

# ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

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## Victor Champion Cup, 2008

Queens Birthday Weekend saw the bridge circuit converge on the Melbourne Convention Centre for the McCance Trophy (a Seniors' Butler event), the Women's and Restricted Butler, and the Victor Champion Cup.

This year, the players were asked to fill in a survey on their perception of good and bad points of the event. From comments I heard, it seems the main thrust for change concerns the scheduling of the sessions. To come back at 8pm for one match, after a short dinner break, is probably the most unpopular part of the program. The trend for evenings off at many modern-day bridge events has gained wide approval, and it will be interesting to see if the format changes next year.

The McCance Trophy, a field of 32 pairs, was won by John Newman - Peter Buchen, after their sound defeat of frontrunners George Gaspar - Bob Richman in the last round. The 122-82 IMP win moved the Sydney-based pair into first spot, relegating Gaspar - Richman to third place. New Zealand perennials John Wignall - Kris Wooles were second.



Dr Peter Buchen

Gaspar - Richman play a sophisticated transfer opening/strong club system. The many gadgets require sound partnership agreements in certain situations.

On the following deal, Gaspar, East held:

♠ K 3, ♥ K Q J 9 8 6, ♦ -, ♣ A 10 9 8 4

He opened 1♦, showing a limited hand with hearts. and Newman, South doubled.

Newman and Buchen had engaged in a brief discussion at the table about their treatment of transfer openings, so Gaspar knew that their treatment of a double of 1♦ in this situation meant: "I was going to open 1♦."

Richman, West bid 2♣, Buchen competed to 2♦, whereupon Gaspar found what I thought was a master bid: 4♦ - a cuebid agreeing clubs.

The bidding proceeded - All Pass! As a kibitzer, I was awaiting dummy with interest. It was obvious that the wheels had come off somewhere. The full hand was:

Board 2, Dealer East, NS vulnerable

♠ J 9 5 4 2

♥ 10 7 5

♦ K 5 4

♣ K 7

♠ 8 7 6

♥ 4

♦ A J 10 9 7 2

♣ 6 5 3

♠ K 3

♥ K Q J 9 8 6

♦ -

♣ A 10 9 8 4

♠ A Q 10

♥ A 3 2

♦ Q 8 6 3

♣ Q J 2

When Gaspar saw dummy, after ♦3 lead by South he retorted: "We're playing for 50s". How right he was; five down for -250 and 8 IMPs away, when the average on the board was NS -100.

In normal circumstances, Richman's 2♣ bid was a transfer to diamonds. The NS actions had confused the situation in Gaspar's mind, however - do you play that transfers are off or on in this situation? Fortunately, the majority of us play more simple bridge, so we are not tested with such vexing problems.

The Women's Butler saw Marilyn Chadwick - Toni Sharp head off a strong challenge from Paula Schroor - Rena Kaplan in the final round to finish in first place, with Paula and Rena taking out second place. Third were Paula McLeish - Carol Currey.



VCC Winners: Kris Wooles, Seamus Browne, Jessel Rothfield, Ishmael Del'Monte, Convener Jeannette Collins, John Wignall, Robert Fruewirth

The Restricted event, containing 22 pairs was won by Jerzy Krysiak - Waldek Mroz from Warren Easley - James Simpson and Christine Parkin - Dorothy Stewart.

This year 70 teams contested the Victor Champion Cup, up on 2007's 61 entries. This was a reasonable turnout considering there were other attractive bridge outings to be had on the same weekend (the Barrier Reef Congress in Townsville).

My team of Kiwis included me, partner Jan Cormack, a longtime NZ women's representative player, and Michael Ware and wife Mary-Ellen Newton.

A feature of this year's VCC was the provision of Vugraph matches on BBO for those at home. Our team did not shine on Vugraph against *NOBLE*. A combination of bad luck (a little) and poor decisions (a lot) cost us dearly:

**Board 2, Dealer East, NS vulnerable**

♠ Q 9	
♥ A 9 6 5 4 3 2	
♦ 7	
♣ J 4 3	
♠ J 4 3	♠ K 7 4
♥ 7	♥ K Q
♦ Q J 10 8 6 5 4	♦ K 9
♣ K 7	♣ A 10 9 8 6 2
	♠ A 10 8 5 2
	♥ J 10 8
	♦ A 3 2
	♣ Q 5

On this deal, Michael Prescott's decision to open a strong 1NT with the offshape East hand led to a great result. Courtney leaped to 3NT, not knowing whether the contract had chances or not.

On my normal spade lead, ♠9 forced the king, and Prescott had little choice but to hope for a magic lie of the cards.

He continued with ♦K, ducked, and a second diamond won by my ace. A second spade went to North's ♠Q, and she now switched desperately to a low heart.

Prescott won ♥Q and played a club to dummy's king. He claimed 11 tricks on the squeeze - with the major aces in different hands, neither of us could guard the club suit.

At the other table, with a more normal 1♣ opening, North had the chance to bid hearts, so notrumps was not in the picture for EW, and would of course have failed dismally after a heart opening lead.

The next deal holds a cautionary tale illustrating that well-founded tenet: 'the five-level belongs to the

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opponents". It's all very well to teach that theory to your students, but you have to do it yourself!

**Board 12, Dealer West, NS vulnerable**

♠ A Q J 2	
♥ 7 6	
♦ K J 7 6	
♣ K Q 10	
♠ 10 7 3	♠ 9
♥ A Q J 5 3 2	♥ K 10 4
♦ 9 5 4 3	♦ Q 8
♣ -	♣ J 9 7 6 5 4 3
	♠ K 8 6 5 4
	♥ 9 8
	♦ A 10 2
	♣ A 8 2

West	North	East	South
Courtney	Cormack	Prescott	Lester
4♥	Dbl	4NT	5♠
All Pass			

"Ah yes, I know what's going on," I thought, as Prescott tried a non-vulnerable 4NT bid, intending to play in 5♥.

But the defence soon showed me I had done the wrong thing in bidding 5♠; ♥2 lead to East's king, club switch ruffed, ♥A cashed, one down. It was little consolation when *Deep Finesse* confirmed later that North can only make eight tricks in spades, and South nine tricks. Our EW teammates brought back -500 from 5♥ doubled.

As partner so rightly stated: "Your hand is too flat to volunteer a five-level bid." I should have doubled 4NT to show values, and then the result (5♥ doubled) would have been flattened.

The tournament provided a number of textbook hands for bidding, play and defence. One expert, well-known for his extreme views on slam bidding, was hoist by his own petard when he opened 6♣ on the following hand:

♠ AKQ, ♥ Ax, ♦ x, ♣ AKQJxxx

Partner put down:

♠ xx, ♥ KQJxxx, ♦ AKxxx, ♣ ---

so the expert was red-faced.

How would you bid the two hands more scientifically?

Our auction was dead easy:

West	East
2♣	2♥ (3+ controls, 5+)
4NT (RKCB)	5♠ (2 Key Cards + ♥Q)
7NT	

Going into the final round, *ROTHFIELD*, Jessel Rothfield - Seamus Browne, Ishmael Del'Monte - Robert Fruewirth, Kris Wooles - John Wignall led, on 172 VPs from *NOBLE* on 168 VPs and *KANETKAR* on 165 VPs.

*NOBLE* took on *ROTHFIELD*, to lose 9-21 VPs and fall away to 7th place, while *KANETKAR*, Avinash Kanetkar - Andrew Peake, Tony Nunn - Khokan Bagchi moved into second place ahead of *BOYLSON*, Christine Boylson - Stephen Burgess, Bill Jacobs - Ben Thompson.

The Restricted section (6 teams) was won by *TROLLAND*, Ken Trolland - Christina Macquarrie, John Knight - Ron Casey.

## Gold medals for bridge

Bridge players will soon have the opportunity to compete for gold medals at a major national sporting event.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Australian Masters Games will be held in Geelong, Victoria from 20 February to 1 March, 2009, and for the first time bridge will be included as a competitive sport.

The Australian Masters Games (AMG) is the largest regularly occurring multi-sport event in Australia. The Geelong Games are expected to attract over 10,000 participants in 60+ sports.

The AMG is conducted under the auspices of the Confederation of Australian Sport, the peak body for sport in Australia. The AMG is open to any participant over the age of 30, regardless of background or ability. The Games are held every two years and are broadened to the Australasian Masters Games every fourth year, next in Adelaide in 2011.

The AMG is a ten-day sports entertainment festival which combines sporting competition by day with

social interaction and camaraderie by night. There will be an Opening and Closing Ceremony, a Mid Week Party and planned entertainment each night to keep spirits buzzing.

Geelong's vibrant waterfront cafes and bars, cultural precinct, nearby surf beaches and Great Ocean Road will underpin the AMG motto of *Serious Sport ... Serious Summer Fun*.

