

President's Address

Due to renovations taking place at the National Convention Centre, The Hellenic Club, Woden will be the second venue for the 2007 Summer Festival of Bridge. At present, entries for the South West Pacific Teams have a heavy preference for the Rydges venue. I would like to urge players to consider the Hellenic Club. A free bus service will be provided from the city to Woden each day and there is free parking at Phillip College, directly opposite The Hellenic Club. Both the Quality Hotel and the Statesman are close to The Hellenic Club and are reasonable in terms of cost. I am sure we will return to the Convention Centre as soon as the renovations are completed.

I hope that the initiative of providing a Last Train Pairs event for the Women and the Seniors will be a success. The event was well received for the Open field in 2006. In 2007, players will have the choice to play in either an Open or a Seniors National Swiss Pairs event. I hope to see you all at this wonderful event, held from 15 to 29 January, 2007.

This year has been a good one for the Australian Bridge Federation and for all of our events. The Commonwealth Nations Championships in Melbourne was a bonus and again I need to thank Jennie Pratt, AC, and Richard Pratt, AC, for hosting the opening at their marvelous home Raheen and all the other sponsors (you are all special!).

The State Associations have all contributed but the real thanks must go to the outstanding effort at club level. I never cease to be pleased when I am told the repeated stories of the contributions by club players to their clubs. It is a little early but I do wish all players a happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year. As a New Year's resolution, I would like you all to commit to at least one ABF event for 2007. The 2007 Australian National Championships are in Perth and BAWA is looking forward to the usual high level of participation from all of our membership.

*Keith Mc Donald,
President (ABF)*

Editor's Opinion

Much has been written over the years about demanding more preparation for our international teams. Excuses such as problems with interstate partnerships, work commitments and the like always seem to get in the way. So for yet another cycle, our teams go into battle seriously underprepared.

Witness what happened in New Zealand this year, where the major goal was the PABF Championships. The national body decided that the costly international program was not delivering results, and it was decided that a National Coach be appointed. The coach would have wide-ranging powers to implement a program that met a number of aims and objectives. Alan Turner, a seasoned international, was appointed for 2006.

After the teams were selected, the coach addressed the concept of team culture and pride in representing the country. A Code of Conduct was drawn up, and the individual players had to sign a document agreeing to the terms of the document.

Each pair were asked to commit to regular play at clubs, practise on Bridge Base Online, and to attend major New Zealand and international tournaments.

A system of worksheets was distributed for each player to complete individually and then discuss and agree on. The teams were required to conform to the group travel and accommodation arrangements made by the governing body, and a team uniform was supplied to help contribute to a sense of pride in representation.

And, may you ask, was this of any benefit?

Judge for yourself. The Women's Team started well in the PABF event, and looked like winners for the entire event. The Open Team, up against strong opposition, finished in fourth position. The Seniors Team notched up a marked improvement on recent form.

It is my opinion that Australia has a very deep pool of talent to draw from, and our results do not reflect that talent adequately. There is already a notice on the New Zealand Contract Bridge Association's website calling for a coach for 2007. It should not be too late to think about an equivalent program for our Australian representative players.

The Oldies in Shanghai

I have been privileged to captain Australian Seniors teams each year since 2003, despite not being a senior myself. Maybe they think my relative youth may be a positive for the team, but who knows?

Each year I leave the tournament thinking that the team stands an excellent chance of doing well, but until this year I have returned to Australia with the thanks and profuse apologies of the team for not doing better. It was with this background that we left for the Pacific Asia Bridge Federation (also known as the Far East) Championships in Shanghai believing we had a sensational chance of winning.

The Australian Seniors Team of Peter Buchen, Bill Haughie, Ron Klinger, David Lilley, Andrew Markovics and Zoli Nagy rewarded my continuing faith in the team by winning the event not by a small margin but by one full match after leading by 43 Victory Points at one stage.

Captaining a team whose pairs finished second, fourth and fifth on the datums is a sheer joy for a captain. Here is an overview of the event:

Rd	Opponents	Buchen Markovics	Klinger Nagy	Haughie Lilley	VPs	Final Pos.
1	Australia Krochmalik	-16	19		16	3 rd
2	New Zealand	19		45	25	7 th
3	Japan Nishida	6		21	21	14 th
4	Chinese Taipei		2	17	20	2 nd
5	Thailand Thongchai		-31	-13	8	10 th
6	Japan Sugino	34	16		25	12 th
7	Thailand CBLT	25		20	25	11 th
8	China Kingdom	4	-11		13	5 th
9	Australia Bloom		15	17	22	9 th
10	China Guangzhou		21	13	22	6 th
11	Australia Grenside	39		-11	22	13 th
12	China Hong Kong		1	1	15	8 th
13	Japan Naito		-27	15	13	4 th
14	Japan Nishida	-12		26	18	14 th
15	Australia Grenside		9	47	25	13 th
16	Japan Sugino	34	8		24	12 th
17	Thailand CBLT	28		34	25	11 th
18	China Hong Kong		20	16	24	8 th
19	Thailand Thongchai	9		-39	8	10 th
20	New Zealand	-6	10		16	7 th
21	China Kingdom	3		17	20	5 th
22	China Guangzhou	-10	26		19	6 th
23	Australia Bloom		-6	13	17	9 th
24	Japan Naito	4		-2	15	4 th
25	Australia Krochmalik		53	11	25	3 rd
26	Chinese Taipei		12	1	18	2 nd
	Matches Played	15	17	20	501	1 st
	Average Per Match	11	8	13	19.3	

With the fine statistics produced by each pair it would be almost impossible not to win any tournament. Here are some hands provided by the team – not all successes but see what you have to do to win a major regional championship.

West deals, nil vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Markovics</i>		<i>Buchen</i>	
1♦	1♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Thailand 2 inflicted our only two heavy losses of the tournament. This board was one of the few bright spots in an otherwise forgettable match. Buchen, East led ♦2, showing three or more cards. Markovics won ♦J and switched to ♣J, ducked. Buchen exacted full punishment for this error by overtaking with ♣K and returning a spade, leading to one down. Declarer should have won the first club with the ace, drawn trumps then set up a diamond for a spade discard.

