

ABF YOUTH



BULLETIN

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Edited by David Lusk

The Australian Youth Championships Results

TRANS-TASMAN JUNIOR CHALLENGE

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

Australia A 113 d. **New Zealand** 71
Australia B 154 d. **Oceania** 103

Australia A P. Brayshaw-G. Dupont
N. Croft-L. Matthews
New Zealand M. Dollan-C. Prent
M. Prent-J. West
Australia B G. Feiler-D. Krochmalik
L. Gold-T. Johnson
Oceania S. Parisis-C. Ambrois (FP)
D. Wiltshire-J. Wyner (Aus)
J. Whyte (Tonga)

SUNDAY'S MATCHES (ROUND ROBIN)

Australia A 54 VPs
Oceania 44 VPs
Australia B 41 VPs
New Zealand 39 VPs

ROUND ROBIN FINAL AND 3 PLACE PLAY-OFF

Australia A 47 d. **Oceania** 38
New Zealand 46 d. **Australia B** 37

JUNIOR PAIRS--FINAL

1st: T. Nunn - K. Robb 367.6
2nd: N. Croft - L. Matthews 299.4
3rd: G. Feiler - D. Krochmalik 282

JUNIOR PAIRS--CONSOLATION

1st: D. Wiltshire - J. Wyner 340.2
2nd: P. Brayshaw - S. Brayshaw 307.6
3rd: A. Brooks - R. Plush 297

JUNIOR TEAMS

1st: I. Del' Monte - E. Erichsen
K. Dyke - S. Hans
C. Haugh - A. Sarten
2nd: L. Gold - T. Johnson
T. Lee - K. Wan

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR TEAM PLAY-OFF

BRAYSHAW (P. Brayshaw-S. Brayshaw
G. Dupont - M. Raisin) 173
defeated
GOLD (L. Gold-T. Johnson
T. Lee - K. Wan) 158

UNDER 16 PAIRS

1st: M. Delivera - R. Stevenson 90.7
2nd: L. Dixon - S. Dixon 76.3

UNDER 16 TEAMS QUALIFYING

1st: **DELIVERA** (M. Delivera - R. Stevenson
M. Smith - J. Whyte) 75
2nd: **PLUSH** (S. Davies-C. Rushforth
S. Plush-D. Allen) 41

UNDER 16 TEAMS FINAL

DELIVERA 44 d. **PLUSH** 8

Bridge at the 2002 Winter Olympics

A recent announcement reveals that there will be a demonstration Bridge event at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

The event will be conducted prior to the official opening of the Games on February 8th. Three categories will be represented: Open, Women and Junior. The venue will be the Grand American Hotel in Salt Lake City.

Just how many teams will compete will be in the hands of the WBF. It is certain that the event will involve a limited number of teams, mostly from North America and Europe. The WBF faces a difficult task to demonstrate the global reach of the game given that they have only ten months to put the tournament together.

This is likely to have little impact on Australia in 2002 but the implications are certainly there that a wider-based competition will be in place for the Turin (Italy) Winter Olympics in 2006.

The Junior Team Play-offs

Peter Gill

In the last qualifying match, the 2nd seeded Brayshaw team (Simon Brayshaw, his cousin Paul Brayshaw, Greg Dupont, Matt Raisin) from WA defeated the top seeded Nunn team (Nunn-Robb, Croft-Matthews) 21-9 to overtake Nunn.

Brayshaw's opponents in the 64 board Final were the Gold team from Victoria (Leigh Gold, Tim Johnson, Tim Lee, Kenneth Wan) who had won 10 of their 11 qualifying matches.

After 58 boards Gold led 157 to 121 imps.

