

AUSSIE YOUTH BRIDGE BULLETIN

Bulletin Editor: Andy Hung

Co-Editor: Griff Ware

ISSUE 13

CONGRATULATIONS Laura Ginnan & Pete Hollands are now married!



On Saturday the 22nd of March a small group of family and friends had the pleasure of seeing our favourite youth bridge couple, Laura Ginnan and Peter Hollands, wed at Seven Hills Goat Farm, Tallarook.

After many years of Pete goating Laura into courtship, she finally stopped kidding around and committed. After a bleeting chance of rain in the morning, the afternoon turned fine, sunny and beautiful for a beautiful couple's wedding. The ceremony was not without excitement, with the unexpected presence of the farm's resident puppy Ash and his love of Laura's wedding dress. Luckily I had the great honour of being Laura's maid of honour and

was there to say "don't worry Laura, I goat this" and shoo Ash away. In true Laura and Pete style, wine was not forgoaten and guests enjoyed a spectacular wine tower wedding cake during speeches from Laura and Pete's dads and best man Justin. It was a great joy to be present as two bleeting hearts became one, and I'm sure the Australian youth bridge community will join me in wishing Laura and Pete all the baa-st for their married lives together.

- Jessica Tearne

(Some photos can be seen [here](#))

ABF PRE-ALERTS!

For 2014

DATES	EVENT	WHERE
<u>MAY</u> 1 - 5	ANOT	Adelaide
<u>MAY</u> 18 - 18	NSW Youth Trials	Sydney
<u>MAY</u> 24 - 25	U25 Training Weekend	Melbourne
<u>JUN</u> 1 - 5	ANOT	Adelaide
<u>JUN</u> 12 - 22	2nd Asia Cup	Jin Hua, CHINA
<u>JUL</u> 12 - 24	ANC	Sydney

Congratulations to ex-youth players Griff Ware and Michael Wilkinson for making it into the 2014 Australian Open Team that will participate in the [2nd Asia Cup](#). Well done and GI!



THE 2014 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN SELECTED.
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Email suggestions or articles to youthbridge.au@gmail.com

THESE ARE CLICKABLE LINKS!

CHECKBACK (Results)

2014 GOLD COAST CONGRESS

22 FEB – 1 MAR, 2014 (Broadbeach, Gold Coast)

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

Bobby Richman Open Pairs	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Justin Howard – Ishmael Del’Monte

Open Teams	Place	Team
	1 ST	MCGANN: Hugh Mcgann - Matthew Thomson - Fiona Brown - Tony Nunn - Michael Ware - Geo Tislevoll
	=5 TH	HAFFER: Joachim Haffer - Laura Ginnan - Mike Doecke - William Jenner-O'Shea - Pieter Vanderpoel

Ivy Dahler Swiss Pairs	Place	Pair
	4 TH	Shane Harrison – Renee Cooper

2014 TASMANIAN BRIDGE FESTIVAL

20 MAR – 24 MAR, 2014 (Launceston, Tasmania)

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

Restricted Swiss Pairs	Place	Pair
	1 ST	Tomer Libman – Lavy Libman

2014 STATE YOUTH TRIALS

WA Youth Team	Rhys Cooper, Renee Cooper, Francesca McGrath, Tim Munro, Ailsa Peacock, Matt Smith
SA Youth Team	Angus Lum, Alexander Smith, Kandice Ng, Edward Young, Charisse and Mary Co

MEANWHILE AROUND THE GLOBE...



2014 WHITEHOUSE JUNIORS WINNERS

Amsterdam, Netherlands 30 March – 5 April, For tournament website, click [here](#)

1ST



Norway

Kristoffer Hegge – Christian Bakke,
Harald Eide – Kristian B. Ellingsen
(NPC: Lars Eide)



2ND



Germany

Paul Grünke – Vemund Vikjord, Marie Eggeling – Raffael Braun
(NPC: Hartmut Kondoch)

3RD



Israel

Bar Tarnovski – Eliran Argelazi, Lior Urman – Oren Toledano, Matan Segal
– Yarden Shpiner, Ami Zamir – Amir Ezion (NPC: Moshe Meyouhas)

2014 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

Australia's representative youth teams for 2014 have been ratified by the ABF Management Committee as follows:

The 2nd Asia Cup Junior Bridge Championships (Jin Hua, CHINA)

June 12th to 22nd ([Click here](#) for tournament website)

U25

TEAM:	Jamie Thompson	–	Stephen Williams
	Max Henbest	–	Renee Cooper
	Ella Pattison	–	Rhys Cooper
NPC:	Howard Melbourne		

The 15th World Youth Team Championships (Istanbul, TURKEY)

August 13th to 23rd ([Click here](#) for tournament website)

U25

TEAM:	Adam Edgtton	–	Nabil Edgtton
	Justin Howard	–	Laura Ginnan
	Jamie Thompson	–	Stephen Williams
NPC:	Andy Hung		
Coach:	Alex Smirnov		

The 15th World Youth Team Championships (Istanbul, TURKEY)

August 13th to 23rd ([Click here](#) for tournament website)

GIRLS

TEAM:	Ellena Moskovsky	–	Lauren Travis
	Jessica Brake	–	Renee Cooper
	Ella Pattison	–	Kirsty Fuller
NPC:	Andy Hung		

Unfortunately the expression of interest process for the planned Under-20 team for the 2nd Asia Cup did not give rise to a viable team with several eligible players being unavailable due to exam clashes.

The Youth Committee is delighted to have secured the services of international luminary, Alex Smirnov, to again coach the Australian Under-25 team. Alex will be running a training camp at the Victorian Bridge Association in Melbourne on the weekend of 24-25 May 2014 and will be on-site in Istanbul to work directly with the players and Andy during the event.

The Youth Committee would also like to remind all of our 2014 international representatives that in addition to the 50% discount on entry fees available for all ABF events, any pairs playing in their selected partnerships in the ANOT, VCC, Open Butler and Ladies Butler will have the other half of their entry fees covered by the Youth Committee.

BOBBY RICHMAN OPEN PAIRS (GCC Open Pairs)

BY JUSTIN HOWARD, MELBOURNE

Bobby was one of the most inspirational people that we have ever had in the game of bridge; he sadly passed away while overseas last year. It is fitting that the biggest match point event in our country, the Gold Coast Open Pairs, has been named in his honour. I had the privilege to play the event with Ishmael Del'Monte (who is the head of the Australian Youth Bridge Committee and Australia's Best Player). Ishmael and I started off the event with a bit of a slow start with many different style issues, scoring 54% in the first session, the only real shining light in the set came on board 13 where Ish played a 1NT hand beautifully.



