

ABF YOUTH



BULLETIN

All the ANC Youth Results

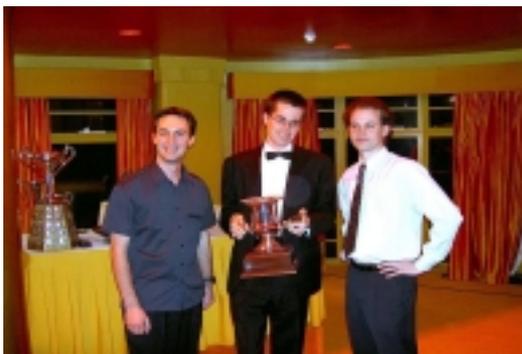
HOBART, JULY 27 -- AUGUST 1

ANC Youth Pairs

1st: Fiona Brown - Michael Wilkinson (NSW)

2nd: Mark Abraham - James McGowan (ACT)

3rd: Daniel Geromboux - Griff Ware (ACT)



James McGowan, Michael Wilkinson and Mark Abraham

ANC Youth Teams

Qualifying:

SA: 195.3

ACT: 156.8

NSW: 117.3

SA entered the final with a 4 IMP carry-over.

Final:

South Australia (Nic Croft-Arian Lasocki, Marc Deaton-Justin Williams, Matt Porter-David Wiltshire (93) defeated ACT (Mark Abraham-James McGowan, Christie Bridgland- Brian Johnson, Daniel Geromboux-Griff Ware (89), the margin being precisely equal to the carry-over.



South Australian Youth: Matt Porter, Justin Williams, Marc Deaton, Arian Lasocki, David Wiltshire, Nic Croft (c).

♦ Issue 02/2
September 2002 ♣
Edited by David Lusk

The Ozzie Youth Triathlon

A Youth Triathlon will be conducted at the SABA clubrooms in Adelaide from Sat, Sept 28 to Monday Sept 30, inclusive.

The event is open to any player who is under 30 on Sept 30, 2002.

Entry fee is \$50 per player and lunch will be provided on Saturday during a session off for the AFL Grand Final. Players must enter as part of a team to gain full advantage. Separate entries to Pairs and Individual will be accepted as long as the integrity of the movement is not compromised.

Entries may be made on the ABF Website (Youth Link) or by contacting David Lusk

Proposed Programme

Sat, September 28

10:30 – 1:30 Teams 1

1:30 – 4:45 Long lunch and AFL

Grand Final

5:30 – 7:30 Teams 2

8:30 – 10:30 Teams 3

7 rounds of 9 boards (assumes 8 teams)

Sun, September 29

1:00 – 4:45 Pairs 1

7:30 – 11:00 Pairs 2

Mon, September 30

1:30 – 5:30 Individual 1

7:30 – 11:00 Individual 2

Event format may be modified to suit numbers of entries

Diaries of Australian Youth at The PABFC

Mark Abraham

Our first day of the PABF is underway. My first impression of Bangkok was filled with surprise at how long our flight overflew the lights of suburbia at landing-approach-type level before we actually bothered to land. There was at least 10 minutes of skyscape to get bored looking at, which felt a bit scary... how many people must account for all of that city area?

Having inspected somewhat more closely on the ground, there seems to be little in the way of suburbia here. There are certainly degrees of city but one can drive an awfully long way and seem to go nowhere. Hmm maybe that shortcut the taxi driver took wasn't so great...

The airport was surprisingly painless. There were 20-odd customs desks fully manned at 11pm on a Thursday night - no waiting at all. The baggage trolleys were free, unlike the highway robbery that is routine in Australia. Also, the trolley-collecting people were exclusively female... I'm not too sure what to make of that. Either this is gender equality just starting out, or biting back *REALLY* hard.

I managed not to be rorted too badly on the trip from the airport to the hotel. Vulnerable as one is at 2am in the place in which one woke up (if you understand me) I happily agreed with the nice man who collared me from some company that seemed half way between the limousine service and random Bangkok taxis. The plus side was organising a sight-seeing tour for the next morning for \$25 or so including two temples, air-conditioned car, pigeon English commentary and only being dragged to two places from which our tour guide was getting kickbacks from dragging gullible tourists along.