Board: 59, Open Room

Dealer: S	North		
Vul: Nil	♠ KQ43		
	♥ QJ106		
	♦ 643		
	♣ K2		
		East	
West		♠ 10	
♠ J982		♥ A97	
♥ 8432		♦ A82	
♦ KJ75		♣ AQJ1043	
♣ 7			
	South		
	♠ A765		
	♥ K5		
	♦ Q109		
	♣ 9865		

West	North	East	South
<i>P. Brayshaw</i>	<i>Johnson</i>	<i>S. Brayshaw</i>	<i>Gold</i>
---	---	---	Pass
Pass	1NT	X	Pass
Pass	XX	All pass	

Opening lead: ♣Q.

In the Closed Room Greg Dupont in the North seat had also opened a weak 1NT (11-14 points). This was passed out, possibly because Double by East might not have been a penalty double. Declarer won ♣K and correctly played a heart (by not revealing his spade tricks, he maximises the chances of misdefence). East won the ace and cashed clubs then erred by exiting in hearts. So 1NT made for 90 to NS.

In the Open Room the bidding was more exciting. East had a classic penalty double of the weak 1NT, and South's Pass forced North to redouble. With a balanced 9 count, South was (for the moment) satisfied with 1NT redoubled, and Paul Brayshaw with the last say did very well to trust his partner's double by passing out the redoubled contract.

Whether South's Pass is foolhardy when leading the match with a few boards to go is arguable. The lead once again was the traditional ♣Q, although ♣A might gain if there is a singleton ♣K in dummy. Declarer won ♣K and played a revealing ♠K before ♥6 went to East's ace. East cashed his club winners followed by ♦A. West had done the right thing by retaining all his diamonds, discarding three hearts then two spades. The contract was thus four light, 1600 to EW. The 17 imp swing made the score 157 to 138 imps -- a fairly comfortable lead with 5 boards to go.

Board 60, Both rooms

Dealer: W	North		
Vul: NS	♠ 10		
	♥ 98642		
	♦ 9875		
	♣ 432		
		East	
		♠ A9753	
		♥ K7	
		♦ AQ4	
		♣ J86	
		South	
		♠ 862	
		♥ Q	
		♦ KJ32	
		♣ KQ1097	

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣ ¹	Pass	6♠	All pass

1. 3 of five key cards about spades.

Opening lead ♣K.

North in the Open Room was probably relieved to see his near-yarborough after the Minus 1600 on the previous hand. East at his table was

Simon Brayshaw, who followed the approved line of play by winning ♣A, drawing three rounds of trumps and playing ♥K. When ♥Q fell, he claimed, making 12 tricks if the diamond finesse later failed, otherwise 13 tricks. Plus 980. Simon's line of play needs the ♥Q to drop during the first three rounds or the diamond finesse to work.

I cannot see a better line. Trying to set up hearts before drawing all the trumps fails dismally on the actual layout.

Tim Lee, declaring 6♠ in the Closed Room, noticed that if ♥Q dropped doubleton or tripleton, it was costfree to draw three rounds of trumps ending in dummy and give himself the slight extra chance of leading ♥J from dummy, tempting North to cover with the queen. Oops, he had forgotten to consider the bare ♥Q. He rose with ♥K when ♥J wasn't covered, but couldn't recover when ♥Q fell singleton. He tried his best by cashing ♥A and ♥10, pitching a club. Now he exited with a club to Matt Raisin's queen. Had Matt exited a diamond, 6♠ would have made, but Matt correctly gave away the ruff and discard in clubs, forcing declarer to try the diamond finesse which failed.

One down, 14 imps to the Brayshaw team, now trailing by 152 to 157 imps with four boards to go.

The drama continued:

Board 61, Closed room.

Dealer: N	North		
Vul: All	♠ AJ2		
	♥ Q9876		
	♦ Q103		
	♣ 106		
	West	East	
	♠ Q943	♠ K1065	
	♥ A3	♥ 1042	
	♦ K82	♦ AJ9654	
	♣ KQ95	♣ --	
	South		
	♠ 87		
	♥ KJ5		
	♦ 7		
	♣ AJ87432		

West	North	East	South
<i>K. Wan</i>	<i>G. Dupont</i>	<i>T. Lee</i>	<i>M. Raisin</i>
--	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	1NT ¹	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1. Take-out

Matt Raisin did well not to open 3♣, which might have been doubled by East and converted to penalties by West. His light third seat 1♣ opener appeared to have prevented EW from reaching their light but makeable 4♠ game, when Greg Dupont, perhaps tired from the week-long event, missed the nuance that partner's Pass of 1NT meant that the 3♣ bid was made on minimal values. West might well have doubled both 3NT and any 4♣ escape.

