

# AUSSIE YOUTH BRIDGE BULLETIN

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ISSUE 23

## The 2016 Australian U25 Team



Congratulations to Adam Edgtton – Max Henbest, Stephen Williams – Jamie Thompson, and Nabil Edgtton – Daniel Braun for making the 2016 Australian U25 Team!

Adam Edgtton and Max Henbest won the Youth Butler Pairs with 138.26 VPs, ahead of Stephen and Jamie who were on 124.92 VPs. The playoff for the third pair was won by Nabil Edgtton and Daniel Braun, who faced Lauren Travis and Ellena Moskovsky.

The main international tournament that the Australian Youth Team will be participating in is the 16<sup>th</sup> World Youth Team Championships held in Salsomaggiore, Italy, from 3-13 August 2016. Joining them will be an Australian Girls team, composed of Ella Pattison – Renee Cooper, and Jessica Brake – Kirsty Fuller. Good luck to both teams!

### Latest News!

Congratulations to Renee Cooper and Jane Reynolds who have been selected as the third pair to join the 2016 Australian Women's team that will be contending in the World Bridge Games in Wroclaw, Poland.

Renee and Jane were in the runner up team that lost to the winners Pele Rankin, Paula McLeish, Helene Pitt, and Ruth Tobin. Congrats to Renee as she will be playing in two World Championships this year!

## ABF PRE-ALERTS!

For 2016			
DATES	EVENT	WHERE	
<u>APR</u> 28 - 2	<u>ANOT</u>	Adelaide	
<u>JUN</u> 4 - 8	<u>VCC</u>	Melbourne	
<u>JUN</u> 25 - 7	<u>ANC</u>	Brisbane	
TARGET EVENTS FOR 2016 YOUTH			
<u>AUG</u> 3 - 13	<u>16<sup>th</sup> World Youth Team Championships</u>	Salsomaggiore, Italy	
<u>SEP</u> 24 - 1	<u>NZ National Congress and Test Match</u>	Hamilton, New Zealand	

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Email suggestions or articles to [youthbridge.au@gmail.com](mailto:youthbridge.au@gmail.com)

THESE ARE CLICKABLE LINKS!

# CHECKBACK (Results)

## 2015 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

9 JAN – 15 JAN, 2016 (Canberra)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Youth Teams (Round Robin)	Place	Team
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	<b>EDGTTON:</b> Nabil Edgtton, Daniel Braun, Adam Edgtton, Max Henbest
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	<b>COOPER:</b> Renee Cooper, Matthew Smith, Jamie Thompson, Stephen Williams
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	<b>BROWN:</b> Matthew Brown, Daryl Whitfield, Ed Burrowes, Andi Boughey, James Coutts

Youth Team Finals	Place	C/F	1	2	3	4	Total	Team
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	15.5	10	14	39	41	119.5	<b>EDGTTON:</b> Nabil Edgtton, Daniel Braun, Adam Edgtton, Maxim Henbest
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	0	8	22	18	39	85	<b>COOPER:</b> Renee Cooper, Matthew Smith, Jamie Thompson, Stephen Williams

Youth Pairs Final	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Nabil Edgtton – Daniel Braun
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Matthew Brown – Edward Burrowes
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Lauren Travis – Ellena Moskovsky

Youth Pairs Consolation	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Charles McMahon – John McMahon
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Caitlin Holman – Elsie Baker
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Lakshmi Sunderasan – Rachel Rich

Cliff Wake Playoff	Place	B-A-M	Team
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	1.5	<b>CLIFF WAKE CHALLENGERS</b> – James Coutts, Matthew Brown, Nye Griffiths, Andy Hung
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	2.5	<b>YOUTH TEAM WINNERS</b> – Daniel Braun, Nabil Edgtton, Maxim Henbest, Adam Edgtton

Goulash	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Matthew Brown – David Gue
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Jack Luke-Paredi – Daryl Whitfield
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	William Brazier – Tomer Libman

## 2016 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Youth Butler Pairs (U25 Team Selection Phase 1)	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Adam Edgtton - Maxim Henbest
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Stephen Williams - Jamie Thompson
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Nabil Edgtton - Daniel Braun
	4 <sup>TH</sup>	Ellena Moskovsky - Lauren Travis
	5 <sup>TH</sup>	Christopher Rhodes - Nico Ranson
6 <sup>TH</sup>	Matthew Smith - Renee Cooper	

