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Today is Day 3, and we have the results from the Pairs Final and Consolation. Today, session one of the Teams Championship begins, which is also the qualifying event for players to get into the Selection Butler.

Here are the results from yesterday's Pairs events.

Congratulations to the winners of the Pairs Final **Paul Gosney & Liam Milne**. Also **Glenn & Sam Coutts** who won the Consolation after leading the whole event.

Pairs Final

1 st Paul Gosney & Liam Milne 2 nd Daniel Braun & Justin Howard	370 332
3 rd Adam Edgtton & Ellena Moskovsky	329

Pairs Consolation

1 st Glenn Coutts & Sam Coutts	281
2 nd Fraser Rew & Jamie Thompson	225
3 rd Sophie King & Cathy Hui	216

The prizes that will be awarded this week have been donated by **Paul Lavings**. The best way to show your appreciation of Paul's generosity is to buy your bridge books from Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies.



Session Times	Today
Teams	11am
Teams	1.30pm
Teams	7.30pm
Tomo	rrow (Tuesday)
Teams	10.15am
Teams	2.15pm
Talk	6pm
4 Board Playoff	6.45pm
Butler	8.20pm

Cooler than a Hook By Cliff Wake Here is a cute play Juzz found on Board 5 in the first session of the Pairs Final. (Brauny) T8752 986 • A8 ♣ KQ4 ♠ K6 **3 V**Q532 AKJ7 • K5 ♦ JT9632 **\$** 96532 🐥 J7 AQJ94

♥ T4
 ◆ Q74
 ♣ AT8
 (Juzz)

After the auction $1 \Leftrightarrow : 3 \diamondsuit *$ (Bergen) : $3 \diamondsuit$, the defence started with three rounds of Hearts. Rather than taking the boring Spade finesse, Juzz cashed the Ace of trumps before eliminating Clubs and exiting with a trump.

This line would have won with the stiff King offside, but when this did not eventuate Juzz regained the boring 50% chance of a finesse when an opponent who held the $\bigstar K$ doubleton (East in this case) also held the $\bigstar K$ and was endplayed into leading a Diamond away from the King or a giving ruff-and-sluff.

Good Luck to all players in the Teams Championship.

"It's not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It's the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones."

	Pairs Final Scores	
Rank	Name	Total
1	Paul GOSNEY - Liam MILNE	370.4
2	Daniel BRAUN - Justin HOWARD	331.8
3	Adam EDGTTON - Ellena MOSKOVSKY	328.5
4	Shane HARRISON - Peter HOLLANDS	301.5
5	Lauren TRAVIS - Stephen WILLIAMS	279.0
6	Andy HUNG - Alex SMIRNOV	272.6
7	Jane REYNOLDS - Orlando WU	271.8
8	Nathan HOWARD - Alex LOCKWOOD	264.1
9	Maxim HENBEST - Griff WARE	260.8
10	Laura GINNAN - Lucy HENBEST	258.5
11	James HIGGINS - Sebastian YUEN	252.0
12	Garry KHEMKA - John YOON	226.2

Here is a full list of results from the Pairs Qualifying.

Juzz and Brauny were comfortably in the lead for a lot of the Finals, but Gosney-Milne overtook them and took the title.

Liam wins his first National event as an Australian after recently moving to Melbourne.

	Pairs Consolation Scores							
Rank		Name	Total					
	1	Glenn COUTTS - Sam COUTTS	281.3					
	2	Fraser REW - Jamie THOMPSON	224.5					
	3	Sophie KING - Cathy HUI	215.6					
	4	Matt PORTER - Laura TOUGH	213.7					
	5	Helena CANARIS - Leigh MATHESON	205.0					
	6	Victoria THOMPSON - Will JENNER-O'SHEA	192.2					
	7	Zaiga THOMANN - Ben COOMBES	189.7					
8	8	Zac NEULINGER - Daryl WHITFIELD	165.6					
	9	Isabella CAVANAGH - Huon PORTEOUS	156.2					
10	0	Oliver JENNER-O'SHEA - Andrew WALLIS	155.7					

The Coutts's led from the start and never looked like being caught. They finished the event with a full round lead.

There is a player profile of the Coutts boys later in this Bulletin.

Sudoku fans, there are some puzzles on the back page of Today's Bulletin.

Tin Minute Interview. The Couttses

Q. Mini Bio

G: Whenever I get asked by someone to tell them something interesting, I tell them "I play on the New Zealand U26 Team". But I guess that's not so interesting here (at a bridge event). When I grow up, I either want to be a space cowboy or a bounty hunter.

S: I'm in a bagpipe band – I play drums. I don't do anything else exciting. I'm doing a degree in Geographic Information Systems. My favourite drink is Rum and Coke.

