

Opinion

The Major Event Calendar is undergoing rapid change. One of the positive changes is the addition of Senior events at major championships. The Seniors' Teams at the Summer Festival has proved to be a runaway success since its inception some years ago. Not only were there 74 teams in the event but the standard at the top end was very high. Similarly, the Gold Coast Congress has introduced a Seniors' event which attracted 48 teams for its inauguration. The 2001 Victor Champion Cup, to be held in Melbourne on the June long weekend, will offer a Seniors' event for the first time. If the popularity of similar events elsewhere is any guide, this innovation should be well supported.

Restricted events, led by the 0-149ers in the Summer Festival are also receiving support. 58 teams entered the Restricted Teams at the Gold Coast Congress.

Butler-style events (Pairs with IMP scoring) are also coming to the fore. The Swiss Pairs at the Summer Festival attracted over 270 pairs this year, surely the biggest field for an event of this nature in Australian bridge. Unfortunately, the success of this event has impacted on the Australian Pairs Championship, conducted over the same weekend.

All such innovations have undoubted merit when they are embraced by the players to whom they are offered, but what of the Dick Cummings Pairs?

The inaugural Dick Cummings Pairs was lauded as a top-class matchpointed pairs event which filled a gap in the bridge calendar. It was seen as a fitting tribute because it was Dick himself who pointed out that high quality pairs events were few and far between for Australian bridge players. The event has now been handed back to the NSW Bridge Association and will be conducted in September as ... Swiss Pairs. If the event attracts 100+ tables, I will be prepared to eat my words but it looks to have been placed on the "satellite circuit" and is unlikely to be well supported by players outside NSW.

And what of the Open Playoffs? Do I sense another Butler? For once, I would be happy to support such a change, since it might just give players outside Sydney a better chance to make the national team.

David Lusk

A View From the Top

Evidence of the growing reputation of the Summer Festival of Bridge is the fact that this year's overseas contingent was more than 70 players from nine countries, including an unsolicited entry from the five-player Italian team, Lavazza, four of whom are the reigning Open team world champions. Maria Teresa Lavazza hopes to return in 2002 for the Gold Coast Congress, to follow up on their very good win in the NOT. John and Marcia Scudder and all involved did a wonderful job at this year's event.

Tony and Claire Jackman and all involved performed equally well at the Gold Coast Congress. We were particularly pleased to receive the EBU team. Paul Hackett and Brian Senior both gave outstanding presentations at the ABTA seminars. The inaugural Seniors Teams event was won by John Brockwell, John Ashworth, Bill Westwood and Ian McKinnon.

The Open and Women's 2001 Playoffs will be held in conjunction with the Zone Seven Championships in Christchurch over Easter. At the same time the Seniors Playoff will be held at the Double Bay Club, Sydney. The designated events for the successful teams are the 40th PABF Championship in Singapore 7-17 June and the WBF events (Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Senior Championship) in Bali, Indonesia, October 19 to November 2. The 2001 Youth team will represent Australia at the World Youth Championships in Brazil.

The WBF is keen to promote the Transnational Teams event in Bali, open to all players (not only for the top international players). This is a wonderful opportunity for all to be part of a great event!!

The ABF has welcomed the establishment of "Friends of Youth Bridge" an account to be used to promote and sponsor Youth Bridge. The fund will supplement funding by the ABF. David Stern and the Youth Committee can answer any questions on how to contribute to this fund.

I am delighted to add my personal congratulations and those of the ABF to John Brockwell for his recognition in the Australian Honours. The AM is a reward for a significant contribution and outstanding achievement.

*Keith McDonald
ABF President*

The Courage of Their Convictions

There is always a sense of having failed in coming second and yet on the occasion of the 2001 NOT quite the opposite pertained. My team, the runners-up, have been feted in a way the winners rarely are. That's what comes of losing to the world champions. After, that is, defeating a team in the semifinals that included two ex-world champions. Zmudsinski and Balicki.

Maybe we just got lucky this year. But if there were things we did better than others one was high-level competitive bidding. Here are a few interesting decisions made by my teammates.

In the last set of the quarterfinal, with our team a few IMPs ahead, Chris Hughes sat West with ♠2 ♥A876543 ♦AJ7 ♣KJ and faced a difficult decision after this auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>Hughes</i>	<i>Horton</i>	<i>Chua</i>	<i>Peake</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣	4♠

When five hearts was doubled by North and passed back to him he followed the axiom of trusting the opponents and tried clubs at the 6 level! The advantage of having the big trumps, if not enough

of them, was that at least nobody doubled this awful contract. Indifferent defence saw it go only two off – a flat board with five hearts doubled failing by one in the other room.

Board: 20
Dealer: W North
Vul: All ♠ 873
 ♥ KJ92
 ♦ 94

West	East
♠ 2	♠ 954
♥ A876543	♥ Q10
♦ AJ7	♦ K63
♣ KJ	♣ AQ1076

South
♠ AKQJ106
♥ —
♦ Q10852
♣ 42

There was no letup for Hughes in the semi-final. He held ♠J1083 ♥10865 ♦5 ♣AQ103 and this was the auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>Hughes</i>	<i>Burgay</i>	<i>Chua</i>	<i>Mariani</i>
Pass	3♦	X	4♦
4♥	X	Pass	Pass
4♠	X	All Pass	2NT ¹

1. Minors

After passing initially, Hughes' double of 4♦ would have suggested penalties, and so 4♥ was forced. A good

Index

Articles Of Interest & Information

ABF Calendar	8
ABF News	7
ABF Website Update	12
Advertising Rates	16
Contact Details	2
Copy Deadline	5
Country Congress Calendar	10
John Brockwell AM	6
McCutcheon Trophy Standings	14
Youth News	6

Major Tournament Reports & Results

National Women's Teams	4
The Courage of Their Convictions	2
Tournament Results	17

Regular Features

A View From The Top	1
Bidding into the 21st Century	23
Book & Software Reviews	15
Coaching Cathy at Contract	22
Letter to the Editors	10
Opinion	1
The Director's Chair	21



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decision by Mariani to take away the cuebid. Again Hughes trusted the opponents. 4♥ would have failed on a diamond and then spade shift. 4♠ made 5 after the ♣K lead.

In the other room, Markey and Hinge did not have a two suited gadget available, and so proceeded 3♦ Pass 4♦ Pass 5♦. After such a dodgy looking auction, in passout East, Balicki, couldn't resist doubling and that made as well for 15 IMPs in.

Semifinal session 3

Board: 11

Dealer: S

Vul: Nil

	North	
	♠ A92	
	♥ K432	
	♦ 9743	
West	♣ K5	East
♠ J1083		♠ KQ654
♥ 10865		♥ AQJ9
♦ 5		♦ Q6
♣ AQ103	South	♣ 42
	♠ 7	
	♥ 7	
	♦ AKJ1082	
	♣ J9876	

We went into the last session of the semis with a lot of exciting support behind us. It had been assumed at the start of the semis that Australia would come 3rd and 4th. But things were turning out differently: Marston's team had a big lead against the Italians and we were 21 IMPs up ourselves. I have to admit I sat there hoping I'd have nothing to do.

Meanwhile in the other room Hinge picked up this lot: ♠7 ♥KQ952 ♦KQJ ♣J954 with the auction proceeding:

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudsinski</i>	<i>Markey</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Hinge</i>
1♠	3♣ ¹	4♥ ²	Pass!
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♦	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	?

1. red suits
2. splinter

Having stayed quiet for so long, finally Hinge took a bid: 7♥ doubled went 3 off for -500. With 6♠ bid in the other room, would this be good or bad?

Semifinal session 4

Board: 32

Dealer: W

Vul: EW

	North	
	♠ A	
	♥ J108763	
	♦ 109632	
West	♣ 8	East
♠ KQ6543		♠ J10982
♥ A4		♥ —
♦ A8		♦ 754
♣ A103	South	♣ KQ762
	♠ 7	
	♥ KQ952	
	♦ KQJ	
	♣ J954	

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Hughes</i>	<i>Burgay</i>	<i>Chua</i>	<i>Mariani</i>
1♠	2♥	4♠	5♥
6♠	All Pass		

Looking at all four hands it is evident that only a diamond lead will beat 6♠. Alas, Burgay found that at the speed of light from sheer desperation. So, does that mean Hinge did the wrong thing? Well, in the other match Marston - Thomson defended 6♠ and it made on a heart lead. Cheap insurance was what our teammates thought. Me, I think it is plain courageous. I'm never brave enough to play the waiting game.

Cathy Chua

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Pairs & Teams

National Women's Teams

The National Women's Teams is run as a 9-round Swiss held over three days, followed by a six team Round Robin Stage on the Saturday, with a 64-board final on the Sunday. The major surprise of the event was the failure of BEECH, the current Australian Women's Team, to qualify for the second stage, along with several of the 'seeded' teams.

