

ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITORS: David & Sue Lusk

NO. 92 NOVEMBER 2001

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Opinion

Some weeks ago, I was directing when a non-bridge playing friend turned up to take a look at what we were all doing. There were about thirty tables in play at the time and the session was in full swing with all players 'eyes down', very much absorbed in what they were doing. Needless to say, my friend was impressed with the clubrooms and the number of players participating. He was also somewhat amazed that these people were so involved in what they were doing and apparently unconcerned at the chaotic events going on in the world at the time. The date was September 13, just two days after the tragedies in New York and Washington.

I wondered later if he thought that bridge players didn't read newspapers or watch television because there was a suggestion that, with such a cataclysmic change in world affairs, life shouldn't go on as normal.

Obviously the World Bridge Federation did their best to see that life went on as normal when they undertook to relocate the World Championships to Paris. With the North American contingents strongly advised to stay away from Bali, the WBF undertook the ambitious task of relocating the event in Paris when it would clearly have been easier to cancel or postpone. The logistics of reorganising such a massive event were monumental and the WBF and the adoptive host nation deserve considerable credit for pulling it off.

Participating in bridge events may not seem to be of real importance in the great scheme of things but what one chooses to pursue in one's leisure time is representative of the sort of freedom that many of us take for granted.

The events of September 11 in the United States were clearly intended to severely disrupt the lifestyle of an entire hemisphere. Although we have all been compromised to some extent, as long as we can all continue more or less in the way we did, the basic intention of these actions will have failed. That is: we win, they lose.

If there is one thing I know about bridge players, it is that none of them like losing.

David Lusk

President's Report

The World will never be the same after the appalling terrorism of 11 September. It is difficult to concentrate on mundane matters. They all seem so trivial in the face of this carnage. There is a real need to show the flag and try to ensure the terrorists do not win. This is why the WBF carried on with the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup in Paris. Our teams did not perform to expectations. The World Championship has not reached the finals as I write. Australia looks to Bali for the next World Championships.

The domestic Tournament scene has been very active: RetireInvest Sydney Festival, Hans Rosendorff Women's Teams (Perth), and The Mercury Australian Swiss Pairs (Hobart). My deep appreciation goes to all involved. I have had nothing but positive feedback from all three events. The Tasmanian event was noted by the way the locals supported the event. I am asking for this type of support from all players for the 2002 Summer Festival and the Gold Coast Congress. If we can attract a larger Aussie entry, this will mitigate if overseas entries are down. Both events have entry forms available on the net.

If you have not already purchased a copy of "*The Cummings Collection*" a selection of bridge columns written by Dick Cummings for The Sydney Morning Herald and The Sun Herald PLEASE enquire from your Bridge supplier. It is a wonderful collection of instructional articles. The profit from sales has been allocated for the promotion of Youth bridge.

Keith McDonald
ABF President



Copy Deadline

For Issue No 93, January 2002

December 15, 2001

Late submissions will be held over till

Issue 94, March 2002

at the discretion of the Editors.



The Sydney Seniors Teams

A new event on the calendar, the RetireInvest Sydney Festival, featured the second Dick Cummings Pairs and two new events, the Sydney Seniors Teams (over four days) and the one-day Safilo Swiss Teams.

27 teams entered the Seniors Teams, run as a 7-round Swiss, followed by semi-finals and a final (64 boards each). The pre-post favourites were two pairs from the Australian Seniors team, having a hit-out before the World Seniors Teams in Bali in October. [*Although this did not eventuate. ED.*]

Which is more important, shape or points? These two deals illustrate the power of shape. The first comes from the qualifying rounds:

Dealer: N	North		
Vul: All	♠ 6		
	♥ 6		
	♦ 87642		
	West	East	
	♠ AJ10542	♠ Q9874	
	♥ 10982	♥ KQJ75	
	♦ KQJ105	♦ 9	
	♣ Q	♣ 96	
	South		
	♠ AK52		
	♥ A43		
	♦ A3		
	♣ K873		

North	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Seres</i>
Pass	1NT ¹
2NT ²	3♣
3♦ ³	6♣ ⁴
Pass	

1. 15-18
2. Transfer to clubs. From North's point of view, the right spot could be 3♣, 3♦, 3NT, 5♣ or 5♦. A slam was not contemplated.
3. Shows 5+ clubs, 4+ diamonds, forcing to game. When unsure whether the hand belongs in game or a partscore, go for the bigger score.
4. The ultimate super-accept!

Seres won the lead, drew trumps, conceded a diamond, ruffed two diamonds in hand and discarded one on the ♠K. +1370. Despite only 23 HCP between the two hands, 6♣ is a great spot and can withstand the 5-1 diamond break. Had diamonds been 3-3 or 4-2, 6♣

would be a good contract even without the ♠K. In addition, as the 1NT opener might have five clubs or five diamonds, to give up in 3♣ would be timid, indeed.

The other table made ten tricks in 3NT, +630. The datum was N-S 670.

The second deal comes from the semi-finals:

Dealer: S	North		
Vul: NS	♠ J104		
	♥ KQJ		
	♦ KQJ5		
	West	East	
	♠ 76	♠ Q9532	
	♥ 9652	♥ 1043	
	♦ 8	♦ 10763	
	♣ J107543	♣ Q	
	South		
	♠ AK8		
	♥ A87		
	♦ A942		
	♣ A62		

Despite all those points, 6NT is only 50% and a grand slam is hopeless, well, almost hopeless. Take away the ♠10 and even 6NT with a combined 35 HCP is a rotten contract. When it comes to shape, it pays to fear the 4-3-3-3.

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Our auction went:

North	South
	1♦
3♦ ¹	4NT
5♣	5NT ²
7♦ ³	Pass

1. Game force
2. Promising all the aces and interested in a grand slam. The idea was to let partner know that all the aces were held so that if partner has a shapely hand with a secondary source of tricks, he could bid 7♦.
3. Likewise, North figures if South has a shapely hand, say a 2-4-5-2, 7♦ will be laydown once South has promised all the aces.

Two other North-Souths reached a grand slam, one South failing in 7♦ on the ♦8 lead, and one North failing in 7NT when Lorentz led the ♣Q, a safe choice and potentially deceptive. The other N-S pair stopped in 6NT but declarer went one down when he had a blind spot and tried for an endplay on West rather than the spade finesse.

We were favoured by the ♣J lead against 7♦. When the ♠Q dropped from East, two black suit finesses allowed the grand slam home.

Ron Klinger

Australian Juniors In Brazil

The Australian Junior Team (Greg Dupont – Matt Raisin, Paul Brayshaw – Simon Brayshaw, Luke Matthews – Nic Croft, NPC Peter Smith) managed a great win in the PABF tournament in Singapore. High hopes were held of the team as they participated in the World Junior Teams Championship in Brazil in August. However, it was not to be, and the team did not attain a placing in the semi-finals. Indeed, they did not even achieve a decent placing, finishing a mediocre 11th out of 17 participating teams.

Why did the team not perform up to the standards expected of them? Two of the teams Australia had beaten in the PABF tournament (China and Thailand) obtained higher placings than them and Thailand made the semi-finals. Given the same conditions as the PABF tournament it would be expected that Australia would also make the semi-finals but conditions were not the same and they apparently did not favour Australia.

First and foremost, there is a 12-hour difference (or so) between Australia and Brazil. Most of the team had “acclimatized” before going off to South America but

although sleep patterns adjust fairly quickly, the mind does not. For proof of this, one need look no further than the first match, against Thailand. The 5-25 VP loss which Australia suffered, when analysed, showed a lot of “rust” and slow mental processing. The Thai opposition, on the other hand, were playing sharply and quickly. It is not known about the Thai methods of team preparation, nor for how long they had been in South America before the tournament began, but the indications are that their preparations were better than Australia’s in some respect. Here are some examples of hands from this first match which push the point home.

Board: 3

Dealer: S	North	
Vul: EW	♠ A643	
	♥ 10864	
	♦ 86	
	♣ AJ6	East
West		♠ K10982
♠ J5		♥ J3
♥ Q9		♦ 109
♦ AQJ543	South	♣ 10942
♣ Q87	♠ Q7	
	♥ AK752	
	♦ K72	
	♣ K53	

On this deal, both Wests had overcalled 2♦ on the way to 4♥, played by South. Both Australian and Thai Wests led the ♠J. The contract can be made by rising with ♠A, drawing trumps and later taking the club finesse but both declarers ducked, intending to throw a club later on the ♠A. Both defenders took ♠K. The Thai East now switched to ♦10 and the defence scored a trump uppercut for down one. The Australian East returned a spade, and declarer drew trumps and claimed (the old DT&C...).

Why did our East not lead a diamond through? Simple – not thinking clearly. Even if partner is ruffing the spade it is not certain where the setting trick will come from, so the diamond through is the only hope.

Next...

Dummy	
♠ 105	
♥ 109652	
♦ 652	
♣ A52	Defender
	♠ AJ92
	♥ A7
	♦ AQJ3
	♣ K106

With Australia EW, the following auction occurred (NS Vul):

West	North	East	South
			1♥
Pass	2♥	Dbl	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

East had a couple of opportunities to compete to 3♠, but that is neither here nor there. With the hands looking balanced and partner marked with nothing, it is understandable that East aimed for a plus score.

