-IMP lead in the first 16 boards, helped when **Neill** overbid to a failing grand. Actually, Bruce was ill and did not play in the final, leaving **Sydney 3** with a few scratch partnerships. 15 more IMPs in the second set then **Neill** stormed back to trail by a gettable 30 IMPs with one set to go.

The last 16 offered plenty of chances for the chasers, including two grands, bid at neither table. Where's relay when you need it?

Coming into the last board of the event, Cummings led by 10 IMPs:

## GNOT Final 4, Bd 32 (rotated)

♠ AKQ5 ♠ J 9 6 2  
 ♥ A 7 ♥ J 9 6 5 3  
 ♦ AKJ 7 ♦ 9  
 ♣ AK 3 ♣ Q 9 8

Klinger	Dyke
2♣	2♦
2♥ *	2♠ *
2NT	3♦
3♥	3♠
4♣	4♦ !
6♠	

2♥ showed some game force, then 2NT was unlimited, followed by a transfer, natural 3♠ then cue bids.

The cards were friendly for +980. If slam had failed, the other team would have won. As it was, **Cummings** won their third GNOT in a row, earning 30 PPs, 15 for the runners up.

For a full report on the final, see Ron Klinger's article in the next *Australian Bridge*.

## Silly suggestion

To add a bit of spice to the finals, I think the leaders should be allowed to try for all 45 PPs on offer by winning by a lot, say 50+ IMPs, like bonus points in Super 12s. That would keep them scrapping to the end.

## Provincial Pairs

While the semis were being played, nine tables contested the Provincial Pairs, won by Terry Strong and Magnus Moren.



Ron Klinger, Kieran Dyke, Val Cummings, Matthew Thomson, Peter Newman and Matt Mullamphy — three time GNOT winners

GNOT final	1-16	17-32		33-48		49-64	
V Cummings M Mullamphy K Dyke R Klinger P Newman M Thomson	61	36	97	19	116	26	<b>142</b>
B Neill A Peake B McDonald A Walsh E Griffin M Hughes	10	21	31	55	86	36	<b>122</b>