

# AUSSIE YOUTH BRIDGE BULLETIN

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ISSUE 22

## John McMahon (NSW) Wins 2015 Australian Youth Triathlon

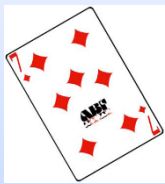


Congratulations to John McMahon in winning the Bobby Richman Memorial Trophy for the Youth Triathlon. (The Memorial Trophy had an adventure itself! See [here](#).) Equal second place getters were Stephen Williams and Daryl Whitfield.

Well done! You can read more about it on pages 3 and 4.

## ABF PRE-ALERTS!

For 2016			
DATES	EVENT	WHERE	
<u>JAN</u> 9 - 15	<u>2016 Australian Youth Week</u>	Canberra Bridge Club	
♥ Brochure at the end of Bulletin ♥			
<u>JAN</u> 16 - 24	<u>Summer Bridge Festival</u>	Canberra	
<u>FEB</u> 19 - 27	<u>Gold Coast Congress</u>	Gold Coast	
<u>APR</u> 28 - 2	<u>ANOT</u>	Adelaide	
TARGET EVENTS FOR 2016 YOUTH			
<u>AUG</u> 3 - 13	<u>16th World Youth Team Championships</u>	Salsomaggiore, Italy	
<u>SEP</u> 24 - 1	<u>NZ National Congress and Test Match</u>	Hamilton, New Zealand	



## AUS Youth Week

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> to Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016

Open to all players born in 1986 or later. For more info, check out the website/brochure [here](#).

Register [here](#):



## 2016 Gold Coast Congress

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> to Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

The GCC, with the help of the ABF Youth, are helping out youth players who would like to play in the 2016 GCC.

- U20 Players (born on or after 1/1/1996) get **FREE ENTRY!**
- U25 Players (born on or after 1/1/1991) **half price entries!**

**\*NEW\*** Furthermore, they can provide **(almost free!) accommodation** for any youth players interested. To register, please contact Andy Hung at [hung.andyp@gmail.com](mailto:hung.andyp@gmail.com)

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Email suggestions or articles to [hung.andyp@gmail.com](mailto:hung.andyp@gmail.com)

THESE ARE CLICKABLE LINKS!

# CHECKBACK (Results)

## 2015 YOUTH TRIATHLON

5 DEC – 6 DEC, 2015 (Sydney)

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

Pairs	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Stephen Williams – Andrew Spooner
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Daryl Whitfield – Alex Phillips
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Charles and John McMahon
Individual	Place	Individual
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	John Newman
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Rachel Price
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Natasha Jacobs
Teams	Place	Team
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	<b>MCMAHON</b> – Georgina McMahon, Charles McMahon, John McMahon, Sebastian Strugnell
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	<b>WHITFIELD</b> – Daryl Whitfield, Andrew Spooner, Matt Smith, Leigh Matheson
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	<b>BRAUN</b> – Daniel Braun, Adam Edgton, Jonathan Shum, Alex Phillips
OVERALL	Place	Individual
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	John McMahon
	=2 <sup>ND</sup>	Stephen Williams
	=2 <sup>ND</sup>	Daryl Whitfield

### Latest Update for the 2016 Australian Youth Butler

*From David Thompson:*

The butler will revert to a 10-pair field based on modified datum performance in the teams event similar to recent years but not necessarily identical. The Youth Butler will be played as a single round-robin of 20-board matches against pre-determined datums over three days (Wednesday to Friday). Top two will be on the team and third/fourth will play a head-to-head play-off on Saturday.

# YOUTH TRIATHLON

BY LEIGH MATHESON, SYDNEY

2015 has seen two of the fastest rising bridge stars of the millennium. At the start of the year no one had heard of John and Charles McMahon. By the end of the year John had won the 2015 Youth Triathlon.

Join Charles on a quest for ten tricks:

Dir: N, Vul: EW	
♠	AT85
♥	AJT9
♦	J85
♣	QT
3♥/S, ♠6	
♠	K7
♥	6432
♦	T93
♣	AK87

Matt Smith	John McMahon	Leigh Matheson	Charles McMahon
W	N	E	S
-	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	End	

Contract: 3♥ by South

Lead: ♠6

You play low from dummy and capture East's ♠Q with the ♠K. The trump finesse loses to East's ♥K and East returns a trump, West following with the ♥Q.