E/W cashed six diamonds and then switched accurately to spades. Upon winning ♥A, spades were continued so 3NT was down five, minus 500. 3♣ would have been down 200 or 100.

However the Brayshaws in the Open room, with +1600 and +980 on their scorecard on the previous boards, didn't ease up here. Simon Brayshaw opened the East cards 2♠, showing a weak hand at least nine cards in spades and diamonds. West enquired with 2NT, East bid 3H to show a maximum with four spades and longer diamonds and Paul Brayshaw bid 4♠. Leigh Gold's ♣A lead was not a success. Simon ruffed, played a spade to the queen and ace, won the heart return and eventually made 11 tricks, plus 650, the 4 imp swing reducing the Brayshaw team's deficit to 1 IMP with three boards to go.

On Board 62 Paul Brayshaw in a routine 4♠ contract decided to safety play the trump suit, conceding one imp and swelling his team's deficit to 2 imps with 2 boards to go.

Board 64 was flat, so Board 63 would decide which four players would represent Australia at the World Junior Championships in Brazil and the PABF Junior Championships in Singapore.

Board 63, Both rooms

Dealer: S

Vul: NS

North

♠ AK1098763

♥ K

♦ A102

♣ 7

West

♠ J5

♥ Q642

♦ K743

♣ 1086

East

♠ Q42

♥ A875

♦ Q65

♣ J43

South

♠ --

♥ J1093

♦ J98

♣ AKQ952

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠ ¹
Pass	6♠	All pass	

1. Two key cards + ♣Queen.

In the Qualifying Stage, Tim Lee and Kenneth Wan had been the dominant pair in the event. Possibly because they had not previously played in a Team of Four in a long tough event, and Tim had worked day and night as a young doctor in the days immediately prior to the AYC, their efforts on these final hands were affected by fatigue.

Anyway Tim led ♦5, minus 1430. Simon Brayshaw led the more sensible ♥A, plus 100. 17 imps to the Brayshaw team who won the match 173 to 158 imps.

E-Bridge and WBF Sponsorship

E-bridge and the World Bridge Federation signed a sponsorship agreement on January 26th, with e-bridge undertaking to sponsor worldwide Junior bridge activities this year.

The WBF is organizing and conducting, directly or indirectly, bridge tournaments and events for junior players (between the ages of 20 and 26 in 2001), and youth players (under the age of 20 in

2001). Included in the junior events planned for 2001 are the World Junior Teams Championship to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 6-15, and the European University Teams Championship, to be held in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, August 12-19.

Speaking for e-bridge, Pinhas Romik, Founder, Chairman and CEO, stated: "We are very happy to sponsor junior activities. Today, with more appealing leisure activities accessible to young people than ever before, bridge can provide the sort of environment and intellectual stimulation that attracts and retains the interest of the brightest young minds. A coordinated joint effort by bridge organizations at all levels can encourage the participation of juniors in challenging bridge events and provide them with the means to lower the entry barrier to competitive international bridge."

"We hope that all these young bridge players will enjoy themselves thoroughly, retain fond memories of the competitions, and become tournament players for many years to come. We are honored and very pleased that WBF has given us the opportunity to lend our support to these intriguing new events and to offer sponsorship to conduct these events in the best way possible. e-bridge's sponsorship funds will be used by the WBF to sponsor various world junior events and those of ACBL, EBL, the other WBF zones, and perhaps to develop junior bridge in conjunction with certain national federations.

