



Bulletin Editors: Andy Hung, Laura Ginnan

ISSUE 6

The 2013 Australian U25 Team



The 2013 Australian U25 Team (L to R): Peter Hollands, Maxim Henbest, Justin Howard, Nathan Howard, Lauran Travis, and Ellena Moskovsky

Congratulations to Peter Hollands - Justin Howard, Maxim Henbest - Nathan Howard, and Ellena Moskovsky - Lauren Travis for making into the 2013 Australian U25 Team!

Peter Hollands and Justin Howard won the Youth Butler Pairs, scoring a record of 1991 VPs throughout the 18 rounds. That is an astonishing average of +40.6 net double IMPs per round, equating to +2.03 'normal' IMPs per board.

In the second phase of the Australian Junior Team Selection, four pairs (who finished 2nd-5th in the Butler) battled it out in a playoff that is scored against predetermined datums. The successful pairs joining Peter and Justin were Maxim Henbest - Nathan Howard and Ellena Moskovsky - Lauren Travis, and the runners up were Laura Ginnan - Peter Bolling and Shane Harrison - Stephen Williams.

This team will be competing in the Youth APBF in Wuhan, China in August 2013. For other international tournaments such as the World Youth Congress in Atlanta, USA and the World Transnational Open Teams in Bali, teams will be selected by committee. All pairs who played in the Butler are eligible.

Without your help the Aussie Youth Bulletin will be full of all our random rants and raves. Have your say - Email pix or articles or any suggestions to youthbridge.au@gmail.com



PRE-ALERTS!

For 2013				
DATES	EVENT	WHERE		
FEB MAR 23 - 02	Gold Coast Congress	Gold Coast		
<u>MAR</u> 09	QLD Youth Fun Day*	Mary- borough		
MAR MAR 09 - 10	Pro-Am: Batemans Bay Congress*	NSW South Coast		
MAR MAR 22 - 24	SA Youth Team Trials*	Adelaide		
APR APR 04 & 11	QLD Youth Fun Day*	Brisbane & Surfer's		
<u>APR</u> <u>APR</u> 27 - 28	VIC Youth Weekend*	Melbourne (VBA)		

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THESE ARE SHORTCUT HYPERLINKS!

 $[^]st$ For more details and website, please go to the State Associations section $rac{here}{}$



CHECKBACK (Results)

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

12 JAN - 19 JAN, 2013 (Canberra, Australia)

12 JAN – 19 JAN, 2013 (Canberra, Australia)				
Place	Pair			
1st	Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC)			
2nd	Sam Coutts (NZ) - Erin Tewes (NSW)			
3rd	Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC)			
Place	Pair			
1st	Andi Boughey (NZ) - Vicki Bouton (NZ)			
2nd	Peter Bolling (VIC) - Leigh Matheson (NSW)			
3rd	Zac Neulinger (ACT) - John Yoon (ACT)			
Place	Team			
1st	Howard : Justin Howard (VIC), Peter Hollands (VIC), Lauren Travis (SA), Ellena Moskovsky (VIC)			
2nd	Bolling : Peter Bolling (VIC), Laura Ginnan (VIC), Max Henbest (VIC), Nathan Howard (VIC)			
3rd	Brown : Matthew Brown (NZ), Susan Humphries (NZ), Andi Boughey (NZ), Vicki Bouton (NZ)			
3rd Place				
	(NZ), Andi Boughey (NZ), Vicki Bouton (NZ)			
Place	(NZ), Andi Boughey (NZ), Vicki Bouton (NZ) Pair			
Place 1st	(NZ), Andi Boughey (NZ), Vicki Bouton (NZ) Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC)			
Place 1st 2nd	(NZ), Andi Boughey (NZ), Vicki Bouton (NZ) Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA)			
Place 1st 2nd 3rd	Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC)			
Place 1st 2nd 3rd 4th	Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) Shane Harrison (SA) - Stephen Williams (ACT)			
Place 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th	Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) Shane Harrison (SA) - Stephen Williams (ACT) Peter Bolling (VIC) - Laura Ginnan (VIC)			
Place 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th Place	Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) Shane Harrison (SA) - Stephen Williams (ACT) Peter Bolling (VIC) - Laura Ginnan (VIC)			
Place 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th Place 1st	Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) Shane Harrison (SA) - Stephen Williams (ACT) Peter Bolling (VIC) - Laura Ginnan (VIC) Pair Glenn Coutts (NZ) - Vicki Bouton (NZ)			
Place 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th Place 1st 2nd	Pair Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) Shane Harrison (SA) - Stephen Williams (ACT) Peter Bolling (VIC) - Laura Ginnan (VIC) Pair Glenn Coutts (NZ) - Vicki Bouton (NZ) Zachary Neulinger (ACT) - Griff Ware (ACT)			
	Place 1st 2nd 3rd Place 1st 2nd 3rd Place 1st 2nd 3rd			

For more details, please visit the 2013 Australian Youth Bridge Championship website <u>here</u>. To view all of the photos in higher quality from this Issue, click <u>here</u>.

2nd

Team Phase 2

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Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA)