Nine tricks are easy enough. Plan the play for ten tricks.

The play continues, obviously enough, with drawing the last trump and playing three rounds of clubs, for a diamond discard. These cards remain:

The problem is you can't ruff out the diamond and the club, as there is only one trump in dummy. You will need to make something of the spades. If West has the ♠J, a spade finesse will bring about the extra trick. But if East has it, you might be able to ruff it out.

Which do you choose?

The full deal:

Dir: N	♠	AT85	
Vul: EW	♥	AJT9	
	♦	J85	
	♣	QT	
♠	9643	♠	QJ2
♥	Q5	♥	K87
♦	AQ62	♦	K74
♣	643	♣	J952
	♠	K7	
	♥	6432	
	♦	T93	
	♣	AK87	

Dir: N, Vul: EW	
♠	AT8
♥	J
♦	J8
♣	-
3♥/S, ♠6	
♠	7
♥	6
♦	T93
♣	8

East's play of the ♠Q at trick 1, tends to deny holding the ♠J. But playing 4<sup>th</sup> highest leads, the only holding West could have that is consistent with the lead of the ♠6 is if he had ♠J96.

In this case the ♠J will also ruff out, and therefore the finesse is not necessary. So Charles led a spade to the ♠A and ruffed a spade, which dropped the ♠J from the East hand. Now he was able to ruff a club in dummy and discard a diamond loser on the ♠10, to make his overtrick.

## MORE YOUTH TRIATHLON

BY FRASER REW, SYDNEY

Thirty intrepid youth bridge players braved an early morning start and the bearded hipsters of Surry Hills to head to the NSWBA for the youth triathlon. Trying to re-live my days as a youth player, I volunteered to fill in, if any substitutes were needed. They were. Downside: feeling really old, which doesn't happen to me very often at bridge. Upside: free pizza!

Saturday featured a one-session pairs event and a one-session individual, and Sunday, a two-session teams event. Points were available for the top placings in each event, with the teams the most heavily weighted.

The Pairs was won narrowly by Stephen Williams and Andrew Spooner, by a small margin over Daryl Whitfield and newbie Alex Phillips.

During the pairs, I had this conversation, re: weak 2's, with one of the less experienced players:

*'It's OK to do it on a 5-card suit if you're favourable.'*

*'What's favourable?'*

*'That's when they're vulnerable and you're not.'*

*'What's vulnerable?'*

*'Oh, um, long story. Look, just make sure you've got a 6-card suit.'*

Fellow Peter Pan impersonator Johnno Newman took out the individual, and then it was on to the teams.

This hand from Round 1 featured a choice between a finesse and an endplay:

Dlr: W	♠ A T 6 2	
Vul: All	♥ J 8	
	♦ T	
	♣ K Q T 5 4 3	
♠ 9 7		♠ K J 8 5
♥ K Q 6 5		♥ A 9 4
♦ K Q J 8 4		♦ 6 5
♣ 6 2		♣ A J 9 8
	♠ Q 4 3	
	♥ T 7 3 2	
	♦ A 9 7 3 2	
	♣ 7	

My partner, North, overcalled in clubs, so I led ♣7 against East's 2NT contract, which went to the queen and ace.

Declarer played a diamond to the king and ran the ♠7 to my queen. I continued with a passive diamond to dummy's queen, as partner discarded a club. Declarer played a heart to his ace, followed by the ♥9, which I covered (wrongly, obviously).

A spade was played which was won by partner's ace, as he cashed the ♣K and exited with a spade. Declarer won the jack (though the finesse works) to cash the ♣J, on which dummy discarded a diamond.

That left this ending with declarer on lead:

Declarer can lead the ♥4 to dummy's 6, finessing my 7. He can then cash the ♥Q, but will then be endplayed into giving me the last two tricks in diamonds.