"Although most bridge federations are anxious to develop junior programs most of them require financial support and human resources to make progress. It is one of e-bridge's goals to provide assistance for worthwhile junior activities. ACBL plans to use a portion of e-bridge's sponsorship funds to allow two US junior teams selected to represent the US at the World Junior Teams Championship in Brazil, to participate in the International Team Trials (to be held in Memphis, June 3-12) for the 2001 Bermuda Bowl. The opportunity to compete against the best players in an important event like the Trials will surely help these young players to develop their skills more rapidly and to gain invaluable experience.

WBF President Jose Damiani said: "It is very important for bridge organizations to promote bridge among young people, who represent the next generation of bridge players. The WBF has for many years endorsed and sponsored a broad program for juniors, including education, social contact, training (camps) and tournaments. With bridge being recognized by the International Olympic Committee, we need to provide more playing opportunities for young players. This additional activity demands more resources, and therefore we are delighted to accept the sponsorship of new events by e-bridge. WBF is constantly seeking to promote bridge among young people. A number of European countries have for many years offered an extensive bridge programs at schools, including lessons, social games, and competitions. We need to do more to promote bridge in colleges, with the ACBL taking an initiative in May this year to run a North American College Championship on the Internet, with a live final. Internet Bridge is well-suited for young people, and e-bridge is leading the effort to provide comprehensive bridge services over the Internet." e-bridge Inc. is a private company created to provide high-quality social and tournament bridge and complete coverage of all aspects of the game over the Internet (see www.e-bridgemaster.com.) e-bridge provides full Internet coverage of major bridge event (for events calendar see:

www.e-bridgemaster.com/news/eventc_hub.asp)

WBF is a non-profit organization that has for more than 40 years acted as the governing body for zonal bridge organizations and national contract bridge federations all over the world (see www.bridge.gr)

The Australian Junior Team to compete in Singapore (Pacific Asia Championships, June) and Rio de Janeiro (World Juniors, August) is:

Paul Brayshaw, Simon Brayshaw, Nic Croft, Greg Dupont, Luke Matthews and Matthew Raisin. Peter Smith has been appointed as non-playing captain.

We wish them the best of luck in both events.

Youth News

2001 Collegiate Challenge on OKBridge

The ACBL has its Annual Junior Collegiate Team Championships on OKBridge, April 21-22, 2001. College teams from outside North America are invited to join in.

The contest is sponsored by the Fifth Chair Foundation and OKBridge. Entry is free of registration fees and OKBridge provides two weeks free membership for team members prior to and including the event.

Further details can be obtained from www.fifthchair.org

Joshua Wyner is coordinating this event for Australian entrants. If you are stuck for a team contact Joshua at jwyner@hotmail.com.

Sydney University Bridge Club

Ed Barnes has rejuvenated the Sydney University Bridge Club with new members showing an interest in either playing or learning. For those interested, reach Ed on eabarnes@hotmail.com.

eBridge Junior Tournament

The North American bridge site, eBridge has announced its intentions of staging an online junior championship in the near future. Canadian international player, Drew Cannell has been in touch with the Australian Youth Coordinators and a firm announcement should be made in the near future.

Young Guns to Hamilton

The Australian Colts team will play a Test Match in Hamilton at the end of June prior to the New Zealand Nationals.

The team selected is:

Daniel Krochmalik - Arian Lasocki
Michael Delivera - Robin Stevenson

This is the first time an under 20 side has been invited to compete internationally for Australia.

And the Band Played On...

From a NZ newspaper story

NEIL FINN AND HIS FAMOUS FRIENDS

It's all go for NEIL FINN's star studded circus in New Zealand. Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder, ex-Smith's guitarist Johnny Marr, Radiohead's Phil Selway and Ed O'Brien and Beth Orton have all confirmed they will join Neil Finn on stage for his forthcoming Auckland shows. Finn is to play five nights at the St James Theatre from April 2-6.