Dealer: N	♠ T832	♠ 954
Vul: All	♥ A82	♥ 974
	♦ 964	♦ Q8
	♣ Q72	♣ KJ865
♠ QJ	N	♠ AK76
♥ J63	1NT/S, ♦A	♥ KQT5
♦ AKJ53		♦ T72
♣ 943		♣ AT

Ishmael was playing 1NT by South with the lead of the ♦A, the East hand played the ♦8 which was discouraging. West, trying to find their partner's entry to push the diamond through declarer (assuming that Ish had the ♦Q), switched to a heart, and at this point Ish took his 4 heart tricks and 4 spade tricks plus the ♣A.

However, Ish was not done yet. When he finished taking his winners he now came out the ♦T, making it look like he started with ♦QT2. When the West hand played the ♦J, East won the ♦Q perforce and with the KJ of clubs remaining,

East had to give up a trick as dummy had ♣Q7 left, completing the end play for 10 tricks.

The second session of the pairs was one of the worst sessions of bridge I have ever played, including scoring two hands incorrectly which we did not notice until later, however we still managed to pull together a 59% session even with the scoring errors not being corrected – shows that it's better to be playing with Ish than lucky! Board 5 was one of the hands that I managed to use my brain on, to make 4♠.

Dealer: N	♠ A743	♠ QJ9
Vul: N-S	♥ J98	♥ T752
	♦ AQ2	♦ T854
	♣ AJ7	♣ Q9
♠ KT	N	♠ 8652
♥ Q643	4♠/N, ♦4	♥ AK
♦ KJ6		♦ 973
♣ T842		♣ K653

Looking at this hand, you have two certain spade losers that you cannot do anything about, and you have to manage to negotiate the minor suits for one loser, so on the hand it mostly comes down to how you decide to play the club suit.

My opposition (Susan Humphries and Steph Jacobs from New Zealand) started off with a diamond lead from the East hand, I won this with the queen and at this point I ducked a spade, which was won by the ten of spades and another diamond was returned.

I won, took the AK of hearts and played a spade to the ace, finding they were 3-2. I continued with the ♥J: when this was not covered I trumped it (now knowing West had the ♥Q) and played the last diamond. This was won by East who played the third round of trumps on which West threw a club, and the thirteenth diamond was played.

West threw another club: at this point I knew that there were four clubs and two hearts left between the opposition. I also knew that West held the ♥Q, so when I played the club suit I knew that there was zero point in finessing: since West would not throw clubs if they have five hearts, hearts must be 4-4, meaning that clubs are now 2-2. This meant that I could claim dropping the ♣Q offside and making 4♣.

(There is a very big lesson to notice here: when you are known to hold a card it is very dangerous to keep that card as it allows the opposition to count out your hand; had the ♥Q been discarded I would have very likely gone wrong in the club suit and gone two off instead of making my contract).

One hand that Ish and I could not help but laugh about, and it shows just how poorly I was playing, came on board 9:

Dealer: N	♠ K97		
Vul: E-W	♥ KQT8732		
	♦ 8		
	♣ K3		
♠ QJ5	N	♠ A83	
♥ J9	4♣/N, ♦K	♥ 6	
♦ 964		♦ KQJ52	
♣ QJT95		♣ 8762	
	♠ T642		
	♥ A54		
	♦ AT73		
	♣ A4		

In my infinite wisdom, as North I decided to open 1♠ instead of 1♥ and partner made a game support raise in spades, over which I jumped to 4♣ and then it went all pass – which is when I discovered that my seven-card spade suit that I opened suddenly turned into a seven-card heart suit. Hmm.

However, I didn't panic and played the hand rather well making 4♣, joining 19 other people who played in 4♥ making 10 tricks getting me 19% on the hand. When you make a mistake you must forget about it and move on and try to salvage any percentage you can.

Thankfully there was no carry forward to the finals so we so we started off on level pegging with everyone else. The first session was rather slow with a quiet 51%. My favourite hand came on board 14 of this session, where we got to make use of a convention that has been named "The Pete Hollands Raise".

It is a raise that shows an honour in your partner's suit. When the opposition have opened and bid at the 2-level, there is no need to have a natural 2NT, so you can use 2NT as a raise to the 3-level with an honour. This way you can work out in defence if you want to lead your suit or try a different suit (the term honour in this situation means A, K or Q). The opposition, never having played against this, had a misunderstanding and ended up doubling us in 3♣ which made.

Session 2 was where things started coming together and we had finally worked out all our carding and agreements, with a massive session of 69%. There were many very good hands in this set, with Board 8 of the session being the best played and defended hand I have seen in a very long time (we were playing against Mike Ware and GeO Tislevoll). The contract was 2♣ by Ish (West):

Dealer: W	♠ J4		
Vul: Nil	♥ Q95		
	♦ KQ9		
	♣ KT743		
♠ Q96	N	♠ KT872	
♥ AK7	2♣/W, ♦K	♥ JT4	
♦ 974		♦ T432	
♣ AJ65		♣ Q	
	♠ A53		
	♥ 8632		
	♦ AJ6		
	♣ 982		

The opposition started off with the ♦K, which won, and then a small diamond was played to the J and a heart was switched. This was won by the A and the third diamond was played, setting up the thirteenth diamond in dummy.

South won the diamond and played another heart, which Ish won and played ♣A, trumped a club, and led the thirteenth diamond. South ruffed and Ish threw his losing heart and North also pitched his heart. South played a heart on which Ish ruffed with the queen, and now had to guess how trumps were dividing.

Option 1: if South has A5 (when he trumped he trumped with the 5 not the 3) Ish needs to trump a club then play a small spade, at which point South will win and will be end played to give the last two trumps en passant.

Option 2: if South has 3 trumps Ish needs to play a trump and finesse now and then when he gets in can draw the last two trumps.

The thing that made Ish decide to play option 2 rather than option 1 (obviously we would all love to play option 1 as it looks so much better and a much better book hand) was that on the ♣A and another club North and South both showed an odd number of clubs: when South has four hearts, three diamonds, an odd number of clubs and at least two spades, he must have a 3433 distribution, hence Ish played option 2 making 8 tricks for a little above average on the hand. Even against the best defenders they will give you a little bit of information that will help you, and the key is trying to make sure you can pick up on that as well.