Every other pair, except one bid and made 4♥. The exception was Richard Grenside who, as East, had no inhibitions in responding 1♠ over partner's 1♦ opening and North's 1♥ overcall. This propelled EW into the good 4♠ save. This only went down when NS managed to engineer a club ruff. Richard's philosophy: "If you own the spade suit, bid it". Who can argue with that?

West deals, all vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
	<i>Buchen</i>		<i>Markovics</i>
2♣	Dbl	Pass	3♣
4♣	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

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This deal contributed significantly to our small win over New Zealand in the second round robin (after we had drubbed NZ 25-3 in the first match). The Kiwi West did nowhere near enough with his opening bid, a Precision 2♣, usually showing 11-15 points with six clubs or five clubs and a four-card major.

Buchen - Markovics brushed this aside with impunity, finding their eight-card major fit and even throwing in a mild slam invitation.

Buchen, North, won the club lead in dummy and was gratified to see the spade finesse lose. ♥K was now marked with West, so when East shifted to ♥10 Buchen considered playing West for the singleton king, but he also realised that the contract was pretty well assured regardless of West's red suit holding. He therefore put up ♥Q, covered by ♥K and ♥A, drew trumps, ducked a heart, won the heart continuation and ran all his trumps to squeeze East in the red suits. 11 tricks bid and made for +650. In the other room, Zoli Nagy opened 4♣ on the West hand and bought it there. That went only one down for -100 and 11 IMPs to Australia.

The next deal from the match against Japan demonstrated the importance of thinking things through:

Board 9: North deals, EW vul

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

Open Room

West	North <i>Buchen</i>	East	South <i>Markovics</i>
	1♣	1♠	Dbl
4♠	5♥	Pass	?

It would be easy enough for Andrew Markovics, South to simply pass 5♥, but he deduced that partner held either a very strong hand, or a void in spades with long strong clubs. Based on this he bid 6♥. The pair were rewarded with 11 IMPs when none of the other 13 tables bid slam.

Peter and Andrew's system suffered somewhat on the following hand:

West deals, NS vul

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

Closed Room

West	North <i>Buchen</i>	East	South <i>Markovics</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dbl
3♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

Playing standard methods, South could bid a forcing 2♥ over 1♠ but Peter and Andrew use negative free bids where 2♥ would have been natural and non-forcing.

This forced South to make two takeout doubles to try and elicit a bid from partner. Defeating 4♠ yielded only +100, which was scant compensation for the 650 they could have scored in 5♥. The datum on the board was +430 to NS, but in the actual match the team scored 7 IMPs when the opponents overreached to 6♥ doubled for -200.

North deals, EW vul

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

Open Room

West <i>Haughie</i>	North	East <i>Lilley</i>	South
	1NT	2♠	2NT
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South's 2NT was Lebensohl (asking North to bid 3♣). South led ♦A and continued diamonds. As the outstanding high cards were all marked on the bidding, East, David Lilley, continued with ♣Q to the ace, ran ♠J followed by a small club off the table. When North ducked there were 12 tricks. In the other room the bidding reached the five-level after a much more competitive auction that started with a 1♦ opening by North. Against 5♠ doubled, Andrew Markovics also led ♦A, but switched to hearts. With less information from the bidding, declarer misguessed trumps and ended up losing a trick in each suit, for 500 and 15 IMPs to Australia.

North deals, NS vul

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

Open Room

West <i>Lilley</i>	North	East <i>Haughie</i>	South
	2♦	Dbl	Pass
Pass	2♥	3♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♠ ¹	Pass	5NT ²	Pass
6♣ ³	Pass	7♠	All Pass

1. Nothing more to say
2. Tell me about your spades
3. I have one of the top three honours

Despite a minor mix-up in the bidding as a result of their playing Michaels in the direct seat over weak twos, but in some other situations playing a cuebid of the opponent's suit to show **any** two-suiter, Haughie - Lilley reached 7♠ after North had opened a Multi 2♦ showing a weak two in a major.

West took 3♣ to show spades and a minor. East thought he was showing 'any' two-suiter. When West bid 4♠, East thought partner had a long suit of his own, so headed off to the grand slam after finding out that he had one high trump honour via the 6♣ bid.

Anyway – the bidding is ancient history. How do you play after a trump lead?

After considering several lines of play in detail (which took five minutes and had Haughie fidgeting in his seat wondering why partner had not claimed), Lilley decided to put his money on the club finesse. If trumps broke 3-2 he would then be able to ruff two diamonds in hand to establish the 13th trick and would have no other complications. If trumps were 4-1, the distribution of the clubs and spades and inferentially the hearts would allow a reassessment before committing in diamonds.

This was successful, so the team gained 10 IMPs when the opponents in the other room very sensibly stopped in a small slam, although they chose the worst of these, 6♦, which is not much better, if at all, than 7♠, as declarer lacks entries to the West hand to take finesses in the minor suits. Would you have reached 6♠ (best) or 6♣ (only slightly inferior) – try and construct an auction.

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Perhaps the most dramatic hand and certainly our biggest swing came on this hand in the second last match.

North deals, all vul

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

Open Room

West <i>Nagy</i>	North	East <i>Klinger</i>	South
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦ ¹	Pass	5♠ ²
Pass	6♠ ³	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

1. 0 or 3 Key Cards
2. Just in case it is none
3. I have three

Unable to lead a trump, Klinger, East led a diamond to the queen, king and ace. Not needing a diamond ruff any more, North laid down ♠K - one down and 100 to EW.

East's failure to lead a trump is no guideline. It is exactly 50-50 whether East has all three trumps or no trumps.

At the other table:

Closed Room

West	North <i>Haughie</i>	East	South <i>Lilley</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠ ¹	Pass	4♦ ²
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥ ³
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

1. Forcing
2. Splinter
3. 2 Key Cards, no ♠Q

After a club lead, North needs to ruff a diamond so ♣A, ♥A, ♦A and a diamond ruff followed by ♠A and the spade finesse meant 13 tricks; +2210 and +20 IMPs – a 40 IMP swing on the location of ♠Q74!



