BENEWS LETTER AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester
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NO. 142 MARCH 2010



NEC Bridge Festival

wo world-class teams fought out the final of the 15th NEC Cup in Yokohama in early February. They were the two favourites, *Lavazza*, Maria Teresa Lavazza, Norberto Bocchi, Agustin Madala, Giorgio Duboin, Antonio Sementa, Guido Ferraro, with Massimo Ortensi coach and *Zimmerman*, Pierre Zimmerman, Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes, Cezary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski, Franck Multon. There were 48 teams, whittled down to eight, Swiss-style, and included star players from the Netherlands, Bulgaria, China, Canada, England, Korea, Sweden, USA plus the winners of the World Youth Teams. In the qualifying, *Zimmerman* came first and *Lavazza* second.



Team Lavazza

Two teams from Australia were invited, *Oz Players*, Ashley Bach - Ishmael Del'Monte, Matt Mullamphy - Ron Klinger and *Oz2*, Peter Gill - Paul Gosney, Sartaj Hans - Tony Nunn. *Oz Players* qualified fourth, including a 15-15 draw against *Lavazza*, a 19-11 win over *Zimmerman* and only one loss (4-25 vs *Netherlands*). In the quarter-finals the Netherlands chose us and again had a huge win, by 78 IMPs.

Oz2 beat the *Bulgarian All Stars* 21-9 and the *Chinese Women* 24-6, but did not get a chance to play against *Lavazza* or *Zimmerman*. With one

round to go Oz2 needed a 20-10 win to reach the quarter-finals. They drew 15-15 and came 13th.

On this deal from the *Oz Players* vs *Zimmerman* match, we benefitted from an undisciplined preempt:

East deals, EW vulnerable

♠ AK98654

Y 5

♦ A 10 2

♣ Q J

♠ Q 7 **♥** 8 7 2

♥ 10 6 **♦** 7 6 4 3

♠ J 10 3

★ K Q 9 8 5♣ A 6 4

♣ 10 7 5 3

2

♥ A K Q J 9 4 3

♦ J

♣ K 9 8 2

West North East South Multon Del'Monte Zimmerman Bach Pass 1 🖤 Pass 1 🏚 Pass **4 5♠**1 Pass 4NT Pass Pass **6Y** All Pass

1. 2 Key Cards + ♥Q.

West North East South
Klinger Fantoni Mullamphy Nunes
Pass 4♥

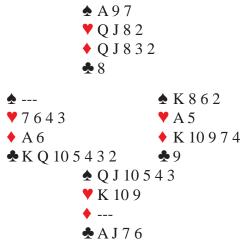
All Pass

12 tricks are routine, and so that was worth 11 IMPs



Another 13 IMPs came on this deal:

West deals, NS vulnerable



West	North	East	South
Multon	Del'Monte	Zimmerman	Bach
1♣	Pass	1♥ 1	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

1. Shows spades.

Given the vulnerability, South assumed that East had psyched the spade response. East had not, but South still came home with 10 tricks for +790.

West	North	East	South
Klinger	Fantoni	Mullamphy	Nunes
1♣	Pass	1♥ 1	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣ 2	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

- 1. Shows spades.
- 2. Good hand in context of bidding.

I would have assumed South's 2♠ was to play, and so it was strange that NS played in their 4-3 fit, down one, rather than their nine-card fit.

In the 64-board final *Zimmerman* led 47-4 after 16 boards. The second set was 40-40, but 47-14 to *Lavazza* in the third set narrowed the gap to 101-91. *Lavazza* gained more ground in the last session and with one board left, it was *Zimmerman* 127, *Lavazza* 126. On the last board *Lavazza* collected 3 IMPs from +400 vs. -300 to win by 2 IMPs.

Copy Deadline

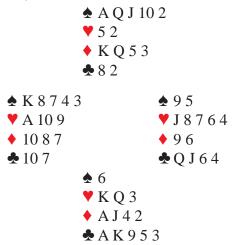
for Issue No 143, May 2010, the deadline is: **April 26, 2010**

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 144, July 2010, at the discretion of the Editor

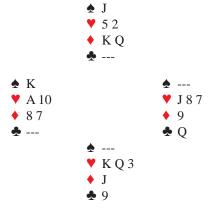
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Board 26 was probably the finest in the final:

West deals, all vulnerable



Both tables reached 6♦ with no opposition bidding. Nunes tried to ruff out clubs, and then went for the ruffing spade finesse. He lost to ♥A and ♠K. At the other table, Bocchi received a trump lead, which he won with the ace, and finessed ♠Q. Then came ♠A, spade ruff (bad news), ♣A, ♣K, club ruff, spade. . . East discarded a heart, and so South could ruff low, leaving this ending:



South led ♥K and West was stymied. If he took ♥A and returned a trump, the last trump would squeeze East in hearts and clubs. If West ducked ♥K, South could score three more tricks via the black suit ruffs.

East needed to ruff in on the fourth spade. Now South would be left with ◆4 in the above ending. West can then take ♥A and return a heart. When South wins and ruffs a club or a heart in dummy, West can ditch ♠K and score a trump trick.

The tournament is thoroughly enjoyable and very well run by Tadashi Yoshida, with Richard Grenside heading the directing staff and excellent Daily Bulletins by Richard Colker and Barry Rigal. It would be an attractive initiative if the ABF were to sponsor a team to the NEC Festival, perhaps one of the Australian national teams.