	Place				Team
Cliff Wake	1st				rd (VIC), Peter Hollands (VIC), llena Moskovsky (VIC)
Challenge	2nd		Cliff Wake: Griff Ware (ACT), Paul Gosney (NSW Andy Hung (QLD), Alex Smirnov (Germany)		
	Place				Pair
Youth	1st N/S	Andi	Bough	ev (NZ) - S	usan Humphries (NZ) (61.67%)
Goulash Pairs	1st E/W	-			Nathan Howard (VIC) (82.50%!!)
	Place				Team
Youth	1st	_		field (ACT)), Glenn Co), Ella Pattison (VIC), Matthew outts (NZ)
Speedball Teams	2nd			. ,	Ellena Moskovsky (VIC), Justin Ferguson (NSW)
reams	3rd			derpoel (N xy (VIC)	VZ), Guns (VIC), Ed Burrowes
	Place		Pair		
Youth Crazy	1st	Matt	hew Br	ew Brown (NZ) - Justin Howard (VIC)	
Pairs	2nd	Piete	Pieter Vanderpoel (NZ) - Laura Ginnan (VIC)		
	3rd	Dary	l Whitf	ield (ACT)	- David Skipper (NZ)
	Place	TEAM	IMPs		Team
OZ - NZ Test	1st	ΝZ	269	Glenn Coutts, Sam Coutts, Pier Vanderpoel, David Skipper, Matthe Brown, Andi Boughey, Vicki Bouton	
Match	2nd	ΟZ	165	Williams,	Ed Burrowes, Max Henbest,
		Cate	egory	,	Player
	Best Dec	st Declared Hand			Vicki Bouton
Contact	Best Def	est Defended Hand			Justin Howard - Peter Hollands
Contest	Best Bid	Hand			Erin Tewes - Leigh Matheson
	Best Bee	r Coke-	Carded	Hand	Finn Rennie
	Best Def	Best Defensive Beer Card Assist		rd Assist	Justin Howard
1st Super	Place				Team
Smash Bros. ⁶⁴	1st	Adam Edgtton (NSW) - Andy Hung (QLD)		- Andy Hung (QLD)	

For more details, please visit the 2013 Australian Youth Bridge Championship website here. To view all of the photos in higher quality from this Issue, click here.

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Teams

Checkback (Results)

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Ed Burrowes (NSW) - James Ferguson (VIC)







AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Andy Hung, Brisbane



Renee Cooper, Victoria and Jamie Thompson, Ella Pattison (Dave Thompson at the back)

The 2013 Australian Youth Bridge week was held at Rydges Eagle Hawk Resort (Canberra) once again, with a total of approximately 50 participants. I would like to welcome the newcomers, especially the New Zealanders who made a remarkable effort in joining us (a very special thanks to Susan Humphries for the organisation)!

Welcome back to the two kiddies Liam and Aiden

Robertson from Melbourne, along with a new addition of Finn Rennie (another kiddie), also from Melbourne (courtesy of Victorian Youth Bridge).



Onto the results: the Youth Pairs Final was won by Justin Howard and Peter Hollands with Sam Coutts and Erin Barbara Travis

Tewes as the runners up, and the Youth Consolation Pairs Final was won by Andi Boughey and Vicki Bouton with Peter Bolling and Leigh Matheson as the runners up. The Youth



Max Henbest, Peter Bolling, Laura Ginnan, Nathan Howard

Teams Championships was won by the Howard team (Justin Howard, Peter Hollands, Lauren Travis, and Ellena Moskovsky), with the Bolling team as the runners up (Peter Bolling, Laura Ginnan, Nathan Howard, and Max Henbest).

The new WBF (World Bridge Federation) VP scale that has been implemented

recently in international competitions was used (trialled) in the Youth Teams. The new VP scale essentially does two things: (1) It removes the effects of 'cusping' so every IMP actually counts, and (2) every IMP is not worth the same VP value as it starts off being 1 IMP = 0.33VP and slowly decays



Shane Harrison

towards nothing at the point the maximum of 20-0 VPs is reached. For more details, you can read about it <u>here</u> on page 5.

Ellena Moskovsky, Lauren Travis, Justin Howard, Peter Hollands

The Cliff Wake Playoff continues to be an exciting and suspenseful event. This year, the winners of the Youth Team Championships (the Howard team) faced the Invited team of Griff Ware, Paul Gosney, Alex Smirnov and Andy Hung in an intense four board playoff. For a full recount of the match, you can read about it <u>here</u>.

Throughout the entire Youth Week, there were a total of 599 boards to be played. Due to this vast number of deals, we thought it would be a good idea to have contest prizes for best played hands in various categories. They were: (i) Best declared hand of the week, (ii) Best defended hand of the week, (iii) Best bid hand of the week, (iv) Best beer carded hand of the week, and lastly (v) Best defensive beer card assist of the week. To read about the selected winners and their nominated deals, you can either read on or skip to page 7.

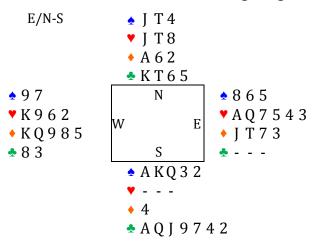


Now, here are some interesting and insightful deals from the week:

You are sitting North and hold ♣J104 ♥J108 ◆A62 ♣K1065 in 4th seat at unfavourable vulnerability, and you hear the auction start with your LHO (East) opening a weak 2♥:

W	You	Е	S
-	-	2♥	Dbl
3♥	Pass	Pass	4♥
Pass	?		

Alex Smirnov held this hand and thought partner obviously had a strong hand, but he wasn't sure what type of strong hand it was. Without much to go on, he decided to bid 5. where his longest suit was. When partner now *raised* this bid to 6. Alex said to himself, "Woah Nelly" and re-raised this to 7. Alex thought that at no point in the bidding did he make any noise of encouragement, and when partner could bid slam all by himself, Alex decided the A and the K was enough to go to the grand slam. Full deal:



W	N	Е	S
-	-	2♥	Dbl
3♥	Pass	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♣	All Pass	



Smirny and his Nespresso

This may not be the most scientific way to bid up to 7♣ but it is certainly as good as anything without any gadgetry. Upon looking at the traveller score for this board, it appears that Peter and Justin bid up to the matchpoint winning contract of 7♠ by North! Well done.