The Australian Bridge Federation and the Victorian Bridge Association have authorised the Geelong Bridge Club to conduct the 12<sup>th</sup> AMG Bridge Tournament. The tournament will have B3 Red Point status. There are gold, silver and bronze medals for placegetters.

There will be seven days of bridge, from 22-28 February, with all evenings free from 6pm.

The program will be:

Sun-Mon	Open Teams (Qualifying) and Restricted Teams
Tues	Open Teams & Consolation Final
Wed - Thu	Open Pairs (Swiss)
Fri	Men's, Women's, Mixed, Restricted Pairs (Matchpoint)
Sat	Walk-in Pairs

The Consolation Teams and Walk-in Pairs are non-medal events.

The tournament will be held at the White Eagle House function centre in Geelong. Chief Tournament Director is Martin Willcox.

Accommodation in Geelong is likely to be in heavy demand during the 12<sup>th</sup> AMG. Intending participants are strongly urged to register and secure your accommodation as early as possible.

Bridge entry fees are \$20 per person per day with reduced rates for teams of five or six players. In addition, all players must pay the AMG Games Entry Fee of \$99 per person, or \$75 for persons over 70 years of age at 1 March, 2009. The Games Entry Fee provides admission to the Opening and Closing Ceremony, the mid-week party, nightly entertainment and other benefits. Entrants can reduce the impact of the Games Entry Fee by playing on several days.

All entries must be submitted through the Australian Masters Games. Do this online at [www.AustralianMastersGames.com](http://www.AustralianMastersGames.com) or ring the Games Office on 1300 725 266 to request a copy of the Games Registration Booklet and then register by post.

Registrations close on 5 December 2008, after which the AMG imposes a \$20 late fee on all entrants.

For further information, go to the ABF website [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au) or contact the Convener, Michael Stokie, at [stokie@pipeline.com.au](mailto:stokie@pipeline.com.au).

*Michael Stokie, Convener*



# CUP 2009



# CTCBA CHINESE TAIPEI

One of my passions as a bridge player is to attend great bridge tournaments around the world. Apart from the obvious bridge delights, the opportunity to visit such places as Santiago, Yokohama, Monte Carlo, Estoril, Istanbul, Shanghai, Jakarta, Hong Kong, and spending two weeks there is something quite memorable.

For the last eight years I have attended the Cavendish Invitational in Las Vegas – Disneyland for adults, as my late wife Linda used to call it. At this tournament 80 of the top 100 players compete for an auction pool which this year reached \$US 1.2 million.

The one tournament to elude me thus far is the Yeh Cup. This tournament comprises 24 invited teams. In 2008 the roster comprises:

- The top three finishers at the 2007 World Championships, who are invited with substantial subsidy.
- The top three finishers at Zone 1 (Europe), Zone 2 (North America) and Zone 6 (Pacific Asia) Championships are also invited without subsidy. Only national teams with at least four original players are qualified under this criteria.
- Other teams may apply for an entry on payment of US \$10,000. This money increases the prize pool.

The total field is limited to 18-24 teams and entries are accepted based on strength as well as geographical diversity.

To give an idea of who plays in the event, see if you know some of these names: Norberto Bocchi, Georgio Duboin, Geir Helgemo, Czesary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski, Eric Kokish, Fredrik Nystrom, Peter Bertheau, Benito Garozzo, Alfredo Versace, Hugh McGann, Tom Hanlon, Patrick Huang, Bas Drijver, Geoff Hamson, George Jacobs, Glenn Groetheim, Howard Weinstein, John Kranyak, Lew Stansby, Migry Campanile, Paul Hackett, Ralph Katz, Sjoert Brink.

The prize money is not insignificant, being the result of a substantial sponsorship by Mr Yeh Chen, who entirely sponsors the event.

- Main event 1<sup>st</sup> \$US60,000 2<sup>nd</sup> \$US30,000 3<sup>rd</sup> \$US10,000 4<sup>th</sup> \$US5,000
- Swiss Teams 1<sup>st</sup> \$US6,000 2<sup>nd</sup> \$US4,000 3<sup>rd</sup> \$US2,000
- Open Pairs 1<sup>st</sup> \$US20,000 2<sup>nd</sup> \$10,000 3<sup>rd</sup> \$US2,500 4<sup>th</sup> \$US1,500
- Consolation events total prize pool \$US3,600

Mr Yeh founded a furniture manufacturing company with his brother and these days his children are part of the company, which has offices all over the world.

Five years ago after a serious health problem, Mr. Yeh decided it was time to go back to his university passion: bridge. The best way to do that, and to play at the highest level was to find a suitable partner, and Patrick Huang has proved to be the ideal match. Having done that, he wanted to play bridge against the best, and to provide a tournament to show off the talents of the bridge players of Chinese Taipei. To that end he set up the Yeh Cup Tournament. With the strength of the field improving every year it is now, together with the Cavendish Invitational Pairs, one of the most prestigious bridge event in the world.

Like Mohammed, if I can't go to the mountain, I arrange for the mountain to come to me. So it was that Therese Tully, Convener of the Gold Coast Congress, Richard Grenside and I dreamt up the idea of hosting the Yeh Cup in Australia as part of the 2009 Gold Coast Congress.

After a very friendly negotiation resulting from the enthusiasm of Patrick Huang, the International Liaison for the event and Mr Yeh, it has been announced that the event will be held as part of the Gold Coast Congress (see programme at bottom of this page).

While the Yeh participants will not be able to play in the Gold Coast Pairs, the timing of the Yeh Cup permits them to easily slot into the teams event.

In announcing the Yeh Cup's inclusion within the Gold Coast Congress timetable, GCC Convener Therese Tully said "We are hoping that the leading players of the world who participate in the Yeh Cup will experience the outstanding quality of tournaments that Aus-

2009 GOLD COAST YEH CUP PROGRAMME											
	Thu 26-Feb	Fri 27-Feb	Sat 28-Feb	Sun 01-Mar	Mon 02-Mar	Tue 03-Mar	Wed 04-Mar	Thu 05-Mar	Fri 06-Mar	Sat 07-Mar	
Yeh Cup	Yeh Bros Cup 24 Invited Teams – Prize money exceeds \$US150,000										
Pairs						Pairs Championship 800+ Pairs					
Teams						Teams Championship 400+ Teams					

tralia provides for its players as well as the hospitality and relaxing environment of Queensland's Gold Coast. In doing so we hope that they will become ambassadors for the Gold Coast Congress and Australian bridge."

"The participants, and the Yeh Cup itself, will bring to Australia the highest quality event since the 1989 Bermuda Bowl, held in Perth. All players are encouraged to come early to the 2009 Gold Coast Congress and watch these super players work their magic – kibitzers will be most welcome."

Here is a hand from last year's tournament showing just how mortal we all are as bridge players:



Garozzo - De Falco

*Yeh Cup 2008, Board 23, Dealer South, all vulnerable*

♠ 5 2	♠ 9
♥ A 10 8 6	♥ Q J 5 4 3 2
♦ A J 9 7 5	♦ 10 6 3
♣ 5 4	♣ 9 3 2
♠ A K Q J 10 8 7 4	
♥ K 7	
♦ –	
♣ A 10 7	

West	North	East	South
<i>J Stansby</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>L Stansby</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♣
Dbf	7NT	Pass	7♠
Dbf	All Pass		Pass

Katz-Jacobs had a 'normal' auction, which led to 6♠ making seven when West failed to cash ♥A. At the other table things went awry.

To understand what was going on, you need to know that Garozzo - De Falco, until 48 hours earlier had played 2♣ - 3♥ showing spades and 2♣ - 3♠ showing hearts, thereby allowing the strong hand to be declarer. But in keeping with a Larry Cohen no-no, they changed

their system just prior to the event that 2♣ - 3♥ showed the minors.

Now I suspect that Garozzo is somewhere in his late 70's. I don't know about him, but my ability to absorb system change at any time is very limited, but 48 hours before the event – give me a break!

Anyway.....the system card did not show the change and nor did Garozzo's brain. After he bid 7♠ Garozzo explained the 3♥ bid as showing six good spades (as was the agreement) – he felt he was not obliged to give an explanation based on his hand, only what their agreement was.

North, of course would never stand for 7♠ as he felt partner had certainly forgotten the change of system. As Garozzo was counting on him for a solid spade suit, he ran to 7NT – something he was likely to do whether or not he was doubled. North explained that he had the minors, and that partner had likely forgotten the system.

Lou Stansby, (East) on lead, could reasonably infer that partner held spades from the double of 7♠ so made what he thought was a logical lead – the only problem was that it led to -2490 instead of +1700.

