

Opinion

Worthy ideas come from a wide range of sources. I have a failing in that I often mull over these things for too long before acting.

The idea I would like to promote in this column is that of 'Youth Friendly' congresses.

Congresses are often quite well supported by our younger players and my experience is that their presence is well received by the organisers and other competitors.

I would like to float some ideas in the hope of receiving feedback from clubs and congress convenors.

Many of the younger members of our bridge community are often constrained by financial considerations. This obviously makes it difficult to participate in multi-session congresses, particularly if the venue is some distance from home.

A 'Youth Friendly' congress could be defined as one that offers any or all of the following:

- 1) Half fees or less for at least 4 Youth places in the congress.
- 2) Billetting arrangements for young players attending any congress in a remote location.
- 3) Agreements with State Associations to subsidise travel costs.

Either of the first two are fairly easy, especially if a congress is not fully subscribed. The last option is undoubtedly more difficult to manage.

I would be most interested in hearing from sponsoring clubs on this matter. If the response is generally favourable, the ABF Youth Committee would no doubt be able to formalise the above criteria and thus provide a 'Youth Friendly' endorsement for any congress which meets them.

David Lusk

Open Playoff

In 2002, the ABF experimented with a pairs selection structure for the Australian team. It generated many suggestions for improvement. The 2004 Playoffs again used a pairs structure, including many of the player suggestions – most notably, a two-stage structure.

After a 4-day round robin with 18 pairs, the top pair qualified for the team automatically. Pairs 2, 3, 4 and 5 then formed two teams and played a 64-board match on day 5 for the other two places. Pair 2 had choice of team-mates for the second stage.

Writers of tournament reports tend in the nature of things to have a positive view of the tournament, but I thought the structure worked well. Even more impressive – I heard no complaints!

The field was seeded, to make the draw as unbiased as possible. Top seeds were:

1. Paul Marston, Michael Prescott
2. Bob Richman, Robert Fruewirth
3. Terry Brown, Phil Gue
4. Ron Klinger, Bruce Neill
5. Avi Kanetkar, Michael Courtney
6. Sartaj Hans, Tony Nunn

One area where the ABF has not adopted the strong preference of open players is the rule that requires partnerships to have earned playoff points in the same team or partnership.

Hence the debut of Marston - Prescott, able to enter although they had not earned PQPs as a partnership. I don't know who Paul would have chosen without the

Copy Deadline

For Issue No 108, July 2004

June 25, 2004

Late submissions will be held over till
Issue 109, September 2004
at the discretion of the Editors.

restrictions, but it seems counterproductive to be allowed to enter with a completely new partner, but not have the option to enter with an established partner who has enough PQPs.

After two days and nine rounds, the leader board was:

Place	Pair	Seeding	Score
1	A Kanetkar, M Courtney	5	160
2	S Hans, T Nunn	6	160
3	D Horton, P Markey	7	152
4	J Ebery, L Gold	16	145
5	T Brown, P Gue	3	144
6	R Klinger, B Neill	4	144
7	C Chua, S Hinge	12	142

There was surprising consistency after four days and seventeen rounds:

Place	Pair	Seeding	Score
1	S Hans, T Nunn	6	311
2	A Kanetkar, M Courtney	5	300
3	D Horton, P Markey	7	290
4	R Klinger, B Neill	4	271
5	T Brown, P Gue	3	269
6	C Chua, S Hinge	12	263
7	P Gumby, W Lazer	13	260

The top 5 places were all from the top 7 seeds. Gumby - Lazer and Chua - Hinge performed above their seedings, perhaps because they really *are* established partnerships.

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Sartaj Hans and Tony Nunn had overtaken Kanetkar - Courtney for first place, and so were in the team. It is no doubt character-building for us older players (in slow decline?) to see young players in rapid climb!

For stage two, Courtney - Kanetkar chose Horton - Markey as team-mates (shown below as **Courtney**), to play Brown - Gue and Klinger - Neill (shown as **Brown**) over 64 boards.

Both **Courtney** pairs like to swing the bat, so **Brown** would need to bowl tightly and field well. This was the first board played at Courtney's table:

Dealer: N	North	
Vul: Nil	♠ AK4	
	♥ AQ1074	
	♦ 1085	
	West	East
	♣ 104	♠ 87
	♠ QJ106532	♥ K865
	♥ 9	♦ J9743
	♦ K6	♣ A7
	♣ J96	South
		♠ 9
		♥ J32
		♦ AQ2
		♣ KQ8532

Table 1:

West	North	East	South
<i>Horton</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Markey</i>	<i>Neill</i>
	1♦ ¹	Pass	1♥ ²
3♠	Pass	Pass	X
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

- 4♥, 10-17 points, possibly canapé.
- Weak relay, 8-13 points, not 4♥.

Lead: ♠8

Klinger - Neill did not find the heart fit. Instead North's good spades and South's long clubs tempted them into 3NT. Declarer ducked the opening spade lead, and eventually lost a trick in each suit, making three: +400.

Table 2:

West	North	East	South
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>Gue</i>	<i>Courtney</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
3♠	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Lead: ♠8

Kanetkar - Courtney had a normal 5-card major auction to 4♥. This contract is easy if you can see all the hands, but life's not like that. Kanetkar made a slight slip off an awkward ball, and Gue took the catch.

Gue led a spade to Kanetkar's ace. At trick 2, Gue won his ♣A. Gue switched to a diamond, Kanetkar played low from dummy, Brown won the king and continued diamonds.

Now there was danger of a diamond ruff, so declarer played trumps from the top: ace, low to the jack, getting the bad news.

Declarer could not recover. East won his ♥K on the third round, and put dummy on lead with the ♦A. East had to make a trick with the ♥8.

One down: -50. 10 IMPs to **Brown**.

[In the Women's, Clark - Cormack bid to 4♥ going one down whilst Lusk - Tully bid to 3NT on the following auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Tully</i>	<i>Folkard</i>	<i>Lusk</i>
	1♥	Pass	2♣
3♠	3NT	All Pass	

Tully's fine choice of 3NT resulted in a 10 IMP pick-up to **Lusk** (Lusk - Tully & Beale - Smart).]

The first board played at the other table was more volatile:

Dealer: N	North	
Vul: EW	♠ 4	
	♥ Q7	
	♦ KQ10875	
West	♣ KJ92	East
♠ AK8		♠ QJ73
♥ K105		♥ 9842
♦ J9		♦ A643
♣ A7543	South	♣ 10
	♠ 109652	
	♥ AJ63	
	♦ 2	
	♣ Q86	

Table 2:

West	North	East	South
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>Gue</i>	<i>Courtney</i>
	3♦	Pass	Pass
X	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

True to style, Kanetkar swung at the ball with a 3♦ opening.

If East passes 3♦ doubled and leads a club, E-W can collect +500. Instead, he missed the catch, trying for a vulnerable game. 4♥ went 2 off: -200.

Table 1:

West	North	East	South
<i>Horton</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Markey</i>	<i>Neill</i>
Pass	1♠ ¹	Pass	2♣ ²
X	2♦	2♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	X
All Pass			

1. 4+♦, 10-14 points. No major, possibly canapé.
2. Weak: asks for longer minor.

Lead: ♠6

The auction started lower at this table, but livened up when Markey bid his stronger major. Horton went for the big swing, making an aggressive raise to game. South doubled.

Declarer won the opening trump lead in dummy. He then led the ♦J: North covered with the queen and declarer ducked, trying to stop South winning a trick

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with a doubleton diamond and leading another trump. On the diamond continuation, South ruffed the ace (oops!).

Declarer won the spade continuation, took the ♣A and three more trump tricks on a cross-ruff. But, a mix-up running between wickets meant the ♥K got run out, leaving him with 6 tricks: -1100, 14 IMPs to **Brown**.

[In the Women's, at one table, Clark - Cormack were allowed to play in 2♠S, which went 2 off for -100. At the other table, Kaplan reopened with 3♣ after the auction had gone:

West	North	East	South
<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Tully</i>	<i>Folkard</i>	<i>Lusk</i>
	1♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
?			