Instead, she played a heart to the queen and a small heart to my 7. That cost a heart trick, but it mattered not: I was now the one endplayed in diamonds, so I had to give up a trick. (*Ed: You can then throw the ball back to declarer by playing the ♥7, forcing her to win two heart tricks!*)

Dlr: W	♠ T	
Vul: All	♥ -	
	♦ -	
	♣ T 5 4	
♠ -		♠ 8
♥ Q 6		♥ 4
♦ J 8		♦ -
♣ -		♣ J 8
	♠ -	
	♥ 7 3	
	♦ A 9	
	♣ -	

Going into the last round of the teams, three players were still able to win - depending, of course, on how that last round went.

This hand was almost a Victor Mollo special:

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

At our table, my partner opened 1NT on the West cards to show a balanced hand (!) with 15-17 High Card Points (?). I made a sound (?) raise to the cold (???) 3NT.

North led the ♦2, his fourth highest from his longest and strongest suit, which went to the ten and king. Declarer led a club, taken by North's king for a low heart switch.

After some thought, South played the ♥A and returned a diamond. My partner won in hand to play a second club, with dummy's ♣J winning, and continued with a third club, won perforce by North.

North now tried the third suit this time, a spade, which went to South's ace, but at this point, whatever the defenders now played, my partner had nine tricks, one heart, two diamonds and four clubs, plus a trick in whichever suit they exited.

At the other table, our teammates played 3NT on the **North-South** cards, on an auction that I'm probably better off not knowing.

East also led fourth-highest from her longest and strongest: a club to declarer's 9. The jack of hearts ran around to the king, and West played three rounds of diamonds before exiting with a club.

At this point, declarer could have taken a spade, four hearts (by leading small to the 10), a diamond and three clubs, for nine tricks. However, the position was ambiguous, so he led took a heart finesse immediately. That won, but he was stranded in dummy with two Spade losers for two off.



Nico Ranson

Double game swings aren't that common, and almost unheard of when it's the *same* game! There are a lot of interesting points, but the main one was how, on this layout, the hearts play much more smoothly when the jack is led rather than the 4 (*Ed: Maybe East can put more pressure by covering with the ♥Q – a play that is required if declarer had ♥Jx*). May the ghost of Victor Mollo haunt North for the rest of his days.

On the last round, the Whitfield team, which had been leading all day, suffered a big loss, and a draw by the McMahon team was enough to nudge them over the line. This, in turn, meant that John McMahon took out the overall standings from Daryl Whitfield.

It's good to see those new to the game taking to it so well. John and his brother Charles were also the lead pair for NSW at the youth ANC in Fremantle, and they played together throughout the triathlon. They assure me that they're playing youth week, and having played against them for a set, I've got no doubt that they'll be competitive – just as long as they both read the notes a few times before then.

# BRUCE VS. BRUCE & BRUCES: THE REUNION Continued

BY LAUREN TRAVIS, ADELAIDE

## The Final Match

After a series of Brucey action, it was lucky that our final round opponents weren't of a Bruce standard.

On board 18, holding ♠KJT6542 ♥632 ♦K ♣K4, I heard my partner open a weak 2♠ (at first seat favourable). After RHO passed, I bid 4♠. Lefty bid 5♥ and when it came back around to me, I competed with 5♠. LHO continued with 6♦ and I felt a bit silly as I 'followed' and bid 6♠, which (obviously) got doubled. I felt even more silly when my RHO led his ♦A, since they'll almost certainly go down in 6♦ (with the losing diamond finesse). The whole hand:

Dir: E	♠ -									
Vul: NS	♥ AKJT74									
	♦ QJ763									
	♣ A7									
♠KJT6542	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td></td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		N		W		E		S	
		N								
W			E							
		S								
♥632	♠AQ987									
♦K	♥Q9									
♣K4	♦T54									
	♣J93									
	♠ 3									
	♥ 85									
	♦ A982									
	♣ QT8652									

This next board was a masterpiece:

Dir: N	♠ KJ97									
Vul: NS	♥ 62									
	♦ KJ95									
	♣ Q82									
♠T2	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td></td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		N		W		E		S	
		N								
W			E							
		S								
♥AKT53	♠Q85									
♦62	♥J74									
♣K973	♦73									
	♣JT654									
	♠ A643									
	♥ Q98									
	♦ AQT84									
	♣ A									

	LT	Juz		
	W	N	E	S
	-	Pass	3♣	X
	3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

After his RHO passed, Juz got in there with a favourable 3♣ opening. South doubled, and I bid 3NT, figuring I could always run to my 10+ card club fit (ahem). Surprisingly, this got passed out!