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About your Bridge Director/Hostess: Anne Weber, the popular proprietor of the Grand Slam Bridge Centre in Canberra, has escorted a number of very successful bridge holidays. Her trips include such destinations as Hawaii, Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, and Hamilton Island. Anne is very familiar with overseas cruising, having organised and escorted bridge holidays to Canada, Alaska, Tuscany, the Eastern Mediterranean and last year Lake Como and Paris finishing with a 17-day Rhine and Danube cruise. For a full detailed day-to-day itinerary or more information please email Anne at anneweber@bigpond.com or call her on 0407 957 978.

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New premises for Traralgon

raralgon Bridge Club, after many years of frustration and disappointments, has finally obtained its own clubrooms.



The club could now be con- NOT the premises sidered to be a strong coun- - still waiting for try club. But it had humble beginnings, starting from a

photos!

small group of social players, about 20 years ago, running regular events in private homes, or temporary rented rooms.

The club was eventually able to make a regular booking with Traralgon Uniting Church, where they played twice a week, with the occasional additional day for special events. The church premises were comfortable, and there was always a cordial relationship between the club and the church, but as with all rented premises, there were disadvantages.

For example, it meant that after close of play, the tables, chairs and other equipment had to be packed up and put away in an overcrowded lockable, cupboard. There was no facility for honour boards or other displays. The normal room for bridge play was often unavailable if the church had a special function. A computer and printer had to be carried in and taken home on the day. There was no incentive to add value to the premises.

Then of course, there was always the running costs of the commercial rental, which was a consistent drain on the club's finances.

All these factors prompted efforts to find a permanent home for the club, but attempts to find alternative premises in an expanding country town had been fruitless. Any possible buildings were, after investigation, found to have overwhelming deficiencies, and the proposal had to be abandoned. The premises were either too small, inconveniently located, deficient in parking or security, or prohibitively expensive to buy, rent, or refurbish.

Then, about 18 months ago a building, owned by the local council, which had the potential of being the ideal premises for a club became available. The building was located in Traralgon showgrounds, a convenient location, but it needed work because the premises had been almost unused for about five years, and were badly run down.

However, they were available at a peppercorn rental, so for the first time, the club could seriously consider a move.

But it was a big decision. Although the club had some reserves, a wrong decision could bankrupt it. The committee held meetings, trying to consider everything that could go wrong, and estimating the money required. This had to include the cost of labour, as well as furniture and hardware. Finally, after months of deliberation, a special general meeting was called to put the proposed move to a membership vote. The result was gratifying, with the proposal to move being carried by an overwhelming majority.

Fortunately, the club was lucky to have a dynamic President, Rob Graham, as well as a hard working committee and an enthusiastic membership.

A three-month programme was set up to get the premises ready. This was achieved, and the first games were held on Melbourne Cup Day 2009, with the opening celebration being a barbecue. There was strong support from local clubs, as well as a few from as far away as Melbourne.A total of 80 turned up to play bridge on the day.

To give some idea of the work involved, it is estimated around 350 hours was given by the members in working bees. The club is grateful for the assistance from social service work crews, who completely repainted the interior.

New tables and chairs were purchased, toilets were repaired and air conditioning units installed. The council were cooperative and helpful, making minor repairs, and installing additional security lighting. There were generous donations of hardware, paint and kitchen equipment. The members' generosity was further demonstrated with contributions of debenture funds to assist in budgeting for new equipment. But the Treasurer was able to report, after all the work, the whole project has come in under budget, and the debenture holders will be paid off during 2010.

The clubrooms are now fully operational, with a playing area measuring something like 70m x 7m. This is large enough to comfortably set up 20 tables on the carpeted area.

The club it is already planning to hold conventions and major events. It is planned to have an official opening on March 23, where the local politicians, council officials and other dignitaries will be invited, together with past members and supporters.



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It's the Law!

Shuffling and Dealing

I sometimes hear comments about the difference in 'feel' of hand-shuffled versus computer-shuffled boards.

Theoretically, a deck of cards needs to be subjected to seven (7) 'riffle' shuffles in order to totally destroy any residual effects from the previous deal.



Since most manual shuffling is at best cursory, it is really of little surprise that the results are sometimes flatter than the truly random hands produced via computer generation.

Recently I received two enquiries on the subject:

1. "I usually shuffle and deal the cards 1-2-3-4-5 then back across 4-3-2-1 and then 2-3-4-5 continuously. At the end I put the first pile and the last together to make an even 13 in each. I believe it mixes the cards up better and I have done this over such a long period of time that it is now an absolute habit.

Since arriving at a new club, I have been criticised for my dealing. I asked someone else in authority, and they said that there was no problem, as the rules state to deal into four piles, and it does not say the manner in which you should do it. Could you advise me whether it is legal or illegal to shuffle and deal in this way?

This issue is covered by Law 6B, which states:

"The cards must be dealt face down, one card at a time, into four hands of 13 cards each; each hand is then placed face down in one of the four pockets of the board. The recommended procedure is that the cards be dealt in rotation, clockwise."

Hence the 1-2-3-4-5-4-3-2-1-2-3-etc. method is <u>not</u> illegal, and it is not an infraction to deal in this manner. It is, of course, not the 'recommended' (i.e. clockwise 1-2-3-4-1-2-3-4) procedure.

There are, however, certain other variants such as 1-2-3-4-4-3-2-1-1-2-3-4-etc., which **are** illegal because they result in successive cards ending up in the <u>same</u> hand. Note finally that the Law also allows for each of the four resultant piles to be placed in <u>any</u> pocket of the board.