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The team picked up two double figure swings for 4♠ making in our room and one off in the other room against the strong Chinese Taipei team.

South deals, EW vul

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

Open Room

West <i>Nagy</i>	North <i>Tsai</i>	East <i>Klinger</i>	South <i>Huang</i>
			Pass
2♦ ¹	Pass	2♥ ²	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

1. Multi
2. Pass or correct

Against Patrick Huang, Nagy, West led a heart to Klinger's ace. Klinger cashed ♣A before continuing with ♥9 to ♥10 as South played low. ♥K ensured a trump trick for East; one down, +50.

At the other table:

West	North <i>Haughie</i>	East	South <i>Lilley</i>
2♥ Pass	Db1 4♠	3♥ All Pass	Pass 3♠

West led a heart to East's ace, and East continued with a second heart. Believing East to hold three hearts for the raise to 3♥, West now switched to a diamond. This let the contract home when clubs were 3-3. +420 and +10 IMPs to Australia.

Zoli Nagy, West, showed fine judgement on the following deal:

North deals, nil vul

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

Open Room

West <i>Nagy</i>	North	East <i>Klinger</i>	South
5♥ All Pass	1♠ Pass	2♥ Pass	Db1 Db1

Klinger, East was down four, -800, when an opening club lead could lead to down five. In the Closed Room, the diamond slam scored +940, +4 IMPs to Australia. A 4♥ bid by North instead of the 3♥ bid chosen might lead to the grand slam, but no pair found 7♦.

Thanks to all members of the team who showed confidence in my captaincy and accepted my decisions graciously. I hope to be considered again.

If you have the time, energy and money, why not consider playing in the Transnational Teams to be held as part of the World Championships in Shanghai next year – I can assure you that you will love this unbelievable and awesome metropolis.

David Stern

Bridge Holidays with Ron and Suzie Klinger in 2006

**Salamander Shores
November 5-10**

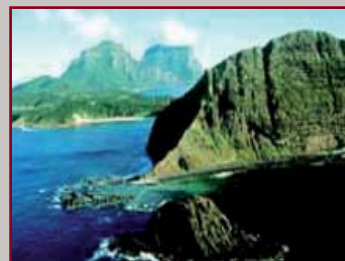


**Norfolk Island
November 25 -
December 2**

This is our 21st annual bridge holiday on the island, always our most popular destination.

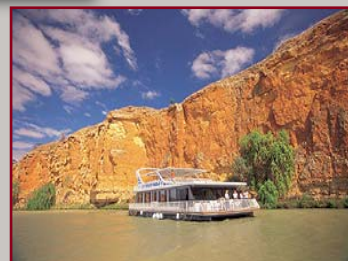
And in 2007 . . .

**Lord Howe Island
June 23-30**



**Kangaroo Island
July 29-August 5**

**Murray River
Bridge Cruise
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Norfolk Island - December 1-8

Details for any of the above from:

Holiday Bridge

P.O. Box 140

Northbridge NSW 1560

Tel: (02) 9958-5589

email: suzie@ron-klinger.com.au

World Youth Championships

Two youth teams were fortunate enough to travel to Bangkok, Thailand in July to compete in the 11th World Youth Teams Championships. The Schools team, comprising Andy Hung – Peter Hollands, Adam and Nabil Edgtton and Justin Howard – Michael de Livera, were captained by Cathy Mill.

The Junior Team, captained by John Roberts, consisted of a five-man team: Gabby Feiler - Justin Williams, Nye Griffiths – Mike Doecke, and Griff Ware, with an unfortunate last minute pullout by Matthew Porter due to work commitments.

On the Thursday of the week-long event, the Schools team had three of the toughest matches of all. Round Robin 9 was against Norway, who we defeated 20-10 VPs. Round Robin 10 was against Sweden, and Round Robin 11 was against Israel. These hands are against Sweden, a team which contains some fine-looking young ladies, and a world junior champion!



Emma Sjoberg and Sandra Rimstedt, Norway Schools Team

Board 1, North deals, nil vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S Bech</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>E Fryklund</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
	Pass	Pass	3♣
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

East made a good decision in deciding to look for a major fit, but subsequently must have wished that he had been declarer. After ♣8 lead, West erred by rising

with the ace. This gave the defenders four tricks, when ♣K was ruffed out, giving the Australians a 10 IMP swing.

Board 13, North deals, all vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S Bech</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>E Fryklund</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>A Edgtton</i>	<i>E Sjoberg</i>	<i>N Edgtton</i>	<i>S Rimstedt</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
4♠	5♣	5♠	Dbl
All Pass			

I liked the North hand enough to open 1♣. The hand is a good lead-director, and I have an easy 2♣ rebid after 1♠ from partner or 2♥ over 1♥. I passed 4♠ with no clearcut bid.

4♠ was led (they lead firsts, thirds and fifths) and RHO won with ♠9, then tried to cash ♠A. I ruffed high, discarding a diamond from dummy, noting that West followed with ♠5, so I knew spades were distributed 3-8. Several endplay possibilities were a possibility, so I drew three rounds of trumps ending in dummy, getting the information that West started life with 11 black cards. I cashed ♦K, and I now knew the full distribution, with hearts marked as 4-2.

I can now either double finesse in hearts, playing East for ♥Txxx, or ♥KQxx. If West has ♥Q10 or ♥K10, I would need to cash ♥A followed by a low heart, endplaying West and forcing him to play a spade. In this scenario I can discard my third heart and East is then squeezed (he's down to ♥Qx and ♦QJ10, while I have ♦A87 and ♣9, and dummy has ♥J9, ♦5, and ♣106). Whichever red suit discard he makes, I can ruff that suit out. I thought about this for a while, apparently so long that West had called the director!

The director told us that slow plays can only be called after the hand has finished otherwise you can break declarer's concentration. Oh well, it sorta did, and I ended up playing a diamond to my ace and taking the double finesse in hearts. Phew!