When the dust settled, this was 4 off, -400, and another 11 IMPs to **Lusk**.]

The action continued in the second quarter.

Dealer: E	North	
Vul: NS	♠ AQ54	
	♥ J83	
	♦ K10	
	♣ Q972	East
West		♠ KJ6
♠ 1087		♥ Q1054
♥ K72		♦ 62
♦ QJ987		♣ J864
♣ K3	South	
	♠ 932	
	♥ A96	
	♦ A543	
	♣ A105	

Table 1:

West	North	East	South
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Markey</i>	<i>Gue</i>	<i>Horton</i>
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lead: ♦Q

Markey - Horton reached 3NT on thin values, as one does, at least in the Open. [Both tables in the Women's reached 3NT. Lusk went 2 off and Kaplan went 3 off for 3 IMPs to **Lusk**.]

West led a high diamond and with everything lying badly, declarer made only the three of the four aces, the ♦K and the ♣Q. The defence had the rest of the tricks by the time declarer took the spade finesse, so the ♠A got away. Four off, -400.

Table 2:

West	North	East	South
<i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Courtney</i>	<i>Neill</i>
		Pass	1♣ ¹
2♦ ²	X ³	3♦ ⁴	Pass
Pass	X ⁵	All Pass	

1. Either 11-14 balanced, or strong club.
2. Very aggressive.
3. Takeout.
4. Even more aggressive.
5. Takeout.

Lead: ♣7.

Kanetkar - Courtney reached 3♦, as not everyone does, even in the Open. When one partner is swinging the bat with a bid like 2♦ or 3♦, the other just needs to hold his end down.

Passing the double was a dolly catch. Declarer naturally finessed the diamond nine, and made only 6 tricks (2 diamonds, 2 spades, and the other two kings): -500, 14 IMPs to **Brown**.

The hands shown were all swings to the **Brown** team. That was the way the tide was running. For example, late in the match Courtney - Kanetkar very sensibly bid a grand slam on a finesse. It lost.

Of course there were swings the other way too, but the **Courtney** pairs were not as sharp as they had been in the round robin, and didn't have the best of the luck.

The final score was **Brown** 220 – **Courtney** 110. The 2004 Open team is Nunn - Hans, Klinger - Neill, Brown - Gue. [The final score in the Women's was **Lusk** 218 – **Kaplan** 131.]

Bruce Neill

2004 Women's Playoff

The eventual format of the Playoffs involved 18 pairs playing 14-board matches, scored against a datum. The winners of this first stage would automatically gain representative status, whilst the 2nd-placed pair selected another pair from those placed 3rd, 4th and 5th, playing a 64-board match against the other two pairs for the right to be the remaining pairs on the Australian team.

When the music stopped it was at just the perfect moment for Elizabeth Havas and me – we were 1st, with Sue Lusk - Therese Tully a mere 1 VP behind in 2nd place. They chose to play the second stage

with Felicity Beale - Diana Smart (4th), against Berri Folkard - Rena Kaplan (3rd) and Alida Clark - Jan Cormack (5th). Unlike the Open and Seniors' second stages, they 'chose' correctly and won, so the Australian Women's Team for the Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey, is Havas - Travis, Lusk - Tully, Beale - Smart with Margaret Bourke as non-playing captain.

As is often the case, a review of the hands tends not to reveal many scintillating bids or plays, rather errors by opponents and us. Therefore I have chosen a few 'favourite' hands to share.

I'll start with the amusing... at least for us. In the first match, our opponents had a simple auction: 1NT (12-14 HCP) – 4♠. As dummy was tabled there were a few gasps, including from dummy herself as she discovered her real shape: ♠AK2 ♥— ♦QJ9864 ♣K942. When combined with partner's good hand, ♠QJ10953 ♥A6 ♦K5 ♣AQ5, slam was cold. Imagine her bidding difficulties had she discovered her shape during the auction!

Now the not-so-amusing... suicidal bids that succeed always make you feel rather ill. We knew both Berri Folkard and Rena Kaplan were aggressive bidders (especially from certain hands in the 2003 Playoffs!) but Berri really took my breath away on this hand. Nil vulnerable, with an auction of 1♥ – Pass – 1NT, Berri overcalled 2♥ (Michaels) with ♠J10632 ♥Q98 ♦— ♣J10765. This time she struck gold, with partner holding ♠Q985 ♥AK10 ♦J75 ♣A84. Elizabeth had to lead her doubleton club rather than her doubleton heart to defeat the contract since the full hand was:

	North	
	<i>(Havas)</i>	
	♠ A74	
	♥ 53	
	♦ K109862	
West	♣ 92	East
<i>(Kaplan)</i>		<i>(Folkard)</i>
♠ Q985		♠ J10632
♥ AK10		♥ Q98
♦ J75		♦ —
♣ A84	South	♣ J10765
	<i>(Travis)</i>	
	♠ K	
	♥ J7642	
	♦ AQ43	
	♣ KQ3	

We lost a bundle of IMPs on the hand, but it could have been worse. In the Open a few pairs managed

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to bid to 3NT our way, which is cold – 6 diamonds, 2 spades and a club.

In these events, with short matches and datum averages, you really need to take anything the opponents offer, especially penalties. You are vulnerable against not, holding ♠AJ963 ♥85 ♦96 ♣KJ64, when you see this auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>You</i>		<i>Partner</i>	
	1♥	2♦	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
?			

One ‘quality’ Elizabeth has instilled in me is that 2-level overcalls are respectable. Bearing this and the lack of fit in the opponents’ hands in mind, it was time to double. I was more than happy when North ran to 4♣ and felt confident that partner must have some hearts when South gave belated preference to 4♥. Elizabeth was delighted to hear me double, holding ♠K5 ♥AQ93 ♦A108742 ♣5!! When the smoke had cleared we had scored up 1100 for 5 light. The full hand was:

North		East	
♠ 10		♠ K5	
♥ KJ1072		♥ AQ93	
♦ 5		♦ A108742	
West	South		
♠ AJ963	♠ Q8742		
♥ 85	♥ 64		
♦ 96	♦ KQJ3		
♣ KJ64	♣ 87		

We scored well when Elizabeth made the ‘logical’ bid holding ♠A ♥AKQ1098632 ♦A7 ♣K. With the auction proceeding Pass, Pass, 1♣, she bid 6♥. She found me with ♠K83 ♥J5 ♦Q10862 ♣1093, so the heart entry allowed a discard on the ♠K. Surprisingly, against our 1430 the datum was only 890.

However, a few matches later I felt bound to trust the opponents when the auction went 4♥ (partner), Pass, Pass, 6♦, 6♥, 7♦! I held ♠Q10864 ♥A92 ♦73 ♣752 and was concerned the vulnerable grand slam would make, against our not vulnerable save. I duly bid 7♥, got doubled and found that 6♦ had to fail:

North		East	
<i>(Havas)</i>			
♠ —		♠ J532	
♥ KQ1087543		♥ 6	
♦ —		♦ 108652	
West	South		
♠ Q9863	♠ Q10864		
♠ AK97	♥ A92		
♥ J	♦ 73		
♦ AKQJ94	♣ 752		
♣ AK			
South		East	
<i>(Travis)</i>			

My problem was that I had planned to save against West’s 6♦. I didn’t realise that East was a kamikaze expert. Some consolation - at least Ron Klinger agreed with my bid on this auction.

Sue Lusk’s opening bid of 4♥ holding ♠8 ♥KJ109765 ♦J942 ♣9, rather than the timid 3♥ bid found by others, kept us out of a good slam AND stopped us from utilising our newest bidding tool. Over 4♥ I took the conservative option, bidding 4♠ with ♠AKJ43 ♥AQ3 ♦AQ ♣862. Elizabeth had little option but to pass.

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For more details visit the NTBA website: www.ntba.com.au.
Enquires may be directed to Phil Gue on (08) 8379 2044.

However, had Sue opened with 3♥ I would have overcalled 3NT. Our new structure allows us to investigate slam options – clarifying whether the 3NT bid is 16 HCP, a long suit, or strong. We would have been able to land in 6NT. Good bid, Sue.