Here is another hand. You are West in 2nd seat, and you pick up this collection ♠Q104 ◆A1064 ◆543 ♣J83. You and your partner stay silent throughout the auction, and your opponents bid as follows, starting with your RHO:

You	N	Е	S
-	-	-	2NT ¹
Pass	3 ♣²	Pass	3 ♦³
Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

 $2NT^1 = 20-22$ $3♣^2 =$ Puppet Stayman $3◆^3 =$ No 5 card Major, 1 or 2 four card Majors



Diane Stewart and Max Mullamphy

Based on this auction, partner appears to be almost broke. Therefore you should not lead anything that would potentially give away a trick, so by a process of elimination you lead a diamond. This is what you see:



E/All	🛕 J 85
	y 98
	A J 9 7
	◆ A Q 7 2
• Q T 4	N
♥ A T 6 4	W E
◆ 5 4 3	VV E
♣ I 8 3	S

W	N	Е	S
-	-	-	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

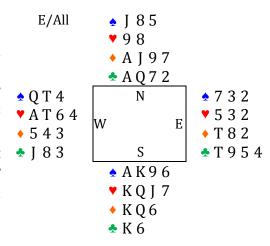
Declarer wins with the ◆K in hand and lays down the ♥K and you ...? Have a think about it before reading on.

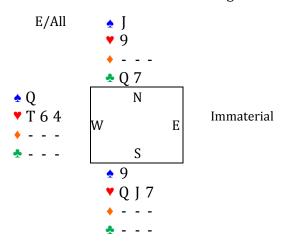
If you win, what do you return? If you duck, declarer will play the ◆Q, then a small diamond to dummy's ◆A, and play a heart to his ♥J and you ...? Again, if you win, what do you return?

Here is the full layout (to the right):

As mentioned earlier, partner is known to be broke. A count of the points between our hand and dummy suggests partner has at most a jack. Given that we can see three jacks and declarer showed up with the VJ, this means partner has absolutely nothing!

Back to the defensive problem, can you see what ♣ J 8 3 happens if you took the ♥A on the first round? Assuming you return a diamond, declarer can cash the diamonds, top two spades and two top clubs to come down to this ending:





Now, declarer cashes the *Q from dummy discarding their *9 and you are finished. Discarding the spade makes the *J good, whilst discarding a heart sets up declarer's hearts.

What happens if you duck *two* rounds of hearts? You will get endplayed in the 4 card ending (You will hold ♠Q104 ♥A and declarer puts you in with the ♥A).

The winning defence is to duck one round of hearts but win the second round of hearts. That way it cuts off declarer's communication to prevent the squeeze (or endplay) from occurring.



 ${\it Glenn \ Coutts, Ed \ Burrowes, James \ Ferguson, Sam \ Coutts}$



At the table, L to R: Stephen Williams, Max Henbest, Shane Harrison, Nathan Howard



We were also fortunate to have Alexander Smirnov come back to Australia to join the Youth Week and face the juniors when we were not able to win a medal for him from China (if you've missed out, take a look at the last few issues of the Australian Youth Bridge Bulletin [AYBB]).



Alex was able to lend some of his time to provide us with



Smirny's Talk

instructional talks about defensive strategies (when you should defend aggressively, and when to defend passively), simple squeeze plays, as well as some of his own favourite hands (one of them can be seen on page 13 of the AYBB Issue 2). These topics came in quite handy because the hand

on the previous page proved to be an excellent candidate as it utilised a combination of both tips provided by Alex (lead passive + simple squeeze).

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, the AYBB gave out prizes for best played hands in various categories from this year's Youth Week. Here are the winners:

BEST DECLARED HAND OF THE WEEK:

(Prize: \$20 iTunes Gift Card)

VICKI BOUTON

Vicki Bouton and Glenn Coutts were the winners of the Side Butler. Vicki demonstrated good technique to perform her first ever coup on this board:

Vicki Bouton and Vicky Thompson N/All ▲ A I 9 3 A T 9 8 4 🔩 J T 4 2 **★** K 7 5 N **.** 8 6 4 **9** 8 5 **V** [9 7 4 2 E W • AKJ 63 ↑ 7 5 S 9 6 5 ♣ Q 8 7

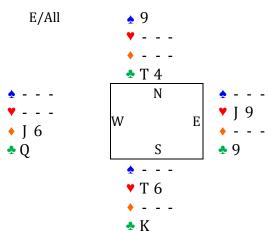
• QT2 ▼ KQT63 • Q2 • AK3

Diane	Glenn	Erin	Vicki
W	N	Е	S
	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♦	Dbl	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

After having had a difficult rebid due to the lack of a diamond stopper, Vicki ended up in 4. Diane led the A, then K, and switched to a club with the I winning on table. Vicki cashed the A, played a club to the ace, and played off the KQ finding the bad news about the trump break.

Unperturbed, Vicki finessed in spades to end up with this position:





Now, on the \$9 from dummy Erin was helpless. She discarded the \$9 so Vicki threw away her winning \$K\$ to retain the lead in dummy.

In the two-card ending, she had to lead from dummy and was bound to score her ♥10 as an en passant.

Well played!

BEST DEFENDED HAND OF THE WEEK:

(Prize: \$20 iTunes Gift Card)

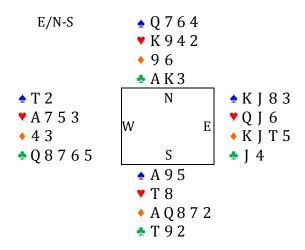


JUSTIN HOWARD AND PETER HOLLANDS

Justin Howard and Peter Hollands were the winners of the Youth Pairs, Youth Teams and the Youth Butler. They have been a long running partnership for some years and have represented as part of the Australian Junior team multiple times.

Here is a showing of their fine defence, capitalising on declarer's mistake:

Justin Howard and Peter Hollands

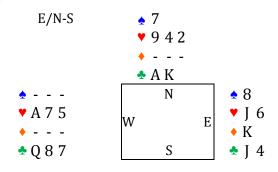


Peter		Justin	
W	N	Е	S
	-	1♣	1♦
Dbl	1NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Justin led the ♥Q which was run around to declarer's ♥K. Declarer played the ♦9 covered by the 10 and Q, cashed the ♠A and exited with a diamond as Peter discarded the ♠6 and declarer the ♣3. Justin, not realising declarer had now bared the ♣AK and that he could get out of the endplay by switching to a club, tried the effect of the ♠K. Declarer, not content with only seven tricks tried for more. Declarer won the ♠A, played a spade to their ♠Q and exited with a spade as Justin won with the ♠J and Peter discarded the ♣5.