2. "I note an ABF directive that the dealing machine should not be set in any way other than to deal randomly for sessions awarding ABF Masterpoints. We do this with one exception: we organise the sessions so that the 'good' hands are distributed equally between NS and EW – the program does of course

allow this option to varying degrees. This way we do not get those frequent complaints from our premachine dealt days of "I haven't had a good hand all day!!" – or maybe only one. I can see nothing at all wrong with this arrangement – however, it probably contravenes the ABF ruling and must be stopped. Please advise?"

This not only contravenes the directive, but it is also a violation of Law 6E2, which states:

"The Director may require a different method of dealing or pre-dealing to produce the same wholly random expectations..."

The important aspect here is to note the requirement that the hands must be 'wholly random'.

Some players still ask, "What level of difficulty has 'the machine' been set at?" In other words, they remain wary of computer-generated deals, and to deliberately place further constraints upon the process only fuels those concerns.

In order for a dealing program to conform to the various statistical measures of 'randomness', the software makes use of a 'random number' generation algorithm. This produces a random string of digits, which are then used to distribute the 52 cards among the four hands of a deal. When extra parameters are added with the intent of excluding certain types of hands, the program simply produces a larger number of random deals and then discards those that don't conform to the artificially imposed constraint.

In the example above, if the computer begins by generating a few hands where one direction holds a surplus of values, then it will soon start discarding deals until it produces some which redress that imbalance. This can lead to quite interesting tactical situations for the players, for example, if a pair in the early part of a session has held a surplus of HCPs, then they will know that it won't continue. That information might then encourage them to increase the frequency of their preemptive actions and perhaps even try the odd psych!

Another common type of dealing machine manipulation ensures that at least one hand in every deal holds 13 or more HCP, thereby removing any possibility of a 'Passed In' board. Deals doctored in this manner require a change in one's approach to third-seat openings, as well as altering the considerations that govern re-opening actions.

As with any Law, the best approach is not to break it. Let the dealing machine do whatever it wants and remember that all those percentage plays and bids are based upon the premise that the cards really are distributed randomly.







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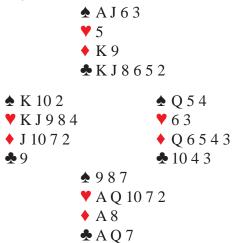
More details can be found on bridgeunlimited.com

2010 National Open Teams

Can't argue with success - a hand from one of the winners

his deal is from R13 of 14 in the South West Pacific Teams in Canberra:

East deals, all vulnerable



West	North	East	South
Kanetkar	McManus	Brown	Ware
	Pass	Pass	1 ♣ ¹
Pass	$1 \checkmark 2$	Pass	$2 \checkmark 3$
Pass	$2 \clubsuit^2$	Pass	$2NT^4$
Pass	3 ♣ ²	Pass	3 ♠ ⁵
Pass	$4\clubsuit^2$	Pass	4 ♠ 6
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

- 1. 11-20 HCP. 4+♥
- 2. All of North's bids, except 6♣, were relays.
- 3. Single-suiter ♥, with a diamond shortage.
- 4. 3-5-2-3 shape exactly.
- 5. 15-20 HCP with 6 controls (A=2, K=1).
- 6. \forall A or \forall K, ♠A or ♠K, denying ♠A or ♠K.

Lead: ♣9

The relay allowed South to be declarer. Avi Kanetkar, West, led a trump. I won and combined my chances by running a spade immediately. After that loses, I still have enough entries to play for king-third of hearts in either hand (say East gets out a diamond – won in dummy) – heart to the ace, ruff a heart, trump to my ace, ruff another heart and use •A for entry. But if trumps break 2-2, then I get to play for king-fourth of hearts as well, as I have another trump entry.

Some declarers went off in 6♣ after playing a heart to the queen at trick two. When this lost, they now needed three spade discards from dummy, i.e. ♥J third. I think this line is

only 51%, because 5-2 heart breaks are no good, even when ♥K is onside.

Now odds aren't my forte, and are very boring, but I calculate my line as 70%. (40% (2-2 trumps) of 62% (all 4-3s) plus 50% (3-1 trumps) of 27% (3/7ths of 4-3 i.e. ∇ K tripleton = hearts for three tricks of 51.5% + the residual spades, 18.6% (37.5% (\$\delta\$10 onside with either \$\delta\$Q, \$\delta\$K or both, i.e. 75% of 50%) of the residual 49.5%) = a grand total of 70%.

So anyway, I ran \$\.\text{\lefta}8\$. (I think \$\.\text{\lefta}7\$ is better, as you don't want West to get an inkling as to what is going on, and hop up with their \$\.\text{\lefta}K\$ or \$\.\text{\lefta}Q\$. If they do, you will have to guess which spade to finesse next time. Leading \$\.\text{\lefta}9\$ is terrible, as it makes the position very obvious to LHO).

\$\Delta 8\$ forced \$\Delta Q\$, which looked very good for my residuals. Now I won the diamond return, and tested the hearts. A heart to the ace was cashed and a heart was ruffed with \$\Delta 8\$. A trump to the queen (West discarding a heart) and I led another heart. Avi Kanetkar falsecarded \$\forall K\$ on this − trying to induce me to ruff low - but I ruffed with \$\Delta J\$, drew trumps and claimed, as I no longer needed the spade finesse as my hearts were high. This was good play by Kanetkar, as he could see the next spade finesse was going to work. Still, +920 and 14 IMPs when declarer was two off in 6\$\Delta at the other table.

Michael Ware

In the NOT final, *DE LIVERA*, Arjuna De Livera, Ian Robinson, Ian Thomson, Richard Brightling, Matthew McManus, Michael Ware defeated *MILNE*, Liam Milne, Michael Whibley, Nabil Edgtton, Andy Hung, Adam Edgtton, Alex Smirnov by 141 - 101 IMPs.



