

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.

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For 2013
DATES EVENT WHERE

| $\begin{gathered} \frac{\text { FEB }}{23}-\frac{\text { MAR }}{02} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Gold Coast Congress | old Coast |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { MAR } \\ \hline 09 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | QLD Youth Fun Day* | Maryborough |
| $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { MAR } \\ 09-10 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pro-Am: } \\ \text { Batemans Bay } \\ \text { Congress* } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | NSW <br> South Coast |
| $\frac{\text { MAR }}{22}-\frac{\text { MAR }}{24}$ | SA Youth Team Trials | Adelaide |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { APR } \\ 04 \end{array} \frac{\mathrm{APR}}{11}$ | QLD Youth Fun Day* | Brisbane \& Surfer's |
| $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { APR } \\ 27 \end{array} \frac{\mathrm{APR}}{28}$ | VIC Youth Weekend* | Melbourne (VBA) |

## TREATS



# AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 

 12 JAN - 19 JAN, 2013 (Canberra, Australia)| Youth Pairs | Place | Pair |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
|  | 2nd | Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) |
|  | 3rd | Sam Coutts (NZ) - Erin Tewes (NSW) |
|  | 3rd | Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) |


| Youth Consolation Pairs | Place | Pair |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1st | Andi Boughey (NZ) - Vicki Bouton (NZ) |
|  | 2nd | Peter Bolling (VIC) - Leigh Matheson (NSW) |
|  | 3rd | Zac Neulinger (ACT) - John Yoon (ACT) |
| Youth Teams Champs | 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) |
| Youth Butler <br> Pairs (AUS <br> Junior Team Phase 1) | Place | Pair |
|  | 1st | Peter Hollands (VIC) - Justin Howard (VIC) |
|  | 2 n | Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) |
|  | 3rd | Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) |
|  | 4th | Shane Harrison (SA) - Stephen Williams (ACT) |
|  | 5th | Peter Bolling (VIC) - Laura Ginnan (VIC) |


| Youth | Place | Pair |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Consolation | 1st | Glenn Coutts (NZ) - Vicki Bouton (NZ) |
| Butler Pairs | 2nd | 3rd |
|  | Zachary Neulinger (ACT) - Griff Ware (ACT) |  |
| AUthew Brown (NZ) - Paul Gosney (NSW) |  |  |
| AUS Junior | Place | Pair |
| Team Phase 2 | 1st | Max Henbest (VIC) - Nathan Howard (VIC) |
|  | 2nd | Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) - Lauren Travis (SA) |

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.

| Cliff Wake Challenge | Place |  |  |  | Team |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1st <br> 2nd | Howard: Justin Howard (VIC), Peter Hollands (VIC), Lauren Travis (SA), Ellena Moskovsky (VIC) |  |  |  |
|  |  | Cliff Wake: Griff Ware (ACT), Paul Gosney (NSW) Andy Hung (QLD), Alex Smirnov (Germany) |  |  |  |
| Youth Goulash Pairs | Place | Pair |  |  |  |
|  | 1st N/S | Andi Boughey (NZ) - Susan Humphries (NZ) (61.67\%) |  |  |  |
|  | 1stE/W | Renee Cooper (WA) - Nathan Howard (VIC) (82.50\%!!) |  |  |  |
| Youth Speedball Teams | Place | Team |  |  |  |
|  | 1st | Daryl Whitfield (ACT), Ella Pattison (VIC), Matthew Brown (NZ), Glenn Coutts (NZ) |  |  |  |
|  | 2nd | David Skipper (NZ), Ellena Moskovsky (VIC), Justin Howard (VIC), James Ferguson (NSW) |  |  |  |
|  | 3rd | Pieter Vanderpoel (NZ), Guns (VIC), Ed Burrowes (NSW), Maxy (VIC) |  |  |  |
| Youth Crazy Pairs | Place | Pair |  |  |  |
|  |  | Matthew Brown (NZ) - Justin Howard (VIC) |  |  |  |
|  | 2nd | Pieter Vanderpoel (NZ) - Laura Ginnan (VIC) |  |  |  |
|  | 3rd | Daryl Whitfield (ACT) - David Skipper (NZ) |  |  |  |
| OZ - NZ Test Match | Place | team | IMPs | Team |  |
|  | 1st |  |  | Glenn Coutts, Sam Coutts, Pieter Vanderpoel, David Skipper, Matthew Brown, Andi Boughey, Vicki Bouton |  |
|  | 2nd | O Z | 165 | Peter Hollands, Justin Howard, Stephen Williams, James Ferguson, Nathan Howard, Ed Burrowes, Max Henbest, Shane Harrison |  |
| Contest | Category |  |  |  | Player |
|  | Best Declared Hand <br> Best Defended Hand <br> Best Bid Hand <br> Best BeerCoke-Carded Hand <br> Best Defensive Beer Card Assist |  |  |  | Vicki Bouton |
|  |  |  |  |  | Justin Howard - Peter Hollands |
|  |  |  |  |  | Erin Tewes - Leigh Matheson |
|  |  |  |  |  | Finn Rennie |
|  |  |  |  |  | Justin Howard |
| $\qquad$ | Place | Team |  |  |  |
|  | 1st | Adam Edgtton (NSW) - Andy Hung (QLD) |  |  |  |
|  | 2nd | Ed Burrowes (NSW) - James Ferguson (VIC) |  |  |  |