I have not played in the previous Butler pairs style of Playoffs, but felt comfortable with the changes that were made for this year's event. However, I would prefer longer matches, reducing the 'luck factor' which exists in short matches. I also find that I resent the noise made by those playing in the everyday sessions at the NSWBA (and I realise we are equally noisy for them). Surely the national Playoffs warrant the cancellation of the normal sessions (and financial compensation) or a venue which is not part of a bridge club.

I think the whole team is looking forward to Turkey – for Elizabeth it is her first experience of an Olympiad despite her years of experience! I hope we do Australia proud.

Barbara Travis

ABF News

US TO MISS OLYMPIAD IN ISTANBUL

The prospect of playing the world championships in Istanbul in October has alarmed many of the top American players. Citing State Department warnings against travel to Turkey, they voted 50-20 in February against American participation there. A request put to World Bridge Federation president, José Damiani, to move the championships was rejected.

It appears therefore that the United States will not be represented in Istanbul. The option of sending a team that is undeterred by the terrorist threat has been rejected.

(The above is an excerpt from an article by Alan Truscott.)

2004 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Victorian Bridge Association is delighted to announce that the 2004 Australian National Teams Championships will be held at the Dallas Brooks Convention and Function Centre, 300 Albert Street, East Melbourne 3002 from Friday 23 July to Saturday 7 August 2004.

The Dallas Brooks Centre is close to the city, within walking distance to many hotels, serviced apartments and eateries. Public transport is readily available.

Go to the ABF page www.abf.com.au and to the VBA link for further information. Please refer any queries to the VBA.

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Barrier Reef Congress
Walk-in-Pairs, Pairs & Teams
Nancy Martin
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(07) 49512147 Club
- 12-13 **Tweed Heads**
Wintersun Weekend Congress
Pairs & Teams
Margaret Liversage
Tournament Secretary
Tweed Bridge Club
31 Recreation Street
Tweed Heads NSW 2485
(07) 5536 1570 Club
(07) 5524 9849 Home Phone/Fax
mrgliver@dodo.com.au
- 19-20 **Sunshine Coast**
Swiss Teams & Graded Swiss Pairs
Robyn Feuerherdt
PO Box 5152
Maroochydore Business Centre QLD 4558
(07) 5452 6972
- 19-20 **Berwick**
Congress
Alan Saultry
asaultry@dodo.com.au
- 20 **Illawarra**
Master Builders Autumn Teams
Fran Chapman
(02) 4226 1195

July

- 9-11 **Sapphire Coast**
Welcome Pairs, Pairs & Teams
Di Woolford
(02) 6495 0040
scbridgeclub9@bigpond.com

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Email: secretariat@netspeed.com.au

August

- 8 **Sunshine Coast**
Novice Pairs (0-99 MP's)
Robyn Feuerherdt, PO Box 5152
Maroochydore Business Centre QLD 4558
(07) 5452 6972
- 12-15 **Gosford**
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- 14-15 **Nowra**
Congress
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- 17-22 **Coffs Harbour**
Coffs Coast Bridge Super Congress
Robyn Bingham
PO Box 6545, Park Beach Plaza
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
(02) 6651 7845 or (02) 6652 3951
- 21-22 **Wagga Wagga**
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August cont.

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Robyn Feuerherdt, PO Box 5152
Maroochydore Business Centre QLD 4558
(07) 5452 6972

September

11-12 **Bunbury**
Pairs and Teams
Kate Boston
(08) 9758 4769
kmboston@iinet.net.au

26 **Noosa Heads**
Swiss Teams
Di Quigley
PO Box 40, Noosaville QLD 4566
(07) 5474 2450
diandpeter@optusnet.com.au

October

8-10 **Albury**
Super Congress
Walk-In Pairs, Pairs & Teams
Dianne Barrow
Albury Bridge Club
via Commercial Club
PO Box 916, Albury NSW 2640
(02) 6043 1120

29-31 **Kalgoorlie**
Pairs and Teams
Pam Moore (08) 9021 8206
pammoore@bigpond.com

November

8 **Tweed Heads**
Birthday Teams
Margaret Liversage, Tweed Bridge Club
31 Recreation Street
Tweed Heads NSW 2485
(07) 5536 1570 Club
(07) 5524 9849 Home Phone/Fax
mrgliver@dodo.com.au

13-14 **Margaret River**
Pairs and Teams
Glenda Barter (08) 9758 7325
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27-28 **Noosa Heads**
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The Senior Trials

The format of the 2004 Senior Trials was virtually identical to that of the Open and Women's – A round-robin Butler followed by a play-off between 2nd through 5th. The first placed pair became the automatic selection.

Margaret Bourke - Eric Ramshaw (2nd) selected Edward Griffin - Michael Hughes as their team-mates against Ross Crichton - Peter Grant and Barbara McDonald - Alan Walsh.

Bourke-Ramshaw were on song with their slam bidding the first stanza, nabbing this:

Session: 1

Board: 6

Dealer: E
Vul: EW

	North		
	♠ 92		
	♥ AK632		
	♦ 2		
West	♣ AJ954	East	
♠ Q106		♠ J873	
♥ 74		♥ J985	
♦ AKQ95		♦ J874	
♣ 1062	South	♣ Q	
	♠ AK54		
	♥ Q10		
	♦ 1063		
	♣ K873		

After a 1NT opening from South, Bourke - Ramshaw reached 6♣. With nothing wasted in diamonds and the ♣Q coming down, declarer was able to easily manage to establish hearts for +920. North-South stopped in 5♣ on replay.

This one got away at both tables:

Session: 1

Board: 16

Dealer: W
Vul: EW

	North		
	♠ 98		
	♥ AJ7		
	♦ A83		
West	♣ AK1093	East	
♠ Q432		♠ 107	
♥ Q954		♥ 832	
♦ K4		♦ Q97652	
♣ J72	South	♣ 85	
	♠ AKJ65		
	♥ K106		
	♦ J10		
	♣ Q64		

West	North	East	South
<i>McDonald</i>	<i>Ramshaw</i>	<i>Walsh</i>	<i>Bourke</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣ ¹
Pass	3♣ ²	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1. Check-back
2. 5 clubs, upper range.

With such a poor hand, West led the ♥8, hoping to find his partner's suit. North lost only one trick, to the ♠Q.

At the other table, the bidding was identical until South leapt to 6♣ over North's 3NT.

East led the ♦2, disguising the length of the suit. Declarer took the king and played a second diamond, hardly expecting to be overtrumped.

The spade lay-out provides an easy double-dummy play for 12 tricks but it is hard to be critical of North's line.

Session: 3

Board: 7

Dealer: S
Vul: All

	North		
	♠ AKJ8652		
	♥ 105		
	♦ 7		
West	♣ AJ10	East	
♠ Q743		♠ 109	
♥ KJ		♥ AQ9743	
♦ 62		♦ 985	
♣ K9874	South	♣ Q6	
	♠ —		
	♥ 862		
	♦ AKQJ1043		
	♣ 532		

After South had opened to show 6+ diamonds, 4♠ was bid by North at both tables. Alan Walsh led a diamond against Griffin's contract. Declarer pitched a losing heart on the second diamond and played a third, no doubt hoping that West would have to trump with Qxx in spades. West ruffed and was overruffed but West exited with hearts when in with the ♠Q, leaving declarer to concede two clubs.

At the other table, East led the ♣Q and declarer could take a heart pitch on the second round of diamonds, losing just a spade, a heart and a club.

The final score was **Walsh 147 - Ramshaw 110**.

Analysis supplied by Ron Klinger

ABF Website

Peter Fordham gives his time each month to host the 'What Should I Bid' page on the ABF website, www.abf.com.au. Each month his selection for the best inquiry received during the month is posted on the site. The winner receives a voucher for \$20, funded by the ABF, toward any purchase made at the Bridge Shop. The best April submission came from **Fraser Rew**.

Hand: First in hand at unfavourable vulnerability I held ♠K65 ♥AQJ74 ♦K54 ♣Q6

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1♥	1♠	X	Pass
?			