West led the ♠4 and East won with the ♠A. Next came the ♦A and West played the ♦9, a high card being a discouraging signal. So the continuation was the ♠J, won by South's king. South played the ♥J, West following, and East won with the ace to return the ♦Q, South winning with the king. A spade was ruffed in dummy, then the Thai declarer ran off three more rounds of trumps in quick succession. The position was down to

Dummy	Defender
♠ —	♠ —
♥ —	♥ —
♦ 6	♦ J3
♣ A52	♣ K10

South led the last trump and threw a club from dummy. What should East discard?

If South holds the ♦10 and the ♣Q then there is nothing to be done. East will be thrown in to lead from the ♣Kx. So East must play partner for one of those cards. Which one?

If partner holds the ♦10, East must throw the ♦J to avoid the endplay. If partner holds the ♣Q then a small diamond discard is correct. You might think that you don't have enough information, and you'd be right. In the end, East played South for ♠Kxx ♥KQJxx ♦Kxx ♣Qx rather than ♠Kxx ♥KQJxx ♦K10x ♣Jx to compete to 3♥ vulnerable on the auction, and discarded the ♦J to avert the throw-in.

Without additional clues this would be a reasonable assumption. But West's discards are important, and West should (and had) discarded a small diamond on the run of the hearts. Thus South could not hold the first mentioned hand, as his remaining diamond would be the 10, if indeed he had one left. Therefore the only correct discard is a small diamond. Also, if partner had

started with ♦109x he may have signalled discouragement with the ten rather than the nine.

The Thai declarer played the hand highly competently, and the Australian East was not watching closely enough to defeat the contract, a sure sign of rust. East had thought along the wrong track. Certainly South's 3♥ bid was maniacal, but people sometimes make maniacal bids, and that is that.

Yet another hand from the same match:

Board: 14

Dealer: E

Vul: Nil

	North		East
	♠ 983		♠ 42
	♥ K98		♥ Q6
	♦ KQ83		♦ AJ76
West	♣ 1074	South	♣ A9832
♠ KQ10		♠ AJ765	
♥ J10743		♥ A52	
♦ 4		♦ 10952	
♣ KQJ6		♣ 5	

Both EW pairs were fortunate to reach 4♥ on these cards, as South had overcalled spades in both auctions giving 3NT no play. The Thai North led ♠8 and his partner ducked. West tried a heart and South took the queen with the ace, switching to the singleton club. North was able to win the second round of trumps and deliver the fatal club ruff to South, for down one.

The auction at the other table was as follows:

West	North	East	South
		1♣	1♠
Dbl	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

The Australian North chose to lead a trump, the auction having suggested a ruffing value in the East hand. South, not reading the ♥8 lead, ducked. This was the end of the defence, as South could no longer receive a club ruff. South's duck would be reasonable in many circumstances, as North had supported spades during the auction and there may have been three cashing spades upon winning the second round of hearts. However, West had shown a desire to play in 3NT in the auction even after the spade raise, so the ♠K was almost certainly in the West hand. In that case, the best hope is for partner to have an early entry, so rising with the trump ace and switching to the

club seems the best chance of taking four tricks. No doubt South would have found this play routinely in the latter stages of the tournament, but, again, a lack of mental sharpness saw an opportunity go astray.

Let us move on to better things. Australia did not finish 17th, and thus managed many wins during the tournament. Most notable were the wins against the Netherlands and Canada, two of the stronger teams in the competition. Against Canada, one of the Oz juniors found a neat declarer play on the following cards:

	West		East
	♠ 85		♠ AJ93
	♥ QJ10983		♥ A42
	♦ AKQ		♦ 7
	♣ 42		♣ J10983
West	North	East	South
1♥	2♣	3♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

East's 3♣ bid was a cue-raise, showing an invitational or better raise in hearts. The Canadian North led the ♣A and South's ♣Q dropped. West started planning the play if the obvious spade switch occurred, and it looked as if the trump finesse was the best chance. It was odds-on to work anyway. Just as West was thinking it through, North switched to a trump.

West just managed to stop himself from ducking it around, and checked to see if any advantage could be taken of this. After a short huddle, our hero rose with the trump ace and led a club. South discarded, as hoped, and North won with the king. Now came a spade switch but it was too late. Declarer rose with the ace and led a club. South could ruff this if he liked, but West would over-ruff, ruff a diamond in dummy and play another club, pitching the losing spade whilst South ruffed in with the winning ♥K if he had it. As it happened, South had only started with a doubleton Kx of trumps, and had to ruff the first time with the king whilst the spade was pitched.

+420 was 10 valuable IMPs when 4♥ failed at the other table, presumably after a spade switch. If West had taken the trump finesse instead, he would have gone down in the contract. The ability to change one's tack in the middle of the hand when something unexpected happens is an admirable and underrated bridge trait. The trump finesse is superior to West's line only if North had found an unlikely trump switch from Kx and South had the presence of mind to ruff the second club and switch to a spade. In this latter part of the tournament West showed true match-fitness by spotting a defensive

lapse and finding a line of play to take full advantage of it.

Other possible reasons for the team's under-performance were the fact that the competition was a little tougher than the PABF, and that the environment was more social. It is true that participants from most of the countries were taking advantage of the beautiful resort in which the event was held, but this was just one extra distraction for the team in a situation where any distractions were likely to make a negative impact on performance. NPC Peter Smith did an admirable job in keeping the team as focussed as possible.

It is certain, in my opinion, that extra preparations in the areas of practice and acclimatization would have reaped huge rewards for the team. This, however, is rarely possible. Extra time and costs are involved in bringing about this sort of preparation and, as a team member, I know that it was extremely difficult to manage. At this point in time Australia has one of the most gifted junior fields it has ever had and the teams for 2003 and 2005 will be very talented, if inexperienced. I would wish for these golden opportunities not to go astray, but to be fostered, and for the teams to be given as many opportunities as possible to stay sharp and match-fit. It is hoped that the 2005 World Junior Teams will be held in Australia. What better a chance than this for the Australian team to show its might?

Paul Brayshaw

A Very Merrimac Griffin

BEST ARTICLE IN THE 2001 NOT NEWS

The final match in the Swiss Pairs provided an early candidate for best played / best defended hand from the Summer Festival of Bridge:

Swiss Pairs Round 8

Board: 30

(Directions changed for convenience)

Dealer: W

Vul: Nil

North

♠ AK
♥ 965
♦ A4
♣ KQ9432

South

♠ Q108763
♥ A2
♦ Q1087
♣ A

West <i>Fordham</i>	North <i>Hughes</i>	East <i>Scott</i>	South <i>Griffin</i>
Pass	1♣ ¹	1♦ ²	1♥ ³
2♥ ⁴	2NT ⁵	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣ ⁶
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

1. Strong club
2. Weak, odd suits (♠+♦ or ♥+♣)
3. Shows spades
4. Pass or correct
5. Natural. The 2♥ bid had broken the relays.
6. Cue-bid with spades agreed.

The ♥Q is led, taken by the ace. You unblock the ♣A, and play ♠A, ♠K.

RHO discards a heart on the second spade. What do you play next?

Suppose you play the ♣K, ditching a heart. All follow. What now?

You decide to ruff a club with a low trump. West over-ruffs with the ♠9. What do you do if West switches to a low diamond? What if West plays the ♦K instead of a low diamond exit?

The full deal:

Dealer: W	North	
Vul: Nil	♠ AK	
	♥ 965	
	♦ A4	
West	♣ KQ9432	East
♠ J942		♠ 5
♥ QJ7		♥ K10843
♦ K653		♦ J92
♣ 106	South	♣ J875
	♠ Q108763	
	♥ A2	
	♦ Q1087	
	♣ A	

The play went: ♥Q, taken by the ace; ♣A; ♠3 to the ace; ♠K, East discards a heart; ♣K, discarding a heart; low club, ruffed low, over-ruffed with ♠9.

Peter Fordham, West, now found the expert play of the ♦K to nullify dummy's club suit. Ted Griffin took the ace and continued with the ♦4, nine, ten. The ♠Q drew the last trump and the ♦Q dropped the ♦J, leaving the ♦8 high. 6♠ made!

Fordham blamed himself for this result. 'My fault,' he said after the session. 'If I had not destroyed their relays, they would never have bid the slam.'