De Livera, 2010 NOT Champions

The World **Bridge Federation** and BBO present

A Women's

Pairs and Individual **Championships**





8

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Where women players can make new friends and enjoy an exciting bridge competition in a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Anna Maria, Chairman of the WBF Women's Committee writes:

"Please help us by publicising this event for Women all over the world - all the details are below ..."

Players from all the WBF Zones are invited to participate in Pairs and Individual Championships.

There will be four daily tournaments of 10 boards each: two individual tournaments followed by two pairs tournaments.

The Festival will last one week, from 12 – 18 April, 2010 and will include a total of 28 tournaments.

Full details, including the times of play are on the website: http://www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org/ - just click the link to the Online Festival.

All the tournaments are limited exclusively to women players. who must enrol in the Festival through the website.

The entry fee is \$1, the standard fee for most BBO pay tournaments.

Both WBF OnLine Master Points and BBO Master Points will be awarded, based on the size of the field.

Certificates will be awarded to the top three places overall in the pairs and the Individual events, and to the top five places in the overall combined classification.

Players interested in participating in this new and exciting event should go to http://www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org to find out all about it.

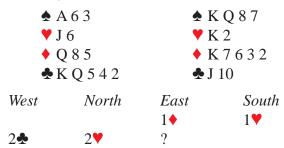
What should I bid?

Sponsored by Bridgemate

The best submission for January 2010 came from Peter Lewin of Sydney.



East deals, NS vulnerable



Comments: Does opener show a better hand if he doubles to show four spades? If the balancer doubles, the worry is that partner may raise spades with only three-card support.

Sartaj's Reply:

Opener's double should show either extra shape or extra high-cards. Here, with a high card minimum, and no shortage in opponents' suit, opener has a clearcut pass.

Responder should double to keep the auction alive. Opener cannot bid more than 2♠ so responder is safe, even in the potential 4-3 fit.

Sartaj Hans



UPCOMING VUGRAPH BROADCASTS

Open and Women's Playoffs Mar 22-24 Senior's Playoffs Apr 9-11 Autumn National Open Teams May 3

For session times, look here (closer to the date): http://www.bridgebase.com/vugraph/schedule.php

Free software to watch these broadcasts over BBO is available from http://www.bridgebase.com

Bridge into the 21st Century

The Security of the 4-3 Fit

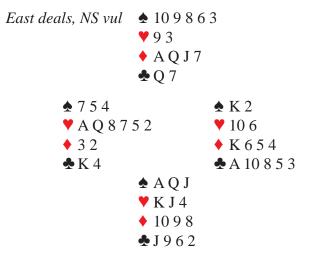
Bridge is a game with thousands of unusual situations. Being aware of these situations is called "Technique".



One point of technique is that a 4-3

fit is often right at the one- and two-level, more so than at a higher level. Another is that at the same level, notrumps is more difficult than a suit contract.

In a teams event you hold ♠AQJ, ♥KJ4, ♠1098, ♣J962, vulnerable versus non vulnerable. You open 1♣ in second seat, and LHO jumps to 2♥. Partner doubles, and RHO passes. You consider passing, but decide on your other choice, 2NT:



West leads a heart, and East returns a heart when in with ◆K. You lose eight tricks for -300.

In the discussion after the score-up, one of your teammates listens to the bidding, then looks at your hand and says "2\\(\frac{1}{2}\)".

Yes, that would have been a far better choice than 2NT. How do players in their twenties know these things?

South's fifth spade was a bonus, but the double of 2 guaranteed at least four spades, and the 4-3 spade fit would still have been much better than 2NT.

Two months later I held ♠A54, ♥K73, ♦KQ2, ♣9852 and the bidding proceeded

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dhl	Pass	?

Partner is a near certainty to hold four spades, and 2NT may not play well opposite a hand that couldn't open the bidding.

So, in light of the previous experience, 2♠ was an easy choice:

West deals, EW vul ♠ K 10 8 7 **V** J 6 10964 ♣ A K 3 **♦** J 9 6 3 **♠** Q 2 **♥** Q 5 **Y** A 10 9 8 4 2 **♦** J 7 3 ♦ A 8 5 **\$** 10 6 **♣**QJ74 **♠** A 5 4 **♥** K 7 3 ♦ K Q 2 **♣**9852

2♠ played nicely, and scored +140, though perfect defence could have held it to eight tricks.

On the other hand, 2NT would have had no chance. ♥Q lead would have set up five heart tricks, plus ♠A, for down one.

There must be many times in the past when you have looked for a minor suit fit at the three-level, or battled it out in 2NT. In future keep in mind 2♠, knowing the contract is going to be played in a 4-3 (Moysian) fit.

Paul Lavings
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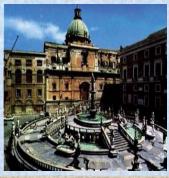






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The ABF History Project

BF Historian, Keith Ogborn, talks to the ABF Newsletter Editor about what is going on in the ABF's History Department.

What was done in 2009?

After the Brenda Jones and Ivy Dahler biographies, the main priority was helping sort the ABF records from the 1930s to the 1960s, putting together some basic chronologies of ABF office bearers and administrators. The rest was background research into the newspaper archives of the 1930s and 1940s.