Comments:

Playing two over one game force, five card majors and 15-17 1NT opening, I have been told that bidding NT here has a less rigidly defined point count here than it would in an uncontested auction.

What do you think, and, if you disagree with this, what would you have bid?

And Peter's Response:

Hi Fraser,

An interesting question! One way to look at it, is this: What are the alternatives?

2NT - No, a gross overbid.

2♥ - Possible, but this bid ought to show 6 hearts here.

2♦ - Again, possible, but lacks a fourth diamond and is a mild underbid.

1NT - a mild underbid.

Anything else - not even close.

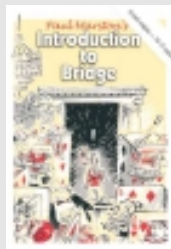
So there you have it. In a classical sense all bids are in some way flawed. So, one or other of the bids must be stretched in some manner. I would suggest that on some hands with the same shape but a slightly different location of the same high cards, 2♥ is the best compromise, on others 2♦, and on others again, 1NT.

On this particular hand, I prefer 1NT and would not be too critical of 2♥. In essence what I am saying is that bidding is often about selecting the least stretch. 1NT fits the bill here. Note that, with a point or two more, a similar discussion arises around whether to bid 2NT, 3♦ or 3♥, this time the stretch being downwards rather than upwards.

This sort of hand and this sort of problem is what leads some experts to advocate opening 1NT, despite holding the 5-card major.

*Regards
Peter Fordham*

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Beginners love the book because they find it easy to read and understand. This is thanks to the simple language and the carefully chosen content of each chapter. For example, beginners often have trouble distinguishing between a change of suit response and a limit bid. So these two concepts are introduced in different chapters.

In the last Australian Bridge Teachers survey, more than 50% of the teachers in Australia said they use *Introduction to Bridge* with their beginners' lessons. Many of these teachers have made useful contributions to the fourth edition.

What's changed?

Now it is 12 HCP to open, five card majors and 25 TP for game. This is to fall in line with what has become mainstream practice. The preface contains a five page section on basic card play. To understand the bidding you have to know about card play. Most students already know the very basics of card play so it is very tough for the minority who don't. This new section is for them.

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WORKING OUT DECLARER'S HOLDING

What is declarer's holding in the following situations when you have led to 3NT:

From ♠Q8752 you lead the ♠5. Dummy holds ♠64:

- 1) Partner plays the ♠10 and declarer wins the ♠A
- 2) Partner plays the ♠J and declarer wins the ♠A
- 3) Partner plays the ♠K and declarer wins the ♠A
- 4) Partner plays the ♠9 and declarer wins the ♠A

From ♠10952 you lead the ♠2. Dummy holds ♠64:

- 5) Partner plays the ♠8 and declarer wins the ♠A
- 6) Partner plays the ♠J and declarer wins the ♠A
- 7) Partner plays the ♠Q and declarer wins the ♠K
- 8) Partner plays the ♠K and declarer wins the ♠A

From ♠J652 you lead the ♠2. Dummy holds ♠64:

- 9) Partner plays the ♠8 and declarer wins the ♠A

From ♠J952 you lead the ♠2. Dummy holds ♠64:

- 10) Partner plays the ♠8 and declarer wins the ♠A
- 1) ♠AK9. Declarer would win the ♠J holding ♠AKJ, so partner is marked with ♠J10 and declarer with ♠AK9 (with J109 the correct card from partner is the 9). Also the ♠A or the ♠K would be an automatic play from partner when dummy holds two small cards.

If dummy held Q64, then it would be correct play to finesse against dummy by playing the 10 from K103 when dummy plays the 4. However if you withhold your ace or king when dummy has only small cards you are finessing against partner, and

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risk letting declarer win a free trick with the queen or jack.

- 2) ♠AK10. In third seat the defender plays the lower/lowest of touching honours, so the jack denies the ten. Declarer must have AK as well, so declarer started with AK10. If you gain the lead a switch is recommended.
- 3) Don't know. Either partner or declarer could hold the ♠J or the ♠10. If declarer held Axx then the normal play would be to hold up until the third round of the suit, so you could rule this possibility out of the equation.
- 4) ♠AK. And partner holds ♠J109. Partner would play the ♠K, their highest, so declarer must hold the ♠K, and declarer would win with the ♠J holding ♠AKJ.
- 5) ♠AKQJ7. Partner would play their highest card as a matter of course, and with 7-8 would play the 7, so declarer is marked with the 7. Putting it all together declarer's holding must be AKQJ7.
- 6) Don't know. Partner would play the jack when J-high and also from QJ or KQJ.
- 7) ♠AKJ. Declarer would have done better to win with the ♠A, leaving you unsure who held the ♠K. If partner held ♠QJ the jack would be the correct card, so declarer holds ♠AKJ. Now you know declarer holds 8 points in one suit it should be easy to place the rest of the points.
- 8) ♠AQ maybe ♠AQJ. You don't know about the ♠J, since with ♠KJ partner would automatically play ♠K, the highest.
- 9) ♠AKQ7. If declarer held ♠AKQ10 then the 10 would win the first trick. Partner's 8 is consistent with 1098, so declarer has AKQ7 and partner 1098. If partner held 10987 then the 7 would be the correct card at trick one.
- 10) ♠AKQ10. There is no way partner would play the 8 when holding 10 and 8, so declarer is winning the ace when the ten would suffice. Why is declarer sacrificing a trick. To encourage you to continue, or are they just asleep at the wheel? Every chance declarer is very weak in another suit, and is trying to put you off the scent.

Paul Lavings

Australia Wins Right To Hold World Youth Team Championship

The Australian Bridge Federation has won the right to hold the 2005 World Youth Team Championship [WYTC] which will take place in August 2005 at Sydney Olympic Park.

Eighteen international teams will take part in this prestigious event with players 26 and under coming from Europe, North and South America, Africa and Asia as well as Australia and New Zealand.

WYTC is held every two years and was first held in 1987 in Amsterdam. This is the first time that Australia will host the event. Italy, Great Britain and the USA have two wins each while Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands have one each.

Mr. David Stern of the Australian Bridge Federation says "Sydney has 70 of the 325 registered clubs throughout Australia so it was a logical choice for this World Championship". Also, the acceptance of bridge by the International Olympic Committee as a sport made the Sydney Olympic precinct a favourite with the Australian and World Bridge Federations.

Australia will hold their selection trials in Canberra in January 2005, where it is expected that more than 100 players of varying standards will battle for a spot on the 6 person Australian team. With the growing number of talented under 25 bridge players in Australia the competition promises to be very fierce and Australia stands a very good chance of doing extremely well in the World Championship.

Through participation in online bridge games, Australia boasts a growing community of young players all around the country. Gone are the days of bridge being perceived as an old people's game. Unlike most other competitive sports, players of all standards compete in open competitions with some of the best players in the world so our representative youth players often practice with our open representatives and thereby fine tune their skills.

With young players such as Agustin Madala of Argentina and Canada's Gavin Wolpert and Vince Demuy who have played in their National open teams, the Bello brothers from Italy and Joel Woodridge of the USA we expect to see a standard of competition rarely seen in Australia.

2005 World Youth Teams Championship

HELP WANTED

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Help with collecting the teams from the airport, hosting them during the event and escorting them to the associated functions

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We will require assistance with the planning and implementation of the plan for the event

Helpers during the actual event

We will require an extensive team of people including hospitality desk, board caddies, logistical assistance, score runners and vu-graph assistance as well as other areas which will become apparent as preparation begins

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If you believe that you have skills which we can use either before or during the event then please let us know

David Stern and Peter Gill

Co-convenors

youth@dbbc.net or david_stern@yahoo.com

Book & Software Reviews

KANTAR ON KONTRACT BY EDDIE KANTAR (MASTERPOINT PRESS, ONTARIO, CANADA)

How does Kantar continue to write such wonderful books, with the perfect mixture of humour and instruction? Billed as “Kantar’s best ever bridge columns” his latest book features just under 100 columns, which are so full of drama and tragedy they are really bridge short stories.