Because each team's score is carried forward into the second stage, it is an advantage if a team can 'break away' from the field. This year the qualifying scores were fairly close with the NEALE team qualifying first on 175, and sixth scoring 164.

The qualifiers were:

NEALE 175	Kim Neale, Catherine Herden, Linda King, Catherine Wright
THOMPSON 172	Jenny Thompson, Pauline Evans, Kate Smith, Jill del Piccolo, Annabel Booth, Lauren Shiels
TRAVIS 168	Barbara Travis, Elizabeth Havas, Jill Courtney, Alida Clark, Jan Cormack, Deborah Moir
TUCKER 165	Greer Tucker, Agnes Kempthorne, Robbie Clayton, Margaret Millar
CUMMINGS 165	Val Cummings, Candice Feitelson, Linda Stern, Berri Folkard, Jillian Hay, Kathy Yule
RICKARD 164	Pam Rickard, Margaret Reid, Judy Twigg, Julianne Rocks

The wildest result from the qualifying rounds occurred when holding ♠AKQ10653 ♥5 ♦97642 ♣void, my opening bid of 4♠ seemed an "underbid" given the favourable vulnerability. However, as often happens when the bidding starts high, it had escalated by the time the auction returned to me. West bid 5♣, partner 5♠ and East 6♣. It always seems a betrayal to bid in front of partner, but this two-suiter just seemed too good (and if East-West had a heart-club fit, then we had a spade-diamond fit...). I bid 6♠, with West doubling and leading the ♣A. We scored up +1310 when partner proved to have ♠J72 ♥K86 ♦AKQ853 ♣10. Jan Cormack opted not to bid 6♣ when the same auction came around to her – too many clubs and too little defence – ♠98 ♥Q10974 ♦J ♣K7543 – an excellent decision. [Coincidentally, Jan and Debs also scored +1210 in the next match for their doubled slam.]

In Stage 2, the teams played five 14-board matches against each other. In the second match Board 21 proved interesting.

Board: 21

Dealer: N

Vul: NS

North

♠ KJ62

♥ 2

♦ K6

♣ KQJ987

West

♠ Q83

♥ AK64

♦ AJ8752

♣ —

East

♠ 54

♥ QJ10875

♦ 3

♣ 10643

South

♠ A1097

♥ 93

♦ Q1094

♣ A52

The results at the various tables depended on one of two factors – whether EW were playing weak jump overcalls (look at the vulnerability) or how West dealt with her hand. At our table, North (Elizabeth) opened 1♣ and I responded 1♠, leaving West lots of options. She chose, in fact, to overcall with 2♦, losing the heart suit. [I prefer double, showing the red suits with the option to bid diamonds later if partner is silent.] In rapid time NS reached 4♠ which looked an excellent contract until the opponents started cross-ruffing – ♥A, ♦A, ♦2 ruffed (suit preference for clubs), ♣ ruffed, ♦ ruffed with the ♠K to avoid going 3 light. –200 did not fill me with joy but, of course, we had teammates! Jan and Debs had reached 5♥X after a weak jump overcall – making for +650 and 10 IMPs.

Scores remained close until the fourth match, when TRAVIS defeated the leaders, NEALE, 25-3, and CUMMINGS had a second large win. CUMMINGS led TRAVIS into the final round; the last round results reversed these positions but left these two teams as finalists. TRAVIS started the final with a 3.5 IMP carryforward – half their winning margin in their Stage 2 match.

The final was a low-scoring affair until the third session. In the first set, CUMMINGS outscored TRAVIS 35-28, to lead by 3.5. CUMMINGS continued in favourable fashion in the second quarter, 33-16, mainly due to a signalling mix-up between Travis and Havas which allowed a vulnerable game

through. TRAVIS gained an unexpected 5 IMPs (at least, unexpected at our table) on the following hand.

Board: 18

Dealer: E
Vul: NS

		North		
		♠ —		
		♥ 986		
		♦ KJ107642		
		♣ A97		
West	East			
♠ J1084	♠ Q975			
♥ J52	♥ KQ1074			
♦ A85	♦ 9			
♣ KJ4	♣ Q65			
		South		
		♠ AK632		
		♥ A3		
		♦ Q3		
		♣ 10832		

At our table East opened 2♦, showing a weak hand with both majors. South passed and was delighted to hear West bid 2♠. North bid 3♦, and South responded 3NT. A heart lead put paid to the contract quickly. [In fact, South has to win the first heart in order to keep the club entry to dummy's diamonds.] One off looked good when Jill Courtney, West at the other table, elected to lead a club against the 3NT contract. Dummy no longer had any entry and the contract drifted three light!

The third session went TRAVIS' way: 60-33, leaving the scores TRAVIS: 107.5, CUMMINGS: 101. The biggest swing of the match came in the final session.

Board: 22

Dealer: E
Vul: EW

		North		
		♠ KQ10952		
		♥ 98763		
		♦ 98		
		♣ —		
West	East			
♠ 4	♠ AJ8			
♥ AQ	♥ K105			
♦ A6	♦ QJ1075			
♣ K10987632	♣ Q5			
		South		
		♠ 763		
		♥ J42		
		♦ K432		
		♣ AJ4		

West	North	East	South
<i>Cormack</i>	<i>Hay</i>	<i>Moir</i>	<i>Yule</i>
		1NT	Pass
2NT ¹	4NT	Pass	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	X
All Pass			

1. Transfer to clubs

Jan received a heart lead which she won in hand, leading a club and finding out about the break. Now she had to win the spade return in dummy, take the diamond finesse and then the club finesse. +1540. [Note that Kathy Yule's double was based on the need for a big pick-up, after earlier bidding a poor, failing slam.]

At our table Elizabeth Havas led the ♠K against 6♣ (not doubled). Since North had overcalled, presumably declarer thought that North had the ♣A. She won the spade, cashed her two hearts in hand, then led a trump towards the queen. She was now isolated from dummy, ending two down. +200 and 17 IMPs to TRAVIS. Others have suggested that she had to take the diamond finesse at Trick 2, which must be an inferior line to crossing to the ♥A to lead a club towards dummy. When the trump break is exposed, then declarer must overtake the ♥Q with dummy's king to take the now-necessary diamond finesse before the trump finesse.

TRAVIS won this set 48-14, leaving what looked a comfortable margin. Certainly it was more comfortable than in 2000, when we came from 50 IMPs down after the first quarter, but the match could have gone either way. These close finals are incredibly tense affairs, with many 'errors' – providing more evidence for those who think finals are lost rather than won. However, it was a very enjoyable event, played in the best of spirits by both teams. The final was played at the Hyatt, which was my only experience of the new venue, and I was left with an excellent impression.

Barbara Travis

♣♦♠♥ ♣♦♠♥ ♣♦♠♥ ♣♦♠♥

Copy Deadline

For Issue No 89, May 2001
April 25, 2001

Any other material will be held over
until July 2001.

♣♦♠♥ ♣♦♠♥ ♣♦♠♥ ♣♦♠♥

John Brockwell AM

The award of Member of the Order of Australia to John Brockwell will delight his many friends in the bridge world where he is recognised as the “father” of the Australian Summer Festival, which at his suggestion found a permanent home in Canberra in the middle 1970's.

For the next twenty years or so John was convener of the Festival, which quickly developed into the largest bridge event in the Southern Hemisphere.

Not merely this but he served for several years as President of the Australian Bridge Federation and, in recognition of his service to bridge administration over some 30 years or so, was made a member of the ABF's Committee of Honour.

He had a distinguished career as a player, winning several Australian titles including the Australian Swiss Pairs and the National Seniors Teams title (twice).

In addition, he has captained Australian international teams and represented Australia in the Seniors event in Bermuda, 2000.

But it should be noted that in the real world John is a scientist of repute specialising in agricultural research which has won him international recognition and awards.

All in all, it is entirely fitting that he may now add the initials "AM" after his name.

Neville Moses

Reprinted, with Neville's permission, from the NOT news.

Youth News

E-BRIDGE AND WBF SIGN SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

January 26, 2001, Paris.

e-bridge and the World Bridge Federation (WBF) today signed a sponsorship agreement, with e-bridge undertaking to sponsor worldwide Junior Bridge activities in the year 2001.

WBF is organizing and conducting, directly or indirectly, bridge tournaments and bridge events dedicated to junior players (“juniors” meaning bridge players between the ages of 20 and 26 in 2001), and youth players (“youth” meaning bridge players under the age of 20 in 2001). Included in the junior events planned for 2001 are the World Junior Teams Championship to be held in Rio de

Janeiro, Brazil, August 6-15, and the European University Teams Championship, to be held in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, August 12-19.

Speaking for e-bridge, Pinhas Romik, Founder, Chairman and CEO, stated: “We are very happy to sponsor junior activities. Today, with more appealing leisure activities accessible to young people than ever before, bridge can provide the sort of environment and intellectual stimulation that attracts and retains the interest of the brightest young minds. A coordinated joint effort by bridge organizations at all levels can encourage the participation of juniors in challenging bridge events and provide them with the means to lower the entry barrier to competitive international bridge.