U25 Team Selection Phase 2	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Nabil Edgtton - Daniel Braun

Crazy Pairs	Place	Pair
	(NS) 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Matthew Brown- Brad Johnston
	(NS) 2 <sup>ND</sup>	Jack Luke-Paredi - John Yoon
	(NS) 3 <sup>RD</sup>	Andy Hung - Daryl Whitfield
	(EW) 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Andi Boughey - Jenn Black
	(EW) 2 <sup>ND</sup>	Kate Dores - David Gue
(EW) 3 <sup>RD</sup>	Alex Phillips - Matthew Hughes	

## 2016 GOLD COAST CONGRESS

18 FEB - 25 FEB, 2016 (Broadbeach, Gold Coast)

For more details, please visit the Championship website [here](#).

Bobby Richman Open Pairs Final B	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Justin Howard - Ishmael Del'Monte
2 <sup>ND</sup>	Adam Edgtton - Maxim Henbest	

Novice Pairs Final A	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Charles McMahon - John McMahon

Intermediate Teams	Place	Team
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Chris Larter, Arne Jonsberg, Graham Baker, John Lahey

Open Butler Swiss Pairs	Place	Pair
	(NS) 2 <sup>ND</sup>	Daniel Braun - Tom Jacob

Seres- McMahon Mixed Teams	Place	Team
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Tim Munro, Jessica Brake, Matt Smith, Francesca McGrath

## 2016 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY ANDY HUNG, BRISBANE



This year, the Australian Youth Bridge Championships were held at the Canberra Bridge Club (thank you CBC for the kind and generous hospitality). Even though we had to work alongside the bridge club to share the room, it was certainly a big enough room to fit all of the necessary tables, and overall it was a good place to play bridge!

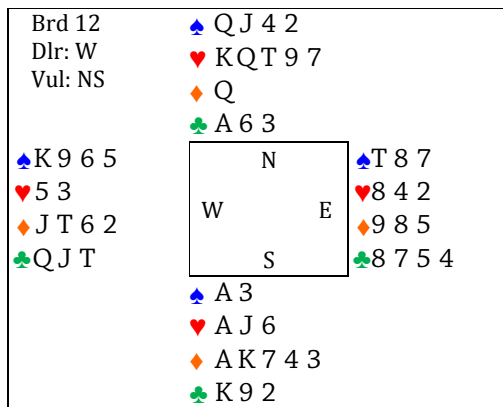
This year's Youth Week was great fun as always. There were approximately 46 participants of which 8 were from New Zealand. Ex-youth players Nye Griffiths and Ally Morris also attended for a part of Youth Week to help out, and it was great to see that their two eldest sons, Auryn Griffiths (9 years old) and Jules Griffiths (4 years old) had participated in a couple of the Youth Events.



Thank you also to our offsite and onsite convenors Dave Thompson and Erin Tewes, and also a big welcome to Bruce Crossman who directed at the Australian Youth Week for the first time. To repeat Bruce's words, this was the most enjoyable (and most relaxing) event that he has ever directed in!

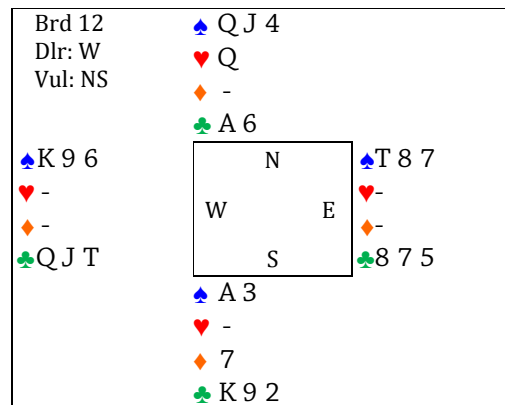
On to the results: The Youth Teams (Round Robin) was won by the Edgtton team (Nabil Edgtton, Daniel Braun, Adam Edgtton, Maxim Henbest) followed by the Cooper team (Renee Cooper, Matthew Smith, Stephen Williams, Jamie Henbest). This year there was an additional event – the top two finishing teams advance to a Youth Team Finals in a 48 board match. In the Finals, the Edgtton team came out on top, winning 119.5 to 85 IMPs.