There are deals from bridge’s history, from his beginners lessons, with girlfriends, with expert partners, and deals passed on to him by others. The hands where Eddie has suffered disasters with other experts were my favourite, though this deal was a happier tale:

Dealer: S		North		
		♠ 54		
		♥ KQ54		
		♦ 84		
	West	♣ AQ983	East	
	♠ 876		♠ AJ1032	
	♥ J1076		♥ 2	
	♦ QJ10653		♦ K92	
	♣ —	South	♣ J1076	
		♠ KQ9		
		♥ A983		
		♦ A7		
		♣ K542		

Kantar was West and Billy Eisenberg East. South opened 1NT, and was soon declarer in 4♥ after a Stayman sequence. If hearts and clubs break, 6♥ is a good contract, but when both suits break 4-1 the contract is doomed to go one down. But look what happened. West led the ♦Q to South’s ace, East signalling encouragement with the ♦9. Declarer continued with three rounds of trumps, and then started playing clubs, first the king and then low to the queen, Kantar pitching spades.

Now declarer tried a spade and the roof fell in. Eisenberg won the ♠A and played the ♦2 to Kantar’s 10. Eddie now played the ♥J drawing both outstanding trumps, and Eisenberg pitched his ♦K on this trick, allowing Kantar to cash his remaining four diamonds for four down. Brilliant!

JACOBY 2NT, ROMAN KEY CARD BLACKWOOD, SPLINTER BIDS (MASTERPOINT PRESS, ONTARIO, CANADA, 2003)

Whenever you bid even a reasonable slam, you can expect a good score. Clearly slam bidding is a big weakness of nearly every partnership, and these three 74 page booklets focus on the three most popular and useful slam methods. Each booklet first provides a description of the slam method, then 40 quiz hands, 40 sample auctions and finally 40 hands for the partnership to bid.

Look how easy this deal is using Roman Key Card Blackwood:

♠ 3	♠ A5
♥ J1087	♥ AKQ5
♦ AKQJ98	♦ 54
♣ A2	♣ K843
	1♥
2NT	3♥
4NT	5♦
5♠	6♣
7♥ (or 7NT)	

- 2NT = Jacoby, game force 4 card support
- 3♥ = 16+ no singleton or void
- 4NT = RKCB
- 5♦ = 0 or 3 key cards
- 5♠ = Do you have ♥Q
- 6♣ = Yes + ♣K

Paul Lavings

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**THE NO TRUMP ZONE BY DANNY KLEINMAN
(MASTER POINT PRESS)**

Warning! Original material can be found in this book. That's almost a recommendation in itself, what with the proliferation of rehashed theory to be found in many new books.

The author is a bidding panelist and contributor to *The Bridge World* magazine, but I have not seen any mention of his twenty or so self-published books anywhere. Maybe that is a pity.

This book will only appeal to the more serious player who wants to think deeply about bidding. The first chapter considers various notrump opening ranges from the Kamikaze 10 – 12 to the strong 16 – 18. The strengths and weaknesses, advantages and disadvantages of each are analysed in depth. The point count system is rehashed to give Kleinman Points. Lest I put potential readers off, let me say that, despite the depth of the content, Kleinman's prose is actually fairly readable.

He does his best to make the topics memorable – hence his Four Ss mnemonic – Spots, Shape, Strays and Shorts when deciding to open in notrump. Chapter 2 reviews the basic notrump engine, but that's the last of anything that looks easy or basic.

Later chapters consider many bells and whistles to add to the basic engine, some of which are the author's own invention (e.g. KANTAR), while others have recently surfaced in other books (Yellow Rose of Texas).

Competitive bidding rates a chapter, with many more bidding tools. Kleinman also proposes some fixes for some good old conventions such as Astro and Brozel.

Needless to say, I was more impressed with this book than with many recent offerings. I admire originality, thoroughness, and an even-handed approach and the book has a professional air about it.

John Hardy

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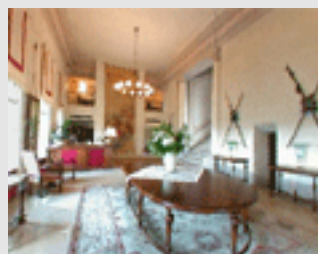
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16	Agnes PINI	3.62	33 Beth SHAW	2.02	50 Pip FRANCIS	4.20

Category 5 (301-800)

1	Tony SIMPSON	11.65
2	John BAILEY	11.55
3	Frank ARNOLD	10.26
4	Kay THOMPSON	9.94
5	Gaylene MASTERS	9.89
6	Jan DE JONG	9.80
7	Pat ROGERS	9.64
8	Edward GOODSALL	9.47
9	Elizabeth THOMSON	9.38
10	Maureen CORNISH	8.96
11	Joan MAIDES	8.85
12	Alfred DENNIS	8.80
13	Rita LEEMING	8.35
14	Enid DAWES	8.24
15	Mrs E WHITE	8.17
16	Noel MADSEN	8.08
17	Edna HODGEN	8.05
18	Sylvia DWARSHUIS	8.03
19	Ron STAGG	7.99
20	Rosina GRAHAM	7.91
21	George ASHBY	7.82
22	Bruce JOHNSON	7.77
23	Renate FEIGE	7.77
24	Ken ROBINSON	7.71
25	Peggy MILLIDGE	7.63
26	Di ROBINSON	7.59
27	Jim SEXTON	7.53
28	Siegfried FEIGE	7.52
29	Colin MARTIN	7.45
30	Bal KRISHAN	7.44
31	Ken ELSE	7.39
32	Ray MALONEY	7.36
33	Valda HALCROFT	7.29

34	Shirley McCULLOCH	7.27
35	Joyce BENSON	7.25
36	Roger WATTS	7.21
37	Dianne KAJONS	7.20
38	Elizabeth JEFFERY	7.18
39	Stephen HUGHES	7.16
40	Fay LARKIN	7.14
41	George AUDLEY	7.12
42	Audrey MADSEN	7.09
43	Jean CRANDELL	7.05
44	Mary WHITE	7.01
45	Merle LINDFIELD	6.92
46	Barbara HASTIE	6.83
47	Frank MELHUISE	6.82
48	Alma FRASER	6.81
49	Violet VELLA	6.79
50	Ruth OLSEN	6.73

Category 6 (801+)

1	David GRAEBNER	29.51
2	Thelma CHARLESWORTH	26.20
3	Ian HEAIRFIELD	25.79
4	Paul AZZOPARDI	24.56
5	Gwen BADENOCH	21.97
6	Ian CHARLESWORTH	21.17
7	Stan POGACIC	20.94
8	Darko JANZEKOVIC	20.18
9	Peter LEDEN	18.58
10	Robert HECKER	18.37
11	Jim MAY	18.02
12	John BEYFUS	17.24
13	Edi SFREDDO	17.13
14	Fred STEVENS	17.12
15	John SMITH	16.98
16	Jack FALK	16.89

17	Mary HECKER	15.41
18	John DAVENPORT	15.21
19	Jean RICHMOND	15.04
20	John MARSHALL	14.99
21	Matthew FACTOR	14.81
22	Doreen TOMLIN	14.47
23	Lilli ALLGOOD	14.27
24	John EDWARDS	14.21
25	Rita SKINNER	14.00
26	Anne ALLEN	13.94
27	Leigh THOMPSON	13.50
28	Clare SASSON	13.39
29	Joan MANNING	13.05
30	Douglas HARDMAN	13.03
31	Iris HUGHES	12.95
32	Elspeth SAXBY	12.86
33	Andrew BARANY	12.75
34	Bev FREEMAN	12.74
35	Kathleen JOB	12.47
36	Keith FREE	12.27
37	Tom STACK	12.26
38	Neva BRETNALL	12.18
39	Harold KISSIN	12.15
40	Patricia HILLE	12.12
41	Kevin BATTERSBY	11.65
42	Mary SQUIRE	11.49
43	Sunil MUKHERJEE	11.48
44	Elaine TAYLOR	11.48
45	Mary HILLHOUSE	11.24
46	Hester GEISSLER	11.18
47	Margaret BRITTEN	11.15
48	Tom KISS	11.07
49	Jean COLMER	10.99
50	Judith PURCELL	10.99



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COFFS HARBOUR, NSW



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Coaching Cathy at Contract

COMPETITIVE CONSTERNATION

Greetings Guru,

I wonder if you can help to explain why we are suffering in the contested auctions. I never seem to get it right – when I bid on, we should have defended and, when I pass, we should have competed.