Even more surprisingly, North decided to lead the ♥6 – I guess he was worried about leading away from his diamond and spade holdings into my “strength”? This picked up the heart suit for me, and I cashed five hearts, pitching a diamond and a club from dummy, as North pitched two spades and a diamond, and South pitched two diamonds. That brought us down to this position:

Dir: N	♠ KJ									
Vul: NS	♥ -									
	♦ KJ9									
	♣ Q82									
♠T2	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td></td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		N		W		E		S	
		N								
W			E							
		S								
♥-	♠Q85									
♦62	♥-									
♣K973	♦7									
	♣JT65									
	♠ A643									
	♥ -									
	♦ AQT									
	♣ A									

I exited a diamond, and they cashed their three diamond tricks. South led a spade to North's king, and he returned the ♠J to the ♠Q and ♠A. South now made the questionable decision of cashing his ♣A before playing a spade to dummy's 8, which had somehow become a winner. I was able to take my ♣K at trick 13 to make seven tricks.

Well played by us, as we combined to make two tactical decisions on the same board for an 11 IMP gain.

\*\*\*

After an agonising 6 weeks apart, the Bruces were back together for the State Teams. I wasn't playing but happened to be at the club, so I grabbed the opportunity to kibitz Juz, and I witnessed some carnage.

**A Bruce Reunion**

Dlr: N	♠ 6			
Vul: NS	♥ 9 6 5 4			
	♦ A Q J 3			
	♣ J 6 5 4			
♠ A J 2		N		♠ T 4 3
♥ A K J 7		W	E	♥ Q T 3
♦ K 9 8				♦ T 7 6
♣ Q T 8				♣ A K 9 7
	♠ K Q 9 8 7 5			
	♥ 8 2			
	♦ 5 4 2			
	♣ 3 2			

After two passes, Markey opened the standard 9-14 1NT in third seat vulnerable against not. This got doubled by the Brat, and Juz redoubled. East, believing the Bruces (why?), ran to 2♣, played there, and made 8 tricks.

The Brat was very unhappy when his partner showed up with a 9 count! Another beautiful psyche which paid off. This board was one of many that helped them reach a century in this 14-board match.

The second match was kicked off with a horror board from the opponents:

Dlr: S	♠ A J 6 3 2			
Vul: NS	♥ A 7 4			
	♦ 4			
	♣ A K J T			
♠ K Q T 9 7 4		N		♠ -
♥ 9 6 2		W	E	♥ K T 3
♦ K 8 5				♦ J T 7 3
♣ 9				♣ Q 8 7 6 4 3
	♠ 8 5			
	♥ Q J 8 5			
	♦ A Q 9 6 2			
	♣ 5 2			

	Bruce W		Bruce M	
	W	N	E	S
	-	-	-	Pass
2♦*		X	2♥*	3♦
3♠(?)		X	4♣	X
Pass		Pass	Pass	

After the Multi 2♦ opening and double by North, it could be suggested that East should have stayed out of the auction.

However, he optimistically bid 2♥ (pass or correct),

which his partner assumed meant he had some points and/or some spade support. This spurred her on to bid 3♠, which Juz was delighted to have a piece of. When East ran to 4♣ and Markey doubled that, Juz was pretty happy holding AKJT of trumps.

The Bruces slaughtered 4♣, taking several ruffs and all their high cards, and managed to take eight tricks for +1400. Unfortunately, despite this strong start, the second match wasn't quite as much of a bloodbath as the first, and they only won by 48 IMPs.

# 2016 YOUTH BRIDGE WEEK

The annual youth week is back on. This time, it is held at the Canberra Bridge Club starting on Sat Jan 9<sup>th</sup> to Fri Jan 15<sup>th</sup>.

Come along if you can and invite your friends! For more information, click [here](#). To enter online, click [here](#). The flyer can be seen at the end of the bulletin.