Defending with Ish is one of the biggest things that I found is just so much different: every single card you play in every situation has a meaning and shows something different (you can't be slack!). Hand 15 showed how a few signals can make a whole hand clear.

Dealer: S	♠ AK63		♠ QT7
Vul: N-S	♥ Q43		♥ AT6
	♦ KJ		♦ AQ52
	♣ AT65		♣ J87
♠ 54	N	♠ 2♠/N, ♣7	
♥ J98			
♦ T9643			
♣ K93			
	♠ J982		
	♥ K752		
	♦ 87		
	♣ Q42		

North was playing 2♠ and I was on lead as East (1NT opening by North, Stayman and then pass – this is a perfect example of a hand on which it is really good to be playing rubbish Stayman; if partner bids 2♦ you can continue with 2♥) and I elected to lead the ♣7 (3rd/5th) and this went low, low and the ten won the trick.

North then played the AK of spades and a low club to the Q and K, Ish now switched to the ♦T on which it went J and I won the Q, at this point I played the ♠Q and Ish threw a diamond showing an odd number. I now knew that North had four clubs, four spades, and an even number of diamonds.

If he had four diamonds, that would give him a singleton heart for his 1NT opening and if he did have that, he would have played on hearts before playing on trumps. So what this allowed me to do was cash the ♦A and then exit a club knowing that the discard of the fourth heart in the dummy would not help him, leaving him to play Kxx opposite Qxx and forcing him to lose two heart tricks for two off.

Another example of helping your partner out in the defence came on hand 22, when we managed to exchange 6 signals during the play (Ish still didn't want to trust my signals!).

Dealer: E	♠ 986		♠ T32
Vul: E-W	♥ JT74		♥ 952
	♦ J32		♦ KQ94
	♣ Q92		♣ 765
♠ A54	N	♠ 2NT/S, ♣J	
♥ Q63			
♦ AT5			
♣ AJT8			
	♠ KQJ7		
	♥ AK8		
	♦ 876		
	♣ K43		

Our opposition were playing Acol and this led them to the somewhat unfortunate contract of 2NT, on the auction of 1♠ by South, 2♠ by North and then 2NT by South to show their strong NT (this would normally be 17-18 but South upgraded, which caused many of the issues for the defence).

Ish was on lead and led the ♣J, on which I played the ♣7, discouraging. The opponent won and played the ♠K on which I played the ♠2 (playing reverse count – yes this is the wrong number, however when you give wrong count intentionally it is suit preference and as I have discouraged clubs the remaining suits are diamonds and hearts). Ish ducked and the ♠Q was continued, which he ducked as well while I played the ♠3, another suit preference card for diamonds.

Dealer: E	♠ 9	♠ T
Vul: E-W	♥ J T 7 4	♥ 9 5 2
	♦ J 3 2	♦ K Q 9 4
	♣ Q 9	♣ 6 5
♠ A	N	♠ T
♥ Q 6 3	4♠/N, ♦K	♥ 9 5 2
♦ AT 5		♦ K Q 9 4
♣ AT 8		♣ 6 5
	♠ J 7	
	♥ AK 8	
	♦ 8 7 6	
	♣ 4 3	

Declarer continued with spades which finally managed to force out the ♠A, and Ish now cashed the ♣A and another club as I played the 5 then the 6 (another suit preference signal for diamonds). Declarer won the ♣Q, took a heart finesse (on which I followed with the 9) which Ish won, and played the last club where I discarded the ♥5 which was my final signal.

So in total I played two club signals, two spade signals and two heart signals and it still took Ish five minutes before he finally trusted me and not the opponent, switching to the ♦A and another

diamond, giving us four diamonds, one heart, one spade and two club tricks for 3 off in 2NT. According to the opposition's bidding they must have one of the ♦K or Q if they have their bid, meaning that the ♦A would give the contract, however if I gave 6 signals and it was wrong it would be my fault.

It came down to the final session of the event with it being within 1 board between the top 3 pairs: Michael Whibley and Ashley Bach, Terry Brown and Paul Wyer, and myself and Ish. It was close for the first few rounds, but with a very strong run home Ish and I ended up nearly 7% ahead of 2nd and 11% ahead of 3rd (Michael and Ash coming 3rd and Terry and Paul coming 2nd). My favourite hand of the entire event came near the end: on Board 23, East had shown 5-7 points and 6+ hearts and West had shown 16+ with spades.

Dealer: S	♠ A J 8 4	♠ 7
Vul: All	♥ AT 7 2	♥ K 8 6 5 4 3
	♦ 9 6	♦ J 8 2
	♣ 9 4 2	♣ Q 5 3
♠ K Q 6 3 2	N	♠ 7
♥ Q	3NT/W, ♣9	♥ K 8 6 5 4 3
♦ AKT 5		♦ J 8 2
♣ A 8 7		♣ Q 5 3
	♠ T 9 5	
	♥ J 9	
	♦ Q 7 4 3	
	♣ K J T 6	

I elected to lead the ♣9 against 3NT, on which East played small, Ish played small, and West won the ace. West then tried to slip a heart trick past but as they had shown six hearts in the dummy and they were not playing in hearts I was able to win the A and then play the ♣4 showing that I wanted the higher of the remaining suits played back (being spades). Ish won and cleared the club suit on which I threw the ♦9, allowing partner to either play spades or hearts, which ever suit he liked better. Now the fact that I encouraged spades means that I must have at least 2 honours in spades (otherwise I would not encourage the opposition's suit).

So Ish switched to the ♠T on which they won and I ducked, they now played the AK of diamonds hoping that the Q fell and I pitched a heart. Now they came out another diamond in the hope that Ish had the ♠A and they could score their other honour. As it happened this allowed me to discard another heart and when Ish then played the 9 of spades there was nothing that they could do but lose 3 spade tricks to go along with the ♥A, ♦Q, and 3 Clubs for 4 off. Every card has a meaning and you need to make sure that you and your partner are on the same wavelength.

This event is one of the most proud I have ever been to win, as Bobby has been a mentor and a close friend of mine and Ish's for many years: when Ish was my age Bobby played this event with him to help him improve and I feel very lucky to have been given that same opportunity by Ish, who was a bit of a task master but played insanely well for most of the event.

All in all it was a massive honour to win the first Bobby Richman Pairs and I am glad that Bobby will be remembered, as he was a huge supporter of youth bridge and one of the most amazingly funny and kind people you will ever meet. Just remember, "Junior, monitor your trump leads."