This was now the position:



Immaterial

Justin now cashed the \$\.8\$ (3rd defensive trick) as Peter discarded a club, declarer following. Now, on the \$\.\text{K}\$ (4th defensive trick) Peter discarded another club and declarer was squeezed. A heart discard would allow the defence take 3 hearts, and a club discard would allow Justin to exit with a low club to set up the \$\.\text{J}\$ and cash it when in with the \$\.\text{J}\$ entry. Declarer chose the latter and was one off.

BEST BID HAND OF THE WEEK:

(Prize: 2 x \$10 Wish Gift Card)



Erin Tewes

ERIN TEWES AND LEIGH MATHESON

Erin and Leigh teamed up with Cathy Hui, John Yoon and Qiao Zhou for the Youth Teams and came 4th overall having been 2nd with a round to go. Erin and Leigh had a good auction to the only makeable slam on this board:



Leigh Matheson

S/All	🛕 J 85	
	y 9 8	
	• A J 9 7	
	◆ A Q 7 2	
♣ Q T 4	N	↑ 7 3 2
▼ A T 6 4	W E	♥ 5 3 2
◆ 5 4 3	VV E	• T 8 2
♣ J 8 3	S	♣ T 9 5 4
	▲ A K 9 6	
	🕶 K Q J 7	
	K Q 6	
	◆ K 6	

	Leigh		Erin
W	N	Е	S
-	-	-	2NT ¹
Pass	3 ♠ ²	Pass	$3NT^3$
Pass	$5NT^4$	Pass	6 ♦ 5
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2NT was 20-21, 3. was minor suit Stayman, 3NT was no 4-card minor, 5NT was pick a slam, and Erin, with a potential club ruffing value and good diamonds, chose to bid 6. (having denied a 4 card minor suit already). This worked out brilliantly as 6NT was destined to go off on correct defence (recall the analysis of 6NT on this hand on page 6).



BEST BEER CARDED HAND OF THE WEEK:

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BRIDGE BULLETIN

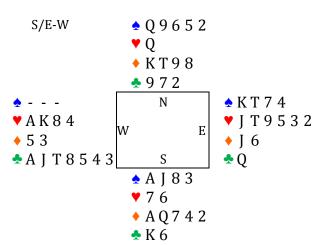
(Prize: \$20 Wish Gift Card)



FINN RENNIE

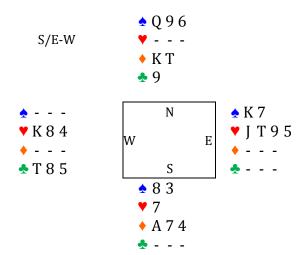
In the first round of the Consolation Butler, Finn Rennie and Andy Hung played against David Skipper and Liam Robertson. On board 3, Finn was brave enough to accept a challenge:

Finn Rennie and his Coke



Liam	Finn	David	Andy
W	N	Е	S
		-	1NT
2 ♣ Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass

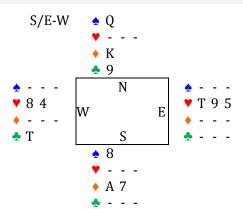
David led the ♣Q to the king and ace, and Liam continued with the ♣J as David discarded a diamond. Liam now cashed the *A and switched to a low diamond to the 8, J and Q. Finn then played the of from dummy, which held the trick. Realising he needed to play a spade towards dummy, Finn now returned back to hand via a small diamond to his 9 as David discarded a heart. Finn led a low spade to the \$10 and king and this was now the position, having lost 3 tricks so far:



Finn now played the ◆4 to his 10 which saw David ruff with the 47. At this point, Andy said to Finn, "You up for a challenge, Finn?", he promptly replied with a yes, and I set him a challenge to try and win the last trick with the ◆7. He asked me why, and I told him, "Well, given that you're a little young I can offer you a free can of coke if you win the last trick with the ◆7". At this point he sat up promptly and muttered, "This is easy."

David now returned a heart to see Finn ruff with the •6, and he now exited with the •9 to David's King. This was now the 3 card ending:





With no other suits to play, David played a heart and Finn proudly called for the ♠8 and immediately overruffed with his own ♠Q. This allowed him to play the ♠K to overtake with the ace, and with a smile on his face, he triumphantly called for the ♠7.

A beer coke well earned, well played Finny!

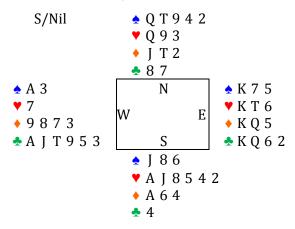
BEST DEFENSIVE BEER CARD ASSIST of THE WEEK: (Prize: \$20 Wish Gift Card)



JUSTIN HOWARD

Peter and Justin (Juzz) are well known for their appreciation for beer. Not only do they search out for beer cards, but they even go out of their way to take the extra mile in *assisting* their partner to obtain the beer card. Witness this deal:

Peter Hollands and Justin Howard



Gosney	Juzz	Laura
N	E	S
-	-	1♥
2♥	3NT	4♥
Pass	Dbl	All Pass
	N - 2♥	N E 2♥ 3NT

Peter led the ♣A, followed by a second club, ruffed by Laura. She led a spade which Peter won and switched to the ♦9 to the 10-King(false card)-Ace. Laura played the ♥A, followed by a heart to Juzz's ♥K who won and returned a heart back to Laura's ♥J as Peter discarded two clubs.

When Laura played the ♠J from hand, Juzz ducked to keep her from running the spade suit. In with the ♠K next, Juzz returned a club, tapping Laura down to only one trump left in her hand. Unsure of the diamond layout, Laura led a diamond which went ♦6 - 3- J - Q. If Juzz had led back a diamond now the contract would still have been beaten, but it would have ruined Peter's chances of making the Beer Card.

As a Beer Card Assist, Juzz led another club which Laura ruffed with her last trump on which Peter threw the •8, leaving the final trick to be the •6 from Laura to Peter's •7! Three off and a doubled defensive beer card with an assist.