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## 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


Liam and Aiden Robertson, Howard Melbourne, 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 $=0.33 \mathrm{VP}$ and slowly decays
 towards nothing at the point the maximum of 20-0 VPs is reached. For more details, you can
 read about it here on page 5 .
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 here.
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 $\downarrow 104$ 『J108 A62 K1065 in 4th seat at unfavourable vulnerability, and you hear the auction start with your LHO (East) opening a weak $2 \mathbf{v}$ :

| W | You | E | S |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | $2 \downarrow$ | Dbl |
| $3 \downarrow$ | Pass | Pass | $4 \downarrow$ |
| 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 e 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 $\& \mathrm{~K}$ was enough to go to the grand slam. Full deal:

| E/N-S | $\begin{array}{r} \star \text { JT4 } \\ \bullet \text { JT8 } \\ * \text { A62 } \\ + \text { KT65 } \end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - 97 | N | - 865 |
| - K 962 |  | - AQ7543 |
| -KQ985 | W E | - J T 73 |
| -83 | S | *- |
|  | - A KQ 32 |  |
|  | ท-- |  |
|  | - 4 |  |
|  | * A Q J 974 |  |


| $W$ | $N$ | $E$ | S |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | $2 \downarrow$ | Dbl |
| $3 \downarrow$ | Pass | Pass | $4 \downarrow$ |
| 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 $7 \boldsymbol{1}$ by North! Well done.