The Youth Pairs Final was won by Nabil Edgtton and Daniel Braun, and the Youth Consolation Pairs was won by the McMahon brothers, John and Charles. John and Charles, newcomers to the Youth Week, have only been playing for about 1½ years. The talent that they have shown is remarkable, as shown in the hand below which pushed them to victory in the Youth Consolation Pairs:



The bidding was old fashioned. Charles (North) opened 1♥, John (South) bid 4NT key-card ask and they eventually ended up in 7♥.

East led the ♦5 to the queen and Charles drew three rounds of trumps ending in dummy. ♦AK (discarding a club) and a third diamond ruffed followed and this was now the position (diagram below):

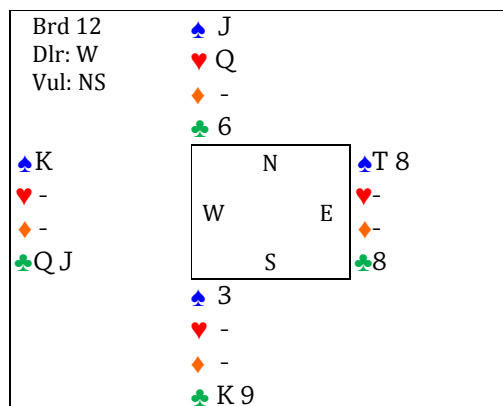


With seven tricks in the bag, Charles could only see five more. A successful spade finesse would bring his total up to thirteen, so he led the ♠Q from hand and East followed low smoothly.

Reading the situation perfectly, Charles deduced that the ♠K was with West due to the non-cover and rose with the ♠A. Take a look at the effect of this play.

He now played the ♦7 (unfortunately) to discard a spade, as West also discarded a spade. He now came back to hand with the ♣A.

This was the three card ending:



As Charles played his last trump to discard a spade from dummy, West was helpless. West was now squeezed in spades and clubs and there was no answer.

Whilst it's true that this squeeze required the opponent with the ♠K to have the ♣QJT also, it doesn't take away the perfect read that Charles had on his opponents.

7♥ making was worth +2210 and a complete top. Very well played!

The Cliff Wake Playoff this year consisted of the usual format where the Youth Team Winners would face off against four expert challengers in a four-board playoff scored as Board-a-Match. This year, the Cliff Wake Challengers were James Coutts, Matthew Brown, Nye Griffiths, and Andy Hung. You can read the recount of the match [here](#).

And finally, the annual Youth Butler Pairs (which decides the first two pairs to qualify for the Australian U25 team) was won by Adam Edgtton and Maxim Henbest, with Jamie Thompson and Stephen Williams coming second. The third and final pair to join the Australian U25 team was decided in a playoff between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Nabil Edgtton and Daniel Braun, and Lauren Travis and Ellena Moskovsky, in a 48-board playoff (scored against pre-determined datums). The eventual winning pair was Nabil and Daniel. Congratulations!



One final thing about the Youth Week- most of the participants agreed that the venue was not like the previous venues where everyone could stay on site. This made it difficult to socialise during down time as there wasn't a common room where everyone could gather. Personally I think this is very important for youth players, particularly as we all live in different cities, and it would also make it easier for newer players to transition into the community.

In addition, the need to look for shared accommodation, plus transport to and from the venue every day, put some youth players off attending the event, particularly new youth players that weren't familiar with the youth bridge community. Although we are certainly very thankful for the Canberra Bridge Club in allowing us to hold the Australian Youth Championships there, perhaps it is better to hold the Youth Week at a place where everyone can be together?

In any event, we'd also like to give a big thanks to our offsite and onsite Tournament Organisers, Dave Thompson and Erin Tewes, and also a big welcome to Bruce Crossman who directed at the Australian Youth Week for the first time. To repeat Bruce's words, this was the most enjoyable, and most relaxing, event that he has ever directed in!

Here are some interesting hands that were played throughout the week:

### Every Hand is An Adventure

BY JAMES COUTTS, NEW ZEALAND

Playing with the second youngest player in the event, Auryn Griffiths, we were able to conjure up auction that I hadn't seen before. Take a look at Board 6 from Youth Teams Match Six:

Dlr: E	♠ 5			
Vul: EW	♥ QJ 8 5			
	♦ 8 7 5 2			
Me	♣ Q 8 4 2			Auryn
♠ A J 7 3 2		N		♠ T 9 6
♥ T 6 2		W	E	♥ 9 3
♦ A 4				♦ K Q J 8
♣ J 7 5			S	♣ AK 9 6
	♠ K Q 8 4			
	♥ A K 7 4			
	♦ T 6 3			
	♣ T 3			

Auryn passed as dealer and South, my RHO, opened 1NT (12-14). I passed, so did North, and Auryn, not one to be pushed round, balanced with 2NT! South passed, and figuring that he had to have some points, I jumped to 4♠. This was passed around to South, who not unreasonably doubled the final contract. After a bit of guessing, this made 10 tricks for +790!