FREE ROBOTS For JUNIORS!



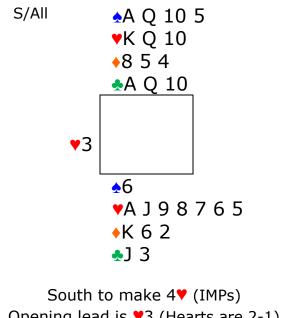
BBO is generously offering FREE leasing of GIB Robots for junior players on BBO from now till the end of 2013!

If you are an Australian youth player, and under 26 years of age (or 26 that year), simply send in your name, date of birth, and your BBO I.D. to Dave Thompson at dave@amontay.com and he should process that for you in no time. For any other junior players outside of Australia, simply send in an email to diana@bridgebase.com or rain@bridgebase.com with the same details along with some proof of your "juniorhood" such as a link to your junior masterpoints earned, or it could just be a photo of you with other juniors! (But do not send in photocopies of IDs)

If you know someone who is a junior, or someone you know who knows a junior, or ... just spread the word!

For those who already have GIB, the robot's system notes can be found here.

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY]



Opening lead is **Y**3 (Hearts are 2-1)

Solution on Page 21



Do you have a bidding problem? Then ask our expert, Andy Hung at What Should I Bid?

Each month Andy will select the best enquiry and the winner will be presented a \$30 voucher (funded by TBIB) toward any purchase made at the Bridge Shop or at Paul Lavings Bridge Books.



The ABF Youth Website is moving! The new relocated website will be www.youthbridge.com.au and we will also be creating a bridge forum to discuss anything from bridge problems to international events. This is currently under construction - send griff.bridge@me.com an email if you have any suggestions or want to help test the forum. Stay tuned ©



THE HELMAN-KLINGER MASTERPOINT AWARD: LIAM MILNE

M

This award, worth \$200 annually and supplemented with a further \$100 from the Friends of Youth Bridge Fund, is awarded to the Australian Youth Player who earns the most masterpoints in the calendar year in question.

Liam earned 313.05 MPs in 2012 after winning the Youth Pairs and the Youth Teams in last year's Youth Week. He won the Gold Coast Teams, came second in the VCC, the ANZ Youth Teams and the ANC Butler Stage 1. Liam won the NZ Open Pairs and came second in the NZ Open Teams. He made the Semi-Final of the GNOT and the Open Teams Playoffs. His crowning glory was his total of 0.69 green points won at Ish's club in June, from the Kings and Queens Invitational.



Liam and Koala



THE HILLS-HURLEY TROPHY: ELLENA MOSKOVSKY AND LAUREN TRAVIS

This trophy, donated by Richard Hills and Steve Hurley, is intended to encourage talented young bridge players to form long-standing partnerships and reward a successful pair who has developed a well-organised partnership to harness their full potential.

Lauren and Ellena represented Australia in the World Championships in Taicang, anchoring the U20 team to the Quarter Finals playing every single qualifying match, and every stage of the Quarter Finals (losing to the eventual runners-up, USA). Lauren and Ellena were exceptionally well prepared and had put in a very large amount of work to their system and partnership. They attended both training weekends with Alex Smirnov in Sydney and practiced extensively on BBO. Their excellent results at the World Championships were closely linked to their excellent preparation. They also finished 3rd in the World Junior Transnational Teams on the 'Down Under' team.

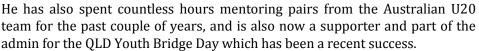


Ellena and Lauren



THE HELMAN-KLINGER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: ANDY HUNG

This award, worth \$400 annually and supplemented with a further \$200 from the Friends of Youth Bridge Fund, is presented each year to the Australian Youth Bridge Player whose ability, achievements, sportsmanship, attitude, contribution and commitment during the calendar year are most deserving. In addition to several strong performances at the table in 2012 (including winning the Gold Coast Congress and coming 4th in the World Junior Championships), Andy has been the driving force behind the exceptionally high quality Australian Youth Bridge Bulletin (including the previous attempts of creating the Australian Youth Bridge website).





Andy



THE ANDREW REINER TROPHY: NABIL EDGTTON AND ANDY HUNG

This recently established award is granted to the best performed pair in the primary target international event, taking account of performance in the event itself, commitment to preparation and contribution to team success.



Despite not coming home with a medal, Australia's U25 team did what no other Australian U25 team has done since 1991 in making it through to the Semi Finals. All three pairs played really well, but in singling out a pair for this award it's important to note that Nabil and Andy were an amazing +0.94 IMPs per board on datums, having played all of the Quarter Finalists and generally meeting the strongest pairs from our opposing countries.



Andy and Nabil





During this year's Youth Week, I was paired up with an unfamiliar face that I had not seen before for the Consolation Butler Pairs. His name is Finn Rennie, a 9 year old boy from Melbourne who was brought up by the successful Victorian Youth Bridge Program that is currently run by Laura Ginnan and Peter Hollands at the Waverley Bridge Club.

Before Round 1 had started, Griff, who had already played with him throughout the Youth Pairs, told me what Finn has already learnt and also some things that he likes and doesn't like to do.

He mentioned that Finn has learnt Stayman and takeout doubles, and he understood the concept that some sacrifices can be more profitable than letting the opponents get their game bonus. What Griff failed to mention was that Finn enjoyed bear trapping people to collect as many points as possible. Witness these two deals:

This board was from Round 3 of the Consolation Butler against Griff himself

Brd 10 E/All	◆ A 7 4 : ▼ 7 2 ◆ T 8 4 ◆ 8 7 6 :	_	
♠ K T 8 ♥ T 9 5 ♠ K J 7 3 ♠ K T 9	N W S	Е	• Q 9 ▼ A Q J 8 6 3 • 2 • A 4 3 2
	↓ J 6 5 5 ▼ K 4 ↓ A Q 9 ↓ Q J		

Andy	Griff	Finn	Zac
W	N	Е	S
		1♥	2•
2♥	3♦	4♥	5♦
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

Finn had sowed the seeds with his $4 \checkmark$ bid, which caused a little overbidding from Griff and Zac all the way up to $5 \checkmark$ X. I led the \checkmark 10, which Finn overtook with the jack to Zac's king. Zac then played a spade to the ace to run the \checkmark 10 to my jack.