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

| You | N | E | S |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | - | $2 \mathrm{NT}^{1}$ |
| Pass | $3 \mathfrak{\Omega}^{2}$ | Pass | $3 \star^{3}$ |
| Pass | 6 NT | Pass | Pass |
| Pass |  |  |  |

```
2NT }\mp@subsup{}{}{1}=20-2
    3%2}=\mathrm{ Puppet Stayman
    3*3}=\mathrm{ 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:


| $W$ | $N$ | $E$ | S |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | - | $2 N T$ |
| Pass | $3 ๕$ | Pass | 3 |
| Pass | $6 N T$ | All Pass |  |

Declarer wins with the $\varangle \mathrm{K}$ in hand and lays down the $\vee \mathrm{K}$ and you ... ? Have a think about it before reading on.
If you win, what do you return? If you duck, declarer will play the $\downarrow Q$, then a small diamond to dummy's $\Downarrow$ A, and play a heart to his $\Downarrow$ 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 $\vee J$, this means partner has absolutely nothing!
Back to the defensive problem, can you see what happens if you took the $\vee A$ 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:



Glenn Coutts, Ed Burrowes, James Ferguson, Sam Coutts

Now, declarer cashes the from dummy discarding their 9 and you are finished. Discarding the spade makes the $\quad \mathrm{J}$ 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 $\uparrow$ Q104 $\uparrow$ A and declarer puts you in with the $\vee \mathrm{A}$ ).
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.


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 J 93
$\bullet$ A
- T 984
^K 75
$\checkmark 85$
-AKJ 63
- Q 87


| Diane | Glenn | Erin | Vicki |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| W | N | E | S |
|  | Pass | Pass | $1 \downarrow$ |
| 2 | Dbl | Pass | $3 \downarrow$ |
| Pass | $4 \downarrow$ | All Pass |  |

After having had a difficult rebid due to the lack of a diamond stopper, Vicki ended up in $4 \boldsymbol{\varphi}$. Diane led the $\diamond$ A, then $\diamond$ K, and switched to a club with the ${ }^{\mathrm{J}}$ winning on table. Vicki cashed the $\upharpoonright$ A, played a club to the ace, and played off the $¥ K Q$ 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 $\nabla 10$ as an en passant.

Well played!

## Best Defended Hand of The Week:



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

E/N-S


- A 95
- T 8
- AQ8 72
- T 92

Justin led the $\vee Q$ which was run around to declarer's $\vee K$. Declarer played the $\uparrow 9$ covered by the 10 and Q , cashed the $\Downarrow \mathrm{A}$ 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 $\uparrow$ K. Declarer, not content with only seven tricks tried for more. Declarer won the $\& A$, played a spade to their $\wedge Q$ 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 $\varangle \mathrm{K}$ (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 J and cash it when in with the $¥ J$ entry. Declarer chose the latter and was one off.

## Best Bid Hand of The Week:



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 2 nd 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
$\checkmark 98$
- A J 97
$\frac{\mathrm{AQ} 72}{\mathrm{~N}}$
- Q T 4
- AT64
- 543
- J 83

| N |  | $\begin{array}{r} 732 \\ \bullet \\ \bullet 32 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| W |  |  |
|  | E | - T 82 |
|  | S | - T 954 |
|  | - AK9 6 |  |
|  | - K ${ }^{\text {J } 7}$ |  |
|  | - K Q 6 |  |
|  | - K 6 |  |


| Leigh |  |  | Erin |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| W | N | E | S |
| - | - | - | $2 \mathrm{NT}^{1}$ |
| Pass | $3 \mathbf{~}^{2}$ | Pass | $3 \mathrm{NT}^{3}$ |
| Pass | $5 \mathrm{NT}^{4}$ | Pass | $6\rangle^{5}$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

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


Finn Rennie and his Coke

## 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:

- 53
* J T 8543 $\qquad$ - J 6
- A J 83
- 76
- AQ7 42
\& K 6

| Liam | Finn | David | Andy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| W | N | E | S |
|  |  | - | 1NT |
| $2 \%$ | $2 \&$ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass |  |  |  |

David led the 2 to the king and ace, and Liam continued with the as David discarded a diamond. Liam now cashed the $\vee A$ and switched to a low diamond to the 8, J and Q. Finn then played the $\downarrow$ 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:

| S/E-W | Finn now played the 4 to his 10 which saw <br> David ruff with the 4 . At this point, Andy <br> said to Finn, "You up for a challenge, Finn?", <br> he promptly replied with a yes, and I set |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| him a challenge to try and win the last trick |  |

David now returned a heart to see Finn ruff with the $\uparrow$, 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 $\$$ and immediately overruffed with his own $\uparrow$. This allowed him to play the $\uparrow \mathrm{K}$ to overtake with the ace, and with a smile on his face, he triumphantly called for the $\downarrow 7$.

A beer coke well earned, well played Finny!