## Peter Hollands Live Bridge Stream

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

**AEDT Time (Melbourne)**

**Monday** 2.00 - 4.00 PM

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

**Tuesday** 3.00 - 6.00 PM

**Thursday** 11.00 AM -12.00 PM

(Lesson on a selected topic)

To watch these **free** live sessions:

<http://www.twitch.tv/sliynk>

or [www.bridgestream.weebly.com](http://www.bridgestream.weebly.com)

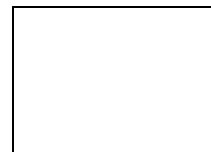
Anyone can watch. If you wish to chat to Pete and ask questions, you will need to register for a twitch account.

For more info, see next page.

### FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY]

S/All      ♠ Q 7  
               ♡ K 8 7 5  
               ♦ 8 5 4  
               ♣ J 8 6 2

♠A



♠ 9 6  
 ♡ A Q J T 3  
 ♦ A Q J 7 3  
 ♣ 4

South to make 4♥ (IMPs)

West leads the ♠A, cashes ♠K, then ♣K, followed by ♣Q.

*Solution on Page 11*

## Need Accommo for 2016 Gold Coast Congress?

The Gold Coast Congress, with the Friends of Youth Bridge, would like to help youth players that are interested in playing in the 2016 Gold Coast Congress. Likely, one big unit will be made available for youth players. To register, please contact Andy Hung at [hung.andyp@gmail.com](mailto:hung.andyp@gmail.com)



The ABF Youth Website is... in limbo. Not sure when it will come alive, but we'll let you know soon... ish.



THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION & AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION  
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AT

*The*

# 55TH INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION OF BRIDGE



## Gold Coast CONGRESS 2016

EST. 1961



© LAWRENCE WANG, 2013



ANNE RUSSELL, 2014



© DANIELA, 2009

GOLD COAST CONVENTION CENTRE GOLD COAST HIGHWAY • BROADBEACH  
Fri 19th - Sat 27th February 2016

### \*\*\*FOR YOUTH PLAYERS\*\*\*

U20 Players receive **FREE ENTRY!**

U25 Players receive **Half-Price Entry!**

For (almost free) accommodation, please register with Andy Hung at [hung.andyp@gmail.com](mailto:hung.andyp@gmail.com)



GOLD COAST  
congress



Enquiries: Kim Ellaway Phone: +61 7 3351 8602 or +61 4 1206 4903 | [manager@qldbridge.com](mailto:manager@qldbridge.com)

[WWW.QLDBRIDGE.COM/GCC](http://WWW.QLDBRIDGE.COM/GCC)



# KIBITZER'S CORNER



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





## SUIT COMBINATIONS

THIS ISSUE	FOR NEXT ISSUE
<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p><b>K 9 6 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 4 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>A J 4</b></p> <p>Finessing East for the queen is our main goal, but rather than cashing the (intuitive) king first, try low to the jack. Cashing the king first may prevent you from losing another trick if West has a singleton queen, but it won't get you to the four tricks that you need.</p> <p>Playing low to the jack allows you to pick up a singleton queen with <i>East</i>. As you win East's queen with your ace, followed by cashing your jack, you can then take the marked finesse against West's 10.</p> <p>The interesting situation comes if you play low to the jack, winning, and as you cash the ace next, East follows with the <i>queen</i>. You will now have to guess whether East started off with Q-x doubleton, or Q-10-x tripleton and is giving you a losing option of finessing with the 9. Looking at the odds alone, Q-10-x is a tad more likely than Q-x doubleton (by a mere fraction). The odds heavily sway towards Q-x if you think that your RHO is not up to the task of dropping the queen with Q-10-x!</p>	<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p><b>A 7 6 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 3 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>Q J 5 4</b></p> <p><b>A 10 6 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 4 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>Q J 4 2</b></p>

<p><b>A 10 8 7 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 5 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>K 6 4 2</b></p>	<p>You should first cash the king. If nothing exciting happens, you plan is to cash the ace next and hope that the suit breaks 2-2. The interesting case comes when on the king, your RHO drops the queen (or jack). The question is, should you still play low to the ace playing RHO for QJ doubleton, or should you now finesse with the 10 and play East for the singleton honour? This is now a Restricted Choice situation. If East had a singleton queen, he was <i>forced</i> to play it, whereas with QJ doubleton, he had a <i>choice of plays</i>. This reduces the likelihood of QJ doubleton, so you should therefore finesse on the second round.</p>
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**FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER**  
[DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION  
(Problem on page 8)