G: My favourite food is ice-cream and salami.

Q. Why do you play bridge?

S. Because it's fun, and I can win.

G: Well you can't, we didn't make it into the Pairs Final.

S: Sometímes.

G: I play for money, fame and tail. What else is there?

G: It was because of our ESPN that we won the Constellation pairs.

Q. What's your favourite bridge convention?

G: Gerber. *S: Definitely*.



 \leftarrow Sam and Glenn \rightarrow Coutts

Q. Sam, name 5 words that describe Glenn that begin with the letter `T'?

S: Trevor, Tool, Twisted, Tantrum-thrower, The worst. Now it's Glenn's turn. He always has heaps of stupid things to say.

Q. Glenn, if Sam was a colour, what would he be?

G: Beige, because his skin is beige and he's kind of boring.

Q. If Sam had a super-power what he choose?

G: I don't know, isn't that a question for him? If I could choose, I'd give him invisibility, so I don't have to look at him.

Five Minute Interview. James Higgins

James is quite attractive.

Q. Mini Bio

I grew up all over the place, but I'm a proud Canberran. I wake up every day determined to change to world and have a good time. This makes some decisions difficult. I like to drink coffee, read books and flirt inappropriately with strangers.

Q. Have you ever been written up?

I got written up for a bridge play when I was 13. I don't remember the trump suit, but it was missing a variety of honours. I found the "run the 9 play". There was an expert teams match, where they were 4♥ one off at both tables.

Q. What's your favourite song?

I don't have a favourite song. I don't have a favourite colour. I don't like all songs equally, I think all colours have their place.



James Higgins

Q. What's your favourite cocktail? Cosmopolitan. Its traditionally a measure of vodka, a half-measure of some orange liqueur and cranberry juice. Some places serve it with lime, but you should serve it with burnt orange.

Q. What would you never do? Sacrifice my principles for short-term gain.

"One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts."

- Alfred Sheinwold

Double Trouble.

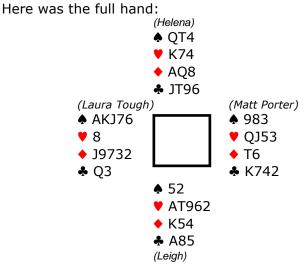
by Leigh Matheson My aim is to make a doubled contract every day. At the end of day one I am still on track.

	Laura Tough 1♠ 3♠ P	Helena P 4♥ P	Matt Porter 2♠ X	Leigh 3♥ P
4 ♥ X	by South			
		🔶 QT	4	
		💙 K7	4	
		🔶 AQ	28	
		🐥 JT	96	
Lead	: 🗚			
		\$ 52		
		🕈 AT	962	
		🔶 K5	4	
		🐥 A8	5	

The ♠A won the first trick and West switched to the ♣3, which went to the ♣K and ♣A. **Plan the play.**

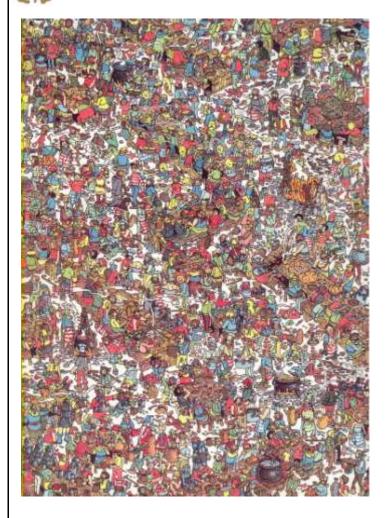
Prospects do not look too good. There are 2 spade losers, and at least two more losers in hearts and clubs.

In any event East appears to have $\mathbf{VQJx}(\mathbf{x})$ for his double. So I continue with a heart to the King and a Heart back to the 10 when East follows low. This wins as West discards a diamond. Now I exit with a club. West wins and tries a diamond. So I am able to discard my spade loser on the top clubs. $4\mathbf{V}$ making +590.





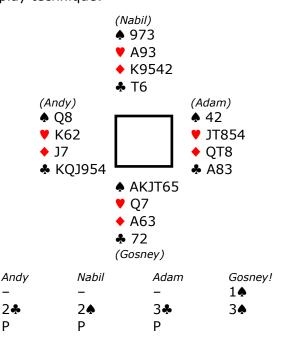
Where's Wally?