We have a big advantage earlier researchers lacked, in that, via *Google* and the National Library of Australia, a significant proportion of Australian newspapers have now been digitized and so can be searched online through keywords. This has been a mixed blessing, as I have discovered a number of errors in my early biographies, which had been sourced primarily from obituaries, which I now have to fix. (Thanks also to readers who pointed to errors, or suggested additions.)



What can we expect in 2010?

The main priority is to set up an online dictionary of bridge biographies. Unlike the current biographies, the aim is to cover more people,

more briefly – along the lines of the *Official Encyclopedia of Bridge* (but perhaps a bit longer) – starting with people active in Australia in the 1930s to 1950s. The concern is that many of these people are already very remote in memory, and that, if basic information is not captured now, it may be lost for ever.

The more people who can contribute to this task the better. We are looking at the feasibility of an online *Wiki*, linked to the ABF website, abf.com.au,.Here ABF members will be able to post the details they are in possession of.

I have been compiling a list of people on whom we urgently need details, but it will be incomplete. I will be looking for suggestions and additions.



I am also hoping to make more historical source material available on the ABF website. This will include key early documents, such as the first meetings of the Australian Bridge Council - how many remember when that organisation became the ABF?

Will biographies continue?

Yes. My current project is Victor Champion – without something in place, it is likely that many who play the VCC in the future, will have only a vague idea of the person the event is named after – if that is not the case already.

I want to stress that biographies don't have to be done by the historian. John Brockwell is working on a biography of Jeff Lathbury,



Do you know your bridge personalities of the past?

and other offers would be very gratefully accepted.



We particularly need detailed biographies of Tim Seres and Dick Cummings. I have enough bridge material to do a basic narrative, but it would be better for the biographies to be written by somebody Sydney-based, who either knew them, or is in a better position to talk to family, and others who did

know them well. Any volunteers, and/or suggestions about how to do justice to these two pre-eminent figures are very welcome.

Another notable omission from the biographies is Bill Schaufelberger. I have a basic bridge chronology, but very little about Bill as a person, examples of his play, or anecdotes from his life outside bridge. I would be interested to hear from anybody who is in a position to take this on, or can contribute, or suggest family or friends who might help.

Are there other ways that people can be involved in the history project?

Yes.I can find plenty of work for family historians who have run out of family to trace, or who still have time for other tracing. For some early players, the only way to get information will be to track current family. My experience is that most families really appreciate interest, and often have far more information than we might expect.

I would also be very pleased to hear from people who would be prepared to do some local interviewing or research with their local Association or other local archives.

How can people contact you? Email historian@abf.com.au



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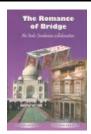
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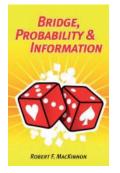
First published in 1959, this quickly became a bridge classic - this is the first revision in 50 years. In its new modernised form, the concepts and terminology are much more accessible, and the book includes a number of squeeze concepts that have been discovered since the first publication. \$37.95



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by Robert MacKinnon

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This book develops the ideas of probability and information theory and applies them to bridge in a way no previous author has done. Concepts such as Vacant Spaces, Restricted Choice, and how splits in one suit affect the probabilities in other suits, are discussed in depth. Not overly technical, this book is accessible for most players. \$29.95

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Note advertised prices include GST but not p&h.

Coaching Cathy at Contract

SUPPORT DOUBLES AND REDOUBLES

Esteemed Uncle,

It seems quite a lot of players at my club are using support doubles. I have had trouble finding information about these in print, so I was hoping that you might enlighten me on how they work.

For that matter, did someone recently mention support redoubles? Should we be using these as well, if there is such a thing?

Your lovin' niece,

Cathy

Dear Cathy,

If you would like to find a brief outline of any commonly used convention, there are a number of free websites that can help. *Bridge Buffs* is one, but the explanations are very concise in most instances.

Support doubles are most comonly used in situations where RHO has overcalled after a major suit response to your opening:

Say you hold: **♠** KJ43 **♥** K6 **♦** AJ753 **♣** 74

You open 1 ◆, and partner responds 1♠..Whether RHO overcalls or not, you can and will support spades happily. Let's change the hand a little:

♦ KJ4 ♥ K73 **♦** AJ753 **♣** 74

In the same auction, under normal circumstances, you would probably bid $2 \spadesuit$ if RHO chipped in with a $2 \clubsuit$ or $2 \heartsuit$ overcall.

However, if you play support doubles, you can double the overcall to show precisely three-card support. This provides a valuable distinction between three and four cards in partner's major, often useful in working out whether to bid on or defend.

Support redoubles work in the same situation. For example, you open 1♣ and your partner responds 1♥, If RHO doubles for takeout, you can redouble to show three hearts and raise immediately with four.

Obviously, if you adopt these methods, you lose the penalty double option over unwise overcalls but you can reconstruct this option by requesting that partner re-open with a double in the event that you pass.

You will also lose the ability to show good hands over the takeout double, which is probably no great loss. As to strength, you can work on lower to middle ranges for both bids (say 12-16 or 17+) as your double is forcing but you will probably have other options on maximum hands.

For starters, stay within the parameters discussed. You may have an opportunity to extend the use of these calls as you become more comfortable with the idea.

Yours, David

Expressions of Interest



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John Hardy

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More NOT

The 14 rounds of the South West Pacific Teams qualifies 20 teams to go through to Australia's premier event, the National Open Teams. The SWPT, recognised as an event in itself, was won by *MILNE* (see team photo on page 8). Smirnov may be only 27, but he played on the German Open Team in last year's World

Championship in Sao Paulo – not only that, but he and his partner Josef Pikarek topped the Bermuda Bowl datums, ahead of many internationally recognised pairs. Being such an 'old' player, Smirnov raised the average age of *MILNE* to almost 21.