In the Closed Room our teammates played in 5♠ doubled, making six, which yielded us 17 IMPs.

Board 20, West deals, all vul

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

Open Room

West	North <i>Hung</i>	East	South <i>Hollands</i>
Pass	Pass	2♥	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass ¹	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦ ²
Pass	6♠	Dbl	All Pass

1. Pass by East said he liked his hearts.

2. 0 or 3 Key Cards

I'm not really sure if opening with the North hand would win in the long run, but pass worked out fine this time!

West dutifully led a club, as requested by East's Lightner Double. Prospects didn't look too good. The contract now hinges on the lie of the spades. East returned a diamond after winning the first trick. Peter, South, rose ace, ruffed a diamond and advanced ♠Q, hoping to squash the singleton jack.

Alas, the jack was not singleton - but East ducked ♠Q! Peter was mesmerised, but soon played a spade to his ace, with the king and jack coming down for +1660! This was then named the *Gabby Coup*, because apparently Gabby had executed it a number of times against some Australian Juniors in the previous night's social game.

In the Closed Room our opponents were in 5♠ making six.

The match finished with a 24-6 VP win to Australia.

Semifinals vs. Israel, Board 9, North deals, EW vul

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

Open Room

West <i>M de Livera</i>	North <i>A Birman</i>	East <i>J Howard</i>	South <i>E Argelazi</i>
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

The contract was the same in both rooms, but Michael de Livera, West, received the lead of ♥2.

You might think the contract is plain sailing once the location of ♥Q has been revealed by the opening lead. The simple line is to draw four rounds of trumps, three rounds of clubs, ruffing the third with your last trump, and playing a spade towards dummy's king. They can only take one spade and two diamonds. I can't exactly remember Del's line of play, but I think he opted to ruff a diamond (when he won ♥A at the first trick) then a spade to the queen and ace, North played back a second spade, killing dummy's last entry to enjoy the clubs. The result was down four, -400 and Del couldn't get over this hand for quite some time.

In the Closed Room, the lead was a small diamond. Declarer discarded a club from dummy, and I think a diamond was returned, but the end result was 4♥ making five to the Israelis. That was the only major swing in the First Segment which we lost 8-28 IMPs, adding to Israel's carryover of 16 IMPs.

At this stage, I'll take a break to tell you more about the wonderful time we had. The event commenced with an Opening Ceremony on July 29. The play, which ran from July 30 to August 8, consisted of three sessions per day. Everyone stayed at Bangkok's Baiyoke Sky Hotel, which was also the venue. The four-star hotel, at 88 floors high, is the tallest building in Thailand.

During the event there was a day off for all of us, and a special tour was organised for the players who wanted to go. But the tour needed everyone to assemble in the lobby early, and most people preferred a sleep-in.

I did not let this opportunity go to waste and we ended up visiting four attractions; The Snake Farm, The Gem Factory, the Grand Palace and the Crocodile Farm. I enjoyed the Snake Farm where we could touch some varieties (non-venomous, of course). We also witnessed the snake-handlers' scars, as they had all experienced more than one snake bite during their time giving tour demonstrations! Not only did this tour enable us to see Thailand itself, but we also got to know many other youth players from all around the world.

The event concluded with a Closing Ceremony. The Australian Schools team had finished in a respectable fourth place out of 16. Overall, we had an awesome time at this World Youth event. The level of competition, the hospitality and the opportunity to meet other youth players from around the world has us waiting anxiously for the next one! By the way, a website about Australian junior bridge has been created recently, so visit our site at your own leisure at <http://aussiejuniors.tripod.com> (Ed: Enter this site at your own risk!)

Now back to the bridge:

**Board 11,
South deals, nil vul**

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

Open Room

West <i>E Argelazi</i>	North <i>A Hung</i>	East <i>A Birman</i>	South <i>P Hollands</i>
Pass	1♦	2♦ ¹	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

1. 5-5 in the blacks, with intermediate plus strength.

♠J was led, which Peter, South, ran to his ace, followed by a diamond to the ten, East discarding a club after some thought. Peter knew the opponents' shape at trick two.

He now played a club to the nine, when East refused to split his honours and a diamond to the queen, as East discarded a spade. On a club from dummy, East played ♣Q which Peter won with his ace, followed by a low heart ducked to East.

East continued ♥K, ducked and ♥Q, won in dummy with the ace. Peter now had one spade, one heart, two diamonds and two club tricks, with one more spade and diamond to follow.

Peter now played ♠10, in case West had started life with ♠J9. This forced East to win the trick with ♠Q and he was endplayed to surrender a black trick for declarer's ninth trick! +400

This was 7 IMPs when our opponents played 2♦ from the North seat making +110.

After the Second Segment, the scores were 46-99 IMPs to Israel, with two 16-board segments to go.

Board 3, South deals, EW vul

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

Open Room

West <i>E Argelazi</i>	North <i>A Hung</i>	East <i>A Birman</i>	South <i>P Hollands</i>
			3♦
Dbl	4♦	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

I think Peter liked his 7-4 hand and favourable vulnerability, hence the 3♦ preempt.

Peter, South, led ♠2. I was not sure if this was merely an aggressive lead or asking for a lower suit ruff, but when declarer won with the queen and played a heart at trick two, I had no hesitation in winning ♥A and switching to a club for one down. This was 17 IMPs to Australia when the contract made in the Closed Room.

This was a highlight in a match where our mistakes cost dearly. In the end, we conceded at the end of the third segment with the score 89-187 IMPs.

Also, big thanks and hugs (and appreciation from all of us juniors) to the ABF and the ABF Youth Committee in giving us the opportunity to experience this memorable and enjoyable event. We can say that we have learnt a lot throughout this event.

Andy Hung

Chance for the inexperienced



Having the chance to go to China to compete in the PABF Championships was a wonderful experience for several reasons. Shanghai is a huge modern city. The architecture is mind-numbing. In a capitalist environment, where cost-effectiveness has great significance, some of the spectacular building sites found in Shanghai would never be developed.