Classic Rewind <</p>

A Classic hand from 2010. The Gos is a Machine By Cliff Wake

Taking a seat behind **Paul Gosney** on **Board 27** of the 3rd match in the Youth Butler, I was immediately rewarded with a display of excellent card-play technique:

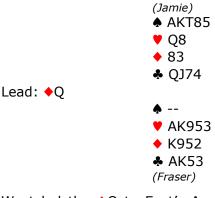


Andy led the AK, on which Adam played the A(reverse count). The &Q was continued, and Adam overtook to switch to the VJ, which was ducked all round. Hearts were continued to the Queen, King and Ace and Paul ruffed a Heart. After cashing the A, he continued with the Aand a small Diamond to the King. Now he had a count on Andy's hand as being either a 1=3=3=6shape or a 2=3=2=6 shape. This meant that when he led a small trump towards hand he could finesse with IMPunity, knowing that if it lost to the doubleton Queen, as on the actual hand, then Andy would have only Clubs remaining and be endplayed. He would have to give a ruff in dummy and discard in hand, ridding Paul of his Diamond loser. Alternatively, if the trump finesse had worked and Andy showed out, Paul would have 9 tricks in the bag. wp Gos.

Taken from the 2010 Bulletins.

His Heart was in the Right Place

Reported by Fraser Rew During the Pairs Consolation, Fraser Rew and Jamie Thompson came head-to-head on Board 12. Fraser and Jamie bid to 6NT on these cards.



West led the $\blacklozenge Q$ to East's Ace and a Diamond was returned, the $\blacklozenge K$ winning.

With only 10 tricks, Declarer needs to find Hearts 3-3 or some extra spade tricks to make this contract.

The first thing Fraser did is to play four rounds of Clubs, West discarding a small Heart and a small Spade, while North discards a Spade.

Now on a small Heart lead to the Queen, West played the \blacklozenge J.

Fraser had to decide whether the Hearts were being falsecarded from West, or West started with a decent Heart suit.

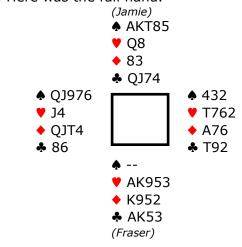
With no more entries to Dummy, Fraser cashed the A and K and then played the 98 from Dummy.

East played low and Fraser finessed.

If South had an original Heart suit of ♥JT8 and had discarded and then flasecarded, then Fraser would have lost this finesse and the Spades and be down by three.

The finesse worked and the unlikely slam rolled home.

South could have afforded a different discard. The Heart was the only card which allowed the slam to make. Here was the full hand.



	5	6			9		4	8
9		1		7	2		5	
7	3							
4			2	8				
8	6		1		5		9	4
				9	4			7
							2	1
	8		9	2		3		5
3	1		7			4	6	

Easy Puzzle 9,689,130,074 -- Select a puzzle ...

	8	2		9	4	7		
6						4		
3	7		5				9	2
	3	1						
	5	7	3	8	1	9	4	
						5	3	
5	2				9		7	4
		3						9
		9	7	3		8	6	

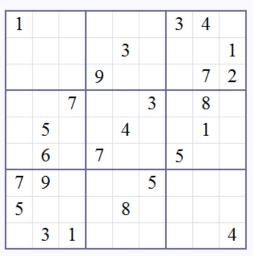
Easy Puzzle 2,180,187,196 -- Select a puzzle...

7		8	1	2				4
	4					1		
3	2	1		4	5			
		7		5			9	
			7		3			
	8			6		3		
			6	3		4	7	9
		9					2	
2				9	4	6		1

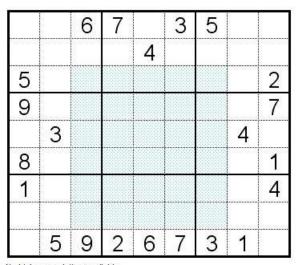
Medium Puzzle 2,661,177,804 -- Select a puzzle ...

	7		3	2				
		4	5					
6			7			8		
		8	6				5	2
1			4		7			3
7	3				2	4		
		1			5			9
					3	5		
				4	6		8	

Hard Puzzle 3,888,939,522 -- Select a puzzle...



Evil Puzzle 7,526,989,219 -- Select a puzzle ...



No higher resolution available. Sudoku_with_large_rectangular_hole.JPG (360 × 314 pixels, file

The largest rectangular orthogonal "hole" (region with no clues) in a proper sudoku is believed to be a rectangle of 30 cells (a 5 x 6 rectangular area).

The mathematical analysis of Sudoku falls into two main areas: analyzing the properties of a) completed grids and b) puzzles. Grid analysis has largely focused on counting (enumerating) possible solutions for different *variants*. Puzzle analysis centers on the initial *given* values. The techniques used in either are largely the same: <u>combinatorics</u> and <u>permutation group theory</u>, augmented by the dexterous application of programming tools.