



Spring Nationals Bulletin

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Editor Nick Hughes

Women's Teams underway

A good entry of 35 teams for the SNWT featured two poisoned teams, with three women making the Open final. Team 2 **Cummings** took the holiday while team 3 **Travis**, chose to press ahead, usually the right idea.

Top seeds **Beech** include the usual four, plus New Zealanders Kathy Yule and Sue Weal.

Here's a slam from round 1:

SNWT Rnd 1, Bd 15

S/NS ♠ —
 ♥ AKJ32
 ♦ AQJ86432
 ♣ 7

♠ KJ76 ♠ 5432
 ♥ 5 ♥ Q10964
 ♦ 105 ♦ K
 ♣ KJ9643 ♣ 1082

♠ AQ1098
 ♥ 87
 ♦ 973
 ♣ AQ5

You're okay in 6♦ when you cash the ace of trumps early.

Don't forget gold point Congress teams this Sunday, 10am start.

SNWT Rnd 2, Bd 5

N/NS ♠ 986
 ♥ A1094
 ♦ 7
 ♣ K7532

♠ K75 ♠ Q42
 ♥ K ♥ QJ876
 ♦ KQJ106543 ♦ 98
 ♣ 9 ♣ J106

♠ AJ103
 ♥ 532
 ♦ A2
 ♣ AQ84

I like this hand. North-South can make 8 tricks in hearts, 10 in clubs and 11 in spades.

Coffee is \$1.30 (\$2 for cappuccinos) from the kiosk, thanks to sponsorship from **Robert Timms**.

Hands from the SNT final

Tied at the end of the Swiss, the two finalists would be due to play each other anyway if the Swiss continued.

Cummings jumped out to a 17 IMP lead in the first set and seemed comfortable.

Then disaster struck with a 50 IMP

SNT final placings

1=	6	Noble	172
1=	1	Cummings	172

(These 2 teams to final, won by Noble)

3=	2	Smith	167
3=	5	Ziggy	167
3=	10	Rothfield	167
6th	3	Marston	156
7th	16	Urbach	155
8th	17	Hutton	154
9th	25	Dey	153
10th	13	Robinson	151

Entry - 49 teams

SNWT after 3 rounds

1st	3	Travis	70
2nd	5	Robb	61
3rd	2	Cummings	60
4th	4	Scudder	59
5th	12	Goodyer	58
6th	27	Anderson	57
7=	18	Goyen	55
7=	6	Hoffman	55
9th	9	Jamieson	54
10th	7	Tucker	52

Entry - 35 teams

turnaround to **Noble**. Here are two of the painful boards:

SNT Final 2, Bd 6

E/EW ♠ A943
 ♥ J5
 ♦ A7
 ♣ QJ1087

♠ — ♠ K1086
 ♥ 873 ♥ KQ42
 ♦ J8654 ♦ Q109
 ♣ AK963 ♣ 54

♠ QJ732
 ♥ A1096
 ♦ K32
 ♣ 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
McManus	Fordham	Lester	Prescott
		No	1♠!
2♣	3♣	No	3♠
No	3NT	Dbl	No
No	4♠	Dbl	End

Defending 2♣x for +500 is easier but Prescott made +590 by postponing trumps. After ♣A and a diamond switch, he won the ♦A and played the ♥J to the Q-A. Then came the ♦K and a ruff, followed by heart off dummy to East's king.

Back came a club, ruffed then the



Terry Brown, Peter Fordham, Barry Noble, Phil Gue, George Bilski and Michael Prescott with the long-lost SNT trophy.

♥10 and the good ♥9, ruffed in dummy. Then he led the ♠9, retaining the ♠A in dummy to coup East's ♠K-10 at trick 12.

At the other table, Jan Cormack started trumps by leading the ♠Q. Oops. Next board.

SNT final 2, Bd 7

S/Both ♠ K10 5 4 2

♥ 10 9

♦ 10 5 3

♣ A 7 3

♠ A Q 8

♠ —

♥ K Q J 7 5

♥ A 8 6 4 3 2

♦ A 9 2

♦ K Q J 4

♣ 10 4

♣ 9 8 2

♠ J 9 7 6 3

♥ —

♦ 8 7 6

♣ K Q J 6 5

WEST
Brown

NORTH
Moir

EAST
Gue

SOUTH
Cormack

2♠

3♥

4♠

6♥ !?

End

A club (or a diamond) was called for, trying to find partner's minor but Debs took Option C, a spade for 13 IMPs out.

Set 3 was more of the same

How would you play this 4♥?