Ron Klinger

Country Congress Calendar

Dates	Where/Event	Contact
December 2001		
29-31	Atherton Tablelands Tableland Bridge Club Pairs & Teams	Michael Suthers (07) 4095 8219 H Julie Wyburn (07) 4091 3512
January 2002		
3	Sunshine Coast Qld Senior Teams Maroochydore	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
March 2002		
3	Coffs Harbour Congress	Beth Chambers PO Box 6545 Park Beach Plaza Coffs Harbour 2450 (02) 6652 3951
8-10	Batemans Bay Congress Walk-in Pairs Pairs & Teams	Joyce Murray PO Box 6545 c/- PO BOX 148 Batemans Bay 2536
10	Sunshine Coast Sunshine Coast Pairs Maroochydore	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
May 2002		
25-26	Coffs Harbour Congress	Beth Chambers PO Box 6545 Park Beach Plaza Coffs Harbour 2450 (02) 6652 3951
June 2002		
22-23	Sunshine Coast Honeysuckle Pairs Maroochydore	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
September 2002		
1	Sunshine Coast 1-Day Swiss Teams Maroochydore	Anne McLeod PO Box 5152 Business Centre 4558 (07) 5492 7539
October 2002		
20	Coffs Harbour Congress	Beth Chambers PO Box 6545 Park Beach Plaza Coffs Harbour 2450 (02) 6652 3951

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors ABF Newsletter,

As the publisher of Australian Bridge Magazine, I would like to register a small protest about the cost of advertising in the ABF Newsletter. Last year, you produced about 144 pages of material at a cost of about \$70,000 to the ABF. This represents an average cost of \$486 per page yet a page of advertising only costs \$275. In other words, the ABF is subsidising the advertisers.

What's the problem, you say?

First, why should the bridge players of this country subsidise the advertisers? I can see no reason.

Second, these discounted prices present unfair competition for us. Not surprisingly, everyone chooses to advertise in the ABFN and not our magazine. This is a problem because the magazine does not run at a profit. Don't get me wrong, I am happy to support the magazine - I enjoy the work and I am proud of what we do - but I am naturally keen to put the magazine onto the best possible financial footing.

So I make this one request - how about charging a fair and reasonable price for advertising in your Newsletter?

Finally, I would like to thank the players and the clubs for the fantastic support they have given to the Australia-Wide Spring Pairs, played in clubs around the country in the last week of October. It was a record turnout of players and clubs. Not bad, given the event has been running for 25 years! This support truly helps the magazine to play its important role in the bridge community of this country.

*Paul Marston
Publisher
Australian Bridge Magazine*

Dear Editors,

I agree with David that Appeals Committees should not be unduly swayed by the eloquence of experienced players (Opinion, issue 91, September 2001). But I disagree with his assertion that Appeals Committees are not courts of law.

Appeals Committees may not decide appeals according to their own personal morality, but must decide as required by the Laws of Bridge.

Preventing experienced players from informing Appeals Committees of what the Laws state may result in their inexperienced opponents getting a better chance of winning an appeal.

But this would be at the cost of Appeals Committees handing down a greater number of unlawful verdicts.

Richard Hills

ABF Councillor - Update

John Bailey (Tas) has resigned. The ABF would like to welcome John's replacement, Andrew Richman, as a new Councillor for Tasmania. Andrew's contact details are:

Mr Andrew Richman
"Treetops" 344 Brown Mountain Road
KAROOOLA TAS 7267
Tel: 03 6395 4311 Home
Mob: 0418 725 402
Fax: 03 6395 4312
Email: Andrew.Richman@bigpond.com



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Tournament Results

RETIREINVEST SYDNEY SPRING FESTIVAL

DICK CUMMINGS BLUE RIBBON PAIRS

QUALIFYING NS:

1. David Beauchamp – Edward Chadwick
2. Pauline Gumby – Warren Lazer
3. Sue Coleman – Geogre Finikiotis
4. Peter Fordham – Andrew Peake

QUALIFYING EW:

1. Julian Foster – Tony Nunn
2. Mary-Ann Brifman – Seamus Browne
3. Edward Griffin – Michael Hughes
4. Andrew Davis – Ishmael Del'Monte

FINAL:

1. Julian Foster – Tony Nunn
2. Mary-Ann Brifman – Seamus Browne
3. Peter Fordham – Andrew Peake

SENIORS TEAMS

QUALIFYING:

1. **Nagy** 134 John Lester, Gabi Lorentz, Tim Seres, Ron Klinger, Zoli Nagy npc
2. **Evans** 131 Bob Evans, Peter Buchen, Victor Muntz, Boris Tencer
3. **Westwood** 124 Bill Westwood, Tom Goodyer, Margaret Bourke, John Brockwell, Eric Ramshaw
4. **Bayliss** 123 Peter Bayliss, Judy McGeary, Margaret Kefford, Michael Kefford

SEMIFINALS:

- Nagy** 226 defeated **Bayliss** 68
Westwood 189 defeated **Evans** 104

FINAL:

- Nagy** 226 defeated **Westwood** 95

SAFILO SWISS TEAMS

1. **Weston** 137 David Weston, Keiran Crowe-Mai, Khokan Bagchi, Lynleigh Evans
2. **Delivera** 136 Arjuna Delivera, Roy Nixon, Theo Antoff, Al Simpson
3. **Barnes** 128 Edward Barnes, Jonathon Dennis, Joshua Wyner, Sartaj Hans

AUSTRALIAN SWISS PAIRS

1. Terry Brown - Philip Gue
2. Nick Hardy – Steve Quinn
3. Khokan Bagchi - Matthew Thomson

HANS ROSENDORFF MEMORIAL TEAMS

1. **Greenfeld** 308 Dadie Greenfeld, Wendy Driscoll, Annabel Booth, Lauren Shiels, Kate Smith, Jill Del Piccolo
2. **Ohlsen** 302 Ann Ohlsen, Pauline Hammond, Di Brooks, Viv Janney
3. **McNamara** 278 Pattie McNamara, Suzie Futaesaku, Bente Hansen, Madge Myburg

Youth News

THE ABF YOUTH CLUB

Function of the ABF Youth Club

The ABF Youth Club allows players under 19 to be given the rights and privileges of ABF membership without having to join a state-based affiliated club.

Membership of the ABF Youth Club is terminated when a player reaches his or her 19th birthday. If, by that time, the young player has not already joined a local affiliated club, it will be necessary to do so in order to retain masterpoints earned during the period of ABF Youth Club membership.

Current Membership

The ABF Youth Club has involved nearly 50 young players in its short existence. Currently there are 46 members, ranging in age from 8 to 18. The breakdown by states is as follows:

ACT	21	NSW	3
QLD	7	SA	9
TAS	4	VIC	2

Joining the ABF Youth Club

Players wishing to join the ABF Youth Club may do so by filling out the nomination form which is available from your state / territory Youth Coordinator or from the website, <http://www.abf.com.au/youth/teens/youthclub.html>. It is required that prospective members have their form signed by the local coordinator but, for those who live in remote areas, a nominee of the local coordinator will suffice. Young players who join the club are accorded playing rights at affiliated clubs but must agree to abide by rules and conditions imposed by those clubs.

Any further information may be obtained from David Lusk. david.lusk@chariot.net.au

David Lusk



ABF Website

Each month David Beauchamp's selection for the best inquiry he received during the month is posted on the site, www.abf.com.au.

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

The best July submission came from **Penny Crittle**.

Hand: ♠A643 ♥AK4 ♦Q7432 ♣A

Bidding: Dealer: W, Vul: All

West	North	East	South
1♦	1♠	Dble	Pass
?			

Comments: Playing Pairs, 5-card Standard and better minor. Our doubles are the usual negative style.

And David's Response:

Hi Penny,

How're you doing?

This is a tough one. I would rate the possible calls:

2♥	5	3♥	4
Pass	3	2NT	2

Given that we are playing Pairs, making a slight underbid may work out well. 140 in hearts may beat a whole lot of 3NT going down. If partner's hand is something like 2425, I expect NTs to have no source of tricks. Pass is a big position. I certainly would not pass at teams but this action could be the big winner here. The main advantage with 2♥ is that partner can still make a forward move but is not as precipitate as 3♥.

All the best,
David Beauchamp

Penny later advised that partner held:

♠K7 ♥J9864 ♦85 ♣K542

ABF Newsletter Editors' Details

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ABF Secretariat

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ABF website at: <http://www.abf.com.au>

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The program takes you from the very basics of Acol all the way through the maze of bidding technique. The program includes Transfers and Key-card Blackwood as well as all sorts of bidding tactics and tests of judgement.

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Bidding Into The 21st Century

TEST YOUR OVERCALLING STRATEGY

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

(1♦) ?

- 1) ♠6 ♥QJ764 ♦J1086 ♣K83
- 2) ♠875 ♥K4 ♦K65 ♣AQ864
- 3) ♠J109 ♥AQ2 ♦J85 ♣KJ75
- 4) ♠KJ854 ♥98 ♦KQ1087 ♣2
- 5) ♠AKQ62 ♥K1086 ♦— ♣A1052
- 6) ♠A872 ♥Q76 ♦K3 ♣AQJ4
- 7) ♠KQ982 ♥AK7 ♦2 ♣AQ82
- 8) ♠QJ87 ♥86 ♦KJ92 ♣AQ9
- 9) ♠2 ♥AQJ72 ♦62 ♣KJ1074
- 10) ♠AK84 ♥AQ74 ♦765 ♣Q8

- 1) 1♥. If pass is your choice, you need to focus more on the fact that your score is being compared against all the pairs in your direction who play this deal. For you to score well you need your opponents to make an error of judgement. This is far more likely if your side is in the auction, taking up space, and giving the opponents less room to make decisions. You expect your partner to jump to 3♥ with four card support, and to jump to 4♥ with five card support.