Barry Rigal notes that if Jo Anna Stansby (West) passes 7♠ and 7NT, East will likely lead what he would regard as a passive spade; if she passes 7♠ and doubles 7NT, he would likely lead a club, being dummy's first bid suit.

The director ruled Solomonically, as Rigal notes, awarding 1 IMP to the USA based on expectations of both 7♠ and 7NT making and going down.

So if you want to watch some top bridge or as evidenced above some exciting bridge mark your calendar to come to the Gold Coast - the event will be staged at Jupiters Casino, Broadbeach - on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009, before playing in the Gold Coast Congress.

*David Stern*

**Results**

**Open Teams:**

ANDREW, Simon Andrew, Gwen King, John Gill, Kevin Feeney

MORRISON, Kim Morrison, Keiran Crowe-Mai, Neville Francis, Magnus Moren

TAYLOR, Roland Taylor, Tere Wotherspoon, John Morris, Sharyn Birrer

**Restricted Swiss Pairs:**

Bill Redhead, Phil Rains



## It's all happening out West!

### A 10 POINT NATIONWIDE PLAN

1. ABF to coordinate this strategy.
2. All bridge associations in the states and territories of Australia to appoint a Promotions Officer. (Honorarium or Paid Position) (Role defined).
3. Promotions Officer to coordinate a Promotions Strategy, for all states.
4. All affiliated clubs to appoint a Promotions Officer in their state. (Volunteer or with Honorarium).
5. Concentrated Campaign, to lobby the Government - local, state and federal, to recognise bridge as a sport and/or a recreation.
6. Funding to be made available to promote bridge, for major projects. E.g; Cars: Our vehicles are huge advertising space. The Whole Car! "Bumper stickers are a Bandaid."
7. Adopt professional marketing techniques.
8. Major advertising in major newspapers. Speculate to accumulate!
9. Concerted Promotions. Campaigns to increase public awareness of the benefits of playing bridge.
10. Develop a "Bridge In Schools" Strategy.

*Di Brooks, Promotions Officer, BAWA*



### *Letters To The Editor*

Bridge in Western Australia recently took a great leap forward with the official opening of the new West Australian Bridge Club building on March 28.

The new purpose-built building at Swanbourne, near the SAS barracks, can comfortably accommodate 56 tables: 42 in the main playing area, with another 14 in the training area. The areas are separated by a retractable wall, allowing not only full use for major events, but also providing a further seven tables if necessary. A lavish kitchen, bar and several social areas, both inside and out, overlook Allen Park Reserve towards the Indian Ocean.

Over 350 people attended the official opening, preceded by a 56-table session of duplicate. Champagne flowed, accompanied by fine food and a four-piece band. Speeches were limited to our President, Des Cain OAM, the President of BAWA, Nigel Dutton and the

Member for Nedlands, the Honourable Sue Walker, who officially opened the club.

The guests included the Mayor and representatives of the City of Nedlands, along with many of the presidents of the 34 clubs in WA.

For some years various club committees had looked to relocate from the old church hall in Dalkeith, which had been the home of WABC since 1968. Now, 40 years on, the 650-plus members of WABC have a beautiful new clubhouse with fabulous amenities. Visitors from other WA clubs, along with interstate and overseas players have been warmly welcomed and thoroughly enjoy playing in the new premises.

Derek Pocock and Ailsa Smith, both well-known state bridge players, produced "A Brief History of Bridge in Western Australia" booklet for the opening. It describes how the Superintendent of the Claremont Lunatic Asylum, Dr James Bentley, drove the bridge movement in WA, starting from the mid 1930's. There are times in this sport when it can feel as though we either come from such an institution or perhaps should be placed in one!

WABC has also reintroduced its newsletter, "Trumps Plus", now in glorious colour, and printed quarterly.

Yes, Western Australia is right up there with the best in Australia. One of our great strengths in WA is the excellent working relationship between all the clubs and our State governing body, BAWA. The ability to advise, regulate and promote without the vested pecuniary interest of running a club clearly makes for the smooth running of bridge administration in WA.

So please, come to Perth and enjoy all it has to offer, particularly the new and impressive WABC.

*Des Cain*

BAWA has taken up the gauntlet, *Recycling for Charity*. The 3650 affiliated members are asked to donate used stamps, ringpulls off cans, foreign coins and out of date prescription glasses. All items are given to Rotary International, who have several projects, raising monies to help in third world countries.

Bridge Promotions Officer, Di Brooks urges players to "Go Green by Buying Blue," purchasing one of the BAWA "Blue" shopping bags. This has a three pronged benefit for all. It lessens the need for plastic bags, promotes bridge for healthier minds and supports BAWA's project for fundraising for youth bridge.

For further details, please telephone Di Brooks on (08) 9528 1701 or send your recycled items care to Di Brooks, PO Box 503, Nedlands, WA 6919.

Thank you for your support.

*Di Brooks, Promotions Officer, BAWA*

## Top Masterpoint Earners of all time

	Total	Gold	Red	Green	This Year
1. RICHMAN BOB	9426.51	5703.23	3505.21	218.07	164.96
2. LAVINGS PAUL	8737.65	3110.1	5273.51	354.04	175.26
3. SERES TIM	8370.48	2132.09	6200.77	37.62	0
4. GUMBY PAULINE	8338.42	3846.41	4448.89	43.12	97.51
5. BOURKE MARGARET	8317.21	4150.76	3982.74	183.71	142.85
6. KLINGER RON	8159.09	4607.77	3535.28	16.04	162.1
7. BORIN NORMA	7708.52	1892.19	5155.13	661.2	17.59
8. BORIN JIM	7546.35	1992.14	5099.81	454.4	0
9. MCCANCE IAN	7534.46	1644.73	5552.99	336.74	22.04
10. HAVAS ELIZABETH	7008.7	3378.3	3444.31	186.09	70.58
11. LAZER WARREN	7004.74	3662.27	3292.31	50.16	97.51
12. BEALE FELICITY	6881.91	2898.74	3812.01	171.16	69.56
13. SNASHALL CHARLES	6526.51	2529.89	3632.85	363.77	0
14. GALLUS ROBERT	6497.5	2574.06	3792.33	131.11	127.42
15. BROWN TERRY	6431.8	3499.32	2855.41	77.07	168.97
16. GILL PETER	6429.95	3617.5	2646.63	165.82	162.76
17. HINGE SIMON	6404.52	2778.84	3456.47	169.21	64.85
18. DEL'MONTE ISHMAEL	6293.22	3564.25	2385.61	343.36	138.44
19. DE LIVERA ARJUNA	6169.71	2675.91	3210.84	282.96	116.35
20. BROWNE SEAMUS	6155.7	3751.37	2204.41	199.92	88.24
21. FOLKARD BERENICE	6127.28	2652.71	3143.83	330.74	61.67
22. NEILL BRUCE	6080.57	3711.59	2289.93	79.05	125.26
23. MUNTZ VICTOR	5938.39	1681.45	4048.51	208.43	23.47
24. CHADWICK EDWARD	5912.84	3021.32	2789.83	101.69	74.72
25. NAGY ZOLLY	5812.99	3607.3	2064.15	141.54	107.54
26. GUE PHIL	5724.95	3567.25	1835.81	321.89	104.96
27. HUNT BILL	5654.73	1038.05	4144.3	472.38	68.46
28. BEAUCHAMP DAVID	5553.12	3194.19	2184.07	174.86	67.84
29. CUMMINGS VALERIE	5536.2	2729.19	2716.26	90.75	22.28
30. GROSVENOR HUGH	5317.63	2823.28	2313.56	180.79	0
31. JANUSZKE ROGER	5292.72	1853.72	2914.14	524.86	158.32
32. LUSK SUE	5291.49	3059.46	2138.78	93.25	52.27
33. VAN RIEL ROBBIE	5257.28	2058.11	3127.59	71.58	56.33
34. SCOTT WALTER	5237.95	1738.26	3400.23	99.46	70.64
35. DYKE KIERAN	5224.75	3223.1	1739.93	261.72	123.25
36. WALSH ALAN	5168.19	2323.29	2747.81	97.09	37.61
37. SMITH DAVID	4987.01	1465.86	3415.78	105.37	26.68
38. SMART DI	4959.99	1919.56	2931.04	109.39	50.17
39. MILL ANDREW	4948.55	2186.2	2548	214.35	122.74
40. ROTHFIELD JESSEL	4940.32	1894.57	2882.47	163.28	78.36
41. CUMMINGS RICHARD	4910.89	1307.33	3603.56	0	0
42. JACKMAN TONY	4862.75	1095.13	3583.2	184.42	99.5
43. WESTON DAVID	4789.34	1748.71	2899.44	141.19	65.71
44. SMOLANKO GEORGE	4785.59	2249.75	2428.11	107.73	36.52
45. DAHLER IVY	4695.93	906.02	2973.23	816.68	0
46. LUSK DAVID	4676.96	1738.9	2716.06	222	137.28
47. ROSENDORFF NIGEL	4631.59	2752.29	1805.41	73.89	82.86
48. MORRISON KIM	4619.5	1820.94	2662.35	136.21	31.03
49. ROTHFIELD CAROLE	4520.8	2043.15	2362.03	115.62	0
50. SCH'BEGGER CHARLIE	4504.65	1402.67	2468.51	633.47	107.58
51. JACOBS BILL	4478.33	1607.19	2768.22	102.92	96.78
52. CHUA CATHY	4448.99	2554.42	1822.69	71.88	65.91
53. NUNN TONY	4361.93	2908.14	1382.69	71.1	145.01
54. BOURKE TIM	4357.56	1367.82	2879.28	110.46	24.16
55. PETTITT JOHN	4355.52	1367.41	2878.3	109.81	49.53
56. GASPAR GEORGE	4300.32	1946.38	2144.11	209.83	220.96
57. WESTWOOD WILLIAM	4282.3	1719.74	2209.19	353.37	59.01
58. BROCKWELL JOHN	4279.34	1668.33	2313.81	297.2	61.07
59. ASHWORTH JOHN	4273.64	1302.89	2768.05	202.7	44.82
60. LILLEY DAVID	4269.8	2417.72	1772.76	79.32	229.18