Phew! How was the grammar in that last sentence? [*improved slightly - Ed.*] Wilkinson's leading the pedantry count 5-3 so far, but I'm not sure who scores on that last effort(?)

The hotel tried very hard to be uncooperative. Despite our captain Phil (Gue) having made bookings back in about March, I hear they had

no record of us when he'd arrived the previous day. There was certainly no record of me when I arrived and they'd shoved several check-into-new-room forms at me before I bullied them into phoning either my roommate Mike or my captain Phil.

Phil's coming down didn't solve much other than waste another half hour of his time arguing with the desk. The concept of "Michael and Mark are sharing the room Michael is already in" was way too hard for them. Maybe someday we will be forgiven for trying to let them know that we wanted my credit card number to be associated with the bill, not Phil's as had been (temporarily) the case.

This is about the time I heard about Mike and Leigh's first night here on Wednesday night. They'd rolled back to their room at some early hour of the morning to find it filled with smoke. Now anybody knowing the pair would swiftly point the finger at Mr Gold but it seems he was exonerable. Mike jumped on the phone to explain to reception that there was a problem...

"Hi. Our room is filled with smoke."

"That's OK, you're allowed to smoke in your room."

"No, no. Our room has smoke in it. It shouldn't have smoke in it."

"That's OK, you can smoke in the room."
(exasperated) "No, there's a fire in our room. You know, fire, smoke."

"What? Fire? AHHHH!"

"No, not fire, just smoke."

"That's OK, you can smoke in the room."

<click>

Eventually they got another room and rumour was it was free. I'll believe it when I see the bill.

Full of confidence in the management of the establishment I found my room and got some sleep. It seems Mike and I have at least two thirds of the team's chits for the inclusive breakfast so we might wait until some of them look peckish and see if we can help our finances along that way.

The tour in the morning was OK - we saw the temple of the Golden Buddha which was large and solid gold and at some point was covered in concrete, if I understood my tour guide correctly. More valuably we observed that there are degrees of traffic light in Bangkok - and they certainly depend on the type of vehicle. Motorbikes can and do go anywhere and do anything. Red lights are optional at smaller intersections, but roads with six lanes or more seem to have real intersections. The locals know, however, that there's about a five second dead time after one direction turns red before the other one turns green, so a good three cars have gone through in the new direction before the lights change. Go figure.

The concept of traffic fines seems entirely alien. The best move we've seen pulled yet is a kind of inverse U-turn in a tuk-tuk (three-wheeled open air taxi). The driver started normally on the left hand side of the road, crossed to the right hand side into oncoming traffic, turned 180 degrees left into oncoming traffic on the *other* side before finally swerving back onto the correct side for the desired direction of travel... I reckoned that was still not classy enough. I'm waiting for the left-hand 570 followed by crossing to the other side for another left-hand 570 for a net 180. Who needs four-leaf clovers?

Perusal of the pre-tournament paraphernalia leaves one with the conclusion that we have a teammate named Wang Hayong. My sources tell me this is a female name from China, and may even belong to one of the ladies in their women's team. I certainly know that it was affixed to Leigh Gold's photograph, and much mirth has been made at Mr Wang's expense. Some thought that was his given name and he was of the Kerr family. You'd be surprised at the creativity of bridge players given a joke at Leigh's expense... Also one of our women's team is named Chandice, and the photo taken of the open team after the butler trials to select the three pairs has been carefully cropped to exclude Tony Nunn and Matt McManus, despite their names appearing below the photograph. Presumably somebody thought they looked too young to belong to the Open Team...

There was apparently some bridge played somewhere today. The kiddies had Japan

up first (not a feared opponent, according to the old hands) and a bye up second, so Abraham and Wilkinson were given the day off.

There's no way Wilko could go a day at a bridge tournament with no hands, so we talked our way into the "Special Invitation Pairs" side event. This seemed to be a thank-you event for dignitaries, sponsors and the like to play in. We said our thank-yous by doubling anything we could see and seemed to come off the better for it. I learned that Thais seem to have never played against a weak no-trump, and certainly have great trouble coping with the concept that 1NT X P might be forcing a redouble. Of more value, I learned that postmortems of +760 for 1NTXX making after misdefence sound much the same no matter what language the opponents speak. "You should have ripped!" "No, you shouldn't have doubled!" "Yes I should, you should have switched!" "No you shouldn't have lead diamonds" ad nauseam.