He wrote to a number of musicians he admired, asking them to perform alongside him at the event. Finn says his connection with Radiohead goes back a while now. "The first time I met Ed was at a festival in Europe and Radiohead had just been signed to Parlophone - it was pre-'Creep' and they were playing bridge in the dressing room. "So I just went in to say hello and they were all playing bridge - which I thought was incredibly impressive for a band of young musicians who you might imagine at that point might be seriously indulging. But they were indulging in the music and I think that's why they got so good. They didn't abuse themselves, they abused their instruments."

Calendar of Youth Events 2001 - 2

NATIONAL EVENTS

2001

JULY 21 -27 ANC Canberra

2002

JANUARY AYC Canberra

FEBRUARY Gold Coast Junior Individual
Surfers Paradise

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2001

APRIL 21-22 OKB Inter-Collegiate

JUNE 30 Australian Colts v
New Zealand, Hamilton

JUNE 7-17 PABFC Singapore

AUGUST 6-15 World Juniors Brazil

2002

JANUARY Trans-Tasman Challenge
Canberra

APRIL OKB Inter-Collegiate

MAY/JUNE PABF Championships

JUNE/JULY Test Match, Hamilton NZ

JULY/AUGUST World University Teams
Bruges, Belgium

SEPTEMBER World Junior Triathlon
Montreal

Further information on any of the above is available from Peter Gill. GillP@bigpond.com.

Friends of Junior Bridge

The ABF Youth Committee have initiated an account for the furthering of Youth Bridge in Australia.

The Friends of Junior Bridge Account has been inaugurated with a donation from the Double Bay Bridge Centre.

All donations of \$500 or more to this account will accord the donor Gold, Silver or Bronze membership of the Friends of Junior Bridge, depending upon the level of donation.

Over the last six months, several benefactors have come forward, particularly with the intent of providing financial assistance to young players attending national events.

The ABF Youth Committee would like to offer sincere thanks to the following individuals and organisations for providing financial support to Australian Junior bridge over the last twelve months.

John De Ravin
Les Calcraft
Avon Wilsmore
The Double Bay Bridge Centre
BridgeOn

State by State

NEW SOUTH WALES

COORDINATOR: Peter Gill Ph (02) 9560 2704
Mob 0402 413 584
email GillP@bigpond.com

Regular games for young players will commence at the NSWBA, Goulburn St each Wednesday evening from early April.

VICTORIA

COORDINATOR: Andrew Mill (03) 9499 5580
Mob 0417 500 877
email andrewmill@hotmail.com

Regular opportunities for young players at Alphington Bridge Club on Friday afternoons and evenings.

QUEENSLAND

COORDINATOR: Joan Butts Ph (07) 3357 4824
Mob 0413 772 650
email joaneb@uq.net.au .

Regular games for juniors are on Sundays at the QBA. Contact Kim Ellaway qba@bit.net.au .

Dell Dawson has been introducing young players to bridge in the Rockhampton area. The initiative has brought more than a handful of young players through her doors. Dell can be contacted at delly00@dingoblue.net.au .

NORTHERN TERRITORY

COORDINATORS: Meryl Howley
Betty Mill
Email subbym@ozemail.com.au

or contact the Darwin Bridge Club.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

COORDINATOR: Dorothy Jesner (02) 6251 3664
email gjesner@pcu.org.au

Regular games for young players are conducted at the Deakin premises on most Sundays.

Dorothy has performed miracles in the schools of Canberra, conducting bridge courses for youngsters. As a result, the ACT has an amazing number of regular bridge players ranging from 8 or 9 to mid-teens.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

COORDINATOR: David Lusk (08) 8336 3954
email lusk@chariot.net.au .

Regular play for juniors is available at the SABA clubrooms on Friday evenings at a nominal cost of \$3.50. Youth Workshops are conducted approximately every 5 weeks on Sunday afternoons. The next two scheduled Workshops are on Sunday, April 8 and Sunday, May 13.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

COORDINATOR: Paul Brayshaw (08) 9496 1294
Mob 0418 925 205
email pabray@physics.uwa.edu.au

Regular games for young players are conducted at the Nedlands Bridge Club on most Saturday afternoons. YOB (Youth of BAWA) are also initiating the teaching of bridge in schools in Perth. For those of you who have yet to read the WA Youth newsletter, YOBO, you are in for a treat -- it's a most witty publication.