To absent friends,
Justin Howard



TRIVIA NIGHT



VCC 2014



WHEN: 7pm til late, Sunday 8th June
WHERE: Honey Bar, South Melbourne



Flex your intellectual mettle as you answer questions about Jane Austen, Justin Bieber and Kevin Rudd - and all for a good cause.

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HOSTED BY
YOUTH BRIDGE



BEDANKT!

By VEMUND VIKJORD (AND RAFFAEL BRAUN), GERMANY

White House Juniors, a youth bridge tournament named after its venue – the Amsterdam tennis club house Het Witte Huis, is an annual event for national teams. In prestige it's comparable with the European Youth Championship. (Ed: *An Australian Youth Team was very grateful for the support of their sponsors to have accepted the invite and competed in the White House Juniors in 2010.*) Between March 29 and April 4 this spring, 24 teams were gathered in the Dutch capital, known for its elaborate system of canals, overcrowded streets and narrow but tall wooden houses that slightly lean outward at the top; we, the German junior team, consisting of Marie Eggeling, Raffael Braun, Paul Grünke and Vemund Vikjord, were also participating in the pair combinations that proved successful in Croatia half a year ago.

It was a marvellous week in Amsterdam, not only due to the smooth organisation of the tournament but also thanks to the friendly competitive atmosphere jointly created by all the players and coaches. After three days of Swiss (i.e. every team is successively matched with their closest scoring, not yet encountered, opponent) finishing 3rd, we made it to the semi-finals where we would meet a young, but experienced, team from Israel.

Already in the first board of the semi-final, things got potentially swingy:

		Open Room				Closed Room																											
		Zamir	Grünke	Ezion	Vikjord	Braun	Argelazi	Eggeling	Tarnovski																								
		W	N	E	S	W	N	E	S																								
B1	Paul Grünke	-	1♣	2♦*	2NT*	-	1♣	1♠	3♠																								
N/Nil	♥ A 9 7 2	3♥	Pass	3♠	4♠	4♠	Pass	Pass	4NT																								
	♦ K 8 2	5♠	6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣																								
	♣ KQ65	Pass				Pass	Pass	Pass																									
Ami Zamir	Amir Ezion	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♠ KQJ 63</td> <td></td> <td>♠ AT 7 5 4 2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ K 4</td> <td>W</td> <td></td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ 7 5 4 3</td> <td></td> <td>♥ QT 6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ 8 7</td> <td></td> <td>♦ J 6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td>♣ 4 2</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>									N			♠ KQJ 63		♠ AT 7 5 4 2		♥ K 4	W		E	♦ 7 5 4 3		♥ QT 6		♣ 8 7		♦ J 6			S	♣ 4 2	
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♦ AQT 9																																	
♣ AJT 93																																	

In the auction in Open Room, East showed a weak hand with one major. South (Vikjord) showed clubs and at least invitational strength by bidding 2NT. After 4♠ indicated spade shortness and slam interest, North (Grünke) correctly judged that slam would have at least a fair chance. After ruffing the ace of spades lead, Grünke led a small heart to his ace – both opponents following with spot

cards – and ruffed a second spade in dummy. He then drew trumps and cashed four diamond tricks, discarding a heart from hand.

With four cards remaining, a heart was played from dummy which West had to win with the king to find himself endplayed. On a spade return declarer could discard his last heart from hand and ruff in dummy – 12 tricks made on a mere 24 combined high card points.

The crucial point of the contract is dealing with the hearts; there is more than one way to tackle this suit. Playing no-trumps, the correct play would be the intra-finesse, starting with a small heart towards J853. If East follows low, you play the 8, hoping it will go to the queen or king. On the second turn, you lead the jack from dummy, thereby pinning East's 10. This suitplay leaves you at one loser whenever East has T, Tx, KT or QT.

When Grünke laid down the Ace on the first round, it would not help West to unblock his honour, since declarer can simply lead a heart towards dummy on the next round.

With enough trumps in both hands (making the endplay a viable option), however, the percentage play is indeed to start with the ace. This succeeds when either opponent has HT, Hx or HH in hearts, and additionally when East has HTxx, where H=honour. (Ed: *Unless East finds the unblock from H-x, but that is also another advantage of playing a heart early, as it might be difficult for East to realise what is going on early enough to find the unblocking play.*)

A more interesting declarer problem arises if trumps break 3-1: declarer cannot afford to draw trumps but has to resort to a partial elimination, needing to guess exactly how many rounds of diamonds to play before exiting a heart. Thankfully everything behaved nicely. The result was, however, replicated in the Closed Room.

The semi-finals were comprised of three sets of 14 boards. We went into the second set with a comfortable lead, but every board could potentially tip the scale in Israel's favour. Board 19 could have been another good board for us, but the unlucky lie of the cards and an alert Tarnovski in North set 4♠:

B19		<i>Bar Tarnovski</i>	
S/E-W	♠ 9 7	♠ A K 8 3 2	
	♥ K J 9 4 2	♥ A 5 3	
	♦ K 9 8 6	♦ A 5	
<i>Paul Grünke</i>	♣ K 8	<i>Vemund Vikjord</i>	
♠ Q J 6 5 4		♣ 9 7 3	
♥ Q 6		♠ T	
♦ Q 7 4		♥ T 8 7	
♣ A T 2		♦ J T 3 2	
		♣ Q J 6 5 4	
		<i>Eliran Argelazi</i>	

Open Room				Closed Room			
Grünke	Tarnovski	Vikjord	Argelazi	Urman	Eggeling	Toledano	Braun
W	N	E	S	W	N	E	S
-	-	-	Pass	-	-	-	2♦*
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass	Pass
2NT*	3♥	4♠	All Pass	Pass			

The lead was ♥7. A quick analysis suggests that the contract will make if South has at least one of the red kings. If that doesn't arise, there might be a club endplay looming for one of the opponents.

Declarer (Vikjord) tried the queen of hearts, which was covered by the king and ace. Two rounds of trumps were played, followed by the ace of diamonds and another to

the queen and king (no surprise!). North cashed his heart trick and exited with a diamond, which declarer ruffed.

The defence had already enjoyed two tricks and now AT2 opposite 973 had to be played for one loser, certainly quite the challenge. The only hope lies within an inescapable endplay (one opponent has HH in clubs, where H=honour) or a defensive slip.

A quick club to the ace, but unfortunately North wasn't without an eagle eye as he clairvoyantly played the king under the ace, effectively beating the contract. QJ of clubs produced another two tricks for the defence.