“We hope that all these young bridge players will enjoy themselves thoroughly, retain fond memories of the competitions, and become tournament players for many years to come. We are honored and very pleased that WBF has given us the opportunity to lend our support to these intriguing new events and to offer sponsorship to conduct these events in the best way possible.

“e-bridge's sponsorship funds will be used by the WBF to sponsor various world junior events and those of ACBL, EBL, the other WBF zones, and perhaps to develop junior bridge in conjunction with certain national federations. Although most bridge federations are anxious to develop junior programs most of them require financial support and human resources to make progress. It is one of e-bridge's goals to provide assistance for worthwhile junior activities. ACBL plans to use a portion of e-bridge's sponsorship funds to allow two US junior teams selected to represent the US at the World Junior Teams Championship in Brazil, to participate in the International Team Trials (to be held in Memphis, June 3-12) for the 2001 Bermuda Bowl. The opportunity to compete against the best players in an important event like the Trials will surely help these young players to develop their skills more rapidly and to gain invaluable experience.”

WBF President Jose Damiani said: “It is very important for bridge organizations to promote bridge among young people, who represent the next generation of bridge players. The WBF has for many years endorsed and sponsored a broad programme for juniors, including education, social contact, training (camps) and tournaments. With bridge being recognized by the International Olympic Committee, we need to provide more playing opportunities for young players. This

additional activity demands more resources, and therefore we are delighted to accept the sponsorship of new events by e-bridge. WBF is constantly seeking to promote bridge among young people. A number of European countries have for many years offered extensive bridge programmes at schools, including lessons, social games, and competitions. We need to do more to promote bridge in colleges, with the ACBL taking an initiative in May this year to run a North American College Championship on the Internet, with a live final. Internet Bridge is well-suited for young people, and e-bridge is leading the effort to provide comprehensive bridge services over the Internet." e-bridge Inc. is a private company created to provide high-quality social and tournament bridge and complete coverage of all aspects of the game over the Internet (see www.e-bridgemaster.com). e-bridge provides full Internet coverage of major bridge events. (For events calendar see www.e-bridgemaster.com/news/eventc_hub.asp.)

WBF is a non-profit organization that has for more than 40 years acted as the governing body for zonal bridge organizations and national contract bridge federations all over the world (see www.bridge.gr).

David Stern

2001 JUNIOR TEAM

The Australian Junior Team to compete in Singapore (Pacific Asia Championships, June) and Rio de Janeiro (World Juniors, August) is:

Paul Brayshaw, Simon Brayshaw, Nic Croft, Greg Dupont and Matthew Raisin. Peter Smith has been appointed as non-playing captain.

We wish them the best of luck in both events.

ABF News

JAMES O'SULLIVAN TRUST FUND

Members should be aware that the ABF, via the James O'Sullivan Trust Fund, can assist bridge clubs in purchasing their own premises with a loan of up to \$20,000 at a favourable interest rate. Currently there are seven clubs with loans, however the Trust does have further funds available and we would encourage enquires to the ABF Secretariat.

PUBLIC LIABILITY POLICY

The blanket Public Liability Policy (limit \$10,000,000) has been renewed to 31/12/2001 with an increased premium due to poor claims experience. All affiliated clubs are covered under the Policy.

ABF SPONSORED TRAVEL

A restatement of ABF Policy concerning travel for playoffs, Australian representation and ABF funded travel:

The official ABF travel agent is the Corporate Traveller (telephone 02-8920 9555).

With each event the ABF will cover the bookable airfare as quoted by the Corporate Traveller, plus a per diem expense allowance which varies according to the venue. (The ABF Policy is to only use the major carriers - Ansett, Qantas, United, etc.)

Where a person elects not to use the CT, then there is a penalty of 10% of the bookable airfare.

With regard to the 2001 Grand National Open Teams, players who qualify for the Sydney finals should make their own travel arrangements and will be reimbursed via the convenor, John Brockwell. Obviously, the ABF encourages players to use the Corporate Traveller both for GNOT travel and any private travel.

*Terry Brown
ABF Treasurer*

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2001 SPRING NATIONALS

FORMAT OF THE SPRING NATIONALS

Comprehensive submissions were circulated to members of Tournament Committee prior to the February meeting. The committee considered nine possible scenarios. A primary objective was to eliminate overlapping of the final of one event and the early rounds of the following event and, therefore, to prevent any possibility of poisoning. (Poisoning, and the consequential automatic byes in the first 3 rounds of the next event, has in the past drawn merited criticism and has interfered with the smooth running of the SNOT and, to a lesser extent, the SNWT.)

From 2001, the Spring Nationals /GNOT will commence on the Thursday immediately before the second Friday in November. The schedule will be:

8 - 11 November : Spring National Women's Teams

12 - 15 November : Spring National Open Teams

16 - 19 November : Grand National Open Teams

This schedule allows for a Congress Teams on the first Sunday and the Provincial Pairs Championship on the second Sunday. It also means that the GNOT will start on the third Friday of November, not the traditional date of the second Friday.

Frank Budai will be Spring Nationals Convenor from 2001. The 2001 venue is almost certain to be Hakoah and David Stern has generously offered his Double Bay club premises as the venue for GNOT final. The 12-day tournament compares with a 10-day schedule in previous years (11 days in 2000).

SPRING NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

The qualifying rounds from 2001 will comprise twelve 16-board rounds.

Dennis Yovich



ABF Calendar

Date	Event	Location
	Contact	Telephone
April 2001		
12-19	Playoffs & Zonal Ch'ships	Christchurch
	Val Brockwell	(02) 6239 2265
Easter	Seniors Playoff	Sydney
	Val Brockwell	(02) 6239 2265
May 2001		
5-11	Oceania Championships	Rarotonga
	Val Brockwell	(02) 6239 2265
18-21	Autumn National Teams	Adelaide
	David Anderson	(08) 8373 3995
June 2001		
1-2	WW Bridge Contest	Australia-wide
	John Hansen	(08) 9246 9992
7-17	PABF Championship	Singapore
	Val Brockwell	(02) 6239 2265
8-11	Barrier Reef Teams	Mackay
	Kim Ellaway	(07) 3855 3331
9-11	VCC	Melbourne
	Jenny Thompson	(03) 9885 0160
30 -	NZ Nationals	Hamilton
7 Jul	Fran Jenkins	64 4 473 7748
July 2001		
13-27	ANC	Canberra
	Julia Hoffman	(02) 6260-3728
August 2001		
6-15	World Junior Ch'ships	Brazil
	Peter Gill	(02) 9560 2704
September 2001		
28 -	Hans Rosendorff Teams	Perth
1 Oct	Sue Broad	(08) 9384 3350
October 2001		
13-14	Australian Swiss Pairs	Hobart
	Barry Kelly	(03) 6228 5247
	kellybg@netspace.net.au	
19 -	WBF Championships	Bali, Indonesia
2 Nov	Val Brockwell	(02) 6239 2265
November 2001		
8-11	Spring Nat. Women's Teams	Sydney
	Frank Budai	
12-15	Spring Nat. Open Teams	Sydney
	Frank Budai	
16-19	GNOT Final	Sydney
	John Brockwell	(02) 6246 5093
January 2002		
12-18	Youth Championships	ANU, Canberra
	Peter Gill	(02) 9560 2704
16-28	Summer Festival	Canberra
	John Scudder	(02) 9344 5564

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Letter to the Editors

SCORING PROGRAMS WITHOUT DOS

I recently wrote a letter to the QBA Bulletin explaining the significance of a comment in an article by Richard Ward that "RAPSCORE", (a Windows based computer program for scoring and administration of a typical Australian Bridge Club), was not a DOS based program. The response from Queensland Clubs was beyond all expectation, and demonstrated the enormity of the potential void in computer bridge scoring programs.

The following is an unabridged copy of that letter.

"In Richard Ward's recent article mentioning the various software packages available for bridge scoring, Richard noted against the "RAPSCORE" package that this was "not DOS based". This comment is perfectly correct and is very significant to any club considering the purchase of new software, and in fact it is significant to any club currently using DOS based programs. DOS as an operating system has one foot in the grave. In fact it is nearer two! The Windows 2000 operating system no longer supports DOS based programs and that signifies the end of the road. The best part of a year has already elapsed since this major change in direction for operating systems.

While Windows 9x is still available of course they can still be run, but with the speed of the industry it will not be too long before obtaining a copy of Windows 9x or a computer running under that environment will be the equivalent of trying to buy a wind-up gramophone.

Any club considering the purchase of new software should ensure that the software under consideration will run on Windows 2000, if it does not, then the club should be aware of the potential life of that software.

In the meantime, clubs still running DOS based programs should be planning their future scoring programs.