Finn Rennie and Aiden Robertson

Sooner or later we had taken 8(!) defensive tricks (we had made 2•!) which prompted Finn to ask, "I knew we would be able to take at least 3 tricks, but I didn't want to let them play ... was the score better or worse than had we made our game?", to which I replied, "We just got +1700, and this is almost triple the score than 4• making 10 tricks".

Two rounds later, another pair had the privilege of facing Finn at the helm.



Brd 23	♦ J 6	
S/All	7 6 4 3	
	♦ K 9 4	
	♣ J 987	
♣ A K T 9 3 2 ♥ K Q 2 • Q J 7 6 •	N W I	♣ 7 5 4 ♥ A J 5 ♦ T 3 2 ♣ A 5 4 3
	◆ Q 8	
	♥ T 9 8	
	• A 8 5	
	♣ KQT62	2

Andy		Finn	
W	N	Е	S
		-	1♣
1.	Pass	Pass(!)	Dbl
Rdbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

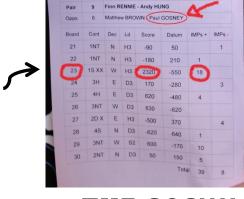
Finn had set up the bear trap by passing and it worked like a charm when our opponents did not know whether North's pass of the redouble was scrambling or to play. After a club lead, I soon claimed 11 tricks which made Finn very curious of the score. A few buttons later on the Bridgemate saw the screen light up with +2320 and Finn's eyes shined with glory.

Consolation Butler

And the most important question ... who did Finn successfully bear trap?



Finn Rennie





THE GOS!!!!

Paul Gosney

NEW ZEALAND TRIUMPH IN THE YOUTH TEST MATCH!



(L to R): David Skipper, Vicki Bouton, Glenn Coutts, Pieter Vanderpoel, Andi Boughey, Sam Coutts, and Matthew Brown

Well done to the New Zealand team, overcoming Australia in the Youth Test Match. With a total of 10 sets of 8 boards to be played, New Zealand were trailing in the first three sets, but never lost the lead thereafter. The final score was 269 to 165 IMPs. Well done!



YOUTH PLAYERS LEARN BRIDGE AT QCBC



Andy Hung, Alexander Smirnov, Joan Butts

By Joan Butts, Brisbane

At first thought, trying to teach young people to play bridge a few days after Christmas didn't seem like the best time. But it turned out to be perfect – lots of them sitting round on school or Uni holidays, wanting to DO something. Once the word got out that there was a lesson or help with play at the Queensland Contract Bridge Club (QCBC) on December 27th (2012), the numbers grew rapidly, culminating in over

40 young players, ranging in age from 8 to 25.

The day was free for the participants, and covered by the QBA. Nathan van Jole was chief mover and shaker. Therese Tully was the logistics person, organising various aspects of the day, including enticements like pizza for lunch (Domino's naturally), and yummy nibbles, which all disappeared very quickly.

There were 12 tables, half of whom did Beginner Lesson 1 with L to R: Will Chaffey, Matt Chaffey, Chris me, and the other half (who knew the basics) played random Longford, Oliver Chaffey hands and could ask the experts for help. The experts were Alex Smirnov, Andy Hung, and Therese Tully, so you can be sure that their answers were spot on!



L to R: Courtney and Maddison Eaton, Lauren Nohreiter

Some came by themselves, some with parents or grandparents. The "oldies" either sat with their charges, or played in the regular bridge game in the other room. This worked very well.

Young people learn very fast, and don't ask many questions. They are keen to get in there and PLAY. I always begin a first bridge lesson (for old or young)

with a version of Mini-bridge, because it allows the class to recognise the important basics of the game, i.e. finding a fit, and

L to R: Michael Dash, Bradley Tully,

evaluating whether hands are good enough to contract for a certain number of tricks. There's no need to mention bidding yet. Samuel Taylor, Lawrence Tully Riding on the success of the first QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day, another one was scheduled for January 14th, and while Nathan van Jole, Peter Evans and Sarah Strickland helped the more experienced players, I took the newies for their second lesson, Introduction to Bidding. Thanks also to Annette Maluish who gave her time to help. More Domino's pizza, more

chocolates, more biscuits, more fun and laughter, and most importantly, more BRIDGE!

Both of these days turned out to be a huge success and a potential driving force for QLD Youth Bridge (which had been lacking slightly for the past number of years). There were even a few keen participants that might think about attending the Canberra Youth Week in 2014!

Currently, there are three additional days for the QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day to happen again. We hope to see you there!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Saturday, 9th March 2013	10:30AM - 03:00PM	Maryborough Bridge Club (Maryborough)
Thursday, 4th April 2013	10:30AM - 03:00PM	QLD Contract Bridge Club (Brisbane)
Thursday, 11th April 2013	10:30AM - 03:00PM	Surfer's Paradise Bridge Club (Gold Coast)

For more information, please visit the QBA website <u>here</u>.



Smirny's response to Barbara Travis' article "A Blast From The Past" from the previous Issue #5:

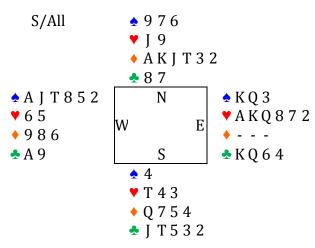
A few months ago I was playing in our German Open Team Championships with David Bakhshi, and team-mates Roy Welland and Sabine Auken. After one of the matches, Roy and Sabine came out of the match to score up looking disappointed, shaking their head apologetically. I told them not to look so sad and with a tone of defeat they said, "Sorry, we had a disaster first board. We missed the world's easiest grand in spades which had like 16 tricks..."

I immediately interrupted and told them it's OK, no sweat, don't worry, let's just score up.