To the untrained eye, playing the king under the ace may seem like hazardous play, "wanting" to reach the newspaper bridge column. But it's actually a risk-free manoeuvre in game-theoretical terms: 1) If declarer has xxx in clubs, the playing the king WINS one trick (escaping the endplay).

2) If declarer has Qxx in clubs, playing the king loses a quick trick, but promotes partner's J, i.e. it's neutral.

3) If declarer had QJx in clubs, he should have considered the club finesse!

We eventually won the semi-final, as did Norway over their chosen opponent Denmark in a match that was excruciatingly close.

Here are some other interesting boards, reported by my teammate Raffael Braun:

You hold ♠KQJ32 ♥74 ♦AJ7 ♣KQJ at vulnerable against not, partner opens 1♣ and RHO overcalls 3♠. What do you do?

A few matches prior to this hand, I held a hand where I made a penalty pass at the two-level hoping for partner to reopen the bidding with a double. Unfortunately, the auction was passed out and as a result, we had lost IMPs as we collected +150 against our teammates' -400.

I had a "serious talk" to my partner, Marie, and I told her to never pass my penalty passes again. She replied, "OK, I will never pass again – but if we go for 1100, it's your fault!"

Vemund said, "Marie, you just always have to do what makes Raffael happy. What's so difficult about that?"

Then came this hand (as above) and I was able to safely pass RHO's 3♠ without a moment's worry, and as expected, Marie reopened with a double to which I passed. It's my nature to defend doubled partscore contracts as opposed to declaring a boring 3NT! 3♠X was four off for +800.

Here was a board we played against Austria from the Swiss Rounds.

B20	♠ 7		
W/All	♥ J T 4 3		
	♦ K Q 8 7 6 5 4		
Raffael Braun	♣ J	Marie Eggeling	
♠ A K J 6 4 2	N	♠ 5	
♥ 9 8 2	W	E	♥ K Q 7 5
♦ A J 3			♦ 9 2
♣ 4	S		♣ A K T 7 6 3
	♠ Q T 9 8 3		
	♥ A 6		
	♦ T		
	♣ Q 9 8 5 2		

	Braun		Eggeling	
	W	N	E	S
	1♠	3♦	X	Pass
	4♠	Pass	Pass	X
	Pass	Pass	Pass	

I won the ♣J lead, and based on how the bidding auction had developed, the hand was pretty much double dummy.

I took a spade finesse at trick 2, played a top spade confirming the trump break, and now I was left with finessing North's ♥J-10 for ten tricks. When I am doubled by an Austrian, it's never a question of reducing my undertricks, it's always about making the contract (no overtricks here, sadly!).

Here is a hand from the Final against Norway:

B31	♠ 8 6 5 4		
S/N-S	♥ 8 6 5		
	♦ Q 7 5 4		
Raffael Braun	♣ K 3	Marie Eggeling	
♠ J	N	♠ A T 7 2	
♥ A T 3	W	E	♥ J 9 4
♦ K J T 9 3 2			♦ 6
♣ Q J 2	S		♣ 9 8 7 6 5
	♠ K Q 9 3		
	♥ K Q 7 2		
	♦ A 8		
	♣ A T 4		
	Kristian Ellingsen		

	Open Room				Closed Room			
	Braun	Eide	Eggeling	Ellingsen	Hegge	Grünke	Bakke	Vikjord
	W	N	E	S	W	N	E	S
	-	-	-	1♣	-	-	-	1♣
	3♦	Pass	Pass	X	1♦	Pass	Pass	X
	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	2♦	Pass	Pass	X
	Pass	Pass	X	All Pass	3♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

The expert commentator on BBO said that 3♦ was a "State of the Match" bid, but I thought it was fairly standard as it will often cause the opponents into doing the wrong thing given the maximum pressure the 3♦ bid exerts. And so it did, as you can see from this board.

Marie's double of the final contract of 4♠ was definitely a State-of-the-Match action: we needed IMPs, lots of them, as we were down 76 IMPs with 12 boards to go! South did think for a while before bidding 4♠, so at least that also indicated that South was probably marginal for the raise. 4♠X was two off for +500 whilst 3♦ at the other table went quietly for two off.

In the Final against Norway, we unfortunately performed way below our average and the Norwegians did not make many errors. They won with a landslide.

But the title as runner-up and a big shiny trophy was a joyous recognition for us as a team, a testimony that neither a doctor's degree nor obtrusive coughing are prerequisites for success at the bridge table.



Photo: Germany A; Vemund Vikord, Hartmut Kondoch (NPC), Marie Eggeling, Paul Grünke, Raffael Braun

ROMAN KEYTARD

By JOHN NEWMAN, SYDNEY

It's the first board of the Batemans Bay Swiss Pairs and you actually pick up:

South
 ♠ AKQJT
 ♥ A63
 ♦ AQT9
 ♣ A

And you're sitting South, which indicates a potential rockstar moment (according to bridge books all the cool hands are played by South).

The little old lady on your right opens 3♣ in third seat, all vulnerable: over to you.

I doubled, partner bid 3♥. Is 3♠ here forcing?

I wasn't sure, but I had a "clever" idea - I really wanted to know about the K-Q of hearts anyway, so why not start with keycard? Partner showed no keycards. Oh well, I'll sign off in 5♠. Bollocks. I've asked for the queen of hearts. Partner dutifully bid 6♥ - no queen. I bid 6♠, which to my partner looked like a grand slam try, forcing to at least 6NT. After two minutes in the tank, my awesome partner John Scotford interpreted the bid for what it actually was - a doofus trying to play in spades - and passed. Phew! The lead was the ♣9:

♠ 7543
 ♥ T742
 ♦ J6
 ♣ K76
6♠/S, ♣9
 ♠ AKQJT
 ♥ A63
 ♦ AQT9
 ♣ A

Dummy was relatively beautiful, but sadly it seemed quite inaccessible. I drew trumps: East had three, which was promising. The sweet old lady on my right rated to have something other than ♣Q-J and ♦K (presumed) for a vulnerable preempt, so I played a low heart. West inserted the knave, but East had a singleton queen and was endplayed:

I would like to say that's my rankest slam, but I'd be lying* (see end of article).

Dealer: W

♠ -	N	♠ -
♥ KJ98	6♠/S, ♣9	♥ Q
♦ 8543	S	♦ K7
♣ 2		♣ QJ8543
	♠ JT	
	♥ A63	
	♦ AQT9	
	♣ -	

We took a beating from Ian Thomson / Jon Hunt in the second round, but otherwise our luck continued. The final round was a decider - our opponents were tied with us for first. Only one board produced a significant swing. What would you open with this hand?