### The Grovesnor Returns

Here was a nicely played hand from Adam Edgton in the Youth Teams Final. In third seat at all vulnerable, he picked up:

- ♠ 762
- ♥ Q1073
- ♦ J64
- ♣ A94

His partner (Max Henbest) opened 1♣ and RHO (Renee Cooper) overcalled 2♠, a weak jump overcall. Adam passed, so did LHO (Matt Smith), and partner doubled passed to Adam. He now bid 3♥ to which Max raised to four. Matt led the ♠J and Adam saw this:

- ♠ A3
  - ♥ A96
  - ♦ AK82
  - ♣ K862
- ♠ J
- ♠ 762
  - ♥ Q1073
  - ♦ J64
  - ♣ A94

Adam ducked the opening lead as Renee overtook with the ♠Q and switched to the ♥8 which ran to dummy's ♥9. Adam now played a club to the nine and was quite surprised as this held the trick!

What was going on? Why did East not split her honours from ♣QJ10x?

Adam now played the ♥Q for a finesse and everyone followed suit with small cards. A heart to the ace saw the king from West as East discarded a spade. This was now the position:

♠ A  
 ♥ -  
 ♦ AK82  
 ♣ K86

▭

♠ 76  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ J64  
 ♣ A4

Adam was now able to count out his opponents' distribution. As East had showed six spades from her weak 2♠ jump overcall, West was marked with two spades and four hearts. East apparently held four clubs (QJ10x) also so West was 'marked' with a doubleton club. Putting this together, West has a 2=4=5=2 shape.

The play was now an open book to Adam. He cashed the ♦A (East did not follow with a big diamond, as in if East dropped the ♦9 or ♦10, Adam could play a diamond to the jack to West's queen, and later finesse the ♦8).

Adam now cashed the ♠A (both opponents following), crossed to his hand with the ♣A (both following). This was now the position:

♠ -  
 ♥ -  
 ♦ K82  
 ♣ K8

▭

♠ 7  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ J6  
 ♣ 4

West's last five cards were the ♥J and ♦Q109x. Adam, with seven tricks in the bag, could see his three additional tricks via an endplay.

He triumphantly exited with a trump to West's ♥10 as a diamond was discarded from dummy, and the ♦10 came back.

He called low from dummy, expecting to take the ♦J, ♦K, and the ♣K for his ten tricks, but East was able to follow suit(!) with the queen! East cashed two more spades and Adam was two down. What happened?

This was the full deal:

		<i>Max</i>			
Dir: E	♠ A 3				
Vul: EW	♥ A 9 6				
	♦ AK 8 2				
	♣ K 8 6 2			<i>Renee</i>	
<i>Matthew</i>		N		E	♠ KQT 8 5 4
♠ J 9		W		S	♥ 8 5
♥ K J 4 2					♦ Q 3
♦ T 9 7 5					♣ QT 7
♣ J 5 3					
	♠ 7 6 2				
	♥ QT 7 3				
	♦ J 6 4				
	♣ A 9 4				
		<i>Adam</i>			

Matt, who was under time pressure (surprise surprise), did not expect Adam to play a low-ish club at trick 3, forgot to take the trick with his ♣J! This had the weird effect of having Adam visualising a completely different layout, as he played West for a 2=4=5=2 shape.

Could Adam have gotten this right? It seems implausible for West to have ducked a trick, but equally implausible for East not to have split with ♣QJ107.

Perhaps in the six-card ending, Adam should(?) have cashed the ♣K followed by a club to his ace. If West ruffed, this would promote the ♥10 and endplay West anyway, and if West discarded, he can still achieve the same endplay by exiting with a trump!

### 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](http://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!)