Not everyone was new to the city. Ron Klinger was born there and left at the age of four. He visited the house where he lived, which has not been renovated since. A lady in her nineties came out, looked at Ron, and indicated that she recognised him as a small boy. How incredible!

Just as an aside, in Xian, the Terracotta Soldiers are truly the eighth Wonder of the World, and no photograph can do this sight justice.

The environment and service provided was world-class and the Chinese people are friendly and helpful, within the limits of almost non-existent English. At the bridge table we often had to call the director to translate answers and the vagaries of the system cards. The Asian countries overwhelmingly play Two-Over-One or a Strong Club system. Next year the World Championships will be held in Shanghai, and the Olympics in Beijing follow in 2008. If you get a chance to go to either of these events, don't think twice before agreeing to go.

At the table, we quickly learned that pessimism and refrain would cost. In one of the matches, my partner and wife Franci picked up ♠A, ♥J1072, ♦AK98653, ♣2. At favourable vulnerability, this *eau de cologne* hand elicited a 5♦ overcall after her right-hand

opponent opened 2♠, explained as 6-10 HCP, with five spades and four plus in a minor. After some thought, Franci's left-hand opponent passed, and with ♠10752, ♥A ♦QJT2, ♣K974, I had little hesitation in bidding 6♦. This was our most exciting board, in the sense that we were the only pair to find it. At all 14 tables, the big diamond hand played the contract: eight played 5♦, two 3♦, one 2♦ and two 3NT.

It was also interesting to note that the results of each match were recorded, typed on a full results sheet board by board for each room, with IMPs and matchpoints available within 15 minutes of the completed round. The board-by-board analysis across the series was available for everybody in the next day's Daily Bulletin, as well as the data rankings. This is something we will have to be able to do when we host our next international event.

We also played against Chinese Taipei, a team including Patrick Huang, who was in the original Wei Precision Team, and runner-up in the 1969 and 1970 Bermuda Bowls. What a pleasure and experience.

Here is one hand where they outplayed us:

North deals, EW vulnerable

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

At our table Patrick Huang, East bid slam after the bidding started 3♠ by North, Dbl, 4♠, 5♥ by West. At the other table the final contract was 5♠ doubled. The result was 15 IMPs out.

Andrew L Halmos



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Green Point Achievements at 30 September, 2006

Category 1 (0-45)

TOZER	JENNY L	10.46
ESVELT	FRANK	9.55
ESVELT	MIA	9.55
GERBER	WOLFGANG	7.34
BROWN	MAGGIE	6.73
NANKERVIS	JOHN	6.58
PAYNE	EUNICE	6.46
HODGE	TRUDY	6.33
MORGAN	BRIAN	6.31
WALLIS	MARIE	5.74
HARRISON	JANE	5.37
MACMAHON	ANNE	5.36
SMITH	JOHN	5.22
SMITH	KAY	5.06
RYAN	SUZANNE	4.93
HOLLAND	GEOFF	4.86
PEARCE	LAWRENCE	4.58
BOOCOCK	EILEEN	4.51
CODERRE	HOMER	4.35
TONGS	JANICE	4.22
BARRON	IRENE	4.18
CORNWALL	ROSEMARY	4.15

Category 2 (46-90)

ALLEN	MARISE	11.15
HISCOX	MARY	11
TSE	SKY	8.92
CHEYNE	JOHN	8.78
SNEDDEN	JUNE	8.71
WOOLLARD	GORDON	8.68
HACKETT	TOM	8.07
HACKETT	JAN	7.83
MOORE	PAM	7.83
ATKINSON	DAVID	7.83
MCMILLEN	ELIZABETH	7.57
CAPLE	DEVIN	7.52
MILLER	JUDY	7.39
ZURAWEL	MACIEK	7.34
DAVY	MICHAEL	7.09
HANNIGAN	MOLLY	7.04
MCDERMOTT	SUE	6.85
BUSWELL	GILLIAN	6.32
SHAW	TONY	6.28
HICKEY	FIONA	6.22
SANDERCOCK	PAT	6.17
ASLETT	BARRY	6.16
RENSHAW	DEL	6.16

Category 3 (91-140)

QUINTON	ALAN	12.93
MUYSKEN	BILL	12.37
BOOKER	ALAN	11.63
BOOKER	ENID	10.75
BURGESS	MARGARET	10.42
FARRELL	GAIL	10.3
MCCABE	PAULINE	10.07
HARRINGTON	BARBARA	9.87
SPONG	STEPHEN	9.69
KEATING	MARGARET	9.39
MUYSKEN	EDITH	9.18
GILES	LESLIE	8.68
AYLES	SHIRLEY	8.51
AYLES	JOHN	8.51
LAUCKE	MARGARET	8.46
FREER	JILL	8.16
DUNN	MEG	8.05
WENHAM	DIANE	8.05
KIERAN	JANET	7.6
BRENNAN	MARGOT	7.57
SPENCER	JILL	7.56

Category 4 (91-300)

KUIPER	JACK	27.99
DRURY	DINA	26.78
JONES	CYNTHIA	23.3
CARTER	OLIVE	20.5
DONOGHUE	SUZANNE	19.25
WELLWOOD	JEAN	17.69
FITZSIMMONS	AUDREY	17.09
HINDMARCH	ANTHONY	17.08
ROWLANDS	FAYE	16.88
PRIOL	DAVID	16.66
DONALDSON	JILL	16.34
PROBERT	HUGH	15.8
NOLAN	ALLAN	15.75
HAY	BOB	15.69
COWLS	DAVID	15.17
EPHRAIM	RAYMOND	14.99
EPHRAIM	JOAN	14.82
GEARY	BETTE	14.59
NOLAN	ANN	14.51
COOPER	THERESE	14.3
GAVEL	VIRGINIA	14.13
WELLS	ANTHONY	14.03

Category 5 (301-800)