East
 ♠ AKJ6
 ♥ 94
 ♦ AQJ95
 ♣ A2

I decided on 2NT for a couple of reasons: if I open 1♦, the opponents might enter the bidding and sacrifice later.

Also, the awesome suits and controls are worth extra, and finally, partner can show spades over NT anyway, and if he does I'll go ballistic.

Partner transferred into spades, and I instantaneously bid 4♠. South had to choose a king to lead away from, and fortunately the club lead gave me the contract and 12 IMPs.

Of about forty pairs, eight North-Souths made the 17-point heart game, and seven East-West's made 4♠.

As you can see in the hand diagram on the right, 4♠ needs either a club lead or a small defensive slip. When the ♠10 is led from dummy, if North covers, their ♠9 becomes the setting trick:

Dealer: N
 Vul: E-W

♠ T8743	N	♠ AKJ6
♥ Q		♥ 94
♦ 876		♦ AQJ95
♣ Q843		♣ A2
	♠ -	
	♥ K8532	
	♦ KT2	
	♣ KT976	

I'd like to say we won out of amazingsness but actually we got quite lucky. John Scotford played well as always, relieved that my putrid bidding choices didn't backfire too much. Batemans Bay is a fun weekend I'd recommend to all youth players, especially those who are new to bridge - it costs almost nothing and you'll get to learn from an experienced partner. Special thanks to John Yoon and Fraser Rew for organising!

*These are the actual contenders for the rankest slam I've been in (and made!! - Ed.):

Rank slam # 238

Dealer: N	♠ Q4		♠ J7
	♥ AKQ2		♥ JT97
	♦ AKT		♦ 92
	♣ AK96		♣ J754
♠ KT32	N		
♥ 8654			
♦ QJ53			
♣ 3			
	♠ A9865		
	♥ -		
	♦ 8764		
	♣ QT82		

A random BBO partner opened 3NT as North, which I presumed to be a running diamond suit (I had ♣Q in my hand so I hoped it wasn't clubs). I bid 5♦ with the South cards and partner raised to 6♦. West led the ♣3:

I won the club lead in my hand and played a trump to the ten which held, then cashed two top trumps. East showed out on the third round of trumps, leaving West with the ♦Q. I played three top hearts, pitching spades from my hand, then ruffed dummy's fourth heart with my last trump (stripping West of hearts). I started cashing clubs: when West eventually trumped in, he had to lead away from the ♠K.

Rank slam # 239

Dealer: S	♠ KT832		
	♥ 542		
	♦ -		
	♣ KJ652		
	N		
	♠ AJ765		
	♥ A863		
	♦ -		
	♣ A873		

Playing at the local club with somebody I'd never partnered before, I opened 1♠ as South. Left hand opponent overcalled 2♦, and partner bid 3♠. Now I had a dilemma - was this a bunch of spades, a limit raise, or one of our local delicacies, the unlimited gerber-force? I decided I had no way of knowing, and bid 6♠.

I stared at the dummy for a full three minutes imagining layouts before I noticed that the lead was a diamond - ruff'n'sluff at trick one!!! It made. I have a photo .

Batemans Bay Swiss Pairs	Place (of 76)	Batemans Bay Swiss Teams	Place (of 39)
John SCOTFORD - John NEWMAN	1 st (123VP)	Nye GRIFFITHS, Liam MILNE, Arjuna DELIVERA, David APPLETON	1 st (119VP)
Richard MCAULIFFE - Michael MCAULIFFE	3 rd (117VP)	John NEWMAN, John SCOTFORD, Richard MCAULIFFE, Michael MCAULIFFE	8 th (104VP)
Leigh MATHESON - Daryl WHITFIELD	6 th (111VP)	Andrew SPOONER, Maximilian MULLAMPHY, Zachary NEULINGER, Fraser REW	=10 th (100VP)
Fraser REW - Andrew SPOONER	8 th (107VP)	Andrew JAMIESON, John YOON, Erin TEWES, Tom CHEN	30 th (78VP)
Zac NEULINGER - Hoi-Ming CHAN	10 th (103VP)	Daryl WHITFIELD, Hoi-Ming CHAN, Leigh MATHESON, Cathy HUI	36 th (70VP)
Max MULLAMPHY - Cathy HUI	58 th (80VP)		
John YOON - Andrew JAMIESON	71 st (71VP)		



2014 VIC YOUTH BRIDGE TRAINING WEEKEND

The Victorian Youth Bridge Training Weekend, to be held on **May 17-18**, is a great opportunity for young players (Under 35ish) from around the state to converge on the VBA and receive expert tuition and play in the Pro Am with one of Victoria's leading players!

The training weekend is funded by the Victorian Youth Bridge Club and the Blaine Howe Foundation, which has been established to further youth bridge in the state. Tuition and meals are provided for players over the weekend and billets can be organised (with plenty of notice) for players who are travelling!

For more info, click [here](#).

2014 VIC YOUTH BRIDGE CLUB CONGRESS

The Victorian Youth Bridge Club is holding a congress on July 5-6 for youth and non-youth players.

For more info, click [here](#).

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY]

S/All ♠ 8 3
 ♥ K 8 6 2
 ♦ A 5 3
 ♣ K 6 5 4

♠4

♠ A 5
 ♥ A Q 4
 ♦ K J 8 4
 ♣ A J 7 3

South to make 3NT (IMPs)

Opening lead is ♠4. You play low from dummy and East plays the ♠J.

Solution on Page 18



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](#).

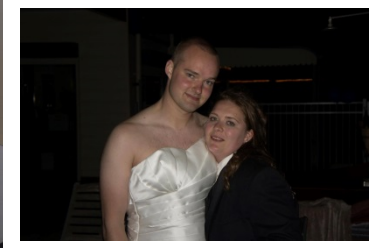
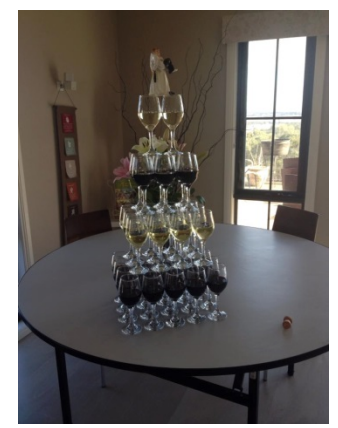


The ABF Youth Website is moving! The new relocated website will be www.youthbridge.com.au and we will also be creating a bridge forum to discuss anything from bridge problems to international events. This is currently under construction - send griff.bridge@me.com an email if you have any suggestions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





KIBITZER's CORNER - Laura and Pete's Wedding!



