

# ABF YOUTH



# BULLETIN

**Youth Week, Canberra 2005**

Youth Week in 2005 was conducted at Fenner Hall on Northbourne Avenue in Canberra during the first week of the Summer Festival of Bridge.

The event was notable for the best attendance in over a decade. Of particular note was the number of teenagers (and sub-teenagers) who attended. Not only from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, but also from across the Tasman.

Of the 60 players who competed in the Youth Pairs, around one third of these were under 20. In the Australian Youth Teams, the ratio was over 40% of the 50 players who participated.

The young Sydney Pair, Adam and Nabil Edgtton, underlined their excellent results in the NSW Youth Championships by finishing second in the Youth Teams (with internationals, Daniel Geromboux and Griff Ware) and also by slipping into fifth spot in the Butler, edging out some handy pairs in the process.

Their were two common elements amongst this group of fledgling players: they all had a ball and could not get enough bridge.

Talk to any of those who attended the 2005 Youth Championships and they will no doubt tell you that, if you are eligible, you should be there in 2006 regardless of experience and skill level. Many of these younger participants have been playing bridge for less than twelve months.

◆ Issue 05/1

April 2005



*Edited by David Lusk*

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH PAIRS: QUALIFYING

**N-S** **1st:** Daniel Geromboux-Griff Ware  
**2nd:** Daniel Krochmalik-Justin Williams  
**3rd:** Gabby Feiler-Matt Porter

**E-W** **1st:** Paul Gosney-Nathan Van Jole  
**2nd:** Fraser Rew - Michael Whibley  
**3rd:** Mike Doecke-William Jenner-O'Shea

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH PAIRS: FINAL

**1st:** Gabby Feiler - Matt Porter  
**2nd:** Fraser Rew - Michael Whibley  
**3rd:** Paul Gosney - Nathan Van Jole

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH PAIRS: CONSOLATION

**1st:** Mark Abraham-Freya Wilson  
**2nd:** Michael De Livera - Justin Howard  
**3rd:** Nye Griffiths - Adam Robinson

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS:

**1st:** Mike Doecke-William Jenner-O'Shea  
Paul Gosney-Nathan Van Jole

**2nd:** Adam & Nabil Edgtton,  
Daniel Geromboux-Griff Ware

**3rd:** Nye Griffiths-Justin Howard  
Daniel Krochmalik-Justin Williams

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BUTLER:

**1st:** Daniel Geromboux-Griff Ware  
(Automatic Selection)  
**2nd:** Gabby Feiler-Matt Porter  
**3rd:** Daniel Krochmalik-Justin Williams  
**4th:** Paul Gosney-Nathan Van Jole  
**5th:** Adam & Nabil Edgtton

## YOUTH TEAM PLAY-OFF:

Gabby Feiler-Matt Porter,  
Paul Gosney-Nathan Van Jole **187**  
defeated  
Adam & Nabil Edgtton  
Daniel Krochmalik-Justin Williams **125**

## The Gold Coast Youth Pairs

The Gold Coast Youth Pairs replaced the Gold Coast Youth Individual as a two session pairs event for players under 30.

The attendance (five tables) may seem a bit on the thin side but it is an encouraging start.

Larry Moses, who organises youth bridge at the Toowong Bridge Club and Theresa Tully, GCC Convenor deserve acknowledgement for their commitment to getting this event up and running.

The inaugural event will be remembered for the nail-biting finish in which two pairs tied for first place.

**=1st: Fiona Brown - David Wiltshire**  
**=1st: Nye Griffiths - Griff Ware**  
**3rd: Peerapan Maslen - Ryan Touton**

Unfortunately, hand records were not posted for the GCC Youth Pairs. This gem was played by David Wiltshire in the open pairs:

Dealer: S	<b>North</b>		
Vul: EW	♠ KJ103		
	♥ K		
	♦ AQ10		
<b>West</b>	♣ J10964	<b>East</b>	
♠ Q87652		♠ A4	
♥ 6		♥ J942	
♦ J92		♦ 8765	
♣ AK2	<b>South</b>	♣ 873	
	♠ 9		
	♥ AQ108753		
	♦ K43		
	♣ Q5		

Playing in 4♥, David received the lead of a top club followed by a switch to the ♥6. South won and played a club to West's King. West next played a spade to the King and East's Ace. When East led a second spade, South ruffed and was now in a position to make the rest. He cashed the top heart, noting the bad break, played the *King* of diamonds to the *Ace*, ruffed

a club, then a diamond to the 10 and spade ruff. The last diamond entry left East with the J9 and declarer with Q10 of trumps.