Roy/Sabine: "... +1460" Me: "Win 24 IMPs"

Roy/Sabine: "...!?"

This is what happened at our table:



Opp 1	David	Opp 2	Me
W	N	E	S
-	-	-	Pass
2 ♦¹	Pass	$2NT^2$	Pass
3 ♦³	Dbl	Rdbl	All Pass

 2^{1} = Weak 2 in a Major or 20-22NT $2NT^2 = Asking$ $3 • 3 = \text{Max in } ^{4} \text{'s}$

Our opponents had an ordinary Multi 2 auction up until the redouble. Opp 2 must've thought the redouble was potentially to play if partner had some defensive diamonds such as •K J 9 x and try to scrounge up 9 tricks, but Opp 1 thought the redouble was to play based on their own trump tricks. Result: 5 off for +2800.

2800 plus 1460 is greater than 4000, so 24 IMPs in \odot

BRIDGE TRIVIA!

(Answers on page 21)

- 1. What bridge player has been on the cover of Time magazine?
- 2. When did the WBF (World Bridge Federation) become a part of the Olympic movement?
- 3. In what Bond film does Bond play bridge?
- 4. Which electronics brand sponsors a world class bridge event that will be held this April?
- 5. Who has the most ABF masterpoints?





PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS



Paul Lavings is a frequent supporter of the Australian Youth Bridge scene and he generously donates bridge books as prizes for the Australian Youth Bridge Week. He has represented Australia in our Open team many times, including his recent success in the winning team at the 2012 and 2013 Australian Open Team Playoffs and the 2012 Autumn National Open Teams in Adelaide. He also owns a bridge book and supplies company so make sure to visit his website at www.bridgegear.com and contact him if you are

in any need of a bridge book or CD. (P.S. Paul offers a good price on bridge books for youth players so be sure to check his website out!)

DOUBLE - DIPPING

By PAUL LAVINGS, SYDNEY

Gambling. Bad gambling. There's plenty of it in bridge. But first let me give you an example of good gambling. Where you win if you're better, and break square if you're not.

It's 1972, and The Double Bay Bridge Club looks a treat. Huge leather armchairs, expensive felttopped tables, excellent table service and meals. All because the club is the front for the illegal casino one floor above.

One night I'm sitting there hoping for a little action, anything. In walks a surfie type looking for a backgammon game. We set up the board, and off we go. I can see he's good from the way he rolls the dice and moves the men. In fact, way too good for me, and pretty soon I'm down \$600, a fair wad in those days.

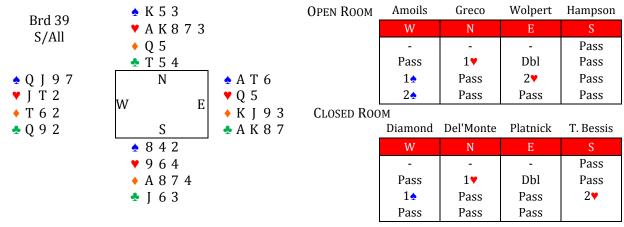
Now's a good time to point out that I don't have one solitary gambling bone in my body. Quite a bonus at bridge. My single objective at this point was to get square. I leant across the table and quietly asked my opponent, "Do you mind if we halve the stakes?". "Sure", he said.

The tempo visibly slackened. His intensity dropped, while mine increased. He took a bad double. He took another bad double. He was losing interest, and pretty soon we were square. "I'll stop now, thank you", I said, "You can pay your table money at the desk on the way out".

A typical gambler would have asked to double the stakes. But you all know that. It's the same at bridge, a hand is bad at the one-level, so its owner passes. But then they come to life at the two or three level. Bad gambling.

These two deals are from the final of Ishmael Del'Monte's great win in the 2012 Vanderbilt:

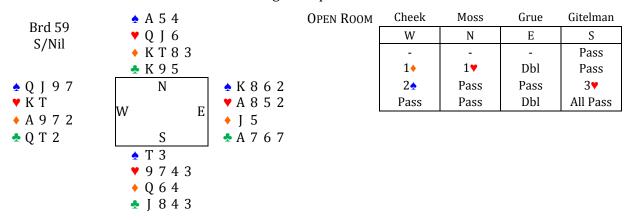




The 2♥ bid in the Closed Room is mad gambling. In the Open Room East kicked over his partner's 1♠ response, but West wasn't interested, so + 170 when everything sat right.

In the Closed Room East passed 1♠, reasonable with ♥Q doubleton, leaving South in the pass-out seat. Unable to rake up a response at the one-level South felt his hand now good enough for a 2* balance. WRONG!!. Firstly Ishmael would have bid something if he possibly could, to take the pressure off his partner, and secondly his hand had gotten worse, not better.

East might have doubled 2♥, but was in a generous mood. Even so, -300 was still a 4 imp loss. Minus 800 would have been a demoralising 12 imp loss. Here is another board:



The DIAMOND team was 43 imps in arrears when board 59 (of 64) appeared. But for some incredibly mad gambling, the deficit could have been much less.

When you are down in a long match your best tactics are to play strong and straight. Bid good games and slams, and extract obvious penalties. Psychic overcalls are only going to make things worse. Here North caught his partner in an equally manic mood. South couldn't bid at the two level, but could manage to bid at the three level. And what a dog of a hand! A more accurate defence might have netted 1100, but plus 500 was still 8 imps, when East-West in the other room bid calmly to 1NT for +150.

In summary, please don't be a bad gambler when you sit down to play bridge. Rather, be a good investor.

Email: paul@bridgegear.com

for all things bridge.

Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies

www.bridgegear.com



SUIT COMBINATION

THIS ISSUE

FOR NEXT ISSUE

(Assume unlimited entries)

(Assume unlimited entries)

A J 4

For 5 tricks, play the 2 from hand intending to

AK53

Target: 4 and 5 tricks

Target: 3 tricks

198

K9862

KJT643

Target: 4 tricks

2

laying down the king first intending to finesse on the second round because it guards against stiff Q with LHO. If you lay down the king first, you will still lose a trick if either opponent have a stiff 0.

finesse with dummy's jack. This is superior to

For 4 tricks, lay down the Ace first to guard against RHO having a stiff Q. Assuming both opponents follow, come back to hand and play a low card towards dummy's jack. This guards against any 4-1 break.