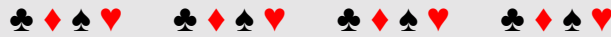
Bidding carries its own reward, but as well as that your hand has promising features in every suit. The test of a good overcall is “are you happy if partner bids game in your suit?”. The answer here is a resounding yes.

- 2) 2♣. You might need to take a deep breath before you overcall on this flattish hand, but it is the percentage action. Goren taught that if your opponents never make a doubled contract, then you are not doubling enough. Similarly if you never go for a penalty then you are not in the action enough.
- 3) Double. Again the emphasis is on entering the bidding whenever possible, and at the first available opportunity. It’s safer than you think, especially at the one level. There are three reasons to overcall - to make it difficult for the opponents, to win the bidding if the hand belongs to your side, or to indicate a lead. Your double fills the first two criteria, and partner’s response may solve your lead problem.

- 4) 1♠. There is a faction that says you should trap pass if you have length in the opponent’s suit. However as Mike Lawrence explains, when you have length in the opponent’s suit, partner is more likely to have a shortage, and thus have support for you. More to the point, the best way to escalate the bidding is to get involved and take up space, so that opponents must make the decision to re-enter at a higher level.
- 5) 1♠. This may seem a perfect takeout double but experience indicates it is vital to show the five card major first. When this hand came up, double was the choice. The next hand jumped to three diamonds and the opening bidder continued the barrage by leaping to 5♦. Double closed the auction. Unfortunately partner held ♠Jxxxx ♥Jxx ♦xxx ♣xx. Five diamonds made, and 5♠ would also have made. The American style, to bid your suit and then double later, to show that you have a good hand, is superior to doubling and then hoping to get a chance to bid your suit later.
- 6) Double. Though you have the high card points for a 1NT overcall, your hand figures to play better in a suit contract. You have only a doubleton diamond, and the chances are too great that opponents will take four or five diamond tricks against NT if partner also has only two or three diamonds.
- 7) 1♠. Bid your suit first, and then later double for takeout. If you double first you risk losing the spade suit.
- 8) Pass. A takeout double, except for a few rare exceptions, guarantees at least three cards in each of the unbid suits. Passing now does not bar you permanently from the auction, and is in fact the first step in describing your hand accurately. If the bidding proceeds 1♥ by LHO and INT or 2♥ from your RHO, double is now takeout. Also you could choose to double a higher NT contract, for a diamond lead, or simply on the basis that the hand sits badly for your opponents.
- 9) 2NT. Just as the 2NT overcall over one of a major shows 5-5 or longer in the minors, so the 2NT overcall over 1♣ or 1♦ also shows the two lower unbid suits. Over 1♣, the 2NT overcall shows 5-5 in diamonds and hearts, and over 1♦ the 2NT overcall shows at least 5-5 in clubs and hearts. When the opponents hold the spades it is more important to show your two-suiter in one bid.

10) Double. This hand represents one of the few exceptions to a takeout double showing at least three cards in each of the unbid suits. Your hand is otherwise ideal, with 4-4 in the majors, and solid values. If partner bids 2♣, then pass and pray. Partner will probably have a five or six card club suit, or the opponents might bid. One way or another you should easily survive.

Paul Lavings



Expressions of Interest for the Preparation of an ABF Manual

The ABF has decided to issue a Manual covering technical and administrative matters in relation to major bridge events that are run in Australia. The Manual will contain, but not be limited to, topics in the areas listed below:

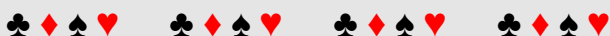
1. ABF Organization
2. Committee Structure and Function
3. ABF Tournament Structure
4. Tournament Unit Structure and Responsibilities
5. Responsibilities of Tournament Convenor
6. ABF Appeal System and Procedures
7. Tournament Regulations for all ABF Events
8. Structure and Management of PQP System
9. Selection Procedures for National Teams
10. Relationship with NZ (Zone 7)
11. Systems Regulations and Policy
12. Training and Selection of National Directors
13. Masterpoint System Structure and Management (abbreviated)
14. List of ABF Officers and Contacts

This is a comprehensive task, and will require considerable interaction with players, Tournament personnel and administrators. It is anticipated that a period of some months would be required to collate and proof read the information collected.

Expressions of interest are sought from people wishing to undertake the above task. A suitable fee will be negotiated. An appropriate selection panel will be appointed.

Please send all correspondence to:

ABF Secretariat
PO Box 397
Fyshwick ACT 2907



ABF Calendar - 2002

Date	Event/Contact	Location/Phone
January		
12-20	Youth Championships Peter Gill gillp@bigpond.com	ANU, Canberra (02) 9560 2704
16-28	Summer Festival John Scudder bridge@ech.com.au	Canberra (02) 9344 5564
February		
16-23	Gold Coast Congress Kim Ellaway qldbridge@ozemail.com.au	Surfers Paradise (07) 3855 3331
March		
7-10	Open/Women's Playoffs Val Brockwell valbrockwell@ozemail.com.au	TBA (02) 6239 2265
16-17	ABF AGM Val Brockwell	Canberra (02) 6239 2265
April		
26-28	Senior Playoffs Val Brockwell	TBA (02) 6239 2265
May		
TBA	Oceania Congress Val Brockwell	TBA (02) 6239 2265
17-20	Autumn National Teams Dianne Marler marler@arcom.com.au	Adelaide 0414 689 620
June		
TBA	World-Wide Bridge Contest John Hansen abfmpc@iinet.com.au	Australia-Wide (08) 6239 2265
6-10	McCance Trophy & VCC Jenny Thompson bjpt@ozemail.com.au	Melbourne (03) 9885 0160
7-10	Barrier Reef Teams Kim Ellaway qldbridge@ozemail.com.au	Townsville (07) 3855 3331
TBA	PABF Championships Val Brockwell	TBA (02) 6239 2265
29- 6 July	NZ Nationals Fran Jenkins fran@nzcba.co.nz	Hamilton +64 4 473 7748
July		
19- 2 Aug	Australian National C'ships Margaret Whitehouse tba@tas.quik.com.au	Hobart (03) 6243 9319
August		
16-31	WBF World Championships Val Brockwell	Montreal (02) 6239 2265
September		
16-31	Sydney Festival Valerie Cummings vcummings@ozemail.com.au	Sydney (02) 9959 4946
28- 1 Oct	Hans Rosendorff Teams Sue Broad	Perth (08) 9384 3350

Book & Software Reviews

BRIDGE TECHNIQUE SERIES BY DAVID BIRD AND MARC SMITH. MASTERPOINT PRESS

Vol. 4: *Eliminations and Throw-ins*

Vol. 5: *Deceptive Declarer Play*

Vol. 6: *Planning in Suit Contracts*

This excellent series of small books (each is about 60 pages) focuses on various aspects of card play. Each book covers a different topic, in neat bite-sized pieces. The material is designated as Intermediate, but the overall presentation means these can easily be read and understood by players who have not yet reached this level.

The chapters can be quite short, and conclude with a Key Point summary. Quizzes are provided throughout the books to test the reader's knowledge of the material. All bridge terminology is clearly explained and lesson points are illustrated with simple examples. The reader will not be overawed by the amount of material to absorb, and should therefore be more willing to complete the topic.

Eliminations and Throw-ins deals with a group of useful plays whereby the declarer can force the opponents to open up a suit to his advantage. Although it may sound complicated, in reality this is a very basic technique and one which is easily recognised, and arises frequently.

Deceptive Declarer Play deals with the topic of false carding – by concealing a certain card in one's hand, the opponents may be fooled into thinking that their own partner holds that card. Thus they may be encouraged to make an error in your favour.

Planning in Suit Contracts deals with all the general concepts that apply in suit play – when and how to draw trumps, counting winners and losers, establishing suits and getting rid of losers, and avoidance plays.

Here's how easy the authors can make the explanation of elimination play.

Say you have ♦Q76 opposite ♦J85. If you start this suit yourself, your only hope to score a trick is that the A and K are in the same hand. If the opponents open the suit, you are guaranteed one trick no matter how the honours are divided.

In the context of a complete hand, say the position is as follows:

	North	
	♠ Q1052	
	♥ A93	
	♦ Q76	
	♣ 983	East
West		♠ 4
♠ 983		♥ J1072
♥ Q864		♦ K943
♦ A102	South	♣ Q752
♣ J104	♠ AKJ76	
	♥ K5	
	♦ J85	
	♣ AK6	

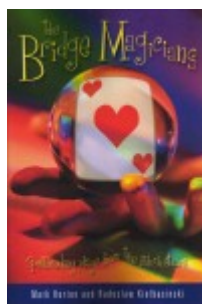
West leads a trump against 4♠, and you draw trumps in three rounds. You have a certain loser in clubs, and must therefore hold the diamond losers to two. If you just play Ace, King and a small club, the defenders have a choice of harmlessly returning a heart, so before throwing them in, you must play King, Ace, and ruff a heart, eliminating all hearts from both declarer and dummy. Now if the defenders return a heart you discard a losing diamond in one hand, ruffing in the other hand. If the defenders return a diamond, you have only two losers. Either way, contract made.