Scoring Programs written specifically for Windows have innumerable advantages over DOS based programs, and users may as well take the plunge to update and take advantage of these, as this will have to be done before too long anyway."

Anyone wishing to obtain an evaluation version of RAPSCORE can obtain a copy from rap_99@dingoblue.net.au.

Robin A. Palmer

Country Congress Calendar

Dates	Where/Event	Contact
<i>April</i>		
6-8	Tamworth Swiss Teams Walk-in Pairs (6th)	Tamworth Bridge Club PO Box W142 Tamworth 2340 (02) 6762 7687
21-22	Gympie Congress	Ross Muirhead or Jean Murray PO Box 521 Gympie 4570 (07) 5482 2154
<i>May</i>		
4-6	Bathurst Congress	Bathurst & District BC PO Box 634 Bathurst 2795 (02) 6331 8477
10-13	Mon Ev & Wed Day Ph Jindabyne Canberra Workers Club Bridge Club Congress Pairs & Teams	George Jesner 134 Dexter Street Cook 2614 (02) 6251 3664
12	Surfers Paradise Swiss Teams Congress	Congress Convenor Surfers Paradise BC Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9726 Ph (07) 5597 0085 Fax (07) 5597 1172
18-20	Mollymook Pairs & Teams	Dianne Samuel Mollymook BC PO Box 614 Ulladulla 2539 (02) 4455 5056
25-27	Mudgee Congress	Val Heferen Mudgee Bridge Club PO Box 536 Mudgee 2850
<i>June</i>		
1-4	Darwin Crocodile Congress 7bulbul@one.net.au	Ken Brown Phone/Fax (08) 8948 2807
22-24	Tamworth Swiss Pairs Walk-in Pairs (22nd)	Tamworth BC PO Box W142 Tamworth 2340 (02) 6762 7687
23-24	Sunshine Coast Honeysuckle (Butler) Pairs	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Maroochydore Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
23-24	Tweed Heads Wintersun Congress Swiss Pairs Swiss Teams	Joy Rennie Tweed Bridge Club PO Box 106 Tweed Heads 2485 Club (07) 5536 1570 Home (02) 6676 1792

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Murray River



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Includes airfare, cruise, meals and tours
onboard, accommodation in Adelaide,
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Further information and brochure
Contact Linda Stern 04-1133-1911
or www.dbbc.net/murray

Dates	Where/Event	Contact
August		
11-12	Wagga Wagga Wagga Leagues B.C.	Valerie Cook PO Box 863 Wagga Wagga 2650
11-12	Surfers Paradise Congress Teams Weekend	Congress Convenor Surfers Paradise BC Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9726 Ph (07) 5597 0085 Fax (07) 5597 1172
12	Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Maroochydore Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
24-26	Muswellbrook Walk-in Pairs Pairs & Teams	E. Battista PO Box 558 Muswellbrook 2333
25-26	Dubbo Pairs & Teams	Margaret Redden PO Box M56 East Dubbo 2830 (02) 6882 9057

September

2	Sunshine Coast Swiss Teams	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Maroochydore Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
7-9	Orange Congress	Margaret Craig Orange Bridge Club PO Box 1218 Orange 2800 (02) 6362 0796
12	Surfers Paradise Birthday Teams Congress	Congress Convenor Surfers Paradise BC Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9726 Ph (07) 5597 0085 Fax (07) 5597 1172
15-16	Glen Innes Open Pairs Congress	Prue Graham Glen Bridge Club PO Box 188 Glen Innes 2370
28-30	Broken Hill Pairs & Teams	Marise Allen Broken Hill BC PO Box 834 Broken Hill 2880

October

7	Gympie Graded Pairs	Sherree Soanes PO Box 521 Gympie 4570 (07) 5482 2154
13-14	Cooma Pairs & Teams	Freda Kauflin Monaro Bridge Club PO Box 418 Cooma North 2630 (02) 6452 1030

Dates	Where/Event	Contact
October cont.		
28	Maitland Teams Congress	Rosemary Pout (02) 4966 5376
November		
11	Tweed Heads Birthday Teams	Joy Rennie Tweed Bridge Club PO Box 106 Tweed Heads 2485 Club (07) 5536 1570 Home (02) 6676 1792
11	Surfers Paradise Novice Teams Congress	Congress Convenor Surfers Paradise BC Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9726 Ph (07) 5597 0085 Fax (07) 5597 1172

ABF Website Update

The ABF's Home Page at <http://www.abf.com.au> is one of the best Bridge Websites around. It provides up to date information on all the ABF events as well as providing notice of and links to selected international events. This includes the entry forms and later the results. It also provides a wealth of information on other bridge matters. So put this site in your list of favourites. You will be pleasantly surprised.

Each month David Beauchamp's selection for the best inquiry he received during the month is posted on the site.

The winner receives a voucher for \$20, funded by the ABF, toward any purchase made at the Bridge Shop.

Nandu Gangal (gangaln@au1.ibm.com) submitted the winner for the best question on bidding for the month of January.

Hand: ♠ KQ10xx
♥ —
♦ AKJx
♣ AJxx

Bidding: Nil Vul; Dealer East

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♣	2♥*	X
		Pass	?

* Weak 2 opening.

Comments: We are playing Precision. X followed by a suit indicates 16+ points. I could have bid 3♥ with South hand, but partner would bid 4♣ and the problem is, do I bid 5♣ or 4♠? Should South bid 3♦, 3♠, 4♣ or 5♣?

And David's Response:

Hi Nandu,

This is a tough one. Some partnerships play Lebensohl here so 3♣ would show some values, say 8-11 HCPs.

If 3♣ does not show any values, I would follow up with 3♠ (I play that double and then bidding a new suit shows a very strong hand).

If partner now bids 4♣ I'll try for a club slam with a cue bid of 4♥.

All the best,

David Beauchamp

There were some complaints from bridge players that the results at the 2001 Summer Festival were not being updated quickly enough. I would like to refute this and explain a likely cause for some of them not receiving results update quickly ON THEIR COMPUTERS.

Ozemail, the ABF's Internet Service provider (ISP), was able to look up the actual times when files had been uploaded and these were, at least during the Summer Festival and until the Finals, within an hour or so of the finish of play. Ozemail's claim is that they do not cache so that results should theoretically be available almost immediately after results had been entered on the Ozemail server.

It is possible that some users may be having problems either with their browsers or with local ISPs who do cache sometimes for significant periods. We suggest that, in future, if users are having difficulty updating the bridge results on their computer, they contact their own ISP and check if they are refreshing their information regularly. There is little we can do about what people use on their own PCs. In any case it is pretty clear that fault does not lie with the service the ABF provides through Ozemail.

Dennis Yovich

[It may also be worth trying a 'Refresh' when in the results site. Ed.]

NEW EVENT AT VCC CONGRESS

Seniors events are rapidly growing in popularity throughout Australia. Following this trend, a new Seniors event has been added to the programme for the Victor Champion Cup Congress in Melbourne over the June long weekend (see page 7).

Sue Lusk

Q-Plus Bridge

Version 6

(available now)

EASY TO PLAY — HARD TO BEAT.

Features of Version 6:

(some of the many new features shown in bold italics)

- * Plays Acol (basic, intermediate, advanced), Precision, Standard American (basic, advanced), Kaplan Sheinwold
- * ***Stronger overall standard of bidding and play***
- * ***Over 150 conventions you can configure in the system you select to play, via an integrated convention editor***
- * Deal filters to find the specific hands you want (e.g. play only the strong hands)
- * Duplicate and/or Rubber scoring
- * 5 levels of difficulty in play and bidding
- * Select your favourite lead and signalling options
- * ***Tournament mode, where the program knows only one hand***
- * Explains bids and alerts, with context sensitive help on all bids. ***Help on bids also***
- * Full log of hands, including bidding and play for later analysis
- * ***Hundreds of hands from various International tournaments for you to test your play against the world's experts.***
- * IBM computer required (486 or better) 4M RAM, 4M memory
- * Can be played by two people over a TCP/IP internet or modem connection
- * ***More deals formats available, so files can be downloaded from the Internet***

Available on CD for Win 3.1/95/98/NT/2000. CD allows user to play in English, French or German.

If you are upgrading from version 4 (recommended) the price is \$67.95, or from version 5 or 5.5 (your choice) the price is \$53.95.

Price: \$89.95 (postage and GST included).