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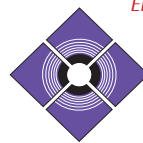
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## Top 50 McCutcheon Leaders at June 4

	Total	Gold	Red	Green	This Year	Total	Gold	Red	Green	This Year
LILLEY, David	4269.8	2417.72	1772.76	79.32	229.18	6080.57	3711.59	2289.93	79.05	125.26
GASPAR, George	4300.32	1946.38	2144.11	209.83	220.96	5224.75	3223.1	1739.93	261.72	123.25
PEAKE, Andrew	3938.8	2181.38	1588.93	168.49	180.37	3411.09	1801.87	1513.06	96.16	122.74
LAVINGS, Paul	8737.65	3110.1	5273.51	354.04	175.26	4948.55	2186.2	2548	214.35	122.74
BROWN, Terry	6431.8	3499.32	2855.41	77.07	168.97	2777.87	1630.01	1042.83	105.03	122.52
RICHMAN, Bob	9426.51	5703.23	3505.21	218.07	164.96	1518.71	819.23	653.25	46.23	121.46
GILL, Peter	6429.95	3617.5	2646.63	165.82	162.76	3023.96	2210.96	739.29	73.71	120.22
KLINGER, Ron	8159.09	4607.77	3535.28	16.04	162.1	1679.87	1100.25	553	26.62	118.62
BRAITHWAITE, Andy	1082.94	986.92	94.87	1.15	159.3	6169.71	2675.91	3210.84	282.96	116.35
JANUSZKE, Roger	5292.72	1853.72	2914.14	524.86	158.32	1150.13	752.43	350.15	47.55	116.33
HAUGHIE, Bill	4124.6	1382.95	1759.53	982.12	154.89	1809.65	1592.7	216.01	0.94	116.29
FRANCIS, Neville	4104.25	1205.4	2331.17	567.68	146.32	4225.82	1280.69	2690.47	254.66	115.75
NUNN, Tony	4361.93	2908.14	1382.69	71.1	145.01	2699.07	958.1	1704.12	36.85	113.51
WILLIAMS, Justin	2292.1	814.66	1172.25	305.19	144.19	970.75	516.84	318.1	135.81	112.8
BOURKE, Margaret	8317.21	4150.76	3982.74	183.71	142.85	3812.83	1501.65	2143	168.18	112.39
HANLON, Tom	264.43	264.43	0	0	142.76	3072.96	1254.22	1616.59	202.15	111.66
HUTTON, Tony	3182.22	1134.27	1793.25	254.7	140.5	3884.75	2834.47	1010.69	39.59	109.95
GREEN, Murray	3138.71	1754.37	1257.32	127.02	138.63	3946.71	1755.45	2014.33	176.93	107.65
DEL'MONTE, Ishmael	6293.22	3564.25	2385.61	343.36	138.44	4504.65	1402.67	2468.51	633.47	107.58
LUSK, David	4676.96	1738.9	2716.06	222	137.28	5812.99	3607.3	2064.15	141.54	107.54
KANETKAR, Avi	3271.25	2184.78	1073.94	12.53	134.7	2734.05	1250.11	1395.58	88.36	106.44
MARSTON, Paul	3557.98	3359.04	195.86	3.08	130.95	4184.65	1209.76	2689.04	285.85	105.85
GALLUS, Bob	6497.5	2574.06	3792.33	131.11	127.42	5724.95	3567.25	1835.81	321.89	104.96
HORWITZ, Helen	524.92	272.58	152.12	100.22	125.4	1030.28	427.6	592.86	9.82	104.39
						2646.76	1791.63	674.3	180.83	104.17
						2523.94	1717.01	792.92	14.01	103.77



The NSWBA and the ABF present the  
**SYDNEY SPRING NATIONALS**  
 22 – 30 OCTOBER 2008

Open Teams Tournament  
 Qualifying: Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th October 2008  
 Final Series: Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October 2008

Dick Cummings Open Pairs  
 (A Swiss Matchpoint Pairs Event)  
 Saturday 25th October 2008 and Sunday 26th October 2008

Manzoni Womens' Teams  
 Qualifying: Mon 27th to Wed 29th October 2008  
 Final: Thursday 30th October 2008

Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams  
 Qualifying: Mon 27th to Wed 29th October 2008  
 Final: Thursday 30th October 2008

Venue: Hakoah Club, Bondi

Convener: Kim Neale ([sn@abf.com.au](mailto:sn@abf.com.au))

Entry Details: [www.abf.com.au/events/spnot](http://www.abf.com.au/events/spnot)  
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**Joanne and Gary**

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**Travel Options:** There are several travel options for getting to and from Kangaroo Island. You can drive down and take the ferry. Or fly into Adelaide and then fly right to Kingscote with REX air (Qantas). Joanne and I are driving down from and taking the ferry again. It is a nice trip.

Gary 0418 570 430 or 03 9686 6288

or email: [brownbridge@ozemail.com.au](mailto:brownbridge@ozemail.com.au) or visit our website: [www.ozbridgetravel.com](http://www.ozbridgetravel.com)

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The 2008 Bridge For Brain Research Challenge is still receiving results. Over 1,050 pairs played and in excess of \$25,000 has been raised to fund research into Alzheimer's and Dementia from the 2008 event



The Challenge has now been conducted for five years and the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute is delighted with the support from the bridge community. There are a number of ways clubs join the challenge making donations and organizing raffles and playing in the event.

Angela Fury from the Institute has done an excellent job in promoting the event. Martin Willcox must

be thanked for his assistance. The various State Secretaries have been most helpful and I want to thank all clubs who assisted the ABF in our endeavors to raise funds.

*Keith Mc Donald, ABF President*

**Leading scorers at 30 June, 2008:**

Hardman, Stack	Mandurah Bridge Club
Allen, Grover	NSWBA
Letts, McIlroy	Esperance Bridge Club
Wright, Wright	Randwick Bridge Club
Brown, Van Der Veeke	Wodonga Bridge Club
Folkard, Burn	Bridgefolk
Carr, Davidson	Moreton Bribie Bridge Club
Ellaway, Ellaway	Queensland Bridge Club
Tall, Trollope	Noosa Bridge Club
Priol, Lameks	Springwood Bridge Club

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## Coaching Cathy at Contract

### WHY 1430?

*Revered Relly,*

Glenda and I have recently and bravely adopted Roman Key Card Blackwood. As so often happens, we have run into philosophical issues straight away. Glenda would like to play the 1430 responses below:

- 4NT:     5♣    1 or 4 Key Cards.  
           5♦    0 or 3 Key Cards  
           5♥    Two with no trump queen  
           5♠    Two with the trump queen

The trouble is that I am used to starting at nought, and I have already forgotten once. What advantage is there in using 1430, if any?

At this stage, we are not using the continuation (you know, asking for the trump queen after 5♣ and 5♦). Is that wrong?

*Cheers, Cathy.*

*Dear Cathy,*

Using 1430 rather than 0314 is predicated on the notion that asking for the trump queen will be important from time to time. This creates a slight bias in favour of 1430. The reason is simply that you need maximum room when partner has shown one Key Card. If partner shows zero, you want to sign off in five as a rule. If partner has three, you have plenty of space to check for the trump queen (presumably looking for seven).