AJT643

Target:

4 tricks

2

If the suit breaks 3-3 then it doesn't matter how we play. If the suit breaks 4-2, then it is the Hxxx-Hx or Hx-Hxxx (H=honour) layouts that are of concern (our pip-less suit means we will still lose 3 tricks if LHO has both honours).

To guard against the proposed layouts mentioned above, it is best to play the Ace on the first round, then exit with a low card.

BRIDGE TRIVIA!

(From page 17)

- 1. Charles Goren (1958)
- 2. June 1995
- 3. Moonraker
- 4. NEC
- 5. Bobby Richman

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION

(Problem on page 12)

S/All **♠**A Q 10 5 **♥**K Q 10 **♦**8 5 4 **♣**A Q 10 **v**3 A J 9 8 7 6 5 **♦**K 6 2 **♣**J 3

Counting your winners, you have 9 top tricks. The 10th could come from a successful spade hook, or a club hook, or one of the black suit finesses and if it fails hope for •A to be onside.

An improvement to this line would be to ruff out two spades and if the &K doesn't drop, fall back on the club finesse and if that fails, hope the A is onside.

An even better line is to utilise the black tens. Win in dummy, cash the ♠A and run the ♠Q planning to pitch a club. If East covers with the ♠K, ruff, go back to dummy with a trump and run the 10 planning to pitch a club. Assuming West has one spade honour, you will later go to dummy with the ♣A and run the ♣Q planning to pitch a diamond. That's three ruffing finesses in one hand! If East has both spade honours, you fall back to the original plan.

South to make 4♥ (IMPs) Opening lead is ♥3 (Hearts are 2-1)



FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER - BEEFING UP BRIDGE CONVENTIONS

DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN 3 AND 4(+) CARD SUPPORT IN COMPETITION

Assuming in a 5-card Major based system, why is it important to distinguish between 3 and 4 card support in competition? The reason is because you (and your partner) would like to get a fair idea on when to defend, and when to declare. Suppose the auction goes (you as South):

W	N	Е	You
	1♠	2•	?

You can use 2NT as a 4 card limit+ raise, and the cuebid (3•) as a 3 card limit+ raise. When you have only 3 trumps, your hand tends to be more balanced and as a result: it would be better off to defend. Similarly, when you have 4+ trumps (giving the opponents less spade cards), your hand would tend to be more unbalanced and on some occasions you wouldn't want to be defending.

So what does this auction have to do with declaring or defending? Well, West might have the right cards to jump to 5• right away! Now, the knowledge of the possession of the 4th trump can be very crucial information to partner if he were to think about bidding 5 over 5.

Let's say the continues as follows:

W	N	Е	You
	1♠	2•	2NT*
3♦	4♣	5♦	?

For the sake of simplicity, let's assume 4. by partner was natural and slam try. Given that we have bid 2NT to show a 4 card limit+ raise, we are now working within the constraints that our actions over 5. would be based on hands with 4+ trumps. We could pass (forcing) to invite partner to bid on, or we could double to suggest a hand that is balanced with 4 trumps that's not suitable for declaring.

If we were not able to distinguish 3 or 4 card support on the round before (let's say you were playing 2NT as natural and $3 \bullet$ as a limit+ raise with 3+support), then you would have another factor to worry about and that is the number of trumps. So what do you do with the hands that would usually bid 2NT natural? You don't, because they almost never come up! Think about it, to hold a natural 2NT hand you would have to have: (1) No 3+2's, else you raise, (2) No 4+2's, else you would make a negative double or bid 2, (3) Not 5+2's, else you make a trap pass, (4) a hand that is exactly 10-11 HCP, else with more you can chance a double or 3NT and with less you just pass. That is a lot of conditions to satisfy thus making it a rare hand type. In the unlikely event that you do hold such a hand (i.e. 2-3-4-4), either pass and go for 'blood', or just bid 3NT!

Distinguishing 3 or 4 card support is even more important when it comes to major suit battles:

W	N	Е	S
	1♥	1♠	?

Now you better be prepared - how often have you seen West preempt to 44, or perhaps make a 34 preemptive jump and have East bid 44? These situations come up quite often so it is definitely a useful tool to have in your arsenal. You can also use it in defensive bidding too!



STATE ASSOCIATIONS - UPDATES



EVENT (QLD)

DATES

QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day in Maryborough
QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day in Brisbane (QCBC)
QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day in Surfer's

Saturday, 9 March 2013 Thursday, 4 April 2013 Thursday, 11 April 2013

For More INFO: http://www.qldbridge.com/

NAS BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

EVENT (NSW)

DATES

Pro-Am trip to Batemans Bay Congress NSW Youth Team Trials 9-10 March 2013 Sunday, 19 May 2013

Email: fraserrew@gmail.com Web: http://www.nswba.com.au/

BRIDGE FEDERATION ACT INC.

EVENT (ACT)

DATES

ANU Bridge Club regular meetings Pro-Am trip to Batemans Bay Congress ACT Youth Team Trials Thursdays 1-2pm during term 9-10 March 2013 Sunday, 28 April 2013 (also Sat 27 if entries warrant)

Email: youth@bfact.com.au Web: http://www.bfact.com.au/

VB4

EVENT (VIC)

DATES

VIC Youth Training Weekend and Pro am

27-28 April 2013

Contact: http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php

South Australian

Bridge Federation Inc

EVENT (SA)

DATES

SA Youth Team Trials

22-24 March 2013

Contact: http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/

EVENT (WA)

DATES

Contact: http://www.bawa.asn.au/

CANCEL THE TEXALITORY

EVENT (NT)

DATES

Contact: http://www.ntba.com.au/

TBA

EVENT (TAS)

DATES

Contact: http://www.tasbridge.com.au/