FRIEL	ELIZABETH	35.37
MAXWELL	ENID	31.92
SIMPSON	TONY	31.5
DE HAAN	JOHN	29.86
BAILEY	JOHN	28.73
CUPPLES	KEN	28.68
WILLIS	ANNE	26.82
BALDRY	BESSIE	25.37
BOND	REGINALD	25.31
THOMPSON	KAY	25.28
DAWES	ENID	24.99
KAJONS	DIANNE	24.72
AUDLEY	GEORGE	24.6
DWARSHUIS	SYLVIA	23.69
DAYNES	PAUL	23.5
ELSE	KEN	23.22
WHITE	EVERNA	23.11
FRY	PAT	22.41
HARVEY	LEN	22.28
MEDLYCOTT	IAN	22.28
THOMSON	ELIZABETH	22.22
DARLEY	MONICA	22.16
DE JONG	JAN	21.99

Category 6 (801+)

CHARLESWTH	THELMA	90.95
SFREDDO	EDI	82.76
POGACIC	STAN	68.97
CHARLESWTH	IAN	60.26
WELLBY	PEG	53.92
AZZOPARDI	PAUL	53.33
BEYFUS	JOHN	50.91
MARSHALL	JOHN	50.73
HAMPTON	PRISCILLA	49.54
ZHENG	YING-ZHAO	47.58
MAY	JIM	47.54
FALK	JACK	46.13
HEAIRFIELD	IAN	44.79
HEDGELAND	BRENDA	44.44
EVANS	GLYN	43.93
GOODCHILD	BERYL	39.39
THORLEY	RAY	39.37
ORMEROD	KEITH	38.68
HARDMAN	DOUGLAS	38.6
PAJTI	JULIA	38.29
THORLEY	ELSA	38.29

Coaching Cathy at Contract

WEAK AT THE KNEES

Hi There,

I would appreciate your comments on these hands. Neither result could have been described as 'outstanding'! In both cases, I seem to have got the bidding wrong with my six-card major.

Six-card Major #1

I held:

♠ Q J 10 8 6 3
♥ J 6 2
♦ 4
♣ 9 7 5

Glenda opened 1♦ and I decided to respond 1♠. Glenda bid 3NT, which we agree as showing something like a poor Acol 2 in diamonds (you know, about eight playing tricks but not 20 HCP points). I might have panicked just a little, and bid 4♠. Glenda's hand was:

♠ ---
♥ K Q 5
♦ A K Q J 9 2
♣ A 10 8 2

4♠ went down. A lot of people made 3NT.

Six-card Major #2

This time I had:

♠ K 4 2
♥ A Q 10 8 3 2
♦ 8 6 5
♣ 4

West	North <i>Me</i>	East	South <i>Pard</i>
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Partner held:

♠ A 9 6 3
♥ J 7
♦ A Q J 9 3
♣ J 8

The heart finesse didn't work but the diamond King was in the right place so I made 11 tricks. Should I have bid 3♥ or something?

Someone said that we should use Weak Jump Shifts. Is that a good idea?

*Your niece,
Cathy xxxooo*

Greetings Cathy,

You have raised the possibility of adopting Weak Jump Shifts over minor suit openings (and perhaps 2♠ over 1♥). Traditionally, these responses show 4-7 HCP and a six card suit with some promise about quality.

If you wish to adopt this idea, you don't have to keep playing the method if it proves to be unsuited to your partnership style. It has certainly gained favour amongst bridge players over the last few years or so. Having understood that, try to remember that there is only a loose connection between popular fashion and good technique.

Certainly, the two hands you have mentioned would have been ideal for Weak Jump Shift response structure. On your first example, you could have bid 2♠ as responder and then found the winning action of passing 3NT, content in the knowledge that you had given a good description of your hand.

Although the second example is not suitable for a Weak Jump Shift, it illustrates a secondary benefit. Having failed to respond with 2♥, your six-card rebid now suggests a hand closer to 8 or 9 points. This is a little more specific than 'non-forcing'. Whether your partner would have tried for game is still a moot point as the hand obviously played better than the bidding would have suggested.

If a bidding idea is not abhorrent and it's easy enough to use, give it a try for a while and discard it if it proves not to suit your style. Half the fun of the game is about trying new ideas.

*Love,
David*

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Bridge into the 21st Century

TEST YOUR OPENER'S REBID ON UNUSUAL HANDS

What is your rebid with the following hands as dealer, nil vulnerable, after the bidding below:

1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
?

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

Answers:

1. 1NT. Let's face it, 1NT would not be a popular choice, but the alternative is 2♣, and the guessing game that follows. Responder will always rebid a six-card spade suit, but if partner has a strong four- or five-card spade suit then you should score better in 1NT. Also the 1NT rebid gives away little information to opponents, and a spade lead may not be so easy to find. On such a potential misfit a 2♣ rebid is too encouraging.

2. 2♠. The good spade support and weak heart suit indicate a stonger future with spades as trumps. I like strong agreements, including that opener's raise shows four-card support or three trumps with a singleton or void. However, holding ♠754, ♥KQJ1092, ♦A104, ♣5, with strong hearts and poor spade support, the easy choice is a 2♥ rebid.

3. 2♣. This monster made its appearance at the recent New South Wales State Pairs. The real problem is whether to open 1♥ or 2♣. I prefer 2♣ but once you decide to open 1♥ the die is cast. Simply rebid 2♣ (assuming a jump to 3♣ is a mini-splinter). If partner doesn't pass you should now have a smooth passage to the right contract.

4. 1NT. Very much a matter of style, but my agreement is to not raise without four-card support unless I have an outside singleton or void.

5. 2♦. The choice is between 2♣ or 2♦, and 2♦ is more flexible. Whatever responder bids opener can now complete the description of the hand by bidding 3♣.

6. 2NT. "Don't bid bad suits with good hands" is an old saying that still rings true. Also, 2NT best describes

the hand, while concealing information from the opponents. It would be quite a tragedy if partner ended up as declarer and a club was led through the ♣AQ, instead of into the ♣AQ.

7. 4♥. This hand is far too strong to rebid a non-forcing 3♥. Even though you have only six hearts the inner strength of the suit is protection against a poor support or bad break.