Best Defensive Beer Card Assist of The Week: (Prize: $\$ 20$ Wish Giit card)


Peter Hollands and Justin Howard

## 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 led the followed by a second club, ruffed by Laura. She led a spade which Peter won and switched to the $\varangle 9$ to the 10 -King(false card)-Ace. Laura played the $\vee \mathrm{A}$, followed by a heart to Juzz's $\downarrow$ K who won and returned a heart back to Laura's $\Psi$ J as Peter discarded two clubs.

When Laura played the $\$$ from hand, Juzz ducked to keep her from running the spade suit. In with the $\uparrow \mathrm{K}$ 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 $\$-3-\mathrm{J}-\mathrm{Q}$. 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 $\varangle 8$, leaving the final trick to be the $\varangle 6$ from Laura to Peter's $\downarrow 7$ ! 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]

S/All


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

Solution on Page 21

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 $\odot$

## The Helman-Klinger Masterpoint Award: Liam Milne

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 SemiFinal 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


Ellena and Lauren World Junior Transnational Teams on the 'Down Under' team.

## 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).
He has also spent countless hours mentoring pairs from the Australian U20 team for the past couple of years, and is also now a supporter and part of the admin for the QLD Youth Bridge Day which has been a recent success.


## 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


Andy and Nabil and generally meeting the strongest pairs from our opposing countries.

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 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A } 742 \\ & \vee 72 \end{aligned}$ |  | Andy | Griff | Finn | Zac |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - T 84 |  | W | N | E | S |
|  | 2 8765 |  |  |  | $1 \checkmark$ | 2 |
| ^ K T 8 | N | ¢ Q 9 | $2 \vee$ | 3 | $4 \vee$ | 5 |
| - T 95 | $W \quad E$ | $\checkmark$ Q J 863 | Dbl | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| - K J 73 | W E | - 2 |  |  |  |  |
| \& K T 9 | S | - 432 |  |  |  |  |
|  | ^ J 653 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - K 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - A Q 965 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - Q J |  |  |  |  |  |

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


Sooner or later we had taken $8(!)$ defensive tricks (we had made $2 \diamond$ !) 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 $4 \vee$ making 10 tricks".

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

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Brd } 23 \\ \text { S/All } \end{gathered}$ | - J 6 <br> - 7643 <br> - K 94 <br> \& J 987 | - 754 <br> - A J 5 <br> - T 32 <br> - A 54 | Andy | Finn |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | N | E | S |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { \& AKT932 } \\ & \text { マKQ2 } \\ & \text { Q J } 76 \\ & \text { - - - } \end{aligned}$ | N |  | 14 ${ }_{\text {1 }}$ | Pass Pass | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pass(!) } \\ \text { Pass } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10 \\ \text { Dbl } \\ \text { Pass } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
|  | S |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - Q 8 <br> - T 98 <br> - A 85 <br> - KQT6 2 |  |  |  |  |  |

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



THE GOS!!!!


Paul Gosney

Finn Rennie

## 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 me , and the other half (who knew the basics) played random


L to R: Will Chaffey, Matt Chaffey, Chris 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 evaluating whether hands are good enough to contract for a certain number of tricks. There's no need to mention bidding yet


L to R: Michael Dash, Bradley Tully, Samuel Taylor, Lawrence Tully Riding on the success of the first QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day, another one was scheduled for January $14^{\text {th }}$, 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 here.

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 $0 K$, 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:


Our opponents had an ordinary Multi $2 \star$ auction up until the redouble. Opp 2 must've thought the redouble was potentially to play if partner had some defensive diamonds such as $\Downarrow \mathrm{KJ} 9 \mathrm{x}$ 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 ©

## BRIDGE TRIVIA! <br> (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?
3. 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:

| Brd 39 <br> S/All | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \& K } 53 \\ & \text { \& K } 873 \\ & \text { Q } 5 \\ & + \text { T } 54 \end{aligned}$ |  | Open Room | Amoils | Greco | Wolpert | Hampson |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | W | N | E | S |