The conclusion of the match we were 'resting' from was that two of the Japanese were demonstrably on our side and that only three of our team were certainly on ours, so it seems a bit shabby to have only won 16-14 outnumbering them five players to three!

The 'filth' weak two was another valuable weapon for the Aussies.

Board: 7
 Dealer: S
 Vul: All

	North	
	♠ Q974	
	♥ K8	
	♦ 9853	
	♣ K75	
West		East
♠ --		♠ AKJ
♥ A10962		♥ 7543
♦ J76		♦ A1042
♣ AJ842		♣ 63
	South	
	♠ 1086532	
	♥ QJ	
	♦ KQ	
	♣ Q109	

Afterwards there was some debate whether South has a one opening, a two opening, a pass, or indeed whether pass is an option. The Gold opened a 2♦ popgun multi, West didn't act, Kenneth (Wan) bid a hopeful 2♥ but Leigh corrected to 2♠. West didn't look at his hand now and 2♠ went one off. Naturally enough, Arian (Lasocki) opened 1♥ on the West cards. That was fine, but later there was slam investigation at the five-level... the breaks were kind!

Nic Croft decided to take full advantage of his opponents' poor methods defending their weak notrump. Having seen Arian open on

♠AJ62 ♥K76 ♦KT ♣T952

earlier as dealer at all vulnerable, four boards later with the same dealer and vulnerability, he held ♠85 ♥AK93 ♦83 ♣J8543 after 1NT X where double showed 13+. Believing the best way to make them pay for bad methods was to make them guess with 13 IMPs up in the air either way, Nic redoubled for business. Bluff was rewarded when next hand ran to 2♦, but our heroes missed their heart fit to lose a partscore. This board prolonged the team post-mortem by a good 10 minutes without anybody doing anything foolish. (For the record, Arian had 13HCP this time.)

At least one of the Japanese knew a thing or two about the game, as shown by this deal... It might make a good "You be the judge" problem...

Board: 5

Dealer: N
Vul: NS

	North	East	South
	♠ A10	♠ Q832	♠ K964
	♥ A73	♥ KQJ1085	♥ 94
	♦ Q842	♦ 9	♦ AK76
	♣ AQ62	♣ 107	♣ 985
West			
♠ J75			
♥ 62			
♦ J1053			
♣ KJ43			

Both tables played 3NT by North on a ♥K lead. The Japanese declarer ducked only one heart before cashing the diamond AKQ. Playing odd-even discards our East had a difficult choice... he wanted to encourage declarer to hook spades into him, obviously, say with North holding AJx. The actual choice was ♠2 followed by ♥5. Declarer now did very well to throw East in. West could afford a club pitch now, but the run of hearts gave him a problem. Believing partner's "club" signal with the spade deuce, West disposed of clubs giving declarer an easy time. Perhaps West should place the high cards more accurately from the strong notrump opening... shrug

Our declarer ducked two hearts giving West an early problem... the spade pitch made the hand cold for 3NT (♠A ♠10 brings home the spade suit for three tricks) but declarer was not clairvoyant. His line involved a heart throw-in for a club lead from the defence but that was only enough for 8 tricks in the wash.

Montreal Youth Triathlon

Australia was represented in Montreal for the Youth Triathlon by the team of Jillian Hay - Tony Nunn and Peter Wilsmore - Joshua Wyner. The event was contested as IMP Pairs, Matchpoint Pairs and Individual. For some reason, the Individual did not eventuate, so it is a bit difficult to see why it was called a Triathlon!

Our Aussie representatives acquitted themselves well. Jillian Hay-Tony Nunn finished third in the Matchpoint Pairs event and Peter Wilsmore-Joshua Wyner finished third in the IMP, Butler-style Pairs.

Winners of the Matchpoint Pairs were France's Bessis-de Tessiers from from Pahk-Doty of the USA, whilst the IMP pairs was won by Lula-Swatiatek of Poland ahead of De Groot-Brink from the Netherlands.