Contact: Dennis Yovich,
PO Box 70

Leederville WA 6007

Ph: (08) 9420 2458

Fax: (08) 9341 4547

Email: dyovich@inet.net.au

McCutcheon Trophy Standings - 28 February 2001

Best Performing: Of all Masters

CHUA, Cathy	VIC	94.25
HINGE, Simon	VIC	94.23
LORENTZ, Gabi	NSW	89.27
LESTER, John	VIC	89.27
MOIR, Deborah	NSW	84.65
MALACZYNSKI, Wally	NSW	81.88
MARKEY, Philip	SA	80.90
HUGHES, Chris	VIC	80.24
HAUGHIE, Bill	QLD	74.01
KLINGER, Ron	NSW	74.01

Best Performing: Silver Grand Masters

CHUA, Cathy	VIC	94.25
HINGE, Simon	VIC	94.23
KLINGER, Ron	NSW	74.01
DEL' MONTE, Ishmael	NSW	70.89
WALSH, Alan	NSW	62.02
THOMSON, Matthew	NSW	58.17
RICHMAN, Bob	NSW	53.45
HAVAS, Elizabeth	ACT	52.44
SCHWABEGGER, Charlie	VIC	52.28
GILL, Peter	NSW	50.30

Best Performing: Grand Masters

LORENTZ, Gabi	NSW	89.27
LESTER, John	VIC	89.27
MARKEY, Philip	SA	80.90
HUGHES, Chris	VIC	80.24
HAUGHIE, Bill	QLD	74.01
KLOFA, Stan	VIC	68.37
GOLD, Leigh	VIC	58.29
SLOBOM, Robert	QLD	58.19
MARSTON, Paul	NSW	58.17
JOHNSON, Kathy	QLD	57.08

Best Performing: Gold Life Masters

MOIR, Deborah	NSW	84.65
DAVIS, Derrick	VIC	62.33
BACH, Ashley	QLD	48.74
REID, Margaret	NSW	34.91
RICKARD, Pam	NSW	34.71
WATTS, Marlene	NSW	31.62
PRESCOTT, Michael	NSW	31.03
KONIG, Siegfried	QLD	28.61
FINIKIOTIS, George	SA	27.96
SEAR, Beverley	QLD	27.58

Best Performing: Silver Life Masters

MALACZYNSKI, Wally	NSW	81.88
COURTNEY, Jill	ACT	54.81
CORMACK, Jan	NSW	52.44
CROFT, Nicolas	SA	44.28
MEYDAN, Ari	VIC	39.64
NEALE, Kim	NSW	33.69
HERDEN, Cathryn	NSW	33.69
WRIGHT, Catherine	NSW	33.69
WILLIAMS, Heather	WA	30.78
KOVACS, Frank	VIC	30.67

Best Performing: Bronze Life Masters

HAY, Jillian	ACT	46.65
KING, Linda	NSW	33.69
RANKIN, Pele	WA	27.62
DAWKINS, Jean	WA	24.00
VALENTINE, Joan	WA	23.99
LYONS, Frances	NSW	22.97
MORTIMER, David	SA	22.22
LAWFORD, Prue	NSW	22.05
HACKETT, Jan	VIC	21.99
BROOKS, Mary	ACT	21.91

Best Performing: Life Masters

LEACH, Jane	VIC	31.30
BEDFORD-BROWN, Linda	WA	29.40
COWAN, Richard	NSW	28.76
ABRAHAM, Mark	ACT	27.62
DAWES, Velma	QLD	26.18
HAUGH, Cory	VIC	25.76
BATES, Janette	NSW	25.53
HART, Geoffrey	NSW	25.08
IVANYI, Alexander	VIC	23.10
DICKSON, Elaine	VIC	22.92

Best Performing: **National Masters

TALLY, Jim	WA	24.59
PAK POY, Patricia	SA	22.43
MORAWIECKI, Roman	QLD	20.44
CLARK, Ilma	VIC	18.63
FOSTER, Margaret	QLD	18.22
STONEMAN, Mac	QLD	17.95
WILKINSON, Peter	VIC	13.33
McCULLOCH, Lee	NSW	12.90
BOOKER, Lorna	QLD	12.80
EVANS, Delma	NSW	12.48

Best Performing: *National Masters

FOSTER, Julian	NSW	40.01
KINLOCH, Robert	NSW	25.31
KENT, Joan	VIC	24.64
JONSSON, Niclas	ACT	20.29
NUNN, Greg	VIC	19.96
HAMMOND, Gwen	NSW	19.16
O'BRIEN, Joyce	NSW	19.03
GUTTMANN, Julia	VIC	18.80
GARBUTT, Therese	WA	18.75
ALLEN, Sue	NSW	18.72

Best Performing: National Masters

STRUICK, Andrew	ACT	24.90
OLSEN, Geoff	QLD	22.42
EVANS, Robert	NSW	21.96
BIRRER, Sharyn	NT	21.61
BLIZZARD, Leigh	TAS	21.40
LOWRY, Helen	NSW	18.72
WAGNER, Norman	VIC	18.63
NASH, Bill	SA	18.52
FEILER, Gabby	NSW	18.14
KROCHMALIK, Daniel	NSW	18.14

Best Performing: *State Masters

HANS, Sartaj	NSW	40.49
MARKER, Tony	ACT	25.74
WALFORD, Tony	QLD	19.10
SPENCER, Jennifer	NSW	18.64
LYNCH, Mary	NSW	17.82
WOODHEAD, Damon	NSW	17.42
SCERRI, Allan	ACT	16.73
SCERRI, Susan	ACT	16.73
PUSKAS, John	SA	16.57
VAN LIEROP, MARDI	VIC	16.48

Best Performing: State Masters

NEUMANN, Dagmar	NSW	19.81
BLACK, Kay	NSW	19.09
MANTON, John	NSW	18.07
GALLAGHER, Ruth	ACT	17.56
WIECZOREK, John	SA	16.57
WOOD, Kerry	QLD	16.16
GRUIA, Callin	NSW	15.76
HENNIKER, Peg	NSW	15.00
PRYDE, Donald	NSW	15.00
HOLBROOK, Val	ACT	14.52

Best Performing: *Regional Masters

STRAW, June	NSW	10.08
LEVY, Magda	VIC	8.72
HELMAN, Anne	VIC	6.40

Best Performing: Regional Masters

KENNEDY, Peter	NSW	12.78
DUNCAN, Faith	NSW	10.23
RUDD, Gordon	NSW	10.23
FORREST, Don	NSW	10.08
SIMPSON, Cheryl	QLD	9.60
WILDING, Barbara	VIC	8.97
PATTISON, William	VIC	8.88
McGILL, Jean	NSW	8.70
SACHER, Annette	NSW	8.51
MERCER, John	NSW	7.94

Best Performing: **Local Masters

STEGGLES, Alan	NSW	28.66
TOTTERDELL, Val	NSW	17.17
GREENWOOD, Allan	TAS	15.90
WILSMORE, Peter	WA	15.15
COWLISHAW, Larissa	ACT	14.70
PORTER, Matthew	SA	14.51
HOCKING, Phil	NSW	13.60
GEROMBOUX, Daniel	ACT	13.05
DEMBO, Bertha	VIC	12.67
JOHNSON, Thessa	ACT	11.20

Best Performing: *Local Masters

MOIR, Shelley	NSW	28.97
MITCHELL, Doug	VIC	14.60
HURD, Anthony	NSW	11.07
ADCOCK, Jacqueline	NSW	10.90
TOMLINSON, Ray	NSW	10.26
COLLIS, David	WA	10.26
CLIFTON, John	NSW	9.73
NABARRO, Vivienne	NSW	8.80
HORDER, Tori	NSW	8.72
THEUNISSEN, Dora	ACT	8.71

Best Performing: Local Masters

KRUSS, Cecile	VIC	12.34
DALY, John	ACT	11.77
BEATON, Colin	ACT	9.69
EVANS, Val	NSW	8.00
STRZELECKI, Janet	ACT	7.20
HATCHER, Daniel	QLD	5.53
TERLIZZI, Fausto	VIC	5.33

Best Performing: Club Masters

LISS, Ulrike	NSW	20.98
MILLER, Don	NSW	12.00
BARNES, Edward	NSW	9.92
FRITH, Patricia	ACT	6.93
WHITE, Steven	VIC	6.17
BURTON, Rhonda	QLD	5.76

Best Performing: Graduate Masters

HILL, Richard	ACT	13.62
LUM, Mary	NSW	8.00

Best Performing: Nil Masters

None at this stage

Book & Software Reviews

PLAY AND DEFEND WITH EDDIE KANTAR

IBM CDROM, Win 95+

Eddie Kantar is one of the most popular bridge professionals. He has written many books dealing with declarer play and his speciality, defence. Two of these have already been turned into electronic books, and now a third is on offer.

This software is based on the book *A New Approach to Play and Defense*, with new material. The idea is that declarer play skills and defensive skills are very similar.

You “play” 25 deals as declarer, answering key questions along the way. The hands are all makeable with correct technique. Next, you play the 25 deals as defender, but very minor changes have been made to the deals, so the defence can succeed. The idea is that you look at the deal from the other side, and try to appreciate what declarer’s problem may be in order to find the successful defence. After all this, there is another complete set of deals, making 100 deals altogether.

Although the programme “order of battle” is to play 25 deals as declarer and then the similar 25 deals as defender, in fact you can play the deals in any order you wish by using the index. You may prefer to play a deal and then immediately defend its counterpart.