A well contrived trump coup.

## Youth Committee 2005

The only immediate change from 2004 is the addition of ACT youth player, Griff Ware, who replaces Keiran Crowe-Mai. Keiran stood down last year, and we thank him for his services.

**Convenor: David Stern**  
david@dbbc.net

**Coordinator: David Lusk**  
lusk@internode.on.net

**Committee:**  
**Mark Abraham**  
Mark.Abraham@anu.edu.au

**Gabby Feiler**  
gfeiler@iprimus.com.au

**Leigh Gold**  
leighkater@hotmail.com

**Griff Ware**  
thegruffle@mac.com

All members of the Youth Committee are available to assist with enquiries about youth bridge. Those seeking information or clarification on youth issues are advised that the Youth Coordinator undertakes a primary role and should be considered as the first point of contact.

There is also plenty of information about youth bridge available on the Youth Page of the ABF Website.

[www.ABF.com.au](http://www.ABF.com.au)

Anyone eligible to join the ABF Youth Club should contact their state/territory coordinator. (See page 6).

## 2004 Youth Awards



*Leonard Helman*

### Helman-Klinger Awards

The most fundamental principle of the Helman-Klinger Prizes is that they can only be awarded once to any individual. The Helman-Klinger award is generously donated by Rabbi Leonard Helman of the USA in recognition of Ron Klinger's contribution to bridge around the globe.

### General Achievement Award: Gabby Feiler

Gabby just missed in 2003. In 2004, he has contributed to the ABF Youth Committee and has been a driving force behind Australia's most successful campus bridge club at The University of Sydney. Added to that was Australian representation and that wonderful silver medal at the World Youth Individual.

### Masterpoint Award: Griff Ware

With about 20 masterpoints separating several pairs, Griff Ware finished just ahead of Fiona Brown, Paul Gosney and William Jenner O'Shea.

### Hills-Hurley Award

Established by Richard Hills and Steve Hurley, the Hills-Hurley award acknowledges performance, not by individuals, but by partnerships. The performance of partnerships is taken into account but so too is the evidence of the effort players put into system and partnership understanding.

### 2004 Hills Hurley Award:

#### Paul Gosney-Nathan Van Jole

Paul and Nathan have taken only a short time as a partnership to become a force on the youth scene. They have a good rapport at the table and have benefited from the work put into their systemic agreements.

## Youth Calendar, 2005

*International events in bold type.*

April 23-24

**OKBridge Intercollegiate**

*On line*

June 23 - July 3

**Pacific Asia Bridge  
Federation Championships**

*Seoul*

July 23 - 30

ANC Youth Pairs and Teams

*Sydney*

5-7 August

Australian Youth Triathlon

*Sydney*

7-17th August 2005

**World Junior Teams  
Championships**

*Sydney*

8-16 January 2006

Australian Youth Week  
Under 16 Camp

*Canberra*

**Australia will be staging the  
2005 World Youth Teams Championships  
7<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2005**

**The Royal Showgrounds - Sydney Olympic Park**

Bridge players from all around Australia are urged to support this undertaking. You can do this by offering your help with one or more of the following

**Hosts for the visiting teams**

help with collecting the teams from the airport, hosting them during the event and escorting them to the associated functions. This does not necessarily include billeting or accommodation.

**Helpers during preparation for the event**

we will require assistance with the planning and implementation of the plan for the event

**Helpers during the actual event**

we will require an extensive team of people including hospitality desk, board caddies, logistical assistance, score runners and vu-graph assistance as well as other areas which will become apparent as preparation begins

**Printing**

another challenge is the production of approximately 250 daily newsletters. If you have production capability or experience in this type of undertaking then we would like to hear from you.

**Sponsorship**

either direct, advertising or goods for prizes or fundraisers

**Fundraising**

consider holding a fundraiser at your local club – we will offer assistance in this regard

**Anything Else**

if you believe that you have skills which we can use either before or during the event then please let us know

David Stern and Peter Gill

Co-convenors

david@dbbc.net

## Youth Bridge at QCBC

Wendy O'Brien

Some time around mid-year 2004, the board of the QCBC, in its infinite wisdom, decided it would be a good idea to promote youth bridge in Brisbane by offering a series of interstate lessons in the first week of the Christmas holidays to young people aged 10 up. Working on the principal that *fools rush in where angels fear to tread*, the board diligently sought to determine who was the biggest fool in the club, and I was duly approached to teach the course. Being the fool they knew me to be, I had little hesitation in saying yes because I knew that a) It would never get off the ground and b) the Christmas holidays were so far off that life as we knew it on this planet would have long ceased to exist before they arrived.