This was the full deal. At the table, over the actual 1NT bid, South bid 4♥. Test your analysis; can you find the double dummy defence to defeat 4♥:

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

8. 2♥. The choice is between 2♦ and 2♥. With a stronger hand you would bid 2♦ and then, over (say) 2NT, continue with 3♥. This is a stronger sequence because over 3♥ responder doesn't have a choice at the three level between 3♦ and 3♥. With this hand you will continue with 3♦ if partner bids 2NT over 2♥.

9. 3NT. This is the typical sort of hand where nine tricks are easier than ten. In notrumps your aces are gold, being both certain stoppers and bringing your trick count up to eight. Give partner something like ♠AJ43, ♥J6, ♦J765, ♣764 and 3NT has nine top tricks, while 4♥ is hopeless.

10. 4♦. On this hand you are confounded by your wealth of assets. When you find you have no way to express the power and quality of your hand as opener the reason may be because you failed to open a game-forcing 2♣. You have only three losers, tricks in three suits, and a hand too unwieldy and powerful to describe after you open a mere 1♥.

Under the circumstances all you can do is splinter in your weaker singleton, and hope partner makes a squeak other than 4♠. Over 4♠ I pass, knowing I may be missing the coldest of slams, but I have made my decision by opening 1♥, so I stick with that.

*Paul Lavings
Postfree Bridge Books*

Book Review

25 Ways to be a Better Defender

Barbara Seagram and David Bird

The “25 Ways” series has proven popular because of the easy presentation and suitability for average players. This latest offering follows a similar style. The first part of the book is entitled “*The Basics of Sound Defense*”, and includes 10 chapters on matters such as leads, second and third hand play, active vs passive defense, covering honours, and defensive communication.

Part Two contains eight chapters on “*Building a Picture of the Closed Hands*”, including Rule of 11, clues from the bidding, counting tricks, signals and discards.

Part Three is more advanced and covers such topics as unblocking, trump promotion, forcing defense, cashing out, and deception.

The book is therefore quite suitable even for relative beginners at the game, although there is also material for slightly more advanced players. The text contains example hands, and “by the way” asides are used to amplify certain points. Each chapter contains a summary and a quiz. The authors use straightforward language and any jargon is clearly explained. I give this ten out of ten for readability. The expert authors also have a knack for understanding the thinking of inexperienced players, and, by exposing mistakes, help the student to avoid them in future.

Here’s an example:

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

West led ♠J against 3NT after South had opened 1♣ and rebid 1NT over North’s 1♦ bid. Declarer played low from dummy, East contributing an encouraging ♠8. 10 tricks. Six diamond tricks are nearly certain even if West holds ♦K so East should have taken his best shot by rising ♠A at trick one and switching to a low heart, hoping that his partner would have the right holding to defeat the contract or at least hold it to nine tricks.

John Hardy



John Hardy

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and Software

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What should I bid?

Congratulations to Arie Meydan of Melbourne, who submitted the best enquiry for September.

I was dealer with the following South hand with nil vulnerable:

♠10 6 5 4, ♥---, ♦7 6 5 2, ♣A K Q J 9

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♥	2♦	2♥	?

Playing teams, against opponents who were playing Acol, what should South bid?

Peter's Reply

Hi Arie,

If fit-showing jumps were part of my armoury I would bid 4♣. The bid will benefit the partnership in both the bidding and the play, should we end up defending. It bypasses 3NT but this is most unlikely to be the right contract on the deal.

Without fit-showing jumps I'd be inclined to bid 3♣, whether or not it is forcing. The bidding is not likely to die there and, even if it happened to, it's improbable that we have missed a good game. This action should lay the right groundwork for the next round of bidding. I will probably get to bid 5♦, leaving partner to decide what to do if the opponents bid 5♥.

Having seen the remainder of the hands, I have to say that I don't much care for partner's 2♦ bid. With values concentrated in diamonds, I think partner's hand qualifies for some form of preemptive effort. Despite having only six diamonds, I would rather bid 3♦, a weak jump overcall, with this powerful suit in an otherwise poor hand. I think the accuracy of description outweighs the penalty risk and leaves you much better placed to judge what to do later in the auction. The full hand:

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

*Best regards,
Peter Fordham*

More Book Reviews

2007 Daily Bridge Calendar - Ashlar House, Canada, 2006, \$27.95 Postfree

Every year the popularity of the Calendar increases, and the "daily fix" (bridge hand or quiz) is an important part of many players' life. The DBC is also handy to record bridge dates, birthdays and anniversaries. The expert authors include our own Ron Klinger.

The Weak Notrump

How To Play It –How To Play Against it

by Andy Stark, Masterpoint Press, Toronto, 2006, \$26.95 Postfree

Even a confirmed strong notrumper will find many fine ideas in this excellent book. One I particularly liked was transfers after a 2NT rebid. Let's say the bidding proceeds 1♣-1♥, 2NT. Now 3♣ is a transfer to diamonds, etc. Responder can bail out in 3♦ (very useful), or three of a major, as well as creating smoother forcing auctions.

Stark makes the point that after a weak notrump is doubled, the redouble should be for penalties. Otherwise the partnership is not able to combine to best effect to penalize intruders. Also he discusses why it is better to play takeout doubles and not penalty doubles after your weak notrump is doubled and opponents run to a suit. Other areas of interest discussed are the methods of Stayman, and check-back after a 1NT rebid, the 2NT response to 1NT, and the best way to play jumps to the three-level, variations after transfers and slam auctions. Also competitive auctions are under the spotlight.

The book analyses every nook and cranny of 1NT and 2NT openings and notrump rebids, with many examples and quizzes. We highly recommend "The Weak Notrump" to both club players and experts.

Five-Card Majors for Standard Players

by Ron Klinger, Modern Bridge Publications, Sydney, 2005, \$19.95 Postfree

Following Ron's very successful "Five Card Major Stayman", which featured the weak notrump, this locally produced (and cheaper) version is for strong notrumpers.

Nowadays opening 1NT with a five-card major is accepted as winning strategy, but how do you then find the right contract? Over responder's 2♣ opener bids 2♥ or 2♠ with a five-card major. When opener says no five-card major with 2♦, the partnership is now able to sort out the right game contract, and if necessary, discover opener's shape and high cards.