Given that this might be a popular preference, I wish that there had been a link at the end of each deal to its counterpart to simplify the process.

The concept appears to be a useful one, but in practice it is hard to change a deal in such a small way and retain its basic essence. One example gives the reader a contract of six hearts to play. The technique required is to set up a long suit in dummy with a ruffing finesse, and it's also essential to retain the two of trumps in hand for later entry to the trump three in dummy. In the defensive counterpart, the trump three and two have been interchanged, and the theme of the defensive hand is therefore to ruff the play of dummy's long suit, thereby leaving declarer an entry short to set up and enjoy the suit. Although the defensive principle is established, some people will say that these are really two different hands. If you overlook this, I think that players of around intermediate level will benefit from trying to see defensive deals from declarer's point of view.

Each hand ends with a summary of key pointers, but I found that in some cases, the actual explanation of key issues was first exposed there rather than its being just a summary. A summary should be a review of previously discussed material, not a lesson in itself.

The program is easy to use, being totally mouse driven, with large, clear fonts and brightly coloured interface. A mild criticism is that there are a few obvious spelling errors, but they don't affect the play. However, one wonders what the five proofreaders were doing!

This program will retail for around \$57 - \$60.

John Hardy

PLAYING BRIDGE WITH THE LEGENDS BY BARNET SHENKIN (MASTERPOINT PRESS, 2000)

Although only 235 pages, Shenkin seems to fit around 500 hands into this fine book. The early chapters are autobiographical, with hands and quizzes on both bidding and play. Then follow sketches of the great players and partnerships of today, always with hands and quizzes, giving an insight into modern bridge at the top.

Marcin Lesniewski declared this hand in 3NT in the Polish Championships:

	North	
	♠ 43	
	♥ A9	
	♦ 109632	
West	♣ KJ108	East
♠ J9876		♠ Q105
♥ KQJ1043		♥ 72
♦ J		♦ KQ87
♣ Q	South	♣ 9765
	♠ AK2	
	♥ 865	
	♦ A54	
	♣ A432	

West led ♥K after opening a Polish two-bid that showed at least 5-5 in the majors. To succeed declarer had to play West for 6 hearts, and decided to play West for bare ♣Q and a bare diamond honour. Lesniewski won the second heart, played a spade to his ace, and led a club to the queen and king. When he led a second spade from dummy East played the queen, and declarer let this hold. He won the spade exit and cashed his clubs and ♦A. A second diamond was won by East who had to surrender the ninth trick to dummy's diamond.

Available for \$34-95 postfree from Paul Lavings
Postfree Bridge Books Website: <http://www.postfree.cc>

Paul Lavings

Rate Increase

ADVERTISING RATES

The has been an increase in advertising rates for this Newsletter which will be effective from the next issue, Issue 89, May 2001. The rates are based on full page, half-page or full column and half-column.

GST APPLICABLE IN AUSTRALIA:

Full page	\$275.00
Half-page	\$137.50
Half-column	\$68.75

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John Hardy

Bridge Books and Software

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Books

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Countdown to Winning Bridge <i>Bourke & Smith</i>	\$25.30
Advanced Bridge Defense, <i>Kantar</i>	\$31.70
Bid Better, Much Better, <i>Klinger</i>	\$16.50
25 Ways to Compete in the Bidding <i>Seagram & Smith</i>	\$26.95
More Defensive Signals, <i>Woolsey</i>	\$12.65

Software

1999 Life Master Pairs Day 3 NEW! The final at last!	\$57.20
Cavendish 2000	\$57.20
Conventions, <i>Mike Lawrence</i>	\$115.50
Lessons, quizzes and practice hands to help you learn and consolidate the most popular bridge techniques.	
1999 Life Master Pairs, <i>Larry Cohen</i>	
Day 1 or Day 2	\$57.20
Get both for just	\$108.00
Master Solvers Club Special	\$52.80

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Very strong backgammon software.	
Hong Kong MahJong (IBM CD)	\$44.00
Many Faces of Go (IBM CD)	\$148.50

Phone if you'd like a full price list or our free newsletter.

J.W. & S. Hardy (ABN 63 813 139 759)

63 Tristan St., Carindale QLD 4152

Ph. 07-33988898 or 0409-786050

Email J.Hardy@uq.net.au

Website www.uq.net.au/~zzjhardy

Tournament Results

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC TEAMS:

QUALIFYING:

HYATT:

1	Burgay	Burgay, Balicki, 310 Malaczynski, Mariani, Zmudzinski
2	Marston	Marston, Del'Monte, 303 Erichsen, Lester, Lorentz, Thomson
3	Smith	Smith, Haffer, 271 Lusk, Moir, Reynolds, Yovich
4	Beauchamp	Beauchamp, Chadwick, 245 Gumby, Lazer
5	Westwood*	Westwood, Goodyer, 245 Johnman, McKinnon
6	Noble	Noble, Bilski, 244 Brown, Gue, Fordham, Prescott
7	Reiner	Reiner, Borewicz, 243 Doran, Sawicki, Wyer
8	Prent	Prent, Dollan, 241 Prent, West
9	Rothfield	Rothfield, Rothfield, 240 Brightling, Browne, Cummings, Feitelson

* Westwood withdrew allowing Rothfield to qualify.

RYDGES:

1	Lavazza	Lavazza, Bocchi, 281 Duboin, Ferraro, Versace
2	Wilsmore	Wilsmore, Courtney, Gill, 271 Grosvenor, Horton, Peake
3	Thompson	Thompson, Jacobs, 268 Middleton, Nagy, Seres, Smolanko
=4	Ziggy	Konig, Bach, Burgess, 257 Dyke, Richman, Wallis
=4	Hinge	Hinge, Chua, 257 Hughes, Markey
6	Carter	Carter, Atkinson, 247 Cahn, Hayes
=7	Nunn	Nunn, Croft, 245 Matthews, Robb
=7	Braithwaite	Braithwaite, Haughie, 245 Klinger, Lester, McManus, Ware
=7	Bourke *	Bourke, Beech, Oshlag, 245 Wignall, Scott, Ramshaw

* Bourke were eliminated in a three-way playoff.

NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS:**ROUND-OF-SIXTEEN:**

Lavazza	176	Prent	42
Braithwaite	81	Noble	51
Beauchamp	80	Thompson	66
Marston	76	Carter	17
Wilsmore	79	Rothfield	66
Hinge	100	Smith	32
Ziggy	61	Reiner	60
Burgay	124	Nunn	55

QUARTER-FINALS

Lavazza	170	Braithwaite	81
Marston	110	Beauchamp	88
Hinge	129	Wilsmore	123
Burgay	176	Ziggy	91

SEMI-FINALS

Lavazza	152	Marston	135
Hinge	140	Burgay	123

FINAL

Lavazza	174	Hinge	117
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NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS:**QUALIFYING:**

1	Neale	K. Neale, C. Herden, 175 L. King, C. Wright
2	Thompson	J. Thompson, A. Booth, 172 J. Del Piccolo, P. Evans, L. Sheils, K. Smith
3	Travis	B. Travis, A. Clarke, 168 J. Cormack, J. Courtney, E. Havas, D. Moir
=4	Tucker	G. Tucker, A. Kempthorne, 165 R. Clayton, M. Millar
=4	Cummings	V. Cummings, J. Hay, 165 C. Feitelson, B. Folkard, L. Stern, K. Yule
6	Rickard	P. Rickard, M. Reid, 164 J. Rocks, J. Twigg
7	Maher	J. Maher, M. Pogany, 160 S. Lalov, J. Hunter
8	Briscoe	C. Briscoe, Y. Cains, 159 S. King, B. Griffiths

ROUND-OF-SIX:

1	Travis	262
2	Cummings	256
3	Neale	248
4	Rickard	243
5	Thompson	226
6	Tucker	222

FINAL

Travis	155.5	Cummings	115
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NATIONAL SENIORS TEAMS:**QUALIFYING:**

1	Haughie	B. Haughie, G. Lorenz, 203 J. Borin, J. Lester, A. Walsh, R. Klinger
2	Hurley	E. Hurley, B. Raaphorst , 172 C. Johnston , R. Slobom
3	Klofa	S. Klofa, C. Schwabegger, 168 A. Meyden, D. White

FINAL:

Haughie	122	Hurley	34
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AUSTRALIAN MIXED TEAMS:

1	Moir	D. Moir, J. Haffer, K. Robb, 203 N. Croft, P. Reynolds
2	Foster	J. Foster, S. Moir, S. Hans, 188 D. Woodhead, J. Griffin
3	Bourke	M. Bourke, A. Delivera, 187 K. Cumpstone, E. Ramshaw, C. Baker, R. Oshlag

0-149ERS TEAMS:

1	Stephens	A. Stephens, J. Daley, 147 G. McAlary, A. Scerri, S. Scerri, M. Weddell
2	Struik	A. Struik, T. Marker, 146 G. Hutchins, P. Waight, R. Hill, D. Toakley
3	Manton	J. Manton, M. Lynch, 143 F. Duncan, G. Rudd

AUSTRALIAN OPEN PAIRS:**FINAL:**

1	A. Bach - K. Dyke	615
=2	M. Borewicz - C. Gruia	567
=2	A. Peake - M. Prescott	567

PLATE:

1	P. Gumby - W. Lazer	592
2	B. Kempthorne - R. Ward	579
3	R. Dalley - P. Lavings	564

"A" CONSOLATION:

1	T. Manos - A. Goldstein	597
2	L. Klein - L. Klein	591
3	J. Tobin - C. Currey	581

NATIONAL MEN'S PAIRS:

1	G. Gaspar - R. Richman
2	T. Antoff - A. Simpson
3	A. Mill - M. Garvey

NATIONAL SWISS PAIRS:

1	R. Grynberg - D. Stern	156
2	B. Haughie - R. Klinger	155
=3	I. Del' Monte - E. Erichsen	150
=3	B. McDonald - A. Walsh	150

MIXED PAIRS:

- 1 E. Caplan - A. Meydan
- 2 M. Bourke - R. Oshlag
- 3 M. Chrapot - M. Tencer

FLIGHTED PAIRS:

GRAND & LIFE:

- 1 J. Chan - G. Finikiotis
- 2 P. Tarlington - J. Wilson
- 3 A. Ivanovski - D. McRea

NATIONAL:

- 1 V. Beresford - M. Maynard
- 2 B. Goss - D. Turner
- 3 G. Walsh - H. Walsh

STATE:

North-South:

- 1 M. Galley - D. Mercer
- 2 R. Wiggles - J. Doherty

East-West:

- 1 M. Stroehrer - R. Webb
- 2 R. Rusk - A. Rusk

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS:

UNDER 16 PAIRS:

- 1 Michael Delivera - Robin Stevenson
- 2 Lily Dixon - Sam Dixon
- 3 Desli Allen - Sarah Plush

UNDER 16 TEAMS:

- 1 Michael Delivera, Robin Stevenson,
John White, Michael Smith
- 2 Carmen Rushforth, Shani Davies,
Sarah Plush, Desli Allen

YOUTH PAIRS:

- 1 Kylie Robb - Tony Nunn
- 2 Nic Croft - Luke Matthews
- 3 Gabby Feiler - Daniel Krochmalik

YOUTH TEAMS:

- 1 Ishmael Del'Monte, Espen Ericson,
Kieran Dyke, Adam Sarten,
Sartaj Hans, Cory Haugh
- 2 Leigh Gold, Tim Johnson,
Kenneth Wan, Tim Lee

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH TEAM PLAY-OFF:

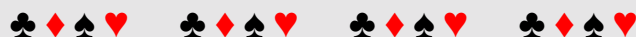
Simon Brayshaw, Paul Brayshaw,
Greg Dupont, Matt Raisin 173
defeated

Leigh Gold, Tim Johnson,
Kenneth Wan, Tim Lee 158

TRANS-TASMAN CHALLENGE:

Australia A Nic Croft, Luke Matthews,
47 Paul Brayshaw, Greg Dupont,
David Lusk npc

Oceania Stephanie Parisis, Cecile Ambrois,
38 John White, David Wiltshire,
Joshua Wyner, Peter Gill npc



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GOLD COAST CONGRESS**YOUTH INDIVIDUAL:**

1	Pablo Ravenna	143
2	Greg Dupont (Lost tie-break)	143
3	Ulrike Liss	140

Best Qld Fiona Brown

Best U21 Aaron Millar

PAIRS:**FINAL:**

1	T. Jacob - R. Jedrychowsky	1287.71
2	T. Brown - P. Gue	1217.38
3	S. Burgess - R. Richman	1207.07

PLATE:

1	E. Havas - M. Garvey	1253.62
2	P. Gill - K. Ko	1164.29
3	A. Osborne - C. Williams	1161.93

“A” CONSOLATION:

1	R. Parker - P. Hainsworth	1259.77
2	T. Antoff - A. Simpson	1240.77
3	C. Goodyer - T. Goodyer	1166.00

RESTRICTED FINAL:

1	B. Ashwell - A. Dormer	1222.60
2	J. Millar - J. Leung	1162.31

RESTRICTED TEAMS:

1	Johnson	D. Johnson, M. Johnson, I. Dolan, J. Watson
2	Mullin	E. Mullin, D. Mullin, M. Rooney, S. Rooney

SENIOR TEAMS:**QUALIFYING:**

1	Brockwell	J. Brockwell, J. Ashworth, W. Westwood, I. McKinnon
2	Kent	M. Kent, J. Kent, M. Millar, R. Clayton
3	Ali	H. Ali, B. Krishan, T. Skinner, A. Chaudhry

FINAL:

Brockwell	121	Kent	104
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OPEN TEAMS:**QUALIFYING:****FIELD A:**

1	Del'Monte	I. Del'Monte, E. Erichsen, C. Gower, C. Convery
2	Robson	M. Robson, B. Lee, R. Parker, P. Hainsworth
3	Hirst	B. Hirst, M. Pomfrey, H. Melbourne, S. Eginton

FIELD B:

1	Ziggy	S. Konig, J. Wallis, S. Burgess, R. Richman, A. Bach, K. Dyke
2	Sarten	A. Sarten, M. Ware, A. Braithwaite, A. Turner

3 **Chadwick** E. Chadwick, A. Kanetkar,
G. Kozakos, C. Chua, S. Hinge**SEMI-FINALS:**

Del'Monte	119	Ziggy	41
Robson	146	Sarten	109

FINAL:

Del'Monte	126	Robson	101
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NEC CUP (JAPAN)**QUALIFYING:**

1	England	214
	Brian Senior, Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, Espen Erichsen	
2	Sweden	189
	P.O. Sundelin, Johan Sylvan, Bjorn Fallenius, Magnus Lindkvist	
3	Argentina/Australia	183
	Pablo Lambardi, Pablo Ravenna, Ishmael Del'Monte, Paul Marston	
4	Great Britain - Hackett	172.5
	Paul Hackett, Jason Hackett, Justin Hackett, John Armstrong, Bridgit Mavromichalis	
5	Australia	168
	Barry Noble, Terry Brown, Phil Gue, Peter Fordham, Mike Prescott	
6	Indonesia	167
	Henky Lasut, Freddy Manoppo, Franky Karwur, Santje Panelewen, Robert Parasiani	
7	e-bridge	166
	Sam Lev, John Mohan, Jacek Pszczola, Piotr Gawrys, Pinhas Romik npc	
8	Japan - OHNO	163.5
	Kyoko Ohno, Akihiko Yamada, Katsumi Takahashi, Masaru Yoshida, Tadashi Imakura, Masayuki Ino	

QUARTER-FINALS:

England	153	Australia	36
Sweden	148	Japan - OHNO	72
Argentina/Aust	147	Indonesia	106
e-bridge	102	GB - Hackett	80

SEMI-FINALS:

Sweden	111	England	70
e-bridge	147	Argentina/Aust	109

3RD PLACE PLAY-OFF:

England	49	Argentina/Aust	25
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FINAL:

e-bridge	141	Sweden	129
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The Director's Chair

EXPLORING THE LAWS (PART 3)

Chapter 4 (Continued) The next two laws are synonymous and often mixed up. Law 13 covers *Incorrect Number of Cards* whilst Law 14 is headed *Missing Card*. The cry of "I have 14 (or more) cards" is a not uncommon call for the director. In general, there will be a corresponding hand with 12 (or fewer). However, it is worth checking that the 14th card was not left over from a previous board. After determining that the incorrect number of cards actually came from the pocket of the board, Law considers whether the cards were looked at, whether any information gained is relevant and whether any calls have been made prior to discovery.

The situation is easily corrected providing the player with too many cards has not looked the hand. If, however, the hand was looked at, then providing the extra card was deemed inconsequential, play normally resumes. If the card was an honour or if the bidding has started, the director would probably award an artificial adjusted score of 60% to the side not at fault and 40% to the side that had an extra card(s). A precaution that should be adopted by the director is to check at the preceding table to see whether they played the board in the correct form or whether they too succumbed to the 'failure to count' syndrome. You might be surprised at the number of times that not only did the previous table play it wrongly, but other tables as well. Law requires that each result be cancelled. More 60-40s or 40-60s. I have known cases where the hand was dealt 14-12 but not discovered until round 8.

Law 14 only comes into force when there is a card or cards missing, normally left at the previous table. Directors have often been left scratching their heads in bewilderment, being unable to find any trace of the missing card. Places where cards have been found include: in other boards, under paraphernalia, on or under the table, in handbags, on laps, being sat on, in folded system cards or personal score sheets, and even in coat pockets. This discounts those eaten in a fit of fury!