For the semi-finals, *MILNE* played *BILAL*, Gulzar Bilal, Sarfraz Khan, Seamus Browne, Khokan Bagchi and Michael Smart, the team with two Pakistani Internationals.

De LIVERA squared off against LILLEY, David Lilley, Zolly Nagy, Bill Haughie, Andy Braithwaite, Nye Griffiths and Justin Williams. At the half way point in this semi only a single IMP separated the two teams. In the third set, De LIVERA picked up 8 IMPs to be 7 IMPs ahead with 16 boards to go. However, three double-digit swings were registered in the De LIVERA column in the last set:

Board 53, North deals, NS vulnerable

55, North aeats, N	is vuinerable
♠ J 6 2	
∀ K J 9	9 5
♦ 10 7	3 2
♣ 85	
♠ A K 10 8 5 3	★ 7 4
♥ Q 10 7 6	♥ A 4
♦ 8 5	♦ A Q 6
♣ K	♣ A Q J 10 6 2
♠ Q 9	
V 8 3 2	2
♦ K J 9	9 4
♣ 974	13

West	North	East	South
Williams	Brightling	Griffiths	Thomson
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4 ♦	Dbl
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ♥
Dbl	6♣	All Pass	

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3NT showed a hand too good to rebid $3\clubsuit$. $4\spadesuit$ and $4\spadesuit$ were cuebids and the response to RKCB committed them to $6\clubsuit$ on a fatal heart lead.

EW bid to 3NT in the other room, resulting in an 11 IMP swing.

6♠ can be made by West on a reasonable trump break, but it is difficult to construct a natural auction that would prefer the 6-2 spade fit over the solid club suit.

Continued on page 18





Later, there was another difficult slam hand:

Board 57, North deals, EW vul

De Livera - Robinson and Pakistani Internationals Bilal - Khan in the other semi-final bid to 7♠, both picking up 13 IMPs swings against 6♠ contracts. Would you, honestly and confidently, have bid the grand slam?

Arjuna De Livera was able to show his card-reading prowess on the last board of the semi final:

Board 64, West deals, EW vul

♣ J 10 8 6 **♥** 10 9 8 4 **♦** 9 **♣** K Q J 8 **♦** Q 10 6 **♣** K Q J 8

De Livera was in 4♥ from the East seat. Early in the defence North, his right-hand opponent, who had opened the bidding 1♦, was known to hold three aces. When ♥10 was led from dummy and North followed with ♥6, De Livera reasoned that with ♥K6, or ♥KJ6, North would have opened a strong notrump. Arjuna thus rose with the trump ace. This felled South's singleton king, resulting in a swing of 10 IMPs when 3♥ was bid and made in the other room.

These swings helped *De LIVERA* defeat *LILLEY* 142 to 116 IMPs. In the other semi final match, *MILNE* emerged with a resounding victory over *BILAL*. *MILNE* were going from strength to strength, having not lost a match since winning the South West Pacific Teams. So a final was set up where it would be youth (certainly) versus experience (perhaps). *See next issue*

Richard Brightling

Bridge Base Operators required

The ABF is committed to showcasing the final stages of major Australian bridge events over Bridge Base Online.

The National VuGraph Unit requires BBO operators to assist during events such as the Australian Team Playoffs, the ANOT, the VCC, the ANC, the GNOT

and the SNOT. See below for a list of events and dates in your state. Working as a BBO operator is now a paid position and full training will be provided prior to the event.

If you are interested and able to help out during these championships, please contact Nick at nick@fahrer.com.au