Email: [paul@bridgegear.com](mailto:paul@bridgegear.com) for all things bridge  
**Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies**  
[www.bridgegear.com](http://www.bridgegear.com)

Youth Pairs Final

There was an interesting board in the second session of the Youth Pairs Final, where all tables were in 4♥ making 10 tricks, with the majority doubled. Here's the board (hands rotated for convenience):

Dlr: E Vul: All	♠ A 3 ♥ Q J 8 7 ♦ 4 2 ♣ K Q T 7 5										
♠ Q 9 8 7 5 2 ♥ - ♦ K T 9 5 3 ♣ J 9	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ T 6 ♥ A T 6 4 3 ♦ A 8 7 ♣ 8 3 2 ♠ K J 4 ♥ K 9 5 2 ♦ Q J 6 ♣ A 6 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										

At Ellena and Lauren's table, the auction started out with pass from East and Ellena opened 1NT (14-16). West overcalled 2♠ (spades and a minor), Lauren bid 2NT (Lebensohl) and bid 3♠ over partner's (forced) 3♣ bid to show a game-forcing hand with four hearts and a spade stopper. Rightly or wrongly, Ellena converted to 4♥ and this was swiftly doubled by East.

At the other four tables, the declarer was faced with a spade lead, after which declarer could play three rounds of spades and discard a diamond from dummy. Whether East chooses to ruff or not, the defence will take two hearts and one diamond.

At Ellena's table however, the lead was the ♦9, third/fifth leads and the ♦9 could be from an interior sequence. This went to East's ace and the ♦8 came back to the queen and king as West continued with a third diamond (♦10).

Ellena discarded a spade from dummy winning the ♦J, and played a heart to the queen losing to East's ace (no difference if East ducks).

East now returned a spade to dummy's bare ace, and Ellena now cashed the ♣A, ♣K, and ♣Q. This was now the position in the 5-card endgame (see next column).

Dlr: E Vul: All	♠ - ♥ J 8 7 ♦ - ♣ T 7										
♠ Q 9 8 7 ♥ - ♦ 5 ♣ -	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 6 ♥ T 6 4 3 ♦ - ♣ - ♠ K J ♥ K 9 5 ♦ - ♣ -
	N										
W		E									
	S										

Ellena now played the ♣10 from dummy and East has no winning options. Ruffing low (or the ♥6) will allow Ellena to overruff cheaply, cash the ♠K, and ruff the ♠J with the ♥J and take the heart finesse in the two-card end game.

At the table, East tried best by discarding a spade but Ellena discarded a spade also. The ♣7 followed and now East was forced to ruff. Ellena overruffed cheaply, played the ♠K and ruffed it with the ♥J as East helplessly had to under-ruff. The marked heart finesse of the ♥10 meant 10 tricks and +790 for a 62.5% board.

At three other tables, 4♥ was also doubled and made 10 tricks too. The last table was also in 4♥, but undoubled! Well done to Max and Adam, -620 was worth all of the matchpoints!

Thanks Dave!



The ABF, along with the Youth Bridge Community, thanks Dave Thompson for the work he has put in as the Australian Youth Coordinator. Dave is a very strong supporter of Youth Bridge, and although he is stepping down from being the Coordinator, he will still work/support from behind the scenes. Special thanks for his home-made screens as they are top notch world class quality.





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**THE HELMAN-KLINGER MASTERPOINT AWARD: JAMIE THOMPSON**



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.

This year Jamie won with 203.15 just pipping Max Henbest with 196.20 (which would've won the award in most years).

Jamie's results in 2015 included winning the Youth Teams and Youth Butler, fourth in the Spring National Open Teams, eighth in the New Zealand Open Teams, winning the New Zealand Back-To-The-Future Teams and winning the Victorian Open Teams and in doing so becoming the youngest ever player to achieve that feat at 19.

**THE HILLS-HURLEY TROPHY: DANIEL BRAUN AND NABIL EDGTON**



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.

Great friends at and away from the table, Daniel and Nabil narrowly missed selection to the Australian Under-25 team at last year's Youth Week but have persevered and went on to perform very strongly in the

Spring National Open Teams where they snuck into the fourth and final qualifying position by 0.01 of a VP and came a close second in the modified datum rankings from the qualifying phase.

**THE HELMAN-KLINGER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: MAX HENBEST**



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.

Max has been attending Youth Week for the past 8 years and has enjoyed consistent success representing Australia on multiple occasions.

He has a positive impact on all his team mates in all events that he has played, especially on younger players for whom he is a great role model both at and away from the table. As noted above, 2015 saw Max representing Australia at the APBF in Bangkok and the World Youth Open Championships in Croatia. Domestically, Max won his first national open event in Adelaide at the Autumn National Open Teams and came second in the Dick Cummings Open Pairs at the Spring Nationals.