|  |  |  |  | - | - | - | Pass |
|  |  |  |  | Pass | 19 | Dbl | Pass |
| \& ${ }^{\text {Q }} 97$ |  N  <br> W   <br>   E | - AT 6 |  | 14 | Pass | 29 | Pass |
| $\checkmark$ J T 2 |  | $\checkmark$ Q 5 |  | 2^ | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| - T 62 |  | - K J 93 | Closed Room |  |  |  |  |
| - Q 92 |  | * A K 87 |  | Diamond | Del'Monte | Platnick | T. Bessis |
|  | - 842 |  |  | W | N | E | S |
|  | -964 |  |  | - | - | - | Pass |
|  | - A 874 |  |  | Pass | $1{ }^{19}$ | Dbl | Pass |
|  | J 63 |  |  | 1. | Pass | Pass | 2ソ |
|  |  |  |  | Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

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

In the Closed Room East passed 1a, reasonable with $\vee Q$ 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 $2 \varphi$ 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 $2 \vee$, 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 1 NT 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 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A J 4 | (Assume unlimited entries) <br> For 5 tricks, play the 2 from hand intending to | (Assume unlimited entries) AK 53 $\qquad$ |
| Target: <br> 4 and 5 tricks | finesse with dummy's jack. This is superior to laying down the king first intending to finesse | Target: 3 tricks |
| K9862 | stiff Q with LHO. If you lay down the king first, you will still lose a trick if either opponent have a stiff Q . | $\begin{gathered} J 98 \\ \text { KJT643 } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 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. | Target: <br> 4 tricks2 |

## AJT643 <br> Target: <br> 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.

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION
(Problem on page 12)
S/All


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 $\star$ A to be onside.

An improvement to this line would be to ruff out two spades and if the $₫ \mathrm{~K}$ doesn't drop, fall back on the club finesse and if that fails, hope the $\forall \mathrm{A}$ is onside.

An even better line is to utilise the black tens. Win in dummy, cash the $\&$ and run the $Q$ planning to pitch a club. If East covers with the $\uparrow K$, 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.

# 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):

| $W$ | $N$ | $E$ | You |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1 \hookleftarrow$ | 2 | $?$ |

You can use 2NT as a 4 card limit+ raise, and the cuebid (3ヶ) 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 | E | You |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | $2 \mathrm{NT}^{*}$ |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | $?$ |

For the sake of simplicity, let's assume $4 \&$ by partner was natural and slam try. Given that we have bid 2 NT 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 2 NT as natural and $3 \star$ 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+'s, else you raise, (2) No 4+ष's, else you would make a negative double or bid $2 \downarrow$, (3) Not $5+\uparrow$ '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 3 NT 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:

| $W$ | $N$ | $E$ | $S$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1 \downarrow$ | $1 \uparrow$ | $?$ |

Now you better be prepared - how often have you seen West preempt to 4a, or perhaps make a 34 preemptive jump and have East bid 4 4 ? 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)
QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day in Maryborough
QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day in Brisbane (QCBC)
QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day in Surfer's
For More INFO: http://www.qldbridge.com/

| DATES |
| :--- | :--- |
| Saturday, 9 March 2013 |
| Thursday, 4 April 2013 |
| Thursday, 11 April 2013 |

## EVENT (NSW)

Pro-Am trip to Batemans Bay Congress NSW Youth Team Trials

## DATES

9-10 March 2013
Sunday, 19 May 2013

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

## BRIDGE <br> FEDERATION ACT INC.

|  | EVENT (VIC) | DATES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Contact: http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php | $27-28$ April 2013 |  |


| South Australian | EVENT (SA) | DATES |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Bridge Federation Inc | Contact: http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/ | 22-24 March 2013 |


|  | EVENT (WA) | DATES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | -- | -- |
|  | Contact: htpp://www.bawa.ash.au/ |  |


|  | EVENT (NT) | DATES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $-\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  |
| Contact: http://www.ntba.com.aul |  |  |


| EVENT (TAS) | DATES |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |


[^0]:    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

[^1]:    * For more details and website, please go to the State Associations section here