In any instance where a player calls and even plays a hand with too few cards, Law considers that the missing card has belonged to the hand throughout, with resultant penalties if, for example, a revoke occurred. Even in the event that the card cannot be recovered, the same conditions apply.

Law 15 is the director's nightmare: *Play of a Wrong Board*. This will occur when a pair moves to the wrong table in a Howell, when the wrong boards are moved or if the director misses a skip round (very embarrassing). Providing it is caught early enough, the damage can be minimised. For the director, with Law in mind, the main objective is to save the boards and, if at all possible, designate late plays or allow any completed boards to be scored naturally provided neither pair has played it before.

Unfortunately there are many times that the error is not discovered until much too late, up to several rounds later. In these instances the expertise of the director in correcting the movement comes to the fore, in panic mode. Perhaps the best advice to the hapless director is to redeal all the offending boards treating each as two boards for scoring purposes. Most computer scoring programs will comfortably handle the problem.

Richard Grenside

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Coaching Cathy at Contract

SPOTS BEFORE THE EYES

Guru,

The other day I was playing 4♥ with the trump suit as follows:

AQ106

K953

I was OK for my contract as long as I didn't lose a trump trick, so I played the Ace first (as you showed me) and looked at the opposition cards. West played the 7 and East played the 8!!!

Well, I thought that I should play for the higher card to be a possible shortage and assumed that East may have had a singleton, so the next thing I did was to play a small one to my King and West showed out instead. What was wrong with the advice??

Another play I obviously didn't read well was on a hand where Glenda took me up to 6♠ after my LHO opened 4♥ (why do they keep *doing* that?). Here was the hand and the (sob) result.

Glenda (dummy) ♠ AJ753
 ♥ 6
 ♦ AJ9
 ♣ Q875

Me (other dummy) ♠ KQ962
 ♥ A7
 ♦ 1084
 ♣ AK4

I can't remember all the bidding except that West opened 4♥ and I had to play in 6♠. West led the two of diamonds and I thought that I had read somewhere that the odds of one diamond being properly placed were a lot better than a simple finesse and a whole lot better than a 3-3 break in clubs. With all that wonderful knowledge spinning around inside my brain, I played low from dummy and East took the Queen. He then led another diamond and the creep on my left trumped it — one down. Was that so bad?

Am I illiterate?

Luv,
Cathy

Hi Cathy,

Reading your opponents' cards is one of the more advanced skills in bridge. Judging by your thinking on the first example, you may be closer to 'literacy' than you think. Unfortunately, you ran into an opponent who was too clever for you on this occasion. Players play cards for reasons. Sometimes the reason for a particular card is conscious choice, sometimes it is just reflex and sometimes cards are played because players have no choice. A lot of effective card reading is about spotting positions where a player has no choice (because it is the only card they have) but also it is about working out the reasons for choices actually taken.

With your 4-4 fit, one player dropped the 8 and the other dropped the 7, leaving two smaller cards unaccounted for. If you had seen the 7 from one opponent and the 2 from another, then the argument for playing for the 7 to be singleton would be overwhelming. When the smaller spots go missing, someone has deliberately played a higher card to throw you off the scent. Naturally, this is very sensible action from a player who holds J742 or J842. All you know is that someone has thrown up a smokescreen and the only further helpful information lies in establishing a) who is the better player and b) which opponent apparently has the most interest in proceedings. Fortunately, many opponents go reflexive in these situations and play their smallest card from Jxxx, giving you a much better chance to read the play.

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As for the second hand, leads can tell declarer a great deal about the cards they have or don't have. Players make leads for reasons which will vary according to whether you are playing with a trump suit or in notrumps, what level of contract you are in and any aspects of the auction which may be of interest.

When opponents make preemptive openings, they will usually lead their suit. When you declare trumps and a preemptor decides to lead a side suit, what is their motivation? Usually a preemptor will be short in trumps or short in a side suit (or both). The most likely reason for leading a side suit is that it is a singleton, particularly against a suit slam.

I guess that the sad story on this hand was that West not only had a singleton diamond but that the clubs broke 3-3 as well. Unfortunately, odds have a disturbing knack of varying according to circumstances and, in this case, the odds that the diamond was short were somewhat greater than would have been the case if you had bid to 6♠ in an uninterrupted auction.

Don't stop trying to read those cards — you'll get better at it.

Regards,
David

David Lusk

Bidding Into The 21st Century

TEST YOUR BIDDING AFTER RHO PREEMPTS

How would you continue after the following sequence at pairs, nil vulnerable?

(3♣) ?

1. ♠A984 ♥Q963 ♦A873 ♣3
2. ♠AK4 ♥QJ873 ♦A732 ♣6
3. ♠KJ653 ♥K82 ♦A105 ♣72
4. ♠AQ85 ♥KJ4 ♦A63 ♣Q52
5. ♠A86 ♥AK3 ♦872 ♣KJ95
6. ♠AQ86 ♥K76 ♦AQ63 ♣K4
7. ♠K2 ♥AKJ75 ♦AQJ ♣652
8. ♠AK962 ♥AQJ62 ♦2 ♣83
9. ♠KQJ9863 ♥954 ♦82 ♣3
10. ♠A832 ♥A9854 ♦— ♣J1085

1. Double. When deciding whether or not to double for takeout, shortage in the preempted suit is

more relevant than high card points. Also you must consider how your hand rates if partner decides to pass your takeout double.

You have two aces, so defending 3♣ doubled should be a reasonable proposition. If partner chooses to bid a suit, obviously more likely than passing, you have a finely fitting hand.

2. Double. If the opening bid were one club, you would bid 1♥, to not risk missing the 5-3 major suit fit. Over a preempt it is around fifty times more likely partner will pass the double for penalties than at the one level. At the three level the doubler's partner will generally pass with four plus of the opponent's suit.
3. Pass. You simply don't have the values to enter the bidding at the three level. If you can make nine tricks in spades then partner will raise you to 4♠, and you will go minus. If you pass and partner is short in clubs, you can expect a takeout double on minimal values in the pass out seat. Then you can happily jump to 4♠.
4. 3NT. Not a powerful hand, when you consider you are venturing 3NT without any assistance from partner. But it is safer than you think, despite your sterile 4-3-3-3 shape. If you say pass you will inevitably sit there defending an undoubled 3♣ contract with the opposition owning eight or nine trumps. Let's generously give the preemptor 8 points. Now with your 16 points the two remaining hands share 16 points, giving partner 8 points as a fair share. Also the preemptor will be short on entries, plus the defence figures to have communication problems. On top of all this declarer will have an easy time reading the cards.
5. Pass. A sharper chance than testing your arm in 3NT is that partner can reopen with a takeout double, since you surely have six tricks in your own hand against clubs. On the other hand 3NT lacks a source of tricks, with all the clubs in one hand against you. If partner cannot re-open then maybe you can't make 3NT, and you are better advised to take your profit in 50s, instead of scoring a minus.
6. Double. You could bid 3NT, but it costs nothing to double first in case you have a 5-3 heart fit or a 4-4 spade fit, or best of all, partner can pass

your double for penalties. Over 3♥ from partner your 3NT will infer that you have a four card spade suit, and partner can convert 3NT to 4♠ when holding four spades as well as the heart suit already advertised.

7. 3♥. Sure, you are strong to bid only 3♥, but your hand has defects. Your three small clubs are a chronic weakness, which, in addition to your flat shape may prove your undoing. When overcalling preempts at the three level it is better to be stronger than weaker. With a takeout double there is not so much concern, because you can expect partner to pass for penalties, perhaps 20% of the time.
8. 4♣, Michaels, showing 5-5 in the majors. Ron Klinger, in "Guide to Better Duplicate", recommends the cuebid of the opponent's 3♣ or 3♦ opening be 5-5 in the majors and 5 losers or better. Agreed, and Klinger continues, "(3♥) : 4♥ can show 5+ spades and a 5+ minor but you would not use this over 3♠, since this bypasses 4♥".
9. 4♠. I prefer 3♠, to allow room to "correct" to 4♠ over 3NT or the cuebid of opponent's suit, however both Tim Seres and Ishmael Del'Monte preferred 4♠. Tim simply said that 3♠ shows a good hand, and he treats 4♠ as weaker than 3♠. Similarly, Ishmael reserved 3♠ for a good hand, and was happy to treat the jump to game as preemptive in nature.
10. Pass. This problem arose at the recent Surfers Congress, which, as it does almost every year, broke attendance records. Despite your attractive 5-4 holding in the majors your length in the opponent's suit is a grave concern. If partner is not short in clubs you should be happy to defend 3♣. Partner held a modest eight-count with ♠Q94 ♥K1072 ♦K8743 ♣9 and most experts considered this an automatic fourth seat protective double. Now, empowered by short clubs opposite, the hand in question bid 4♥. This contract made eleven tricks without raising as much as a puff.

Paul Lavings

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