So space is at a premium whenever responder has just one Key Card and the secondary ask becomes an option whenever hearts are set as trumps. The problem is that you have run out of suits after 5♦, if that shows one Key Card.

I wouldn't rush the secondary ask, but keep it in mind for the future. There are two ways to do this, so you might as well start thinking about it now:

Here goes, hearts are trumps :

- 4NT: 5♣    (Known to be one Key Card)  
       5♦    Trump queen?  
       5♥    No  
       5♠    Yes, but no undisclosed second round control  
       5NT   Yes, one second round control.

Alternatively: (My preference).

Either major trumps:

- 4NT: 5♣    (As above)  
       5♦    Trump queen?  
       5 of the agreed trumps = no trump Queen  
       5NT   Trump queen without any undisclosed second round controls  
       Other: Second round control in this suit + trump queen.

When I first looked at Roman Key Card, everyone used 0314, and so did I. Now the trend is to use 1430, and this is probably best for you in the long run. It is not so hard to remember, if you recall that this is the score for a vulnerable major slam.

By the way, I must have confused you with my last response to your letter entitled “*Information Gathering*”, when I discussed how you should play your 4♥ contract. I had the spade suit muddled up, sorry. The entire hand looked like this:

Dealer: West

Vul: All

♠ A 10 7 2	
♥ J 7 5 2	
♦ K Q 3	
♣ K J	
♠ Q J 6	♠ 9 3
♥ 10 9	♥ K 6 3
♦ 10 8 2	♦ A J 9 4
♣ Q 10 8 5 4	♣ 9 6 3 2
	♠ K 8 5 4
	♥ A Q 8 4
	♦ 7 6 5
	♣ A 7

You won the club lead in dummy and played a heart to the queen. Subsequently, when ♥K didn't fall under the ace, you lost four tricks. I'm going to repeat my response to you.

The contract would have made easily if West had held ♦A. Your play in hearts at trick two was correct. Playing the jack immediately would be a loss if East had Kx and chose to cover.

So, initially, you are hoping for King-doubleton onside. When ♥9 falls under the queen, you are given a second option. If West's ♥9 heralds a doubleton ♥109, then the successful play would be to re-enter dummy in diamonds and call for ♥J.

However, it's not quite as simple as that. Let's go back to East having ♥K6 and West ♥1093. An alert West will still drop ♥9 under the queen in an attempt to mislead you.

Should he or she carelessly drop ♥3, you will have no choice but to play the ace at your next turn. So when you see ♥9, you may become the victim of a diversion.

I guess that what you do will be determined by just how clever you think West is. I would point out that there are many pretty competent players who have carelessly dropped ♥3 in this situation, so you are paying West a big compliment if you decline to believe what ♥9 tells you.

*Kind regards. David*

## Grand National Pairs Press Release

The Grand National Pairs Championship of Australia (GNP) is a new national tournament inaugurated in 2008. It is unique in the history of bridge in Australia in that it is the very first tournament to be run specifically for players ranked beneath Life Master.

It has recently come to the notice of the ABF that there is an impression that the GNP will be a “financial bonanza” for the ABF. Nothing is further from the truth, and following is an account of why this is the wrong impression.

The first budget for the GNP, drawn up in December 2006, made provision for a loss of \$9,950. In other words, the original intention was that the ABF should subsidise the GNP by almost \$10,000.

Briefly, that budget anticipated:

### Receipts

90 pairs @ \$400 per pair	36000
ABF subsidy	9950
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>45950</u></b>

### Expenditure

Players’ travel subsidy	40635
Cost of National Final	4500
Masterpoints	665
Incidentals	<u>150</u>
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>45950</u></b>

Now, 18 months years later in June 2008, the original budget has grown.

There are two main reasons:

(i) the larger than forecast interest among eligible players (beneath Life Master status) in participating in the GNP, and

(ii) increases in players’ travel subsidy due partly to a larger than anticipated entry in the National Final and partly to higher airfares.

Today, the revised budget reads as follows:

### Receipts

120 pairs @ \$400 per pair	48000
ABF subsidy	19281
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>67281</u></b>

### Expenditure

Players’ travel subsidy	55100
National Final venue	4800
Directors’ fees	2000
Directors’ expenses	650
Hand replication	256
Hand records	120
Score books	150
Trophies, medallions	575
Hospitality (presentations)	2100
Mailing costs	480
Masterpoints	900
Incidentals	<u>150</u>
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>67281</u></b>

So, it can easily be seen that, far from being a financial bonanza, the 2008 GNP will cost the ABF nearly \$20,000. Some of this will be recouped in Masterpoint charges but that will represent a small proportion of the total outlay.

It should be pointed out that the charge made for entering pairs in the National Final is the only charge (except for the cost of masterpoints) that the ABF makes in respect of the GNP.

There are three stages in the GNP:

- (i) Club Selections,
- (ii) Regional Finals,
- (iii) The National Final.

Club Selections select pairs to contest the 1-day, 2-session Regional Finals; Regional Finals select pairs to contest the 2-day, 4-session National Final.

Club managements run GNP Club Selections. The ABF charges the clubs nothing for running those club selections. The clubs’ only financial responsibility is the (approximate) \$30 fee for each of its successful pairs to enter the Regional Final. (In addition, each player is required to pay table money of approximately \$10 per session for the Regional Final.)

Regional Organisers run the Regional Finals which need to raise \$400 for each pair that qualifies for the National Final.

A typical budget for a Regional Final is based on the experience of the Mornington Peninsula region, which ran the first GNP Regional Final early in May.

**Receipts**

18 pairs @ \$30 per pair	540
36 players (table money \$20 each)	720
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>1260</u></b>

**Expenditure**

Entry to National Final (2 pairs @\$400)	800
Director	200
Venue	100
Refreshments	100
Incidentals	60
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>1260</u></b>

The ABF considers that, taken altogether, these figures represent an equitable spread of costs between players, clubs, regions and the ABF.

The ABF is conscious that it spends a lot of money (as it is bound to do by its constitution) on higher-ranked players to represent Australia in international competition.

In this context, the ABF regards its expenditure on the GNP as money very well spent. Almost 90% of the total playing membership of the ABF is ranked below Life Master.

The GNP pays tribute to these players by giving them the opportunity to compete in a national tournament, to meet fellow bridge players from all over Australia in a congenial atmosphere, to win Gold Masterpoints, and to enjoy some of the benefits of membership of the ABF that previously have been the province of only higher-ranked players.

The ABF is delighted with the enthusiastic response to the GNP and sincerely thanks the players for their participation. It is a pleasure to acknowledge the voluntary efforts of all the people who have made this possible, particularly members of club tournament committees who have organised club selection events and Regional Organisers who have taken on the onerous task of running Regional Finals.

The ABF would welcome and appreciate feedback from players on this initiative which can be directed to Dianne Marler, Chair of the Player Liaison Committee, at [Dianne.Marler@santos.com.au](mailto:Dianne.Marler@santos.com.au)

*John Brockwell*



The Northern Territory Bridge Association presents the

**Territory Gold Bridge Festival**

at the

**Alice Springs Convention Centre**

**Wednesday August 27 - Saturday August 30 2008**

**Swiss Pairs (with play off points), Swiss Teams, Matchpoint Pairs**

**ALL WITH GOLD MASTERPOINTS, CASH PRIZES & MOST EVENINGS FREE!**

**Directors:** Phil Gue & Martin Willcox

**Convenor:** Eileen Boocock

Details and entry form on [http://www.ntba.com.au/TGBF\\_2008/Brochure.pdf](http://www.ntba.com.au/TGBF_2008/Brochure.pdf)

## Bridge into the 21st Century

### Negative doubles at the one- and two-level

Negative Doubles (NDs) were popularised by Americans Alvin Roth and Tobias Stone in the late 1950s. They are still evolving.



1♣ (1♦) Dbl: Both majors, at least 4-4.

If you bid 1♥ or 1♠ with both majors and LHO jumps to 3♦, you may miss a fit in the other major.

There is a school that plays the ND of 1♦ as both majors or no major. I disagree; surely the point of using the ND is to avoid ambiguity.

1♣ (1♥) Dbl: This double has changed over the last 10 years. It once showed *exactly* four spades, but it is better used to deny as many as four spades. In effect, double shows the other minor. When you bid 1♠ over 1♥, support doubles will sort out the extent of your spade fit if there is more interference.