I can't remember such a rash of repulsive results from simple competitive bidding situations. Best to show you some recent horrific specimens.

CONSTERNATION #1

We were vulnerable, they weren't.

♠ AQ7
♥ AJ6
♦ 96
♣ K10965

West	North <i>Glenda</i>	East	South <i>Me</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♦	X	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	??

Glenda's X showed 6-9 points and at least one 4 card major.

Well, I bid 4♣ because I had quite a nice hand and went one down. 3♠ is not a good contract as they only had a 4-3 fit. Most people played in clubs or 1NT, making.

CONSTERNATION #2

Nobody vulnerable:

♠ 976
♥ K987
♦ K1085
♣ 76

West	North <i>Pick-up Pd</i>	East	South <i>Me</i>
—	1♥	Pass	2♥
X	Pass	2♠	??

We were playing 5 card majors (and I know that we had a 9 card fit, etc. etc). Anyway, I passed and they made 2♠. Some pairs made 3♥ and some went one off. Either way, the score would have been better if I had bid 3♥ but I had such a rotten minimum hand, I thought that I shouldn't bid again. Right or wrong?

CONSTERNATION #3

Everyone was vulnerable (I think):

♠ Q10865
♥ J62
♦ 8754
♣ 7

West	North <i>Glenda</i>	East	South <i>Me</i>
—	1NT	—	Pass
Pass 2♦	Pass	2♣ 3♣	Pass All Pass

Glenda's 1NT was 15-17 and our opponents were playing 2♣ as a single suited overcall.

I was hoping that I could bid 2♠ after finding out what East's suit was but I didn't want to bid 3♠. Of course, Glenda had four spades for me and we could have made 3♠. As it happens, 3♣ made as well.

*Consterned,
Cathy*

Dear Cathy,

There are a number of principles which I apply to competitive auctions and they have helped me to make good decisions fairly consistently. Partscores are

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important in pretty much all forms of bridge and we should not give up without a struggle but, on the other hand, it is important to know *when* to give up the struggle. So here are a few ideas.

1. Object of the part-score battle is to win the bidding in a sustainable contract or push the opponents past their own comfort zone
2. In general, the criterion for pushing harder is extra fit quality rather than extra hand strength.
3. The three level is usually the axis of the competitive auction
4. If you think you have been outmanoeuvred, X is OK at pairs
5. Keep the Law of Total Tricks in mind
6. Know the opponents who always bid 'one more' – they usually give you a free opportunity to push.

Applying these criteria to your examples, hand one is not a hand to push on to the four level. Firstly, you have pretty much described your hand and you have good defensive cards. This has been a disappointing auction as it is probably your hand. The other options were pass and double. The double looks risky but I would expect that 3♠ undoubled won't be much good for you, making or not, so you have little to lose.

In the second example, you know that you have a 9 card heart fit and the opposition appear to have an 8+ card spade fit. Your hand is not as bad as you think, with your two kings looking to be pulling their weight and your doubleton club. The two arguments for bidding 3♥ are a) that you should be prepared to play an extra level with extra trumps and b) you should be reluctant to allow the opponents to play in their 8 card fit at the two level.

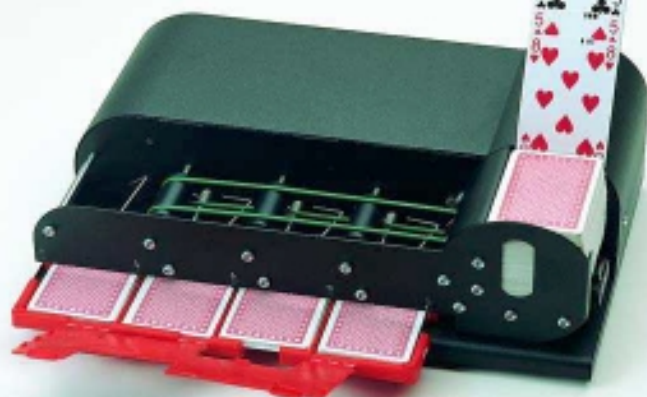
On the last, you hooked yourself by being too timid. Had RHO passed, you would have transferred to spades and allowed partner to play in 2♠. A free bid at the two level after a 1NT opening should be only competitive and, as is often the case, you will usually benefit by taking your chances early.

*Regards,
David*

David Lusk

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The Director's Chair

PROPRIETIES

Chapter 7 of the Laws deals with 'Proprieties', having dealt with bidding and play aspects.

The next 5 laws define the principles with which the players are expected to conform. Law 72; 'General Principles' looks at the obligation of players to conform to the accepted procedure of the game. These principles include the requirement that all tournaments be played in strict accordance with the laws.

- Players must never accept scores that they are not entitled to.
- Players should not waive penalties, although they may ask the director to do so.
- Players should NEVER try to act as director and make table rulings. It is odds on that the ruling will be wrong.

This law also makes mention of the appropriateness of an innocent side to select advantageous options of law and that the offending side, once having paid the prescribed penalty, can make any call or play that profits their side. As an example, due to an inadvertent opening call out of turn, barring partner, the offender decides to open 3NT which happens to make due to a favourable lie of the cards. This turns out to be a top board. Whilst the innocent side has received a bad score, there is no redress as the offending player 'gambled' the 3NT and, having paid the prescribed penalty, cannot be penalised twice.

Players are expressly forbidden to contravene law deliberately. If the director deems that a player could have known that an irregularity would be likely to damage the other side, he will direct the auction and play to continue, awarding an adjusted score if the offending side gained through the irregularity. When a player makes an inadvertent infraction, there is no obligation for him to draw attention to it. However there is an obligation on the player not to attempt to conceal the infraction in any way. If you revoke, don't attempt to hide it by mixing up your cards, conceding or deliberately revoking a second time to avoid the disclosure.

Law 73; 'Communication'. Bridge is a game of communicating with partner through approved methods. Under no circumstances are players permitted secret understandings or methods which show strengths, weaknesses or other information.

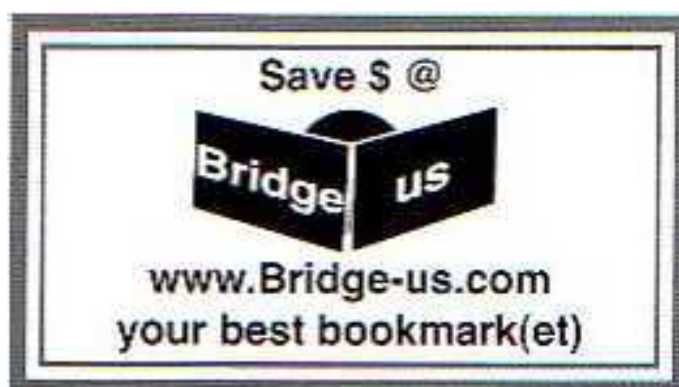
Players should be aware of tempo sensitive situations, carefully avoiding any suggestion of giving partner information by way of calls that are out of the tempo of the auction. Players should be careful of the manner in which they conduct themselves, carefully avoiding remarks, gestures, expressions, requests for explanations and the myriad of ways by which partner could illegally gain information.

Players often forget that directors come from a playing background, so they are well aware of what goes through their minds when their partners hesitate, squirm or otherwise show discomfort. Law deals fairly harshly with communication infractions, giving every advantage to the non-offending side.

In many cases when the director is called over 'unauthorised information', the response or excuse by the non-offending side is either "I didn't notice" or "I have my bid". Both of these statements are self-serving. The law expects players to realise their obligations when faced with unauthorised information. It is no longer a case of "I was always going to bid", rather an obligation to avoid taking action which could have been suggested by the illegal information.