S/All

- ♠ Q 7
- ♥ K 8 7 5
- ♦ 8 5 4
- ♣ J 8 6 2

♠A

- ♠ 9 6
- ♥ A Q J 10 3
- ♦ A Q J 7 3
- ♣ 4

South to make 4♥ (IMPs)  
West leads the ♠A.

You have lost three tricks already, so assume that the ♦K is onside. If ♦K is with East, we must try to take as many finesses as possible but the problem here is the lack of entries.

To make the most out of your trumps, ruff the club with any heart other than the 3! Say you ruff with the ♥10. Next, cash the ♥A (assume trumps are not 4-0) and play the ♥Q and overtake it with dummy's ♥K.

If hearts are 3-1, take the diamond finesse, draw your remaining trumps with the ♥J then ♥3 to dummy's ♥8 and repeat the diamond finesse (and hope that diamonds are 3-2).

If hearts are 2-2, you have more breathing room. Take the diamond finesse, then play the ♥3 to dummy's ♥8 and repeat the diamond finesse. If East shows up with four diamonds, cash the ♦A, ruff a diamond, then your hand is now high (remembering to claim your beer card!).



## FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER – BEEFING UP BRIDGE CONVENTIONS

### BERGEN RAISES

Bergen Raises are a neat little tool that has both constructive and destructive purposes. The main advantage of the Bergen Raise is to let the partnership know of the immediate nine-card fit as responder also shows their point range.

Bergen Raises typically use a jump of 3-minor over partner's 1-Major opening to show four-card support and either 6-9 points or 10-12 points. Another advantage that this serves is that if fourth seat has a strong hand, jumping to the 3-level will have taken away a lot of bidding room for him. The corollary to that, of course, is that if the opponents don't have the strength to get into the auction, you will have unnecessarily forced the partnership to the 3-level when an auction of 1M-Pass-2M would have ended the auction.

As a partnership, it is up to you to decide whether the advantages outweigh the disadvantages in order to take up this convention.

In the event that you and your partner decide to play the convention, you then ask yourself, which bid shows 6-9 points and which bid shows 10-12 points?

Some people play Simple Bergen Raises where 1Major – 3♣ shows 6-9 with 4+ support, and 1Major – 3♦ shows 10-12 with 4+ support. Some people play Reverse Bergen Raises where they reverse 3♣ and 3♦.

If you and your partner are wondering which is better, go for the Simple approach. Whilst it's true that 1Major – 3♣ will give you a bit more bidding space for slam exploration (which is better(?) utilised for a jump to 3♣ to show 10-12 points), the fact is, it is more important to use the 'middle' bid (3♦) to ask whether partner is minimum or maximum.

So after 1Major – (Pass) – 3♣ – (Pass) ; 3♦ would now ask whether responder is minimum or maximum for the 6-9 point range. You can of course use the same asking bid had 3♣ showed 10-12 points, but quite often opposite the 10-12 limit raise, opener would be either signing off or bidding game, but opposite 6-9 (quite a large range), it's more important to find out whether responder has 6 or 9.


## PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS




Paul Lavings is a frequent supporter of the Australian Youth Bridge scene and he generously donates bridge books as prizes for the Australian Youth Bridge Week. He has represented Australia in our Open Team many times, including his recent success in the winning team at the 2012 and 2013 Australian Open Team Playoffs, and the 2012 Autumn National Open Teams in Adelaide. He also owns a bridge book and supplies company, so make sure to visit his website at [www.bridgegear.com](http://www.bridgegear.com) and contact him if you are in any need of a bridge book or CD. (P.S. Paul offers a good price on bridge books for youth players, so be sure to check his website out!)