These inexpensive, easy-to-read little books will benefit anyone who wants to be better at declarer play.

John Hardy

THE BRIDGE MAGICIANS BY MARK HORTON AND RADOSLAW KIEBASINSKI

It's interesting how some countries seem to produce an almost endless supply of great bridge players, irrespective of their relatively small populations. Poland is probably the best current example. For many years bridge was forbidden, perceived by the Communist regime as an imperialistic tool. Not until a journalist (who was also a bridge player) published an article titled 'Better Bridge than Nothing' in the official communist magazine in 1956 did the game come out in the open.



Since then, and particularly in the 1980s and 1990s, Poland has been one of the dominant forces in European bridge with some world championship success as well.

The Bridge Magicians profiles 25 of the current top Polish players and presents great hands they have played in question and answer format. To this extent it is not

just a fascinating series of player biographies but also a stimulating and educational text that puts the reader in the place of the great Polish players and asks them to solve the same problems they did.

Some of players will be familiar to tournament players in Australia as they are frequent visitors to the NOT in January – Cezary Balicki, Piotr Gawrys, Krzysztof Martens, Andrzej Wilkosz and Adam Zmudzinski. Indeed Balicki is rated by some people as the best player in the world today.

Here's Balicki in action a few years ago:

Dealer: S	North	
Vul: Nil	♠ Q63	
	♥ K10732	
	♦ 76	
West	♣ AQ4	East
♠ 42		♠ KJ97
♥ AQ6		♥ J94
♦ 82		♦ J10
♣ KJ10865	South	♣ 9732
	♠ A1085	
	♥ 85	
	♦ AKQ9543	
	♣ —	

West	North	East	South
	<i>Zmudzinski</i>		<i>Balicki</i>
			1♦
2♣	X ¹	3♣	5♣ ²
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

1. Negative
2. Void

The opening lead was the ♣J and when the Queen held, Balicki discarded one of his losing hearts. He could have cashed the Ace to shed the other heart and then tried to play the spade suit for two losers but Balicki thought deeper into the hand. If West had the ♥A then East probably had the ♠K. (Otherwise, the two cards would be the opposite way round.) In order to maximize his options, at tricks 2 and 3, Balicki drew trumps, then played a heart fetching the Ace and ducked the spade exit, letting East's Jack hold. East was effectively end-played.

Brilliant analysis and a good example of not putting all your eggs in one basket!

MARTY SEZ BY MARTY BERGEN

Marty Bergen is one of the USA's leading players and teachers. He seems to have found a winning formula with his recent books (*Points Schmoints* and *More*

Point Schmoints) that are pitched to the improving player and are written in a humorous, easy-to-read style that make learning bridge fun. A few years ago, *Points Schmoints* was named Bridge Book of the Year by the ACBL and he's adopted the same approach in *Marty Sez*.



Marty Sez is a compendium of tips and tidbits, one to a page for convenience and many would be new to the improving player, such as “When partner promises

a six-card suit, you can support him with a singleton honor” or “any suit containing four honors can be bid as though it were one card longer”. eg

West	North	East	South
		1♣	????

South holds: ♠AKQJ ♥75 ♦K742 ♣943

Bergen says overcall 1♠. In fact he would open 1♠ in any seat (even playing 5-card Majors!)

West	North	East	South
			1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	????

South holds: ♠AQ43 ♥KQJ108 ♦843 ♣2

Bergen says rebid 2♥ - you should be delighted to bid this lovely heart suit again.

West	North	East	South
		1♠	Dbl
Pass	2♦	Pass	????

South holds: ♠6 ♥AKJ10 ♦AQ4 ♣KJ53

Bergen says bid 2♥, promising at least 17 HCP. Sure, you have only four hearts, but they are so exquisite that you are treating this as a five-card suit.

Marty Sez will be available in Australia later in the year.

Nick Fahrner

BRIDGE BARON 12 CD FOR IBM AND MAC (GREAT GAMES PRODUCTS, POTOMAC MD, USA, \$119.50)

The programmers at Bridge Baron have had a busy year. New features of Bridge Baron 12 are:

1. They have added three new languages: French, German, and Spanish.
2. Eleven new bidding conventions have been added: Ghestem, Checkback Stayman (also known as Delayed Stayman), Landy, Multi-2D, Mini-Multi, Multi-Roman, Ogust, D.O.N.T., Astro, Benjamin 2-Bids, and New Minor Forcing.
3. Twenty four new challenging problem deals have been added for a total of 96 Challenges, plus two new Bridge Tournaments.
4. The bidding, declarer play, and defence have been improved. A new level of bidding judgment, and playing judgment on the opening lead, have been added, so that Bridge Baron will consider the possible hands for partner and opponents while deciding on its bid or opening lead.
5. The graphical user interface has been improved and three new card faces plus easy-to-read cards have been added.
6. Online play is more stable and there are now extra online features.

Upgrades are available from Postfree Bridge Books at \$59.75 for those who already own Bridge Baron 11. We believe Bridge Baron is so superior to any other bridge-playing program that it is the only one we stock.

THE CUMMINGS COLLECTION EDITED BY DENIS HOWARD (MCPHERSON'S PRINTING GROUP, 2001, \$20.00)



A bridge column is measured by its local content, and this was Dick Cummings' strength. The cut-in rubber school at Double Bay Bridge Centre was a plentiful source of copy, with Tim Seres, Bob Richman and Michael Courtney in action on a daily basis. Duplicate players flocked to Dick in the hope of seeing their brilliancy in his widely-read daily column.

Denis Howard discusses a selection of Cummings columns, with photos added, always a great plus, giving "The Cummings Collection" a biographical touch. On this deal a sequence to reach 6♠ is suggested, but a greater challenge is to make the contract:

			North			
			♠ AK109			
			♥ AQ3			
			♦ 652			
		West	♣ A82	East		
♠ 32					♠ 654	
♥ 10982					♥ KJ764	
♦ J874					♦ Q	
♣ K106			South			♣ J975
			♠ QJ87			
			♥ 5			
			♦ AK1093			
			♣ Q43			

North	South
1NT	3♣ ¹
3♦	3♠
4♣ ²	4♦ ²
4♥ ²	4♠
6♠	

1. Transfer to diamonds
2. Cuebids setting spades

West led the ♥10 and declarer won the ♥A, trumped a heart, crossed with a trump, ruffed another heart and drew trumps. Next came a diamond to Queen and Ace, and declarer made the good play of ♦10. West also did well by ducking, but declarer had an answer by winning the ♣A and cashing the last trump:

			North			
			♠ —			
			♥ —			
			♦ 6			
		West	♣ 82	East		
♠ —					♠ —	
♥ —					♥ 7	
♦ J8					♦ —	
♣ K			South			♣ J9
			♠ —			
			♥ —			
			♦ K9			
			♣ Q			

West is thrown in with the ♣K to play back into the diamond tenace.

Frequently I found myself breaking into a smile at Cummings' opinion of a bid or play, and the way he expressed it. An excellent read.

Paul Lavings
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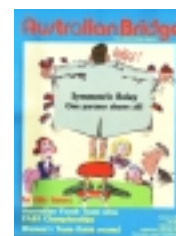
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Lidia Sonand Kilvington Beech

4 May 1950 – 12 September 2001

My memories of Lidia are many but among my favourites are those where she displayed her skill as a raconteur. Her stories were taken from her everyday life, from childhood, through her medical training, her days as a general practitioner, her two marriages, her relationships, her children and of course her bridge. Almost all were told with a laugh in her voice, a sparkle in her eyes and often a child-like indignation that these outrageous events could be happening to HER.

After her family immigrated to Australia in 1958, Lidia showed another side of her character, determination. “When I first went to school, I didn’t speak for six months until my English and accent were perfect. I wasn’t going to be teased by ANYONE.” That strength of mind saw her achieve her ambition of becoming a doctor. She became a brilliant and much loved general practitioner in South Melbourne. One of her partners observed, “Lidia was such an unbelievably good and thorough diagnostician that when she was on duty it was like having a consulting physician on call”.

Recently I asked Lidia what life was like in Poland. “It was PERFECT, until my brother Michael was born when I was four!” she said with a characteristic flash in her eyes. “After he came along I used to dream up ways of getting rid of him – pushing him down stairs, dropping him out a window and the like.” She also said, “Michael and I became particularly close after I became sick.”

Family was always important to Lidia. She married Grant Kilvington in 1972 and in 1978 Emily was born. Julia followed in 1980 and Trevor in 1982. To each of them she gave her unconditional love and the aid of her truly formidable intellect. Indeed one teacher is reported to have said to Julia, “Tell your mother she got an ‘A’ for your assignment.”