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





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!)

COUNTING CLUES

BY PAUL LAVINGS, SYDNEY

When I was 21 my life was changed forever by an innocent event. It was pre-decimal currency, and I was working in Albury, on the NSW-Victoria border. For some reason I had to go to the railway yards, and I happened to notice a fellow adding a column of six amounts of money.

Firstly he transferred two amounts to the middle of the page and laboriously added them. Then he transferred another single amount across under the total, and added that single figure to the previous total. After five such additions he had his total. I was stunned and amazed that someone could find simple addition so difficult.

Nowadays, I'm equally amazed when I see people adding their tricks, the cards turned facing them on the table in front of them. I'd like a dollar for every time I've seen someone count all the way up to 12 when they have 12 tricks in the same direction, instead of simply deducting 1 from 13 in their head.

We're told we spend one third of our life waiting, but how much useful time do we waste by counting inefficiently, and how many mistakes do we create by poor counting methods?

COUNTING TRUMPS

All my partners count trumps the wrong way. Work with the smaller number. Assuming you have more trumps than your opponents, you should be keeping in your mind how many are outstanding, not how many you and dummy have.

If you have eight trumps you should keep in your mind how many are missing – five. Not only is it easier to work with the smaller number, you are less likely to make a mistake, or mistakes. How simple is it then to count down the outstanding trumps as they fall: 5-3-1-0.

COUNTING THE HAND

Expert practice is not to try to count out the shape of the hands as you play, but be ready to stop and count out the hands if it becomes clear you have the information to do so. In such cases it is much easier if you are familiar with the 39 possible distributions, though only 13 of them have an *a priori* probability exceeding 1%.

4-4-3-2 is the most common shape at 21.55%, followed by 5-3-3-2 at 15.52% and 5-4-3-1 at 12.93%. The most barren shape, 4-3-3-3, is 10.54%.

Find 9 stiff pieces of paper, like the cards used by dentists to keep patient information, and write out all the distributions with a 4 card suit with no longer suit on the first, then all the shapes with a 5-card and no longer suit, until you have filled out 9 cards. 12-1-0-0 and 13-0-0-0 can go on one card (see the first two cards on the right):

CARD 1	CARD 2
4-3-3-3	5-3-3-2
4-4-3-2	5-4-3-1
4-4-4-1	5-4-2-2
	5-4-4-0
	5-5-2-1
	5-5-3-0

You get the idea. Now occasionally look through the cards so that you get to know the shapes. Before you go to sleep is best. You will become acquainted with the hand patterns and be able to work out the shapes around the table more easily. This work you do away from the table will repay you tenfold in the heat of battle.





COUNTING YOUR POINTS

Have you ever tried NOT to count your HCPs. You will find it is such a strong habit that it is impossible to break. If you play a lot of bridge and live a long life you will probably find that by the age of 60 you will have spent a couple of weeks in total just adding your points.

So clearly a shortcut would mean less time spent adding, and more importantly, fewer errors.

You will rarely hold an average hand, with one of each card from an ace down to a two. The odds are long against it. If you play one session of bridge every day, you could expect to see about one a year.

But the average hand is key to adding your HCP quickly. The average hand has an A-K-Q-J, which adds to 10 HCP. Base your additions on this. So:

- ♠AKxx ♥Qxx ♦Jxx ♣xxx = 10 HCP, no need to add to 10, AKQJ = 10, always
- ♠AQJx ♥Kxx ♦xxx ♣xxx = 10 HCP, don't bother to add, AKQJ = 10
- ♠AQJx ♥Kxx ♦Kxx ♣xxx = Don't add, just look, 10 + 3 = 13 HCP

After a while you get used to AKQ = 9, AKJ = 8, AQJ = 7 etc.

- ♠AKQx, ♥xxx ♦xxx ♣xxx = 10 less 1 = 9 HCP (don't add)
- ♠AKQx ♥Axx ♦xx ♣xxxx = 9 + 4 = 13 HCP, easy
- ♠AKQx ♥Kxx ♦Kxx ♣Kxx = 9 + (3*3) = 9 + 9 = 18, easy, but never add one by one
- ♠Axx ♥AKQ ♦Jxx ♣KQJx = 2*10 HCP = 20 HCP, don't add, just look for groups of 10

Fewer steps equals less chance of error. Keep it simple.

COUNTING MORE THAN ONE SUIT

Your conscious mind can only perform one task at a time, that's why driving while talking on your mobile phone is so dangerous. Beware of trying to count a number of suits at the same time, it's more than difficult. This deal, from the excellent *Art of Card Reading* by Tim Bourke and Justin Corfield (softcover, 2014, 386 pages, \$44.95 post-free) shows how you actually need to count this way:

♠ T 6
♥ 8 7 2
♦ K 8 2
♣ K Q J T 3

6♥/S, ♠K

♠ A 8 7
♥ AKQJ 5
♦ J 6 5
♣ A 9

	W	N	E	S
	-	-	-	1♥
	X	2♣	Pass	2♠
	Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
	Pass	4♦	Pass	6♥

West leads ♠K and East follows with the 4. Both opponents follow with low cards when you cash ♥A. As West is sure to have ♦A, how will you plan the play?

The only problem (entry issues) is trumps 4-1, when West will be under pressure in the end game.

After ♠A, four trumps and four rounds of clubs, the end position will resemble (diagram on the right):

♠ T
♥ -
♦ K 8
♣ T

West

♠ QJ
♥ -
♦ AQ
♣ -

6♥/S, ♠K

♠ -
♥ 5
♦ J 6 5
♣ -

When ♣10 is cashed, throwing a diamond, West cannot hold the position. Count only the spades. West discards two spades, so you know West has two spades and two diamonds remaining. If West now blanks ♦A you will continue with a low diamond. If West throws a spade you ruff ♠10 and lead up to ♦K.

♠ T 6
♥ 8 7 2
♦ K 8 2
♣ K Q J T 3

♠ K Q J 3
♥ 6
♦ A Q 4 3
♣ 8 6 4 2

	N	E
♠	9 5 4 2	T 9 4 3
♥		T 9 7
♦		7 5

♠ A 8 7
♥ AKQJ 5
♦ J 6 5
♣ A 9

All you need to do is to count that West still has three spades after the lead, and count West's remaining spades as they are thrown, 3-2-1, or 3-2.