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

## STATE ASSOCIATIONS - UPDATES


	EVENT (QLD)	DATES
	For More INFO: <a href="http://www.qldbridge.com/">http://www.qldbridge.com/</a>	


	EVENT (NSW)	DATES
	After school bridge club @ NSWBA is on a break. Email: <a href="mailto:johnno.newman@gmail.com">johnno.newman@gmail.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.nswba.com.au/">http://www.nswba.com.au/</a>	

	EVENT (ACT)	DATES
	ANU Bridge Club regular meetings at ANU Bar	Mondays 4pm-6pm during term
Email: <a href="mailto:youth@bfact.com.au">youth@bfact.com.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.bfact.com.au/">http://www.bfact.com.au/</a>		

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

	EVENT (SA)	DATES
	Email: <a href="mailto:laurenct@gmail.com">laurenct@gmail.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/">http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/</a>	

	EVENT (WA)	DATES
	Contact: <a href="http://www.bawa.asn.au/">http://www.bawa.asn.au/</a>	

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

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

The 48<sup>th</sup> annual

**New  
Venue!**



# *Australian Youth Bridge Championships*

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
at

The Canberra Bridge Club  
6 Duff Place, Deakin, Canberra

Open to all players born in 1986\* or later

International participants very welcome

Youth Week ALSO includes the Australian Junior Team Selection Butler

**Entries and info: [youthweek2016@abf.com.au](mailto:youthweek2016@abf.com.au)**

## **Three MAJOR Events**

**The Australian Youth Teams Championship**

**The Australian Youth Pairs Championship**

**The Australian Youth Team Butler Selection**

**As well as side events for non-qualifiers to the Butler Final**

**Entry Fees ONLY \$10/day/event**

**Includes light lunch every day**

**No Evening Bridge**

**[www.abfevents.com.au/events/ayc/2016](http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/ayc/2016)**

Director: Phil Gue

\*Australians must be ABF Members. To qualify for the Australian Junior Team Selection Butler event, players must satisfy eligibility requirements including being born on or after 01/01/1991.

## General Information

The 2016 Australian Youth Championships (AYC) consists of three major events:

- Australian Youth Teams 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January – starting 10am on the 9<sup>th</sup>.  
The Final (top two teams at end of qualifying) to be played on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> 10 am  
Players in the final receive automatic entry to the Pairs final on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January
- Australian Youth Pairs 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January – starting 10am on the 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Australian Junior Team Selection Butler 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January – starting at 9.30am

Plus:

- Other events and activities from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January for players who do not qualify to, or are not eligible for, the Butler.
- Social events, including some bridge events such as speedball, will be organized for the evenings

There will be a test match between New Zealand and the Australian team, as selected, on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January, to contest the "Stern-Cornell Trophy".

The format of the Australian Youth Team selection Butler (13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January) will be determined by the number of entries received, but the final will "likely" be contested between the 10 top qualifying pairs. The TOP THREE PAIRS AT THE END OF THE BUTLER FINAL will qualify as the Australian Youth team for 2016.

The targeted events for 2016 are the World Youth Teams Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy, August 3<sup>rd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, and the New Zealand National Congress and Test Match, September 24<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### 2016 AYC Provisional<sup>†</sup> Program

At Canberra Bridge Club, Deakin, 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016:

	Morning	Afternoon	
<b>Saturday</b> 10 am start	Teams	Teams	
<b>Sunday</b> 10 am start	Teams	Teams	
<b>Monday</b> 10 am start	Pairs Qualifying Teams Final	Pairs Qualifying Teams Final	Cliff Wake
<b>Tuesday</b> 10 am start	Pairs Final and Consolation	Pairs Final and Consolation	
<b>Wednesday</b> 9.30 am start	Youth Butler Qualifying	Youth Butler Qualifying	
<b>Thursday</b> 9.30 am start	Youth Butler Final & Consolation event	Youth Butler Final & Consolation event	
<b>Friday</b> 9.30 am start	Youth Butler Final & Consolation event	Youth Butler Final & Consolation event	BBQ at TBA

**Saturday**  
Start time TBA

Test Match Australia vs. New Zealand

<sup>†</sup> The program is subject to change dependent on entries. The events listed in italics are for participants not playing in the Butler and are given as a guide only. The start times of the pairs and teams events will not change. Please arrive at the venue at least 30 minutes early.