A dominant force in Lidia’s life was contract bridge. She had a partnership of over twenty-seven years with Margaret Bourke, starting in 1974. Over the next fourteen seasons they made the Victorian Women’s team eleven times, winning six national titles. However it was not until 1988 that Lidia qualified with Margaret for the national women’s team, to achieve another long-held ambition.

Also in 1988 Lidia’s marriage to Grant ended. In 1989 she married David Beech and, with their combined seven children, they enjoyed the warming chaos that big families so often have.

However, her bridge seemed to be treading water until 1993. Then, suddenly, it was as if she expected to win Women’s events as a matter of right. Indeed 18 of her 33 national titles came in the next eight years, including the honour of continuous Australian representation.

All seemed to be on track for her moving to the next level on the international bridge stage too. Alas double disaster struck during 1997. First, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She responded well to treatment and played with a new intensity. Unfortunately late in 1997 David suffered the major heart attack they had expected for so long and he died in January 1998.

The next few months were a blur for her. Finally she started to come out of the fog, thanks in large part to another bridge player, Bobby Richman. When the cancer returned late in 1998, it was he who provided the daily support. It was he too who helped complete the rapprochement with Grant, which gave strength to Lidia during her last months.

Although Lidia responded to treatment during 1999 and 2000, she was on borrowed time. This was dramatically demonstrated during the 2000 Bridge Olympiad in Maastricht when she collapsed during play, ending her active participation in the event.

Still, she was not done with bridge at the National level. In June this year she played on a team in the Victor Champion Cup in a wheel chair with an ever-present oxygen bottle. Her team finished a meritorious third and set a record for applause at the prize-giving ceremony. Everyone present knew it was her last event and showed their appreciation of having known her in the only way they could. It was a deeply moving moment.

By now she and the children had moved back into Grant’s house, a wonderful act of completion. Her long battle was near its end when she entered hospital in August and she gradually slipped away. Lidia lived just over fifty-one years but packed more into it than most would with three times that span.

Vale, Liddy, we shall miss your liveliness, humour and excitement oriented bridge. No one will ever match the last.

Tim Bourke



John Hardy

Bridge Books and Software
Prices include postage.

I would like to wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Books

Win the Bermuda Bowl With Me

Meckstroth & Smith \$29.70

Bridge Technique Series (*Bird & Smith*)

Eliminations and Throwins \$13.75

Planning in Suit Contracts \$13.75

Planning in Notrump Contracts \$13.75

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Challenge Your Declarer Play *Roth* \$18.70

Negative Doubles *Bergen* \$18.70

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(Day 1; Day 2/3)

Play the Vanderbilt \$66.00

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(Day 1; Day 2; Day 3)

These CDs are excellent to help you focus on what's important in bidding and play, and you learn professional skills and techniques.

Mike Lawrence's Improver Series \$59.95 each

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ABF News

ABF ON LINE BRIDGE EXPERIMENT

The ABF has signed an agreement with IOBC (International Online Bridge Club), an English based online bridge provider. There is a trial period for a few months (until February 1st 2002) where you can join without cost to see if you like the idea of playing bridge in cyberspace. After that the cost will be \$99 per year to play in all the standard competitions on line. If you join after March 1st 2002, there is a free one month period.

The response so far has been encouraging with lots of people giving it a go. The ABF encourages you to have a go during the free trial period. You may be surprised how much you enjoy it! Just click on the ABF website at www.abf.com.au and follow the links.

Dennis Yovich

BEST ARTICLE IN THE 2001 NOT NEWS

The award of the prize of a free entry to the 2002 SWPT for the best article published in the 2001 NOT News goes to Ron Klinger for his article "*A Very Merrimac Griffin*" in NOT NEWS #7. (Reproduced in this issue.)

The competition was judged on three criteria:

1. Technical excellence
2. Effectiveness in communication
3. Originality.

The 2001 NOT NEWS featured many superb articles that scored highly on some of the criteria. There was plenty of humour with "*The Mistakes I have Made*" articles by Neville Moses, the Seamus Browne masterpiece that was reproduced in Australian Bridge as well as many others including Lilli Allgood's diamond studded articles. There were numerous serious contributions. Ron Klinger was one of the prolific contributors together with Richard Hills, Andrew Struik, Eva Hardy and others. The historical articles from David Bird and Tim Bourke were much appreciated.

The winning article featured an interesting tussle between defender and declarer, thoughtfully presented by Ron with an interesting bidding sequence thrown in, capped off by Peter Fordham's laconic comment at the end of the article.

A special honorary mention goes to Bronek Burza for his two articles "*Tales of Bal*", Parts 1 and 2 that came

out in Editions 12 and 14. It is a pity that the articles were not received earlier so that they could have been made available to a broader readership.

Earl Dudley
Editor, 2001 NOT News

The Director's Chair

IRREGULARITIES DURING THE AUCTION

PART 1

Aspects of Law dealing with irregularities during the auction period are covered in the second part of Chapter 5. Irregularities such as 'opening calls out of turn', 'insufficient bids' and 'changes of call' are covered. This is where directors are most needed and players are well advised to ensure that premature correction does not occur and that players steer clear of 'home made' rulings. In such cases, you will receive very little sympathy or redress from the director if things go wrong.

Accidental and deliberate exposure of a player's card(s) are covered by Law 24. Any card exposed before the auction period would not be covered under this law, rather by Law 16, *Extraneous Information*. For a card to be considered as exposed or led, all that is required is for the card(s) to be in such a position that the partner could see its face.

If only the opponents could see it, this law does not apply. Any card exposed remains face up and would be treated as a penalty card, if appropriate. Provided the exposure was an accident and was a non-honour, there is no further penalty. However, if the exposure was deliberate, was an honour or more than one card, then partner must pass for one round. This is an instance of where Law 23, *Damaging Enforced Pass*, may apply.

Law 25, *Legal and Illegal Changes of Call* is the director's nightmare! The biggest problem with this law is in the inconsistency of rulings and the total lack of understanding by the players. The presumed intent of the first part of this law, in allowing inadvertent calls to be changed, is to prevent ridiculous contracts when either mechanical or never-intended actions occur and a change is attempted without pause for thought. The main criterion for inadvertency, which is, unfortunately, not defined in the preamble, is 'never in one's thought processes'. Note that 'in the same breath' is not pertinent. Even then, it is difficult to differentiate between never intended and a stupid mistake.

As an example, a player picks up a 7-0-3-3 distribution, is admiring his heart void and opens 3♥. He immediately sees what he has done and attempts to change it to 3♠. Opponents now request a director's decision. Clearly, he never intended to open 3♥, yet hearts were in his thoughts at the time.

A second example: A player holding a 6-1-3-3, 5 points, sees partner open 1NT and bids 2♥, immediately corrected to 2♠ and again the director is asked to consider allowability. Does the pair play transfers? No. Does the player play transfers with other partners? Yes. Was this a late realisation that they were not playing transfers or a genuine inadvertency?

Directors should try to be consistent in their attitude toward claims of inadvertency. Whilst decisions can be appealed, most committees would seek from the director the reasons which could well include facts as stated, table feel, and other information combined with his interpretation of the law in the instance concerned. In the above examples, the claim of inadvertency would have a far greater chance of success in the 3♥ case than the 2♥. Until such time as partner makes a call, a player may make an 'immediate correction of inadvertency'. Whilst a player may correct his call before questioning his entitlement, the change will often be deemed 'purposeful correction' and be subject to the appropriate law. If the director is not convinced that inadvertency prevails, he should move on to Law 25B, *Delayed or Purposeful Correction*.

When the director deems that inadvertency is not applicable, or if a player requests permission to change a call, the law does permit this provided two conditions are met. Firstly, that the left hand opponent has not called and secondly that the change was not induced by outside information. If a change of intent is permissible, left hand opponent may accept the changed call with no penalty. If not, then the options now revert to the offender. Any illegal calls must now be referred back to the appropriate law. Otherwise the player must either let his first call stand, barring partner for one round or make any other legal call with no further restriction. However, the pair will now receive the worse of the result or 40%. The opponents will receive the board result. Law 23 becomes operative in the case of an enforced pass and lead penalties may apply if the pair became defenders.

Law 26 deals with lead penalties associated with withdrawn calls. The principle within the laws relating to unauthorised information is further endorsed when an offender changes a call. Any withdrawn call must

have been bid earlier or later to avoid the suggestion of unauthorised information. If not, and the offending player becomes a defender, then declarer will have the right to request or prohibit a lead of that suit when the partner first gains the lead. Insistence is just for one round but prohibition extends for as long as the player is on lead. In cases where the withdrawn call does not relate to any specific suit, such as a natural bid of no-trumps, declarer may prohibit the lead of any suit he chooses but may not insist on the lead of a specific suit. Again, any prohibition extends until the player loses the lead.

With the advent of transfers, multi-two bids and the like, directors have a difficult task trying to identify which suits are specified and whether the suits specified in the withdrawn calls have been legally made in the auction. However, with the first principle in mind, if there is any suggestion that a player could be advantaged by unauthorised information, then the penalty provisions of this law should be invoked.