Both Helman-Klinger Awards exist due to the generosity of the late Rabbi Leonard Helman, an American lawyer, prominent bridge enthusiast and philanthropist, who made a substantial donation to establish the prizes to honour Ron and Suzie Klinger's outstanding contribution to bridge in Australia.

**THE ANDREW REINER TROPHY: SHANE HARRISON & MAX HENBEST**



Absent: Shane Harrison

This award is granted to the best performed pair in international competition taking account of performance in the events themselves, commitment to preparation and contribution to team success.

Shane and Max anchored the Australian Under-25 team at the Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Youth Championships in Bangkok, where Australia rallied after a slow start in the event to claim bronze.

They then went on to perform a similar role in Croatia at the World Youth Open Championships with a stirring quarter-final victory over the fancied Italians, but bowing out in the semi-finals to the eventual winners "Zlatan" and narrowly losing the bronze medal match to "Greswe Axon".



# FREE ROBOTS For JUNIORS!

BBO's generous offer of FREE leasing of GIB Robots on BBO is still available!

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](mailto:dave@amontay.com).

## Peter Hollands Live Bridge Stream

Live bridge streaming sessions  
(All sessions will run most weeks)

**AEDT Time (Melbourne)**

**Monday** 2.00 - 4.00 PM

**Monday** 4.00 - 5.00 PM (Supervised)

**Tuesday** 3.00 - 6.00 PM

**Thursday** 11.00 AM -12.00 PM

(Lesson on a selected topic)

To watch these **free** live sessions:

<http://www.twitch.tv/sliynk>  
or [www.bridgestream.weebly.com](http://www.bridgestream.weebly.com)

Anyone can watch. However, if you wish to chat to Pete and ask questions, you will need to register for a twitch account.

### FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY]

S/All      ♠ A 4 3  
              ♡ K 8  
              ♦ 7 3 2  
              ♣ A J 10 5 2

♦5



♠ K Q 7  
♡ A J 10 5  
♦ K Q 6  
♣ Q 9 8

South to make 3NT (IMPs)

Opening lead is ♦5 and East plays the ♦J.

*Solution on Page 12*

## 2016 ANC

The annual Australian National Championships will be held from June 25<sup>th</sup> to July 7<sup>th</sup> in Brisbane, QLD.

Click [here](#) for the website. If you are interested in representing your state in the Interstate Youth Teams (June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>) contact your [state association](#) for information.



# KIBITZER'S CORNER



For more photos, or to simply view the photos from this bulletin in higher quality, click [here](#).





## SUIT COMBINATIONS

THIS ISSUE	FOR NEXT ISSUE
<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p><b>A 7 6 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 3 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>Q J 5 4</b></p>	<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p><b>A Q J 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 5 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>K 9 6 5 2</b></p> <p><b>A K J 4</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 4 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>10 5 2</b></p>

There's nothing to worry about if the suit breaks 3-2. Regardless of how you play this suit (run the queen, or low to ace), you will lose a maximum of one trick. The trouble here then is what about a 4-1 break? Since we can afford to lose a trick, the idea here is that we want to lead *towards* our honours. Play low to the ace then low back towards your queen. If East shows up with four to the king, cross back to dummy in a side suit then lead low towards your jack. Note that running the queen immediately will lose to singleton king on our left, as well as king-fourth on our right.

Here, our target is four tricks so we cannot lead low to the ace. The presence of the 10 in dummy increases our chances of playing this suit for no losers. Instead of running the queen (or jack) for a finesse, try a low one towards the ten first. Assuming the king is on our left, playing low towards the ten protects us against the scenario when West has a singleton king. If West has Kx or Kxx, then no problem – after low to the ten wins, cross back to your hand and run the queen. Always take note of your entry problem though – if the lead was in South and you had no more entries to get to the South's hand, then you better play the queen first so you can repeat the finesse if West has Kxx (which is more likely than a singleton king).

**FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER**  
**[DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION**  
 (Problem on page 10)

S/All	<p>♠ A 4 3</p> <p>♥ K 8</p> <p>♦ 7 3 2</p> <p>♣ A J 10 5 2</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 10px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span style="font-size: 2em;">♦5</span> </div>	<p>West's ♦5 lead, along with East's ♦J play, looks like West has led his fourth-best diamond headed by the ace. The danger that we face is if West has five diamonds headed by the ace and the ♣K is offside.</p> <p>In this case, you should try the effect of a hold-up play by ducking East's ♦J! East will return a diamond and say West clears diamonds as East discards on the third round.</p> <p>You can now take the club finesse knowing with absolute certainty that your contract is safe. If West has the ♣K, you can try for overtricks, and if East has the ♣K, he won't have any diamonds to play.</p> <p>If you took the ♦J with your ♦Q and take a club finesse, your contract will go down if East has the king (and takes it) and returns a diamond <i>through</i> your remaining ♦K6.</p>
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♠ K Q 7

♥ A J 10 5

♦ K Q 6

♣ Q 9 8

South to make 3NT (IMPs)  
 Opening lead is ♦5, East plays the ♦J



**FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER - BEEFING UP BRIDGE CONVENTIONS**

**DEFENCE AGAINST OPPONENT'S 1NT OVERCALL**

When partner opens 1-minor and the next opponent overcalls 1NT, there are generally two types of hands you would (like to) bid with. Firstly, if you have a strong hand with 10+points, you would start off with a penalty double, hoping to penalise the opponents since you and your partner have the majority of the high cards. The second type of hand is where you do not have enough strength to make a penalty double, but enough strength and distribution to compete for a part-score.

Generally, if you have support for your partner's minor, the opponents would usually have a major-suit fit anyway, and your minor suit is always outgunned. Additionally, if you play short club, you would usually be waiting for a long time to hold a hand with six-plus (or a distribution five) card club suit in order to support partner. Therefore, it is not very efficient to support partner's minor, and instead, you should play something conventional that would allow you to fight for the part-score more easily.

Over 1♣ - (1NT) - ?	
You should play:	2♣ = Both majors, at least 5-4 either way
	2♦ = Natural
	2♥ = Natural
	2♠ = Natural

Being able to show both majors is an important hand type to get across, because if you are to win a part-score battle, having a major-suit fit will usually do the job! Not to mention, it is still entirely possible for your side to have a game in a major suit.

Over 2♣ showing both majors, partner usually picks his longest major and bids that suit. If opener has equal length in the majors, he can simply bid 2♦ to "Ask partner's longer major".


If you like to get fancier, you could even play 2♦ as "Diamonds and a Major" rather than just "Diamonds". As for the hands where you have club support, you can just forget about them. If you have a club fit, the opponents are likely to have a fit elsewhere anyway. If you have a very distributional hand with clubs, you could always jump to 3♣ to show clubs.


Over 1♦ - (1NT) - ?	
You should play:	2♣ = Both majors, at least 5-4 either way
	2♦ = Natural/simple raise
	2♥ = Natural
	2♠ = Natural

This time, over 2♣ showing both majors, a 2♦ rebid by opener should not be asking - it would be better utilised as a natural bid, showing more diamonds.


Since a 1♦ opening usually promises 4+♦'s in most natural systems, you can frequently support partner's diamonds when you hold four-card support - this is why 2♦ can be used as a raise (rather than play it as a conventional bid).


## STATE ASSOCIATIONS - UPDATES


	EVENT (QLD)	DATES
	Queensland Youth Bridge Fun Day, QCBC  For More INFO: <a href="http://www.qldbridge.com/">http://www.qldbridge.com/</a>	Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2016

	EVENT (NSW)	DATES
	NSW Youth ITS Trials  Email: <a href="mailto:johnno.newman@gmail.com">johnno.newman@gmail.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.nswba.com.au/">http://www.nswba.com.au/</a>	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2016

	EVENT (ACT)	DATES
	Email: <a href="mailto:youth@bfact.com.au">youth@bfact.com.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.bfact.com.au/">http://www.bfact.com.au/</a>	

	EVENT (VIC)	DATES
	After school bridge club @ Waverly Bridge Club, held on Tuesday afternoons (during school term from 4:30pm-6:30pm)  Contact: <a href="http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php">http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php</a>	

	EVENT (SA)	DATES
	SA Youth ITS Trials  Contact: <a href="http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/">http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/</a>	Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2016

	EVENT (WA)	DATES
	WA Youth ITS Trials  Contact: <a href="http://www.bawa.asn.au/">http://www.bawa.asn.au/</a>	April(?) 2016

	EVENT (NT)	DATES
	Contact: <a href="http://www.ntba.com.au/">http://www.ntba.com.au/</a>	

	EVENT (TAS)	DATES
	Contact: <a href="http://www.tasbridge.com.au/">http://www.tasbridge.com.au/</a>	