Open and Women's Playoffs, Sydney March 20 - 24, 2010

Seniors Playoffs, Sydney, April 7 - 11, 2010

Autumn Nationals, Adelaide, April. 29 - May 3, 2010

Victor Champion Cup, Melbourne, June 11 - 14, 2010

ANC, Hobart, July 17 - 29, 2010

Spring Nationals Sydney, October 21 - 28, 2010

Grand National Open Teams, Tweed Heads, November 26 - 29, 2010

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		Total	Gold	Red	Green	2010
1	Zhu, Wayne	309.45	120.01	111.54	77.9	45.86
2	Limaye, Ranjit	368.67	114.41	134.61	119.65	45.39
3	Moore, Nikolas	303.89	180.15	95.37	28.37	44.62
4	Martin, Geoffrey	233.04	156.95	59.67	16.42	41.28
5	Ma, Lisa	133.42	66.26	33.82	33.34	31.27
6	Williams, Emlyn	371.29	170.51	151.15	49.63	29.62
7	Edgtton, Nabil	774.02	512.8	242.34	18.88	29.11
8	Gosney, Paul	2362.86	1461.57	841.86	59.43	28.92
9	Edgtton, Adam	565.59	351.49	198.57	15.53	25.53
10	Harrison, Shane	259.27	151.57	85.84	21.86	24.05
11	Farmer, David	411.36	105.25	197.17	108.94	20.95
12	Wu, Orlando	231.07	108.81	121.73	0.53	20.7
13	Smith, Darryl	68.33	33.89	6.16	28.28	20.31
14	Brooks, David	314.33	75.38	183.8	55.15	20.31
15	Beyfus, John	1859.09	264.84	809.36	784.89	19.8
16	Howard, Justin	1143.34	820.41	303.66	19.27	19.72
17	Draper, Michael	3092.96	936.89	1938.71	217.36	18.61
18	Matheson, Leigh	206.43	171.78	29.58	5.07	18.55
19	Johnson, John	1450.48	235.88	772.54	442.06	18.54
20	Rains, Phil	278.04	47.53	120.33	110.18	17.92
21	McLennan, Jan	1141.22	226.78	395.94	518.5	17.87
22	Menzies, Bev	1159.49	234.84	459.46	465.19	17.54
23	Jackman, Tony	5066.77	1151.21	3730.67	184.89	17.32
24	Reynolds, Jane	275.92	211.01	55.07	9.84	17.27
25	Snook, Chris	360.89	85.86	132.55	142.48	16.26
26	Giles, Patricia	676.34	80.24	206.49	389.61	16.17
	Redhead, Bill	223.75	35.48	101.75	86.52	16.1
	Clayton, Robyn	2283.32	880.52	1200.85		15.9
	Trada, Mohan	282.79	66.42	105.09	111.28	15.83
	Small, Anne	1530.4	485.67	656.71	388.02	15.76
	Milanovic, Aleks	1200.67	360.87	649.91	189.89	15.55
	Hung, Andy	645.68	457.15	177.67	10.86	15.19
	Avunduk, Kemal	163.85	60.36	44.12	59.37	15.03
	Darley, Monica	1493.48	452.71	564.08		15
	Young, Michael	14.89	0	0	14.89	14.89
	Williams, Justin	2648.69	998.46	1319.14	331.09	14.57
	Griffiths, Nye	1634.83	1119.79	466.03	49.01	14.57
	Kempthorne, Agnes	2575.2	618.41	1621.36	335.43	14.55
	Kempthorne, Barry	2632.83	507.38	1776.04	349.41	14.55
	Hutchins, Geoff	358.22	176.86	113.51	67.85	14.17
	Schulz, Samuel	183.07	120.7	49.2	13.17	13.8
	Ngasn, Alex	114.52	24.02	24.14	66.36	13.63
	Ryan, Del	1370.8	333.31		545.24	13.45
	Campbell, Frank	249.45	80.43	91.86	77.16	13.44
	Hobdell, Betty	845.64	107.94	431.98	305.72	13.35
	Erskine, Robin	301.62	174.64	66.87	60.11	13.34
	Slater, Andsrew	993.89	236.68	609.56	147.65	13.13
	Yuen, Sebastian	356.37	206.99	128.1	21.28	12.92
	Rolfe, Tony	343.89	95.58	104.05	144.26	12.76
50	Grant, Heather	235.34	79.17	90.5	65.67	12.68



John Hansen Honoured

ow many of us can say that we have dedicated 20 years of our working lives to one organisation – John Hansen can!!

John took over the management of the ABF Masterpoint Centre in August 1988. He followed in the footsteps of Brian Rawson. At that time the centre catered for a small number of players – so few, in fact, that John was able to sign all promotion certificates by hand – and still get them out on time. In fact, John tells me that he had to be coerced into putting his electronic signature onto the cards, as he felt that it was much more personal to receive the "real thing," rather than a printed version!

John and wife Ruth emigrated to Australia from Denmark in 1957 - a very big step for a young couple who had no experience of our great country. John soon picked up a job as a television mechanic, working for the



Admiral TV Company until Jose Greenfeld "discovered" him. With Ian McKinnon's invaluable assistance, and the software programme that Ian wrote, the automated process of administering Masterpoint awards was instituted.

At the time John took over the role, the ABF boasted around 20,000 members – as compared to present day numbers of just over 34,000. With Ruth's support and encouragement (and hands-on approach), John managed the Centre for 20 years, often taking phone calls early in the morning and late into the night. Holidays were something that got squeezed into the minimal amount of time, usually centred around the closing down of the



Masterpoint Centre over Christmas. No wonder Ruth told me that "life started when the dog died and the kids left home."

It was a great pleasure to honour John and Ruth, on behalf of the ABF, with a commemorative gold watch for John, and some beautiful flowers in a keepsake vase for Ruth, at the Golden West Congress late last year. I know that it was a huge surprise, and very well received, even though Ruth did say that "she loved the flowers, but would have preferred a gold watch!"

The Australian Bridge Federation Management Committee wishes John and Ruth a restful retirement with more time to enjoy their four children and seven grandchildren, and of course more time to continue their successes at the bridge table!!!!

Di Marler ABF Secretary

Australian Youth Championships

The Championships, which included the Butler to select the Australian Youth Team, were held from January 9-16, in Canberra.



Shane Harrison Michael Whibley.



Pairs winners



Teams Winners

Teams Winners: Paul Gosney - Nye Griffiths - Justin Williams, - Nabil Edgtton.

Qualifiers to National Youth Team:

Paul Gosney - Nabil Edgtton were the first pair to qualify, having won Phase 1, a 14-round Butler.

They were joined by Justin Howard - Michael Whibley after they won Phase 2A. Andy Hung - Adam Edgtton, winners of Phase 2B were the third pair selected.

There were 21 pairs and 10 teams competing.

Come to the ANC in Hobart



July 17th to 29th, 2010

A great venue - the Boardwalk Gallery at Wrest Point

July 17th - Warm up Swiss Teams

July 18th - 23rd ANC Teams

July 24th - 25th Stage 1 Open & Women's Butler

July 26th - 29th Stage 1 Seniors Butler

Stage 2 Open & Women's Butler

Please note: There will only be two stages of the Open & Women's Butler and 1 stage for the Seniors.

The ABF has announced that the winners of the Open, Women's and Seniors Butler Pairs will receive a subsidy of \$4.000.00 per pair to play in the World Bridge series Championship in Philadelphia - October 1st to 16th 2010 so come and have a go. What better incentive do you need?