The full hand (diagram on the left).

Before a game starts, avoid distractions and keep your mind clear. That way you can always start a session in top gear. Maybe the first hand depends on your counting skills.

Email: paul@bridgegear.com for all things bridge
Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies
www.bridgegear.com





SUIT COMBINATIONS

THIS ISSUE	FOR NEXT ISSUE
<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p>A K 9 6 4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 4 tricks</p> </div> <p>J 3 2</p>	<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p>A K 9 6 4 2</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 5 tricks</p> </div> <p>J 3</p> <p>K Q 9 6 4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 4 tricks</p> </div> <p>J 3 2</p>
<p>Two options: (1) Cash AK, or (2) Ace, then low to J.</p> <p>Since you only need <i>four</i> tricks, the best play is (2). Cashing the ace first guards against a singleton queen, and when you play low <i>towards</i> the jack, you can handle any 4-1 break. If East has four to the queen, your jack will score a trick. If West has four to the queen, then East will show out and your jack will force West's queen. You can later return to your hand to lead low to dummy's A 9 6 and finesse against West's 10 8.</p>	

<p>Q 5 4 3</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>Target: 1 trick</p> </div> <p>J 7 6 2</p>	<p>Since you only need one trick, you should duck in both hands on the first round! This guards against a singleton honour in either hand. If both opponents follow, winning low, then you have a choice of which hand to play from the next time you lead the suit. But whatever your choice is, make sure you lead <i>towards</i> an honour on the second round. This will guard against either of the 4-1 breaks.</p>
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BETTY'S STORY



Betty, aged 81, teaches bridge to young indigenous people in prison. What if learning to play bridge could change your life? You can find more information about it [here](#). You can also keep updated via Facebook by friending [People Who Play Bridge](#). You can also view the ABF article [here](#).

FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION (Problem on page 14)

S/All ♠ 8 3
 ♡ K 8 6 2
 ♢ A 5 3
 ♣ K 6 5 4

♠4

♠ A 5
 ♡ A Q 4
 ♢ K J 8 4
 ♣ A J 7 3

South to make 3NT (IMPs)
 Opening lead is ♠4. You play low from dummy and East plays the ♠J.

With eight tricks on top, it appears that there are a lot of options for you to choose from to obtain the ninth. The hearts may break 3-3, one of the minor suit finesses may be right, and there is always the possibility of dropping a minor suit queen.

Problems such as these suggest that you should try to combine as many chances as you can. The general rule in these situations is to cash the top tricks in the long suit(s), then finesse in the shorter suit.

Here, you will win the opening lead (no benefit in holding up) and cash the top three hearts. If they break 3-3, your worries are over, but if not, you will cash ♣A and ♣K to see if it drops a doubleton queen. If not, then you will take your last chance with a second-round finesse in diamonds. Note that it is best to try for the drop of the queen in the club suit rather than the diamond suit because if a minor suit queen were to drop doubleton, it is more likely to happen in the suit that you have the most cards in, and here that's clubs.



FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER - BEEFING UP BRIDGE CONVENTIONS

SMOLEN EXTENDED

In the previous issue, we looked at how to show 5-4 Majors with game-forcing values opposite a 1NT opening. This was via 3M Smolen bids, as shown in the table below:

1NT 2♦	2♣	(2♣ = Simple Stayman, 2♦ = No Major)
	3♥ 3♠	4♥5♠, Game-force 4♠5♥, Game-force

We can now extend this even further. Instead of 3♥ or 3♠ Smolen, what does it mean if responder jumps to 4♣, 4♦, 4♥, or 4♠?

Both 4♥ and 4♠ look like they are to play, and because they bypass 3NT, they should therefore imply a six-card major. Since responder went via 2♣ Stayman, this must imply that responder is 6-4 in the majors. In other words, 4♥ shows 6♥4♠ and 4♠ shows 6♠4♥.

Similarly, 4♣ and 4♦ can be used as a *delayed Texas transfer*, also showing 6-4 in the majors. That is, 4♣ shows 6♥4♠ and 4♦ shows 6♠4♥ (the lower minor suit shows the longer lower major suit). Since there is an overlap between 4♣/4♦ and 4♥/4♠, you can now split your ranges.

1NT 2♦	2♣	(2♣ = Simple Stayman, 2♦ = No Major)
	3♥ 3♠ 4♣ 4♦ 4♥ 4♠	4♥5♠, Game-force 4♠5♥, Game-force 6♥4♠, Slam try 6♠4♥, Slam try 6♥4♠, To play 6♠4♥, To play


It is correct for the slam try hands to be put within the 4♣/4♦ bids, because 4♣ and 4♦ both allow space for opener to make a 'noise' to suggest a bit of interest (e.g. the 4♣ bid allows opener to bid 4♦).


The above structure can be beneficial as it allows you to locate your 4-4 fit first, before your 6-2 or 6-3 fit, and a 4-4 fit might be able to generate additional trick(s). However, don't forget to use your judgement. If your four-card major suit is quite weak, it might be better to play in your six-card suit (i.e. don't bother with 2♣ to find that 4-4 fit): a weak 4-4 fit may prove to be difficult to play in when faced with a bad trump break.

STATE ASSOCIATIONS - UPDATES

	EVENT (QLD)	DATES
	QLD Youth Bridge Nights at QCBC For More INFO: http://www.qldbridge.com/	Fridays 7:30-9:30pm

	EVENT (NSW)	DATES
	NSW Youth Trials After school bridge club @ NSWBA, held on Friday afternoons (during school term from 4pm-5:30pm) Email: fraserrew@gmail.com Web: http://www.nswba.com.au/	May 18

	EVENT (ACT)	DATES
	ANU Bridge Club regular meetings at ANU Bar Email: youth@bfact.com.au Web: http://www.bfact.com.au/	Mondays 4:30pm during term

	EVENT (VIC)	DATES
	VIC Youth Training Weekend	May 17-18
	VCC Trivia Night (Go to Page 8 for more info)	June 8
	VIC Youth Congress	July 5-6
	After school bridge club @ Waverly Bridge Club, held on Tuesday afternoons (during school term from 4:30pm-6:30pm) Contact: http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php	

	EVENT (SA)	DATES
	Contact: http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/	

	EVENT (WA)	DATES
	... Contact: http://www.bawa.asn.au/	...

	EVENT (NT)	DATES
	... Contact: http://www.ntba.com.au/	...

	EVENT (TAS)	DATES
	... Contact: http://www.tasbridge.com.au/	...