



Day 3 No 1 Saturday 15th November
Editor Anne Bates

The World Seniors' Championship was decided at the same time

Spring National Women's Teams

After six rounds, the leader board had a more predictable look than it did earlier. In positions 1 – 9, only one of the teams seeded 1 – 9 was missing. Margaret Burke's team, (M Burke, F Beale, S Lusk, D Smart, T Tully, M Woods) had started faster than usual – i.e. no first round loss – but a sizeable loss to the team of D. Neumann, K Neale, V Cummings, H Pitt, R Nailand, C Feitelsen, left the Burke team 2nd and 6 VPs behind this latter team, which was still undefeated. Kinga Moses' team was a further 2 VPs behind.

The usual outcome of the women's event is that the top 5 or 6 seeds all play each other, and the 2 finalists are the teams which score large victories against teams outside the 5 or 6.

This year there appear to be more than just the 5 or 6 teams with realistic chances of making the final, so the outcome is awaited with lots of interest.

Spring National Open Teams

As at Friday (14th), there were 50 entries to the Open Teams, 2 short of the record set 3 or 4 years ago. Entries are officially closed, but can be still taken 2 teams at a time.

Bermuda Bowl – Venice Cup

The Venice Cup is complete. The winners and runners up are as follows:

Venice Cup:	1st	USA	229.3
	2nd	China	210.0

Bermuda Bowl:	USA1	242.0
(progress Rd 6/8)	Italy	205.0

1 st	USA1	285
2 nd	France	280

On a lighter note:

"We play forcing hesitations" (Various)

One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts.
(Alfred Scheinwold)





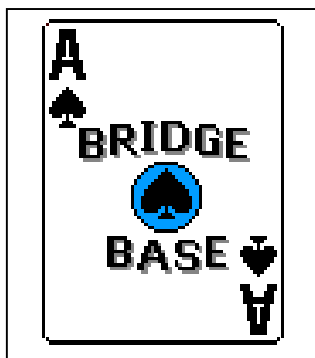
Successful Webcast Trial

A successful trial of VuGraph was conducted by the dedicated staff of 2003 Spring Nationals.

The leading teams at the end of match 5 - Wyer and Neumann agreed to participate in a tryout for the equipment and operators. The groundbreaking Webcast of the 2003 ABF Womens Spring Nationals Finals will take place on Sunday November 16, 2003. A detailed "movie" showing the bidding and play for the twenty boards of the match was recorded. This movie is available on floppy disk from the Spring Nationals scorer for \$5.00 (to cover costs). To run the movie Bridge base software is required. The software is free and can be downloaded from:

<http://www.bridgebase.com/online>

On Sunday the Webcast will start 10.00 am. There will be expert commentary, so log on and watch the finalists battle for this year's title of Women's Spring Nationals Champions.





♣♦ Spring Nationals Bulletin ♥♠



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News Flash:

This year 35 teams entered the Women's Spring Nationals, and one house team was added to the field. This total of 36 teams made it the largest competition so far in the history of the Women's Spring Nationals,

Player Profile: Joan Butts

Profession: Bridge Club proprietor and Chief Bridge teacher at the QBA

Home: Brisbane

Interests: A son in London, horse racing, music of all kinds, piano playing, singing in a choir, and working out and running 4 times a week.

Personal Bridge Playing: Plays in lots of tournaments; played in the American Nationals for the last 3 years.

Bridge Involvement: Her chief interest is training Bridge teachers and supplying good materials for them use at their clubs. Joan writes materials and designs worksheets for these teachers to use. One of her books is *Play Bridge: a Workbook for the Absolute Beginner*.

Earlier this year Joan worked with Audrey Grant in Toronto for 2 months, presenting workshops to Canadian players.

Whilst in Toronto she spoke to a conference of Canadian Bridge teachers about the history of Australian Bridge and was delighted by their response.

Another of her enterprises is Bridge holidays and cruises on liners such as *The Crystal Symphony*.

She works with Gary Brown from Ozbridge Travel in Melbourne. Next year she'll be involved in Bridge holidays in Hawaii, Canada and Alaska.

It's Joan's opinion, that though there is tremendous depth in America Bridge, American systems are far more conservative

and much less adventurous than those used in Australia.

Joan contributed this hand from Round 4 for discussion:

Board 18. Joan and her partner were EW, NV against VUL.

♠ 9 8 7 5
♥ J T 9 5
♦ 4
♣ J 8 6 2

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

♠ J 6 3
♥ A K Q 8 3 2
♦ 6 5 2
♣ 7

East dealt and passed. South bid 3H, West doubled and North passed. What would you bid on the East hand?
Joan bid 4H. (Pick a suit partner, I have values.) West bid a comfortable 6D.
As it happens, 6C does not make on normal defence.

Would you as North bid over West's double? Even vulnerable, isn't 4H from North clear-cut? East no longer has the safe 4H available. Only West can gauge the slam potential, and East-West may reach the non-making 6C.

Provided partners at the other table achieve a sensible result, the potential loss, (2 IMPs v. the non-vulnerable game), far outweighs the potential gain (10 IMPs v the non-vulnerable slam).

John Mottram

Some Light Relief

"Where's the hand you held during the auction?" a comment made by Jan Nanitschke when dummy hit.