## Venue and Accommodation

The venue is the Canberra Bridge club, 6 Duff Place, Deakin.

Accommodation is not provided but there are many options available.

There is a Motel (Greenleigh), about 7 mins drive from the venue, that offers a range of budget rooms. One configuration is a room with two singles, and two bunk beds, plus an on-suite bathroom, for \$85/night. Their web-site is <http://stayatgreenleigh.com.au/>. An early booking is recommended.

**Entry is via an online form on the AYC website.** Those players under-18 are also required to submit a parental consent form, available at:

<http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/ayc/2016/>

Any queries should be directed to **David Thompson**: email them at [youthweek2016@abf.com.au](mailto:youthweek2016@abf.com.au), or ph 0417 526 331 (David).

Partners and teammates can be arranged, please email for a partner or team-mates.

## Fees

Fees are simply \$10/player/day. So, for the Teams \$80 per team, Pairs \$40 per pair. The Butler Selection event will be \$20 per pair for Stage 1 (Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup>), and \$40 per pair for Stage 2 (Thursday and Friday January 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>). Side events on the Wednesday to Friday will be \$20 per pair per day.

**Lunches** (normally; assorted sandwiches, fresh fruit, fruit juice) will be provided daily for the event, free of charge. There will a B-B-Q evening on Friday January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Any participants with dietary requirements (gluten intolerance; allergies; etc) should contact the organisers when entering.

**Payment is required prior to arrival.** Payment can be made by bank transfer to:

Account Name: ABF    BSB: 082-968    Account Number: 641482644

Reference: your ABF number or, if you don't have a number, your name

For other methods of payment please contact David Thompson.

## Travel

Transport to and from the Championships will normally be cheaper if booked early on the web. Canberra is serviced by Virgin, Qantas and Tiger flights and by Greyhound and Murrays buses. Please let us know if you need to be picked up from the airport or bus station. Some players typically drive to Canberra from Sydney and Melbourne. If you would like a lift from either of these cities, email David at [youthweek2016@abf.com.au](mailto:youthweek2016@abf.com.au) well before the event to be put in contact with those who are driving.

The ABF Youth Committee and the Australian Youth Bridge Championships organisers and officials take no responsibility for passenger safety for any transport arranged for players.



## System regulations

ABF system regulations apply. Yellow systems are not permitted. Brown Sticker conventions will also be prohibited in certain events: check the supplementary regulations closer to the event. Inexperienced pairs may be able to claim protected pair status against brown sticker conventions in some events.

## Further Information and Regulations

- To play in the Butler, qualified pairs must be born on or after 01/01/1991, sign declarations of availability for designated event(s) and for additional training, and ensure they satisfy ABF residency requirements for international representation.
- The designated events for the team selected by the Butler are: (i) the World Youth Teams Championships to be held in Salsomaggiore, Italy, from August 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup> 2016. ii) The New Zealand National Congress and Test Match, Hamilton, New Zealand, from September 24<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup> 2016. Pairs may be available for one of these events, but not the other. The top three pairs together with the reserve fourth pair will be invited to form a squad that will undergo preparatory training activities. Further conditions relating to team and squad membership, together with details of the process for selecting ABF or Oceania teams for other international youth events in 2016, will be posted on the Championships' website.
- The ABFYC and those appointed to conduct the Championships reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to regulate player behaviour and attire both in and around the playing rooms during the week. This regulation applies both to sessions of play and periods between sessions.
- Smoking or drinking of alcoholic beverages will not be permitted in the playing area at any time. The organisers and director(s) will have the right to sanction participants who abuse alcohol or other drugs. Sanctions may include expulsion from the Championships and/or longer-term suspension from ABF events. 'Abuse' includes, but is not limited to, the consumption of any alcohol by participants under 18 years of age or the provision of alcohol to such a participant. For further details see the supplementary regulations.
- Supplementary regulations pertaining to participation in, the format of, and the running of, the Championships will be posted in the playing area during the week and on the Championships' website prior to the event.

**Book Prizes Sponsored by  
Paul Lavings Bridge Books  
<http://www.bridgegear.com/>**

**A Gold Point Event conducted by the ABF Youth Committee under the auspices of the ABF**