SNT Final 3, Bd 5

N/NS

♠ K 7

♥ J 2

♦ A 10 8 4 2

♣ A Q J 7

♠ J 8 6 2

♠ A 10 9 3

♥ K 8 6 5 3

♥ —

♦ Q J

♦ 9 7 6 3

♣ 4 2

♣ K 9 6 5 3

♠ Q 5 4

♥ A Q 10 9 7 4

♦ K 5

♣ 10 8

Klinger won the diamond lead in dummy to run the ♠10. Brown won and could have exited a minor for +100 but he played ♠A-another and declarer was back in it.

However, Ron led the ♥2, not the jack and had to lose two trump tricks. If he leads the ♥J and it holds, then he must cash the minor aces to strip West's exit cards before continuing trumps.

In the other room, Bilski won the diamond lead and played a spade to the king and ace. When the ♠10 came back, he won dummy's queen and ruffed a spade high. The 5-0 break slowed things down but he

SNOT final	1-16	17-32		33-48		49-64	
V Cummings R Klinger J Cormack D Moir S Lester M McManus	35	5	40	31	71	35	106
B Noble T Brown G Bilski P Gue P Fordham M Prescott	17	54	71	66	137	25	162

came home with three diamond tricks, thanks to the stiff ♦Q-J. He didn't lose a club. Next board:

SNT final 3, Bd 6

E/EW

♠ A 5 3

♥ A 8 7 5

♦ 10 9 6 3

♣ Q 5

♠ 7 2

♠ J 10 9

♥ Q 9 2

♥ K J 6 3

♦ A Q 7

♦ K J 8 2

♣ A K J 9 6

♣ 10 2

♠ K Q 8 6 4

♥ 10 4

♦ 5 4

♣ 8 7 4 3

Lester - McManus bid to the routine but doomed 3NT, failing by two on the good lead of a low spade.

In the other room, Cummings opened 2♠, which propelled Brown to hearts in the 4-3 fit. This is shaky but declarer was able to run minor winners through North to collect his trumps in the endgame for 10 tricks. Then this:

SNT Final, Bd 7

S/Both

♠ 4

♥ A K 5 4

♦ 8 5 3

♣ A 10 7 6 5

♠ A 2

♠ K J 10 8 5 3

♥ J 10 9 8 2

♥ —

♦ 9

♦ A 10 4 2

♣ K Q 9 8 3

♣ J 4 2

♠ Q 9 7 6

♥ Q 7 6 3

♦ K Q J 7 6

♣ —

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

Noble

Klinger

Brown

Cummings

1♦ ?!

1NT *

Dbf

3♣

Dbf

End

1NT showed four hearts and a long minor. When Cummings doubled 3♣ for takeout, Klinger was delighted to pass. However, 3♣x was cold, with Brown cross-ruffing red suits then waiting to score the ♣Q-9 in the endgame. North had too many trumps.

A short respite, then this:

SNT final 3, Bd 9

N/EW

♠ A Q 5

♥ J 7 4

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A 10 7

♠ 10 6 3

♠ J 9 8 4 2

♥ A Q 10 5

♥ K 8

♦ J 5

♦ Q 10 2

♣ J 8 6 4

♣ 9 3 2

♠ K 7

♥ 9 6 3 2

♦ 9 8 7 4

♣ K Q 5

Both declarers played 3NT from North on a spade lead. Bilski won the ♠A, cashed the ♦A and led a low diamond. Sleepy Stephen continued spades for -400.

Klinger did much the same but Terry Brown made no mistake, swinging the ♥K when in with the ♦Q.

Both teams reached this 6NT:

SNT final 3, Bd 2

E/NS

♠ A 9 8 7

♥ A K 9 6 5

♦ K 2

♣ Q 10

♠ Q 4 3 2

♠ J 10

♥ 3

♥ 10 8 7 4 2

♦ 7

♦ J 9 6 5 3

♣ A 9 6 5 4 3 2

♣ 8

♠ K 6 5

♥ Q J

♦ A Q 10 8 4

♣ K J 7

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

McManus

Bilski

Lester

Gue

No

1♣ *

No

1♦ *

No

1NT

3♣

2♦ !

No

2♥

No

2♠

No

3NT

No

5NT

No

6NT

Bilski and Lester ignored the 3♣ pre-empt completely, perhaps a sign of the stifling atmosphere in the room. Everyone yawned at least once. Anyway, 6NT was cold on the red suit squeeze for a push.

This left Cummings 66 behind with 16 boards to go. Too much.