Law 73D looks at 'Variation in Tempo or Manner'. This recognises that not all calls and plays can be executed at the same speed and that an inadvertent variation in tempo or manner does not in itself constitute a violation of propriety, only the favourable inferences drawn by partner. In other words, to hesitate is not an infraction but any player who does hesitate must know that partner may now be in receipt of unauthorised information and may have an ethical problem in continuing the auction or play. Note that deliberate tempo breaks, unless authorised by regulation are infractions if the intent is to deceive an opponent.

Richard Grenside



ABF Calendar

Date	Event/Contact	Location/Phone
June		
4-5	World-Wide Pairs Contest Anna Gudge	<i>anna@ecats.co.uk</i>
11-14	Barrier Reef Congress Kim Ellaway	Mackay (07) 3855 3331 <i>qldbridge@ozemail.com.au</i>
10-11	McCance Trophy Jenny Thompson	Melbourne 0407 343 350 <i>jennyt@youngaustralians.org</i>
12-14	Victor Champion Cup Jenny Thompson	Melbourne 0407 343 350
July		
3-10	NZ Nationals Fran Jenkins	Hamilton 64 4 473 7748 <i>fran@nzcba.co.nz</i>
10	Youth Test v NZ David Lusk	Hamilton, NZ (08) 8336 3954 <i>lusk@internode.on.net</i>
10-18	PABF Congress Val Brockwell	Taipei (02) 6239 2265 <i>secretariat@abf.com.au</i>
23-	ANC	Melbourne
Aug 7	Jeannette Collins	0411 189 198 <i>jcollins@tpg.com.au</i>
August		
28-29	Swan River Swiss Pairs Hilary Yovich	Perth (08) 9431 8116 <i>dyovich@mail.iinet.net.au</i>
September		
9-12	Sydney Festival & DCBRP John McIlrath	Sydney (02) 9922 3644 <i>johnmcilrath@ozemail.com.au</i>
25-27	Youth Triathlon David Lusk	Adelaide (08) 8336 3954
October		
1-4	Hans Rosendorff Memorial Congress - Perth (Women's Teams & Men's Swiss Pairs) Sue Pynt	Perth (08) 9389 8549 <i>manikato@iinet.net.au</i>
16-17	Australian Swiss Pairs Barkley Walker	Launceston (03) 6391 8408 <i>bnwalker@netspeed.com.au</i>
22-	WBF Olympiad	Istanbul, Turkey
6 Nov	Val Brockwell	(02) 6239 2265 <i>secretariat@netspeed.com.au</i>
November		
11-18	Spring Festival Frank Budai	Sydney (02) 9958 2374 <i>budai@all.com.au</i>
19-21	GNOT Final John Brockwell	Sydney (02) 6246 5093 <i>jbrockwell@ozemail.com.au</i>
26-28	Golden West Swiss Pairs Allison Stralow	Mandurah, WA (08) 9339 3823 <i>allison_stralow@yahoo.com</i>

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McCutcheon Trophy Standings - As At 30 April 2004

Best Performing: Of all Masters			DAVIS, Ross	NSW	41.41	HARDMAN, Douglas	WA	18.84
JEDRYCHOWSKI, Richard	NSW	227.14	MANN, Bill	SA	41.31	MOSA, Eddie	QLD	18.75
HANS, Sartaj	NSW	195.83	DREYER, Frank	NSW	40.68	WILLIAMS, Barry	QLD	16.49
DEL'MONTE, Ishmael	NSW	190.79	Best Performing: **National Masters			BRENTNALL, Neva	NSW	15.62
MORTIMER, David	SA	172.96	ADAMS, Elizabeth	NSW	36.63	GARRICK, Frances	NSW	13.11
COURTNEY, Michael	NSW	157.50	SASSON, Clare	NSW	34.84	FREEMAN, Wendy	ACT	13.07
NAGY, Zolly	SA	154.09	CHAN, Thai	NSW	33.61	BALLARD, Fiona	NSW	12.84
CUMMINGS, Valerie	NSW	151.63	MANICCAVASAGAR, Bala			VAYDA, Steven	QLD	12.69
GILL, Peter	NSW	149.93				Best Performing: **Local Masters		
EBERY, Jamie	VIC	145.76	McERLEAN, Tina	NSW	32.45	BOXALL, Wendy	ACT	25.52
JANZEKOVIC, Darko	QLD	143.38	PALMER, Helen	SA	30.70	SCHOEN, Pam	QLD	20.96
Best Performing: Silver Grand Masters			MANTON, John	NSW	28.53	HOWARD, Nathan	VIC	18.39
DEL'MONTE, Ishmael	NSW	190.79	HORAWICZ, Ted	QLD	26.55	CAMPBELL, Elizabeth	NSW	17.65
COURTNEY, Michael	NSW	157.50	MIKI, Kayoko	WA	22.61	MUKHERJEE, Sunil	QLD	17.55
NAGY, Zolly	SA	154.09	ADAMS, Jeanne	SA	22.22	RHODES, Maura	QLD	17.55
CUMMINGS, Valerie	NSW	151.63	Best Performing: *National Masters			PFEIFFER, James	WA	16.68
GILL, Peter	NSW	149.93	OSMUND, James	QLD	55.72	SUNTHARAMOORTHY, Kandiah	NSW	16.59
BOURKE, Margaret	ACT	140.45	YEZERSKI, Alex	NSW	49.65		VIC	14.76
KLINGER, Ron	NSW	139.94	WOOD, Kerry	NSW	49.65	BIRON, Denise	NSW	14.05
NEILL, Bruce	NSW	139.94	WOOD, Kerry	QLD	41.58	SINGH, Mohinder	NSW	13.74
NUNN, Tony	NSW	132.07	LINDSAY, Maria	QLD	40.23	Best Performing: *Local Masters		
GOLD, Leigh	NSW	131.82	FANOS, Elizabeth	NSW	38.86	PENNEY, Deborah	SA	22.80
Best Performing: Grand Masters			GIBSON, Elizabeth	QLD	36.22	ROSE, Bernie	VIC	19.76
HANS, Sartaj	NSW	195.83	CHOSID, Ben	NSW	36.10	MEAKINS, Robert	NSW	17.83
EBERY, Jamie	VIC	145.76	TAIT, Roberta	QLD	35.98	MORLEY, Michael	NSW	15.75
WYER, Paul	NSW	139.36	DAWSON, Jane	NSW	34.16	DE VILLIERS, Alma	SA	14.00
MULLAMPHY, Matthew	NSW	124.67	GRUIA, Callin	NSW	34.14	GEROMBOUX, Miche	NSW	13.09
LORENTZ, Gabi	NSW	120.54	Best Performing: National Masters			MUNDELL, Desley	QLD	12.05
HAY, Jillian	NSW	114.29	HILLE, Patricia	QLD	46.96	COBCROFT, Jilli	NSW	11.78
FRANCIS, Neville	QLD	112.22	GOSNEY, Paul	QLD	44.78	GOULD, James	NSW	10.97
HORTON, David	SA	111.68	RITTER, Catherine	NSW	44.59	DOUGLASS, Gordon	NSW	9.99
PRESCOTT, Michael	NSW	111.07	LINDSAY, Bill	QLD	40.82	Best Performing: Local Masters		
CLARK, Alida	WA	107.32	MOSCHNER, Ken	QLD	36.52	VARMO, Jan	QLD	81.58
Best Performing: Gold Life Masters			BARDEN, Bianca	QLD	35.60	GUTHRIE, Julie	NSW	22.39
MORTIMER, David	SA	172.96	STEPHENS, Adrienne	ACT	32.70	GUTHRIE, Mark	NSW	22.39
MALACZYNSKI, Wally	NSW	77.54	FORAN, Leigh	NSW	31.46	PANG, Rosa	NSW	19.34
TUXWORTH, Anthony	QLD	75.49	KEIM, John	QLD	30.56	EVANS, Pamela	QLD	17.65
INGHAM, Susan	NSW	71.80	HOLBROOK, Val	ACT	29.53	LAM, Eric	NSW	17.09
MOSES, Larry	QLD	60.61	Best Performing: *State Masters			ALDONS, Malcolm	ACT	16.01
HALMOS, Andrew	VIC	58.46	KAMALARASA, Sanmugaras	QLD	57.13	BRAID, Heather	SA	15.76
COWAN, Richard	NSW	58.09	PETTIGREW, Ann	ACT	35.47	DUFFY, Tricia	QLD	15.42
GRANT, Peter	ACT	57.60	WELLS, Peter	QLD	34.18	DAWES, Ines	QLD	13.28
LASOCKI, Arian	SA	57.15	McADAM, David	QLD	32.98	Best Performing: Club Masters		
MARINOS, Tony	ACT	55.70	CLYNE, Jan	VIC	32.58	KING, Gwen	QLD	16.68
Best Performing: Silver Life Masters			BAKER, Herschel	QLD	31.02	RUSHFORD, Tom	VIC	13.72
JEDRYCHOWSKI, Richard	NSW	227.14	ORDER, Tori	NSW	30.08	McDONALD, Elizabeth	NSW	13.05
BRIFMAN, Mary-Anne	NSW	105.82	POTTER, Diane	NSW	29.58	THOMPSON, Philip	QLD	12.55
SOLOMON, Janeen	QLD	86.52	FERGUSON, Andrew	ACT	26.60	WOKES, Julia	NSW	12.13
HOOD, Jill	VIC	70.66	LAU, Shirley	NSW	26.33	DEAN, Kevin	QLD	10.23
PHILLIPS, Shirley	NSW	53.62	Best Performing: State Masters			ROBERTS, Geoffrey	QLD	10.23
LOWRY, Helen	NSW	53.48	PENLINGTON, Paul	QLD	43.53	HOSKING, Belinda	VIC	10.20
MELLINGS, Ann	VIC	49.71	McARTHUR, Robert	QLD	43.29	CROSSMAN, Bruce	ACT	10.16
SPURRIER, Marion	VIC	49.64	GRIFFITHS, Nye	ACT	40.27	CROSSMAN, Bev	ACT	10.16
TOUTON, Richard	QLD	46.58	REITZER, Jeanette	NSW	38.69	Best Performing: Graduate Masters		
MORAWIECKI, Roman	QLD	46.30	KOBLER, Louise	NSW	33.32	GUMINSKI, Andrew	QLD	10.66
Best Performing: Bronze Life Masters			HORAN, Brian	QLD	30.89	BASTICK, Liam	VIC	8.57
FEILER, Gabby	NSW	69.03	COLLINS, Gay	VIC	30.50	CALLAGHAN, Colleen	NSW	7.52
DANTA, Gytis	ACT	58.70	HOUGHTON, Wayne	NSW	28.82	MILLER, Brian	NSW	6.64
WARE, Griff	ACT	55.68	HOUGHTON, Christine	NSW	28.82	SLOAN, Dave	WA	6.52
O'BRIEN, Joyce	QLD	51.61	AZZOPARDI, Paul	SA	25.46	ROGERS, John	NSW	6.20
SQUIRE, Mary	NSW	48.15	Best Performing: *Regional Masters			WILLIAMSON, Margaret	QLD	5.78
BROWN, Fiona	NSW	46.45	EDWARDS, John	SA	18.15	BOYCE, John	QLD	5.33
WALFORD, Tony	QLD	46.18	MARSHALL, John	SA	15.54	MUIR, Raji	VIC	5.28
RICHMAN, Sandra	TAS	44.16	STACK, Tom	WA	15.51	Best Performing: Nil Masters		
HEAIRFIELD, Ian	SA	43.13	COHEN, Ron	NSW	14.62	TAMISARI, Vittorio	QLD	15.73
KINLOCH, Robert	NSW	39.81	HAYES, Rosina	NSW	13.83	JACOBSON, Barrie	NSW	9.90
Best Performing: Life Masters			McLOUGHNEY, Ann	SA	13.29	DAVIS, Wanda	NSW	8.31
JANZEKOVIC, Darko	QLD	143.38	LEIGH, Anna	QLD	12.93	STURT, Warwick	NSW	7.66
DJUROVIC, Nevena	NSW	65.15	BARTHLOMEW, Tess	QLD	10.90	LI, Weihua	NSW	7.62
LIVSEY, Peter	NSW	60.71	TAVERNER, John	NSW	10.69	CZAPNIK, Alex	VIC	7.43
GEROMBOUX, Daniel	ACT	54.81	LANGLEY, Austin	WA	10.51	HAVAS, Ivan	WA	5.38
JENNER-O'SHEA, William	SA	49.48	Best Performing: Regional Masters			MUIR, Ian	VIC	5.10
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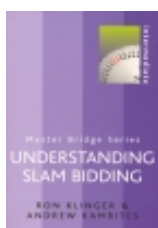
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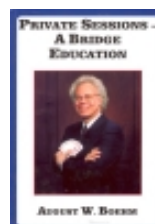
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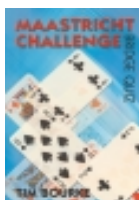
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Some of our forthcoming overseas bridge holiday packages include:-