TASMANIA

COORDINATOR: Anthea Rowberry 6228 4133
email arowberry@postoffice.utas.edu.au .

Bert Forage has initiated an ambitious programme for the introduction of bridge to school students in Hobart. Like most of us, Bert is having his highs and lows as he attempts to get this programme into full swing. He is receiving support from the TBA and the ABF Youth Committee but anyone else in the Hobart area who thinks that they can be of assistance would no doubt be welcomed by Bert.

Bert's email address is: aforage@attglobal.net .

Planning Ahead in the Auction

David Lusk

Gaining advantages in competitive auctions is often geared to considering future problems when the opponents compete or are likely to compete in the bidding.

Australian Junior, Nic Croft provided a fine example of planning ahead on this hand from the 2000 ANC. At nil vul, he held:-

♠ A1087 ♥ 10852 ♦ Q753 ♣ 6

After a 1♦ opening on his left, a double from his partner and a 2♣ response on his right, Croft had to decide how many bids he was worth, given that he was guaranteed to find a fit in one major or the other. He decided (rightly or wrongly) that the hand was worth competition to the three level. Rather than simply bid the lower major, Nic tried 2♠, not because of the better quality, but because he was now prepared for the next competitive bid. After 3♣ on his left, passed back to him, he was now in a position to try 3♥. The action may be viewed as aggressive but when 3♥ was doubled and brought home, it was hard to be critical. Nic's partner held:-

♠ Q92 ♥ KJ43 ♦ A10 ♣ Q853

Had he bid a routine 2♥ over 2♣, he would have had to rely on a raise from partner to win the auction or, if the length of the majors were reversed, his side would have sold out in 3♣ which would have probably yielded +50.

At favourable vulnerability, you pick up:-

♠ K4 ♥ AKQJ93 ♦ J32 ♣ 65

After two passes at IMP scoring, it's your call. If you open 1♥, you pave the way for a competitive auction which will push the opposition to 4♠ which is unbeatable, or provide them with the opportunity to double you when you take the push to 4♥.

In third seat, hands with little defensive strength but good playing strength herald a vigorous competitive auction. In a 7 table Butler to select the 2001 South Australian Open Team, many players sensibly opened this hand preemptively, anticipating the difficulties that would have evolved from a slower and more competitive auction. With the vulnerability on your side and the sure knowledge that your left-hand opponent will enter the fray, a 4♥ opening becomes an attractive solution.

In his comprehensive new book, *Becoming a Bridge Expert*, Frank Stewart poses this problem: you have opened 1♥ (all vul) and LHO has overcalled 1♠. After 2♥ from partner and 2♠ from RHO, what should you bid on:-

♠ KJ ♥ AK876 ♦ Q10985 ♣ J ?

I know a lot of young players (and not so young players) who would just take a fling at 4♥ on these cards, no doubt hoping that a spade lead will get them home. The trouble is that the unsurprising 4♠ from the left side will leave you with a dilemma. You might think that you can muster enough defence to take care of their game, but what guarantees do you have?

The more thoughtful bid of 3♦ gives partner a much better chance to judge the auction. In fact, partner holds

♠ 54 ♥ 10952 ♦ AJ73 ♣ 654

and, with the knowledge of the double fit, takes the push to 5♥. When this hand occurred in a US Teams Trials, one player bid 4♥ and conceded -620 when the subsequent auction left him with no option but to pass 4♠. On replay, the 3♦ trial gave partner a better picture and 5♥ went for just 200, gaining 9 IMPs.

Anticipating problems is a normal action in the play of the hand. Anticipating problems in the competitive auction is just as important and, as with cardplay, anticipation leads to better preparation which is always likely to yield better outcomes than remedial action.