Insufficient Bids, covered in Law 27, creates another minefield. Directors have a responsibility to determine the likelihood of any suggestion of convention, as this would affect the degree of penalty. Directors should never assume that an insufficient bid is unconventional in the level called or at a legal level. Take a seemingly innocent auction of 1♦ – P – 1♣. Does the pair play any form of strong club or short club? Would a legal 2♣ bid have suggested anything other than clubs? It is very easy to underestimate all the possibilities. The law uses the words ‘incontrovertibly not conventional’ which again is not defined but would tend to mean ‘without the slightest chance of’.

As is common to most of the irregularities in the auction and play, the next player has the right to accept an insufficient bid. There are quite significant advantages to accepting insufficient bids. Being able to gain an extra round of bidding is frequently of great assistance as is keeping the auction at a lower level.

If the next player requires a retraction, the option to make it good without penalty is solely dependant on the fact that there is no possibility of ‘convention’ either of the insufficient bid or sufficient bid at the lowest legal level. If this is not the case, the offender can take any other action other than a double or redouble with partner required to pass for the remainder of the auction. Both Law 23 *Damaging Enforced Pass* and Law 26 *Call Withdrawn, Lead Penalties* may be applicable.

Richard Grenside

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Coaching Cathy at Contract

CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG

Hi,

Someone convinced us to use Michaels Cue Bids and they seem like quite a good idea. As usual, we seem to create more problems for ourselves than our opposition. The bids are OK, we play our Michaels as 7-11 points as follows:

Over 1♣ or 1♦:

Cue = both majors (always 5-5 or more)

2NT = A major and the other minor.

Over 1♥ or 1♠:

Cue = The other major and a minor

2NT = Both minors.

What we do after seems to be the problem.

MICHAELS MIX-UP #1

(No-one was Vul)

♠ A
♥ 764
♦ AJ75
♣ KQ732

West	North	East	South
<i>LHO</i>	<i>Glenda</i>	<i>RHO</i>	<i>Me</i>
1♥	2♥	Pass	2NT
3♥	Pass	4♥	Double
All Pass			

We did take 4♥ off but 5♣ was a terrific contract for us. I didn't know what to do after Glenda passed over 3♥ and couldn't answer my enquiry (2NT). I hoped that double was take-out but apparently it wasn't. What went wrong?

MICHAELS MIX-UP #2

(We were Vul, I think)

♠ AJ97
♥ KJ64
♦ A432
♣ 5

West	North	East	South
<i>LHO</i>	<i>Glenda</i>	<i>RHO</i>	<i>Me</i>
1♣	2NT	Pass	3♣
Double	3♥	4♣	4♥
5♣	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

Well, 4♥ was going to make and 5♣ went down only 2, so that wasn't a very good score. Why do these people always seem to get the right answers? It's not like they were Grand Masters or anything like that.

MICHAELS MIX-UP #3

(All Vulnerable)

♠ KQ754
♥ 74
♦ 6
♣ KJ852

West	North	East	South
<i>LHO</i>	<i>Roy</i>	<i>RHO</i>	<i>Me</i>
		1♦	2NT
3♦	4♥	Double	All Pass

Well, this was a real misery; Partner had only 5 hearts and went down a couple (very bad break in trumps). This was his hand: ♠A1064 ♥KQ953 ♦83 ♣94.

Obviously 4♠ was our best contract but I thought that Roy must have had a great heart suit to bid 4♥ but everyone said that it was 'correctable' and I should have bid 4♠.

Now I'm confused. Nobody mentioned correctable.

*Yours,
Cathy*

Dear Confused Again,

Some of the Michaels options leave no doubt about the two suits that partner holds but some, such as 2NT over a minor opening and the direct cue over the major, leave one suit unspecified.

Correctable raises in the unspecified denomination allow the partnership to bid to the apparently appropriate level on the basis of fit and strength without lumbering through the mechanics of asking for the second suit, as was attempted in hand 1 and 2. This gives the partnership the capacity to put the opposition bidders under much more pressure because they get less opportunity to find information about each others' hands.

Michaels Cue Bids and other each way bids (such as Multi-two openings) pave the way for immediate raises in the denomination of the unspecified suit and will work well as long as the bid carries the clear message that there is a fit in both suits.

In the first example, you were the side ultimately disrupted because you wanted to know Glenda's other suit and used the 2NT to ask the question. This was unnecessary, as you could have found the pressure bid of 5♣ immediately. As a 'pass or correct' bid, partner could leave 5♣ if that was her minor, or correct to 5♦ with diamonds. The notion that you can play in either suit is implied by the immediate correctable raise. If you

felt that 5♦ was a bit of a stretch, you could have bid an immediate 4♦ which partner could have corrected to 5♣, if appropriate.

Using the same principle on hand 2, would have provided you with an immediate bid of 4♥ (pass or correct) and you would have made it much harder for your opponents to find the good club sacrifice.

If you have grasped the principles associated with the first two examples, it now becomes obvious as to why you should have bid 4♠ on the last example. Roy's immediate jump to 4♥, requested that you correct to 4♠ with the hand you had. From his perspective, he wanted to arrive at the level appropriate to the fit and values of the hand before the opposition worked out that they would do fairly well in diamonds. Over the correctable raise to the four level, bidding on in diamonds would have been a much greater risk for your opponents.

Beware of one thing. If you pick up a hand such as:

♠ 6
♥ AKJ8754
♦ A32
♣ Q2

And the bidding goes:

West	North	East	South
<i>LHO</i>	<i>Pd</i>	<i>RHO</i>	<i>You</i>
1♦	2NT	Pass	??

Watch out if you bid 4♥! Partner will predictably correct to 4♠ and your face will be covered with egg.

Because correctable raises cannot be modified to suit the circumstances, this is a hand where you need to go through the motions of confirming that your partner has the black suits.

West	North	East	South
<i>LHO</i>	<i>Pd</i>	<i>RHO</i>	<i>You</i>
1♦	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥

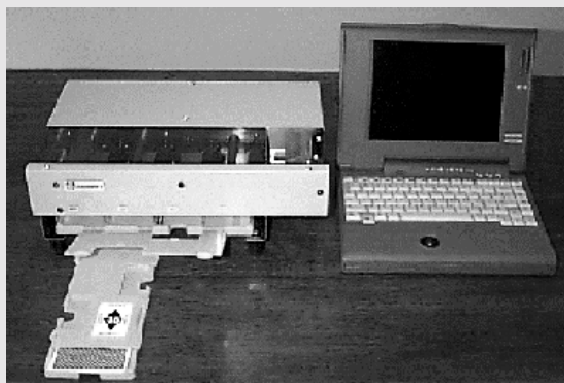
Once you have been through this sequence, partner can (and should) pass on the grounds that the cue-bidder's hand is now described and yet you are clear that 4♥ is your best contract.

*All correct now?
David*

David Lusk



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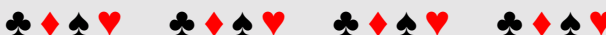
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McCutcheon Trophy Standings - 31st October 2001

Best Performing: Of all Masters

DEL'MONTE, Ishmael	NSW	462.40
NUNN, Tony	NSW	361.77
DYKE, Kieran	NSW	320.15
CHUA, Cathy	VIC	302.92
HINGE, Simon	VIC	302.06
GOLD, Leigh	VIC	277.50
RICHMAN, Bob	NSW	266.60
HANS, Sartaj	NSW	261.36
GASPAR, George	VIC	251.20
WESTWOOD, William	NSW	250.00

Best Performing: Silver Grand Masters

DEL'MONTE, Ishmael	NSW	462.40
CHUA, Cathy	VIC	302.92
HINGE, Simon	VIC	302.06
RICHMAN, Bob	NSW	266.60
WESTWOOD, William	NSW	250.00
LAZER, Warren	NSW	243.16
BOURKE, Margaret	ACT	239.87
GUMBY, Pauline	NSW	237.18
KLINGER, Ron	NSW	229.24
JANUSZKE, Roger	SA	226.09

Best Performing: Grand Masters

NUNN, Tony	NSW	361.77
DYKE, Kieran	NSW	320.15
GOLD, Leigh	VIC	277.50
GASPAR, George	VIC	251.20
STRONG, Terry	QLD	235.26
COLLINS, Jeannette	VIC	235.02
LOWE, Leslie	NSW	230.65
KLOFA, Stan	VIC	229.19
PARKER, Ralph	QLD	227.27
MARSTON, Paul	NSW	203.87

Best Performing: Gold Life Masters

DAVIS, Derrick	VIC	208.17
WATTS, Marlene	NSW	207.77
MOIR, Deborah	NSW	198.87
DE LUCA, Attilio	SA	174.67
DE LUCA, Chas	SA	173.90
PRESCOTT, Michael	NSW	153.65
BACH, Ashley	QLD	147.83
BRAYSHAW, Paul	WA	145.00
DE RAVIN, John	NSW	137.89
BERGER, Tony	QLD	130.72