Full results can be inspected on the WBF Website.

Thanks to those who participated in fund-raising for the team, particularly SN convenor, Frank Budai; Ziggy Konig, Bob Richman, Paul Lavings, David Beauchamp and Kieran Dyke who each donated a session of bridge.

Calendar of Youth Events 2002/03

NATIONAL EVENTS

2002/03

SEPT 28 - AUG 30: Australian Youth Triathlon

Adelaide

Jan 11 - 19: National Youth Week International Challenge Youth Championships Under 16 Youth Camp
Canberra

Feb 16: Gold Coast Youth Indiv.
Surfers Paradise

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2003

JUNE : PABF Championships,
Manilla

JULY : Test Match, Zone 7,
Hamilton NZ

World Junior Pairs and Camp
Tata, Hungary

AUGUST : World University Teams
TBA

AUGUST : World Junior Teams
Beijing

Further information on any of the above is available from David Lusk.
david.lusk@chariot.net.au

The ABF Youth Committee

Current members of the ABF Youth Committee are:

David Stern (ABF Youth Committee Convenor)

David Lusk (ABF Youth Coordinator)

Keiran Crowe Mai

Leigh Gold

Michael Wilkinson

Mark Abraham

Mark is a welcome addition to the ABF Youth Committee. He has represented Tasmania, ACT and Australia as a youth player and has made contributions to youth development in Tasmania and the ACT.

Young players are encouraged to contact any members of the committee with their concerns and ideas via email. Other forms of contact should be directed to the Youth Coordinator.

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ABF Youth Club News

The original age limit for ABF Youth Club members was 18. Initially, members were retained on the list until they turned 19.

In future players will be advised that their membership terminates at the age of 18. After that time, members are encouraged to join an affiliated ABF club within three months. In doing so, they will automatically preserve all masterpoint entitlements earned during the period of their ABF Youth club membership.

Of course, players who currently hold membership with some other affiliated club need do nothing upon termination. ABF Youth Club members are encouraged to join their club of preference once they have established themselves as regular players.

At the time of writing, the ABF Youth Club has a membership of 47.

Some of the ABF Youth Club members who have distinguished themselves over the last few months have been:

Fiona Brown.

Represented NSW at the ANC and was successful in the Youth Pairs with Michael Wilkinson. Fiona hails from Ballina in Northern NSW and must earn plenty of Frequent Flyer points to play bridge as often (and as well) as she does.

Paul Gosney & Richard Pollett.

Represented Queensland at the ANC and impressed many with their steady play. The combined Queensland/Tasmanian team were more than just 'competitive' and took a few scalps during the event.

Ken Dalley.

Ken would be amongst the younger players who have qualified in the top 4 or 5 teams in the South-West Pacific Teams. Ken achieved that in January, 2002. Circumstances made it impossible for Ken to compete in the finals (his team made it through to the Grand Final) but being part of a qualifying team was an outstanding effort.

Come, Play with Me

One of the difficulties facing younger players is gaining the confidence to compete in ordinary club events. For those who play in sessions specifically designed for young players, the transition can be a little intimidating.

Some of the barriers are in the mind only, but some problems are real. Often it is less a matter of competition and more a matter of acceptance.

One thing that is important is that any player who has an ABF membership card must be accepted into an affiliated club for the purpose of play as long as they fulfill the entry requirements. (That is, don't complain if they don't admit you into the Senior's Pairs Championship.)

Also, don't be frightened to ask someone older and more experienced to partner you, particularly if you are about to make your 'debut'. Many senior players get a buzz out of partnering a young player.

If you are an older youth player with a bit of experience under your belt, why not ask a younger 'rookie' to have a game with you. Who knows, they may gain superstar status in the future and be prepared to repay the favour!

2003 Youth Week

2003 Youth Week in Canberra will provide youth players of all ages with a chance to get involved in the most exciting of events.

All the usual events are in the programme with play available every day for the entire week.

Remember that full time students can take advantage of the half fee policy and get involved in Summer Festival events during the week that follows.

A brochure containing full details follows this page and further information can be obtained by visiting <http://www.abf.com.au> or by emailing David Lusk on david.lusk@chariot.net.au