We started with 24 young people aged from 9<sup>1/2</sup> to 17 and finished with 23 and a volunteer ganny. Thank you Marie and Glenice. Four sessions, Mon – Thursday, 2 hours each.

The lessons were based on PLAY BRIDGE: A WORKBOOK FOR THE ABSOLUTE BEGINNER by Joan Butts, and at this point I must honour my extensive debt of thanks to Joan. Despite considerable experience as a teacher, I had never taught bridge before and as it became clear a few weeks prior to the holidays that the course was actually going to take off, I was beginning to feel just the tiniest bit enormously inadequate and more foolish than ever. Joan took the time to sit with me and take me through what needed to be done and how to go about it. Thank-you.

Sessions 1 and 2 we played **Starter Bridge** (see textbook p13). This basically focuses on bridge as a partnership taking tricks, estimating possible number of tricks, determining trumps and setting a target as to the possible number of achievable tricks. Session 3 introduced bidding, and by the

end of session 3 we were bidding, playing and hopefully making responsible contracts. That's bridge isn't it? Did I forget something?

Session 4 we began a serious 6 table Mitchell, 2 boards a round with a skip, but somewhere between rounds 2 & 3 the whole thing fell apart with the arrival of the local press, the QBA manager/photographer (mother of two of the youth), the need to present certificates during the club session lunch break and various other factors. Follow-up sessions will be held for interested players during the school holidays and we'll see where things go after that.

Having thanked Joan, I also want to thank Paul Gosney, our youth champion for coming in to talk to the class. They were rapt and the q/a session lasted over 20 minutes. The kitchen staff were fantastic. They knew youth need to be fed and more than rose to the occasion. Of course, thank you to Toni Bardon and the board and thanks to the whole club. Everyone seemed to take ownership of the course and provided me with no end of support and helpful suggestions.

Well, that's it. I'm looking forward to the follow-up sessions, and if, next year, the board decides I'm still the most foolish member of the club, at least I'll have some idea of what I'm doing.

*[Editor's note: This article was reprinted from the QBA Bulletin, January 2005 with kind permission from Wendy and the editor.]*

*It is illustrative of Queensland's recent youth resurgence and the commitment of QBA members to the cause. It also shows what can be achieved with the right timing and effort. This effort means that there are now 23 more young players who can play and enjoy bridge.]*

## Who's in Charge?

All states and territories have an individual or group who take responsibility for youth bridge within their local jurisdiction.

ACT: **Griff Ware**

Queensland: **Joan Butts** (Teaching)  
**Larry Moses**  
**Richard Touton**

New South Wales: **Ross Stewart**  
**Leigh Gold**  
**Peter Gill**

Northern Territory: **Betty Mill**

South Australia: **David Lusk**  
& **Youth Committee**

Tasmania: **Adam Guarino-Watson**

Victoria: **Andrew Mill**  
**Cathy Mill**  
(**Alphington**)

Western Australia: **Bob Johnson**

If you are looking for a chance to get involved as a youth player, David Lusk can put you in touch with the appropriate person or group.

David Lusk: [lusk@internode.on.net](mailto:lusk@internode.on.net)

or Phone 08 8336 3954

Contact details are also available on the ABF Website:

[www.ABF.com.au](http://www.ABF.com.au)

## The 2005 Youth Triathlon

The 2005 Australian Youth Triathlon will be breaking with tradition in 2005.

Firstly, it will be held in Sydney rather than its Adelaide home for the first three years. Secondly, it will be held in August.

The dates are August 5-7. Likely venue will be the NSW Bridge Association Clubrooms in Goulburn St.

This year gives us a special opportunity to involve a significant number of international players, making the Triathlon a fantastic event in which to compete. By holding the event prior to the World Youth Teams Championship we hope to provide an opportunity for contestants in that event to compete in an enjoyable warm-up.

There are a few details which are still being sorted out. A convenor will be announced in the near future. The times will conform generally to the programme of previous years:

Friday, August 5 (Evening): Teams

Saturday, Aug 6 (Morning): Teams  
(Afternoon): Pairs  
(Evening): Pairs

Sunday, Aug 7 (Morning): Individual

**Details are currently on the ABF website and will be updated as new information comes to hand.**

**Keep an eye on this event as it will be a terrific opportunity for all Australian youth players to be involved in a special bridge event.**