Congress events will run from:

July 18th to 29th so there is bridge for everyone.

There will be Swiss Pairs & Teams, Restricted, Open and Graded Pairs, as well as walk-ins daily.

Tassie in July is the place to play bridge!

Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated ABN 70053651666

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Hervé Mouiel - 1949 - 2010

ervé Mouiel of France, one of the world's greatest players, has passed away. Mouiel dominated the world competition scene over the past 30 years, and was a World Grand Master, occupying 85th place in the official classification of the World Bridge Federation at the time of his death.



After numerous successes on the national scene, Mouiel first became a European champion, as a member of the victorious French team in Wiesbaden 1983, and took the bronze medal at the World Championship (Bermuda Bowl) a few months later in Stockholm. This was just the beginning! With Mouiel at the helm, France was runner up at the 1984 World Team Olympiad in Seattle, and took the gold medal four years later in Salsomaggiore! The same happened at the 1996 World Team Olympiad in Rhodes. The year after, in Hammamet, France with Mouiel made headlines, winning the Bermuda Bowl, for the first time, after 41 years!

Mouiel scored well in pairs tournaments too, and was distinguished in Mixed Pairs competitions with his favourite partner, Sylvie Willard. At the 2004 World Masters Individual in Verona, he finished a credible 5th among the world's top 52 players.



Besides his successes at the bridge table, Hervé Mouiel will be remembered very fondly for his consistent work for the young players. Since 1998 he worked training the French youth teams,

inspiring Juniors to come to bridge and enjoy our sport through success.

We welcome reports on major ABF events. If accepted, we pay \$100 for articles not published elsewhere E: editor@abf.com.au

Congresses and events

Spring 2010 NABC

March 11-21 in Reno, Nevada.



Open and Women's Playoffs, Sydney

March 20-24.

NSW Bowlers' Club, 99 York Street. Email Eric Ramshaw at playoffconvener@abf.com.au

Seniors' Playoff, Sydney

April 7 - 11

NSW Bowlers' Club, 99 York Street. Email David Stern at seniorsplayoff@abf.com.au

Hawkesbury Bridge Club Autumn Congress

April 10 - 11 - Pairs and Teams

Registration 10.00am both days at Panthers North Richmond Club, Beaumont Rd, North Richmond. Email Pat Chamberlain on chambo 7@spin.net.au or telephone (02) 4572 1411.

2010 Port Macquarie Hastings Congresses

May 1 - 2 - Pairs and Teams

September 11 - 12 - Swiss Teams

Contact Secretary, Margaret Walker on (02) 6581 3569 or email: margaretwalk1@bigpond.com

Autumn Nationals, Adelaide

April 29 - May 3

SABA Club Rooms, 243 Young Street, Unley . Email Dianne Marler at anot@abf.com.au or telephone 0414 689 620 or (08) 8116 7282.

Western Senior Pairs, Perth

May 15 - 16

Senior PQP and Gold Points. A great weekend of bridge for players born before January 1, 1951. Email Jane Reynolds at wsp@abf.com.au

Victor Champion Cup, Melbourne

June 10 - 14

New Melbourne Convention Centre Email Sue Smith on vcc2010@optusnet.com.au or telephone 0429 056 445

Festival Website: www.vba.asn.au/vcc2010

Coffs Coast Gold Congress 2010

COITS CO	abt Core				
Contact Details (*mandator	ABF No:				
Name:					
Address:					
Ph:	Fax:		Mobile		
Email:					
Payment Methods Direct Transfer:	\$	Account Name: Coffs Account No: 573 093		BSB No: 082 551 rence: your ABF number	
Cheque/Money Order enclosed for	\$				
Please charge my credit card for	\$	We accept only Vis	sa or Mastercard		
Card Number:			Expiry Date		
Name on Card					
Signature of Card Holder					
Program Tuesday 17 th A	ugust 2010 -	Sunday 22nd	August 2010		
		Price/Player	Number	Total	
Tuesday Night Welcome Function & Pairs (pre registration essential)		\$20			
Open/Restricted Pairs (Wed/Thurs)		\$135			
Friday Workshop – Directors Forum		Free			
Saturday Night Dinner - Live Entertainment		\$60			
Open/Restricted Teams (Fri Night/Sat/Sun)		\$125			
(or \$500/Team) Total					
Please forward entries to: Jon Doland, 61A Safety Beach Dr. Safety Beach NSW 2456					

Ph 02 6654 1104 Fax 02 6654 9111 Email: jon@australiawideconferences.com.au

Online entries www.coffsbridge.com.au/congress.html

Entries close on 1st Aug 2010. All entries must be accompanied by entry fee.

Table numbers will be capped at around 106.

Coffs Harbour Bridge Club may also accept late entries at its discretion.

			Indicate events being entered (Y/N		
Event	ABF No	Full Name	Open Pairs	Restricted	Welcome Pairs
Pair 1					
	ABF No	Full Name			
Pair 2					
			Open Teams	s (Y/N)	Restricted teams (Y/N)
Teams	ABF No	Full Name			
1 Capt					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					



Venue:Opal Cove

Programme, Application form and Booking Accommodation form are now on line or fill in entry form on the inside of the back cover of this Newsletter. For more information visit:

www.coffsbridge.com.au

(take the congress link) or contact Ian/Jon on: 02 6654 1104

Pairs start Wed 18th at 10am & finish Thurs afternoon
Teams start Fri 20th at 7.30 pm & finish Sunday early afternoon
A full program of events can be found on the web site

Complimentary workshop on Friday morning