Try this quiz after 1♣ (1♥) Dbl :

- 1). ♠ A J 7 6, ♥ 6 3, ♦ Q 8 7, ♣ K 5 3 2
  - 2). ♠ A J 7, ♥ J 6 3, ♦ Q 8 7 3 2, ♣ 6 5
  - 3). ♠ K 6 2, ♥ 6 3, ♦ Q 10 4 2, ♣ K J 7 6
  - 4). ♠ 7 6, ♥ A 6, ♦ K J 10 9 6 4, ♣ J 5 3
1. 1♠: Showing 4+ spades.
  2. Double. Not strong enough to bid 2♦.
  3. 2♣: You may have a 4-3 fit, but you are only at the two-level. It may be important to show the 1♣ opener you have 4+ clubs before the opponents barrage to 3♥ or 4♥.
  4. 2♦: Strong enough to bid 2♦ and rebid 3♦.

1♣/1♦ (1♠) Dbl: The ND guarantees 4+ hearts.

Try this quiz:

- 1). ♠ J 7 6, ♥ 9 6 3, ♦ Q 8 7, ♣ A K 3 2
  - 2). ♠ A 7, ♥ J 9 6 3, ♦ K 8, ♣ K Q 6 5 2
  - 3). ♠ 8 6 2, ♥ A K 8 7 6 3, ♦ 9 7 6, ♣ 6
  - 4). ♠ 7 6, ♥ A Q 8 7 6, ♦ 6 4, ♣ Q J 5 3
  - 5). ♠ 3, ♥ K Q 10 8 6, ♦ K J 7 3 2, ♣ 9 3
1. 2♣: Not ideal, but better than passing.
  2. Double: Check out your heart fit first.
  3. Double: The singleton in partner's suit is a minus. A later bid of 2♥ or 3♥ is not as strong as an original 2♥ response, and is not encouraging.
  4. 2♥: You will have a club or a heart fit, or both.
  5. 2♥: Potentially a good hand. Bid 2♥, planning to show your diamonds if space permits.

1♥ (1♠) Dbl: At low levels, NDs are very precise. This ND guarantees both minors.

1♦ (2♣) Dbl: Shows both majors, or one major and a fit (4+) in partner's minor, in which case you will have a 4-4 major fit, or a 4-4 fit in opener's minor (playing better minor, if you open 1♦ with three, you will be 4-4 in the majors).

Don't double with ♠ 632, ♥ KQ108, ♦ KJ7, ♣ J93: you may have a collection of 4-3 fits. Wait for partner to reopen, and be prepared to let them play their contract undoubled if they have a poor fit.

Don't double with ♠ 63, ♥ KQ1086, ♦ KJ2, ♣ 983; choose between 2♥ or pass; you have nowhere to go if opener rebids 2♠ over your ND.

1♣ (2♦) Dbl: Shows both majors.

1♣/1♦ (2♥/2♠) Dbl: At the two-level the double of one major guarantees at least four cards in the other.

1♠ (2♥) Dbl: Shows both minors, and preferably a doubleton spade.

Playing NDs it is still possible to penalise an opponent's overcall. After 1♣ (1♥) you hold ♠AJ3, ♥KQ1086, ♦KJ7, ♣93. My recommendation is to agree with partner that if an opponent overcalls the opening bid, and the bidding continues pass, pass, then opener must reopen with 0, 1 or 2 cards in the overcalled suit, up to 2♥ (but not over jump overcalls). The reopening should preferably be double, unless the hand is too shapely. On this deal, responder can comfortably pass 1♥, knowing opener will reopen. On this hand you pass the reopening double, expecting the contract to fail by three, four or five tricks.

Try this quiz:

1♣ (1♥) Pass (Pass)  
?

- 1). ♠ A J 7, ♥ 6 3, ♦ Q 8 7 2, ♣ K Q 3 2
  - 2). ♠ A J 7 2, ♥ 3 2, ♦ K 8, ♣ A K 6 5 4
  - 3). ♠ J 8 6 2, ♥ K 6 3, ♦ 10, ♣ A K J 7 6
  - 4). ♠ 7 6, ♥ -, ♦ K J 9 6 4, ♣ A Q J 5 4 3
1. Double: Your agreement is to reopen with 0 - 2 cards in opponent's suit. Being minimum does not enter the equation.
  2. Double: You have a great hand if partner has a penalty pass.
  3. Pass: 3+ in opponent's suit and a minimum. Partner is unlikely to have a penalty pass of hearts, yet chose not to bid over 1♥.
  4. 2♦: If you had a good hand you would reopen with a double, so you must have a shapely hand with limited points.

*Paul Lavings, Postfree Bridge Books*

## Thelma Koppi: Youth Co-ordinator

I am a single parent with four children, formerly married to Peter Reynolds, with whom I have three children - Jane, 22, Lillie, 19, and James, 16. Jane and James play bridge. We're still working on Lillie! I also have an 11-year old daughter, Naomi Free, from a previous marriage to Jonathan Free. Naomi also plays bridge. Both ex's play a bit, too!



I first played youth bridge for Queensland at the tender age of 29, with Therese Tully. After six months playing, I was in the team! I'm sure some young players recognise such a sequence of events. My goal is to teach others way before this cut-off point.

I moved to Perth from Brisbane and played in the WA ANC Open Team with Peter Reynolds. After giving up bridge, moving around a bit, and many children later, I started to play again over the last few years, and my children have showed an interest too. Last year I played in the WA ANC Open Team when the ANC was held in WA. Unfortunately, due to the nature of my fulltime job, I cannot get away in semester time when bridge events are often held. However, it was great to be in Canberra in January with all the children. The Youth Week was fantastic and Peter Gill, Matt McManus, Ed Barnes and all the experts who came to talk did a great job.

I have been a senior academic at the University of Western Australia for 20 years with roles in teaching and research in Microbiology and Immunology. I have had management roles for many years as an academic, in bridge and in unions. I am currently involved in research projects in UWA and overseas, and teach in Singapore about eight times a year.

I am concentrating any remaining energy on fostering youth bridge in Australia. This has involved active roles in volunteering for teaching, chaperoning, fundraising, and organising events and writing articles for youth bridge.

We have a great group of enthusiastic people in Western Australia and we have now taught 50 youth players in the last two years.

Recently, we took youth players to the Adelaide Triathlon and to Youth Week in Canberra, and at present we are running advanced youth lessons, as well as a youth/beginners-orientated bridge session on Sundays.

I loved being the Bridge Base Online operator during the finals of the National Open Teams in Canberra. It is my hope that we will see many more events made available for us on BBO, so we can watch the experts at work.

*PS: I look a wee bit older now than the picture at left, in case you don't recognise me.*

*Thelma Koppi*

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## Book Review

### *A Computer's Twist*

Jason Rosenfeld & Prahalad Rajkumar,  
Great Game Products

This book consists of 28 play problems with a “computer’s twist” – an analysis by *Bridge Baron*. Each deal is presented with a hint, followed by expert discussion and the solution. An analysis of the way the computer programme played the hand follows. This is not just an advertising stunt; the book includes the programme’s successes as well as its failures. *Bridge Baron* users should find this especially interesting, as it reveals why the programme played as it did. There are some revealing insights into the way a computer “thinks,” and its strengths and weaknesses.

Consider this deal:

Dealer South, NS vulnerable

♠ 10 9 7	
♥ –	
♦ A 7 4 3 2	
♣ A J 10 7 4	
♠ A J 5 3 2	♠ 8 6 4
♥ J 8 6 5 4	♥ K 10 9 7 2
♦ J 6	♦ 5
♣ 9	♣ K Q 5 2
♠ K Q	
♥ A Q 3	
♦ K Q 10 9 8	
♣ 8 6 3	

West	North	East	South
2♣ <sup>1</sup>	2♥ <sup>2</sup>	3♥	1NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			5♦

1. Both majors.      2. Both minors, good hand.

West leads ♣9.

To human players, the lead smacks of a singleton, otherwise West would have led a heart. Most declarers would rise ♣A. At this point the contract can be made (analysis omitted). The authors point out a flaw in the computer’s declarer play; it does not try to determine the reason for an opponent’s opening lead. It knows West has at least nine cards in the majors, but this is not enough for it to assume the lead is a singleton, so it inserts ♣J for a sad loss.

Each deal is accompanied by detailed analysis, and would be helpful to a wide range of players to intermediate level, with the computer “twist” an added bonus for *Bridge Baron* owners.

*John Hardy*

## John Hardy Bridge Books



52 Great Bridge Tips <i>David Bird</i>	\$30.80
Introduction to the Law (Total Tricks) <i>Larry Cohen</i>	\$13.20
Complete Book of Hand Evaluation <i>Mike Lawrence</i>	\$24.20
A Computer's Twist <i>Rosenfeld &amp; Rajkumar</i>	\$27.50
25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know <i>Seagram &amp; Smith</i>	\$33.00
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### Copy Deadline

for Issue No 133, September 2008, the deadline is:  
**August 28, 2008**

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 134,  
September 2008 at the discretion of the Editor

Email: [editor@abf.com.au](mailto:editor@abf.com.au)



## Peter Gill: Oz bridge great

Last issue we commenced a two-part feature on Peter Gill, one of the members of this year's Open Team. Let's look at part of an article from 1980, when Peter was 22 and working for Roche Pharmaceuticals (the article appeared in the company newsletter):



Peter at 22

"Peter Gill - analyst in Quality Control - won the Australian Youth Bridge Championships in Canberra earlier this year.