Thailand - October 14 to 25 Staying 2 nights in Bangkok with a bridge day at the Polo Club included. Then fly to Phuket for 4 nights of half day tours and bridge against local players before flying to the magnificent Sofatel in Hua Hin for 4 more nights . Our new price including all fares from \$2649.

Calabria-Sicily-Malta - May 2005 Fly to Reggio for 3 nights of bridge against local players and a visit to Scilla Then ferry to Taormina, Sicily for 5 nights and enjoy tours to Syracuse, Mount Etna and Palermo. Then to Valletta, Malta with leisure time for exploring and bridge and day tours to Mdina, Rubat and Masta and Gozo. The price of \$5390 includes all dinners, breakfasts, most tours and airfares with Lufthansa.

Closer to home are these bridge cruises on the fantastic P&O Pacific Princess. But hurry the ship is filling!:-

Tasmania Bridge Cruise Dec 10 - 18 Enjoy 8 nights of luxury and great food and bridge onboard ship as we depart Sydney and visit Melbourne (for a game against local players), Devonport, Coles Bay, Hobart and Port Arthur before returning to Sydney. Your full daily bridge program, cocktail party and \$50 spending money are all included in our special price from \$2108.

Fiji Bridge Cruise Feb 20 - Mar 6, 2005 This 14 night luxury cruise leaves Sydney for Noumea, Dravuni Is, Yasaw-I-Rara, Suva, Vila, Mystery Is and Isle of Pines . We'll have some games against locals in our travels but mainly we'll enjoy bridge, wonderful meals and group activities onboard ship. The special price from \$3199 includes all bridge fees, cocktail party and \$50 spending money.

Note that all bridge and group activities on these cruises will be restricted to those who book with us.

Some upcoming local Australian holidays are:-

Terrigal - June 11 - 14 3 nights dinner, breakfast & bridge at the Clan Lakeside for \$479.

Moss Vale - Aug 17 - 19 2 nights/3 days dinner, breakfast and bridge at Dormie House for \$299.

These prices are based on twin share accommodation. Single supplements are available.

Back to Thredbo - Jan 5 - 11, 2005 Our big 20th birthday celebration is taking place at the Alpine Resort in Thredbo. To celebrate this wonderful milestone, we have combined with the Resort's management to put a fantastic package together at incredible prices. Our aim is to entice all those who have enjoyed Thredbo over those 20 years to return to this birthday week and for those who have not yet been to enjoy the celebration. Included in this incredible holiday will be our birthday party in the Eagles Nest Restaurant at the top of Australia.

Come join the party! Bridge clinics and training most mornings. Walk-in games each afternoon. Red point championships at night. Included in the incredible special price of \$599 are 6 nights twin share accommodation. Welcome and Farewell buffet dinners. Birthday party dinner and gondola rides to the Eagle Nest Restaurant plus all bridge fees.

Bridge players and non playing friends and spouses will all be welcome to join our holidays (non player discounts are available). Master points are awarded for all our bridge play sessions. Notes are provided for all training sessions. We offer pre dealt boards with hand records on our Australian bridge holidays and cruises. Trophies and prizes are awarded to successful players. We can assist you with partners, team mates and room mates if required. So why not either visit our website or contact us.

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