Best Performing: Silver Life Masters

BAKER, Colin	NSW	160.69
WILKINSON, Michael	NSW	144.24
CROFT, Denis	QLD	143.29
SMALL, Anne	NSW	119.96
LINDSAY, Jack	NSW	116.68
WILLIAMS, Heather	WA	116.65
YANG, Kathy	VIC	116.25
SHIELS, Lauren	WA	113.54
CORMACK, Jan	NSW	113.35
WOODS, Meredith	VIC	113.11

Best Performing: Bronze Life Masters

HAY, Jillian	ACT	156.58
LYONS, Frances	NSW	122.81
EUSTACE, Greg	NSW	96.03
McLAUHLAN, Richard	QLD	91.39
RANKIN, Pele	WA	89.43
McLAUHLAN, Helen	QLD	88.14
COLLINS, Terry	WA	84.48
TOOTELL, Peter	NSW	82.79
MOLSKI, Felix	NSW	81.95
RUTHERFORD, Sarah	NSW	81.11

Best Performing: Life Masters

COWAN, Richard	NSW	164.69
ABRAHAM, Mark	ACT	148.96
STRICKLAND, Trevor	QLD	140.00
SKINNER, Tony	NSW	128.14
ATKINSON, Graham	VIC	109.05
LEACH, Jane	VIC	104.92
PHILLIPS, Shirley	NSW	102.04
ATKINSON, Jenny	VIC	101.19
BEDFORD-BROWN, Linda	WA	97.21
LOVELOCK, Lynn	NSW	92.93

Best Performing: **National Masters

MORAWIECKI, Roman	QLD	83.99
TALLY, Jim	WA	73.67
SEEFELD, Helga	WA	68.70
FRANCO, Jackie	SA	67.82
PILLER, Wilhemina	WA	65.66
HOLMAN, Verna	WA	63.09
PAK POY, Patricia	SA	61.43
LINDH, Eric	QLD	61.16
STONEMAN, Mac	QLD	57.45
FOSTER, Margaret	QLD	56.65

Best Performing: *National Masters

FOSTER, Julian	NSW	198.85
VAN JOLE, Nathan	QLD	126.41
EMERSON, Susan	SA	126.20
DEAN, Sandy	QLD	121.71
KO, Kurt	QLD	103.07
RENTON, Heather	NSW	102.52
CHIRA, Traian	VIC	102.26
JONSSON, Niclas	ACT	92.45
McERLEAN, Paddy	SA	85.22
GOSS, Beverley	QLD	82.54

Best Performing: National Masters

SQUIRE, Mary	NSW	81.33
SASSON, Clare	NSW	76.64
HAVLICEK, Peter	VIC	75.39
KROST, Barbara	NSW	66.56
BROOKES, Ian	NSW	66.09
NASH, Bill	SA	63.88
DE ROSARIO, Clifford	WA	63.62
STRUIK, Andrew	ACT	61.28
WAGNER, Norman	VIC	59.63
LOWRY, Helen	NSW	58.94

Best Performing: *State Masters

HANS, Sartaj	NSW	261.36
WILTSHIRE, David	SA	105.65
GUARINO-WATSON, Adam	TAS	89.61
HICKS, John	QLD	74.21
WALFORD, Tony	QLD	72.07
WOODHEAD, Damon	NSW	71.96
LYNCH, Mary	NSW	71.46
ALLEN, Pat	QLD	67.07
O'BRIEN, Sue	QLD	66.60
CHEN, Michael	NSW	65.29

Best Performing: State Masters

NEUMANN, Dagmar	NSW	91.12
WOOD, Kerry	QLD	83.21
MEERBACH, Ferdinand	QLD	83.19
GEDDES, Steve	SA	78.15
REGAN, Sandra	QLD	71.43
MANTON, John	NSW	65.83
THORN, Margaret	NSW	60.64
BIRCH, Robert	NSW	57.71
BADENOCH, Gwen	SA	53.11
ROBERTS, Roy	SA	52.82

Best Performing: *Regional Masters

PUNTURIERO, Lidia	NSW	40.79
STRAW, June	NSW	39.96
BLAIR, Patricia	NSW	33.47
HUGHES, Iris	SA	33.01
MALEY, Jenny	WA	29.67
EVANS, Glyn	SA	29.29
WAIT, Marie	SA	26.28
HANNA, Dominic	SA	26.24
SULLAM, Aldo	NSW	26.20
PILKINGTON, Leon	SA	26.19

Best Performing: Regional Masters

HARRIS, David	QLD	62.11
McGINTY, Hugh	NSW	42.72
AXFORD, Stan	WA	39.00
NORMAN, Barbara	SA	38.39
WING, Barbara	SA	36.79
SMITH, Ken	WA	36.39
RUDD, Gordon	NSW	34.72
ALLEN, Sandra	QLD	34.57
DUNCAN, Faith	NSW	34.25
NORMAN, Daphne	WA	34.04

Best Performing: **Local Masters

PORTER, Matthew	SA	95.32
GREENWOOD, Allan	TAS	88.95
DENNIS, Jonathan	NSW	76.37
WILSMORE, Peter	NSW	50.54
GEROMBOUX, Daniel	ACT	49.86
HOOD, Jill	VIC	49.85
MANDERSON, Desmond	NSW	46.00
MAILES, Oliver	WA	38.20
COATES, Sheryl	WA	37.38
LEUNG, Julia	QLD	36.56

Best Performing: *Local Masters

GINSBERG, Monica	NSW	84.97
OSMUND, James	QLD	55.97
CORLIS, Peter	NSW	52.29
CLIFTON, John	NSW	49.90
HURD, Anthony	NSW	48.59
MOIR, Shelley	NSW	48.29
MOLIERE, Robert	SA	47.98
ADCOCK, Jacqueline	NSW	41.79
FRANKLIN, Deirdre	NSW	36.22
FERGUSON, Andrew	ACT	34.75

Best Performing: Local Masters

MILLAR, John	QLD	44.08
ARORA, Santosh	NSW	34.42
LEE, Claire	VIC	29.74
LINES, Susan	VIC	26.81
DALY, John	ACT	25.73
EVANS, Val	NSW	24.79
CHANG, Sylvia	WA	23.63
SENDER, Sylvia	QLD	23.23
WINDOWS, Alex	NSW	22.82
HOBDELL, Betty	QLD	21.83

Best Performing: Club Masters

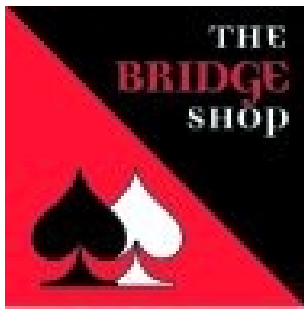
BARNES, Edward	NSW	82.32
BRIFMAN, Mary-Anne	NSW	82.22
MORGAN-KING, Pam	SA	49.22
MILLER, Don	NSW	48.75
KERI, Joseph	QLD	39.84
WISMER, Stuart	QLD	34.05
HU, Alan	VIC	31.10
ZHAO, Yan	NSW	28.03
WHITEWAY, Graham	SA	24.76
GULLEY, Geoffrey	QLD	23.70

Best Performing: Graduate Masters

DAHLMIEIER, Jim	ACT	33.04
LOPATA, Bessie	NSW	26.70
HAUER, Heidi	NSW	23.40
THOMAS, Jim	NSW	22.04
ASPINALL, Una	SA	20.17
BENDIT, Bill	NSW	19.19
SAMUELS, Tamara	NSW	17.14
BORZI, Dawn	QLD	15.21
BARNES, Fred	WA	14.80
HILL, Richard	ACT	14.46

Best Performing: Nil Masters

JANZEKOVIC, Darko	QLD	60.24
LI, Jin	NSW	46.87
EDWARDS, John	SA	41.85
PYNT, Jonathan	WA	33.61
EDWARDS, Margaret	SA	28.09
YU, Frank	VIC	19.99
KNOWLES, Malcolm	SA	19.42
KNOWLES, Julie	SA	19.36
GULLAN, Kate	ACT	19.29



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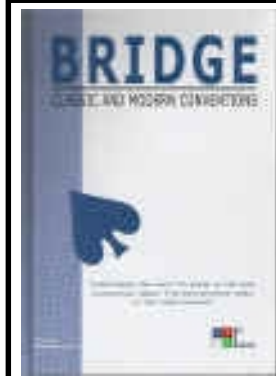
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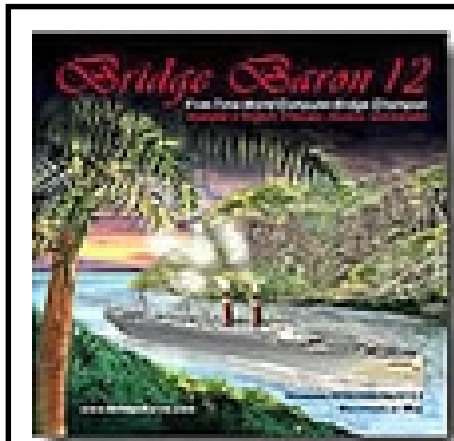


The Cummings Collection *Edited by Denis Howard*

This book is a collection of sixty-four bridge columns written by Dick Cummings for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Sun-Herald* during his long career as bridge correspondent for those newspapers.

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