Terrific when you consider that bridge is the Blue Riband of the card caper.

Peter has been playing for 10 years. His parents are bridge players but he showed his ability competitively as a member of the Sydney University Bridge Club.

### No luck involved

Peter uses the Goren Bidding system, which he regards as the simplest, but in Peter's words: "very effective".

There is no luck involved in championship bridge.

### Great work, Peter

We congratulate Peter on a tremendous performance. It has been our experience that champions in any field have little time for other pursuits.

Peter, however, fits in a little tennis and golf on the side."

Peter has had his share of good press, including the following deal, featured in the late Alan Truscott's column in *The New York Times*:

*Board 12, Dealer East, NS vulnerable*

♠ A 10 5

♥ Q 10

♦ J 10 5 4

♣ Q 8 6 3

♠ J 7 4

♥ 8 7 5 3

♦ A Q 6 3

♣ 9 7

♠ Q 8 6 2

♥ J 6 4

♦ 8 2

♣ A J 10 5

♠ K 9 3

♥ A K 9 2

♦ K 9 7

♣ K 4 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	Pass	1NT
		All Pass	

There are six ways to improve as a player. One is to play regularly with an able partner, with diligent post-game discussion to pinpoint errors. A second is to play with an expert, which may be expensive unless the partner is a family member or close friend. A third is to take formal group lessons. A fourth is to kibitz an expert, remembering to preserve a decorous silence. A fifth is to study books and magazines. And a sixth is to read bridge columns.

The last of these is rarely helpful, but it was on the diagrammed deal from a selection contest in New South Wales, Australia. Every North-South pair bid quickly to 3NT, usually by the simple sequence shown. All the declarers but one made nine or 10 tricks without difficulty.

The exception occurred when Peter Gill and Martin Bloom sat East and West. The opening lead was ♦3, and declarer won with the seven when the two was played under dummy's four. South's first move was to lead a club to dummy's queen, which had a surprising result: The queen won the trick.

This tricky maneuver had been described by Ron Klinger, one of the world's top teacher-player-writers, in his column in *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and Gill had remembered it. South was now certain that the club ace was on his left, probably from an original doubleton or tripleton, so he continued with a second club from the board. He ducked confidently, expecting to develop a trick in the suit. He was discomfited when East's ten won, and East cashed the ace and jack. Then a shift back to diamonds gave the defence five tricks. If the declarer had also been a Klinger reader and suspected the ruse, he would have played diamonds at the third trick and made his contract.

This result did not quite earn the defenders a place on the New South Wales team, but it had two consequences. The deal appeared in Klinger's column, a reminder for his readers. And it earned Gill and Bloom the International Bridge Press Association's Award for the Best-Defended Hand in 2004.

### Congratulations to the Top 10 Improvers at June 4

	Improvers' Points
HINGORANI, Gopal	3191.28
CASEY, Ron	2888.66
WARREN, Fiske	2405.83
MOORE, Nikolas	2347.35
HURST, Robert	2331.98
NILSSON, Peter	2201.66
BROWNE, Paul	2145.09
DALLEY, Ken	2091.34
WILLIAMS, Stephen	2076.57
HOPE, Clive	2056.17

## What Should I Bid?

The best problem for May came from Brian Thorp of Canberra.

*Matchpoints, South deals, all vulnerable*

	<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>	
	♠ K J 5	♠ 10 9 8 6	
	♥ K Q 6	♥ 10	
	♦ J 3 2	♦ A 7 5 4	
	♣ 10 8 5 4	♣ A Q 3 2	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	2♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	Pass	Dbl	2♥
3NT	Dbl	All Pass	Pass

*Comments:* 1NT was 11-14 and 2♦ was a transfer to hearts. Had East doubled 2♦, it would have shown a good diamond suit.

*Questions:*

1. As NS have such a wide-ranged 11-24 points between them, how can West judge how strong East's double is?
2. How hard should East strive to balance in the above situation, given the probability that NS have an eight-card fit?
3. Do you recommend any system gadgets or rules to help manage this situation next time?



*Sartaj's Reply:*

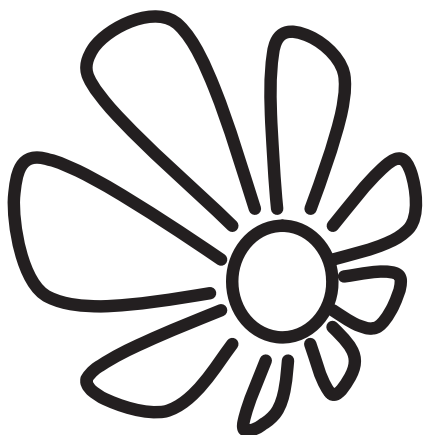
The questions you ask are very pertinent, Brian.

1. In principle, I think it is correct for (1NT) - Pass - (2 any) - Dbl to show a strong balanced hand. The key objective of the auction is not to get the best lead, or to bid the best suit. The key objective of any auction is to determine whether or not our side can have reasonable play for a game contract. In that context, a double to show 15-17 balanced or stronger hands sets up a good scene for partner to get involved in our quest.

2. With shortage in their suit, East should strive to balance aggressively. While conventionally a singleton or void in the opponents' suit is the best holding for our side to act, in my experience, balancing situations are different, and doubling with a holding of xx or even xxx in their suit can end up being more productive.

3. See 1, above. I don't like West's 3NT bid. I prefer 2NT as a scrambling bid to get to our best minor fit. 2NT, in my opinion doesn't ask for partner's best minor but instead asks for partner to bid a five-card suit if he has one (in the minors) or to bid 3♣ with 4/4 in the minors. This is vastly superior to a 2NT bid equalling "I have both minors" proposition.

*Enjoy, Sartaj Hans*



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## The New Laws

### Player Obligations and Rights

The 2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge are now operational within Australia. Whilst some directors are still coming to grips with the ramifications of a couple of the more significant Law changes, there have also been some modifications to what is expected of the players in regard to correct procedure and their associated rights and obligations. The following is a list of some of the more important items that one should be aware of. It is by no means exhaustive:

#### Law 7:

Each player is still required to count his cards before looking at the face of them. However, at the conclusion of the hand, the Laws now also say that the 13 cards should be shuffled before being returned to the board. This is to ensure that any residual evidence of the play (or of the auction when the hand has been passed in) is no longer available when the board arrives at the next table.

#### Law 9:

Any player (not just dummy) now has the right to try to prevent an irregularity (such as a call-out-of-rotation or a lead from the wrong hand) from being committed. However, once an infraction has occurred, dummy is still prohibited from calling attention to it until after the conclusion of the play.

#### Law 41:

The facing of dummy's cards has been further formalised. It is now a stipulation that the cards should be placed on the table in columns pointing lengthwise towards declarer and in descending order, with the lowest ranking cards closest to declarer. Trumps must still of course be placed upon dummy's right.

#### Laws 42 and 61:

Dummy may still ask declarer (but not the defenders) when he has failed to follow suit to a trick whether he has a card of the suit led. The defenders also have the right to ask each other (or if they so wish, declarer).

#### Law 65:

Players should quit their tricks in an orderly manner such that they are pointed lengthwise in either a won or lost position. When a player incorrectly points a trick in the wrong direction, his partner may now immediately draw attention to it. Once however the lead has been made to the next trick, it is now too late for dummy or the defenders to say anything.

#### Law 25:

What used to be called an 'inadvertent' call is now

described as 'unintended'. The laws still permit these to be changed (without pause for thought) providing partner has not subsequently called. However, other (purposeful) calls that occur because one momentarily forgets the system, or because one has misread partner's handwriting do not qualify as 'unintended' and may no longer be changed.

#### Law 69:

A pair that initially agrees with a claim made by one of the opponents, and then later discovers (e.g. after inspection of the hand records) that most likely they would actually have won an extra trick, can now still be awarded that trick (provided the period for correction of scoring errors has not yet expired).

More next issue.

Laurie Kelso

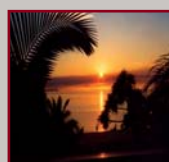
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November 16 - 23



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### Bridge Holidays in 2009

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(this was booked out in 2008)

Kangaroo Island - August 2 - 9

Murray River Cruise - August 9 - 14  
(also booked out in 2008)

**Details for any of the above from:**

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## Letter to the Editor

### *A future for bridge - is there one?*

David Stern's article in the November Newsletter started me thinking. In short time I came up with two answers!

1. Reward current club players for supporting their clubs and for promoting the game and encouraging new players.

2 Invent Casino Bridge (see page 22).

The devil of course is in the detail. My club is the Griffith Ex-servicemen's Bridge Club, and two of our regular members have turned 90 this year! Bridge is obviously a healthy exercise! But this is difficult to promote to anyone under 40 years of age.

It is much easier to promote rewards and promotions for those who try hard. Here we hit a problem, Bridge players are rewarded in masterpoints, and the system is not fair, especially to small clubs far from the big cities. I am 68 and started lessons about 25 years ago. I have reached State Master 1\*, but that rank comes from two weeks in Canberra 10 and 11 years ago at the Summer Festival. After the second trip I had more Gold Points than red and green put together.

After eight years of drought in the Riverina, very few residents can afford to buy more Gold Points at a big congress. The only other Gold Points available come from the GNOT, but unfortunately, although I have won some, they have on at least two occasions not been awarded to my total. (I am still trying to reclaim 2.5 points from last year through my club).

The answer is to allocate more Red Points to remote clubs. Our club plays three times a week. We are allocated, I think, 10 Red Point sessions, plus our congress each year, and the sessions are shared between Monday, Wednesday and Friday, which means any pair playing every session and winning or coming second every time can earn about 1.5 Red Points a year.

Most people have work or family commitments, so few of us can play three times a week.

To be fair to isolated bridge players one third of the points they compete for should be Red Points. A player's ranking should be based on the way they play their cards, not on the wealth which enables them to take expensive bridge holidays

So please allocate more Red Points, say four times a month, so players who turn 90 with 200 to 300 Masterpoints are at least ranked as National Masters. We country folk will leave the Life and Grand Masters to the professionals, and hopefully, perhaps to those who learn the game whilst at school.

*Regards,  
Ray Tomlinson, Griffith*



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August 27 - 30

Territory Gold Bridge Festival, Alice Springs

August 31

Swiss Pairs Congress, Illawarra Bridge Assn. Inc.  
Email: [iba@speedlink.com.au](mailto:iba@speedlink.com.au)

September 26 - 29

Hans Rosendorff Memorial Congress, Perth

October 2 - 5

Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs and Australian Swiss Pairs, Hobart

October 4-5

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October 10 - 12

Albury Commercial Club Supercongress  
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October 18 - 19

Taree Bridge Club Swiss Pairs & Teams  
Email: [perby@westnet.com.au](mailto:perby@westnet.com.au)

October 22 - 30

Spring Nationals, Sydney

November 22 - 23

Golden West Swiss Pairs, Mandurah  
Email: [gwsp@abf.com.au](mailto:gwsp@abf.com.au)

## CASINO BRIDGE

Editor: Here's an idea from a reader to help stimulate interest in bridge.



Casino Bridge: play

a hand, win some money? Learn to cheat? Is it possible? This is what I have come up with after a lot of thought:

1. Each game is played over four hands, as pairs or individuals.
2. Each seat (NSEW) deals once. The best total score takes the money.
3. All players must use the Casino's System Card when bidding; any major system chosen by the house.
4. Vulnerability will be NS, EW, Nil and All (to prevent deliberate overbidding)

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The Grand Tour, will include 7 nights on Vision of the Seas Round trip Mexican Cruise (3-ports). Other destinations include Las Vegas, 4 nights LA, 3 nights, beautiful Mammoth Springs and finally spending 3 nights in San Francisco. Includes all dinners. US\$100 discount when doing Grand Canyon Tour.



TERRIGAL 5 STAR STAR OF THE SEA APTS October 27 -31 2008  
5 Star Luxury at Terrigal (5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS) From \$ 595 Twin Share or Double

Included in this price is 4 nights accommodation, ALL dinners, all lunches.



Includes 7 sessions of bridge (Director; Greg Eustace) 3 workshops, and a champagne reception.



For further information: <http://users.bigpond.net.au/FinesseBridgeClub/> [gaycallen@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gaycallen@optusnet.com.au) Ph: 9596 1423 or 0410 127 326

on the fourth deal).

5. When playing as individuals North and East swap places after they have both dealt.

6. Costs: a fee of \$5 to \$500 per person per game (four hands) plus a fee of \$1 to \$100 per bid. Note pass is not charged as a bid, but entering the auction after passing twice will cost three bids.

7. Penalties may be monetary as well as normal bridge penalties (time will tell if this is needed).

8. At the end of the game in pairs. the winning pair splits all the money (less 5%)? When playing as individuals the winner takes 75% of the prize and second place takes 25%.

9. The director's decision is final.

That should do to start. The concept might even make a 30 minute television programme with no entry fee, but a prize of \$10,000.00 to the winner.

Players would have six minutes a hand. Alternatively, a session or two could be played at each major congress, either the day before, or in the gap between pairs and teams

events. Then TV could show the highlights in the news.

With major international players involved, I think television could be interested. Then if this generated enough public interest, a real casino might give it a try. Alternatively, a major club might run a one day elimination style contest for a "State Title".

However, I am worried that the concept still lacks "adrenaline". We need to grab the audience's attention and have them biting their fingernails.

10. After the bidding the opening lead is placed *face down* on the table, the dummy hand is laid out and declarer can *swap* up to three cards from their hand with three cards in dummy! Then the lead is turned over and the hand played.

11. A special prize (\$10 to \$1000?) will be paid for all slams bid and made, and a major prize (\$100,000.00?) for a successful grand slam bid. At club level the prizes can be paid out of bidding monies but on television we are still well within budget, I think.

Ray Tomlinson

# CANBERRA Summer Festival OF BRIDGE



**All events** in 2009 will be contested at the **National Convention Centre**, conveniently located in the Canberra CBD.

## **Great New Venue**

The National Convention Centre was renovated in 2007, and will be a superb venue, allowing all events to be played in the one large playing area. This will produce a wonderful atmosphere for players in all events.

## **One Field - South West Pacific Teams**

One venue has made it possible for the South West Pacific Teams to be contested as one field for the first time in many years. This will produce a great event with teams facing opponents of similar standard right up to Round 14, making the event more enjoyable and exciting for players of all standards.

## **New Event - The National Life-Masters Teams**

We have also added a new event to the first week – The National Life-Masters Teams. This will appeal to all those players who have left the usual restricted fields (below 300 Master-points) but don't wish to be in a field restricted by age or gender. It will be played alongside the National Women's, Senior's, Novice & Non-Life Masters Teams.

## **Refreshments onsite**

The National Convention Centre will provide an extensive selection of hot and cold food onsite, prepared within the kitchens of the National Convention Centre. There will also be espresso and plunger coffee available. All food and beverages will be provided at reasonable prices. The menu will be posted on the Summer Festival website:

[www.summerfestivalofbridge.com](http://www.summerfestivalofbridge.com)

## **Parking & Courtesy Bus**

There will be ample parking across the road and underneath the National Convention Centre, all at Canberra's very reasonable rates.

Once again the Summer Festival will provide a free courtesy bus to aid in moving players between their accommodation in the city area and the National Convention Centre. The bus route will be published on the Summer Festival website.

## **Accommodation**

With the event back in the city, players will have a great variety of accommodation styles from which to choose. These include hotels such as The Crowne Plaza (next door to the National Convention Centre), Rydges Lakeside Hotel and many apartment complexes. Contact Crowne Plaza or Rydges now to take advantage of the great accommodation offers for the 2009 Summer Festival of Bridge. Remember to mention that you are playing at the Summer Festival to access these great accommodation deals.

## **Restaurants**

Canberra city is blessed with a huge choice of eating establishments. Restaurants catering for those looking for a quick cheap meal, and those wanting to enjoy a meal at some of the finest establishments in Australia.

**Come to the 2009  
Summer Festival of  
Bridge for the best  
bridge event of the year**

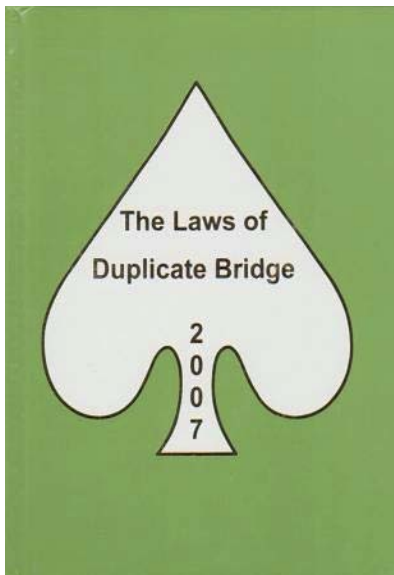


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