As well as a complete method in response to 1NT the scheme over the 2NT opening is an improvement, and

the slam bidding methods, early suit agreement and low-level Key Card, are ideas you will eagerly adopt. Wouldn't you would love to be able to bid two balanced hands to slam or grand slam after a 1NT opening with complete confidence?

WEST	EAST
♠ A 8 3 2	♠ K Q J 5
♥ Q 7 6	♥ A K 4 2
♦ A 7 2	♦ K Q 6
♣ A J 4	♣ K 5

WEST	EAST
1NT	2♣
2♦	3♣
3♦	3♥
3♠	4NT
5♣	5♥
5NT	6♣
6♦	7♠

2♦=No five-card major, 3♣=enquiry
 3♦=some 4-3-3-3, 3♥=4 card suit,
 4♥=weak support, 4NT=Key Card in hearts
 5♣=0 or 3 Key Cards, 5♥=heart ask
 5NT=♥Q, not ♥K

East now knows only a club ruff is needed to make 7♠, but asks in clubs anyway. If West has ♣Q then 7NT is a laydown

The methods are simple to understand, and there is little memory work involved.

Paul Lavings
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The Director's Chair

Procedures Continued

Law 22 states categorically that if the auction goes Pass-Pass-Pass-Pass there shall not be a redeal. Whilst this law is generally flouted *ad nauseam*, to redeal is a serious breach of procedure. Equally wrong is the practice by some clubs of manipulating the dealing program to ensuring that there is at least one hand with 12+ points so as to avoid passed in hands.

Law 24 deals with exposed cards during the auction; the important wording is 'During the Auction' as this law does not apply to a card(s) exposed before the auction where Law 16b comes into effect.

Law 25, *Legal and illegal changes of call* is perhaps the most contentious of all the rulings made. Inadvertency means *unintentional* with no suggestion of *intent*. It is often difficult to determine in the heat of the moment whether or not a player simply made a mistake, or genuinely never intended to make the call. My advice is to use common sense: if a player clearly, in no way, shape or form, makes a call that falls outside these parameters, then there is a strong case for allowing a change based on inadvertency. If, however, there is a connection between the hand and the claimed inadvertent call, I would suggest that the director treat this as a possible change of mind or mistake and refer to Law 25B, delayed or purposeful correction.

Law 27 is another minefield; the question of whether either the bid or the lowest sufficient bid in the same denomination could be conventional must be determined before the Law options can be offered. The one out is that, along with most infractions, the next player in rotation is offered the opportunity to accept the insufficiency thus being able to make a call, potentially at a lower level than may be available. If the player believes the hand belongs to them, then acceptance of an insufficient bid is usually a favourable option.

Section 4 deals with calls out of rotation; when called, it is very important for the director to establish whether the call out of rotation was a bid, double or a pass, as each has its own law reference. Again, an option to accept is there for the taking and should always be considered as being able to convey information at an early stage may well be advantageous.

Law 34 has an interesting point in that no player may be deprived of the opportunity to call, so, if there is a pass out of rotation that theoretically ends the auction, a player who has missed their call retains the right of calling, with the auction reverting to that player.

Richard Grenside



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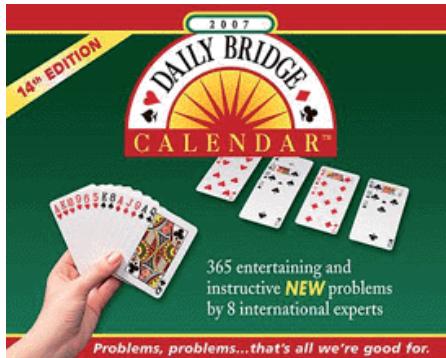
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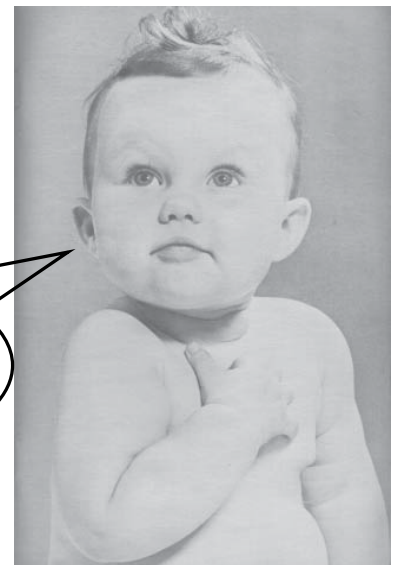
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Event

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Pairs Qualifying (Open, Restricted and Seniors)	Sun 18th Feb 1.00 pm & 7.30 pm
Pairs Final (Open, Restricted and Seniors)	Mon 19th Feb 1.00 pm and 7.30 pm Tues 20th Feb 1.00 pm
Walk In Pairs	Tues 20th Feb 1.00 pm and Wed 21st Feb 9.00 am
Teams Championship (Open, Restricted and Seniors)	Tues 20th Feb 7.30 pm, Wed 21st Feb 1.00 pm & 7.30 pm, Thursday 22nd Feb 10.30 am and 3.00 pm (Quarter, Semi and Finals will be held over Friday and Saturday for the Open, and Friday for the Restricted and Seniors)

New Event

Ivy Dahler Swiss Butler Pairs (Open, Restricted)	Fri 23rd Feb 1.00 pm & 8.00 pm, Sat 24th Feb 10.00 am
--	--

Entries Co-ordinator	Gerald Schaaf goldcoastentry@optusnet.com.au (07) 5442 6682 or 0422 616 687
General Enquiries	Kim Ellaway manager@qldbridge.com (07) 3351 8602 or 0412064903
Partnership Arranger	Open and Seniors Toni Bardon tmbardon@hotmail.com (07) 3376 4183 Restricted Connie Schoutrop – schoutrop@bigpond.com (07) 3378 2171 or 0402 851 103
Accommodation Enquiries	Connie Schoutrop contact details above.

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Gold Coast Congress Entry Form 2007

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 Open

 Seniors

 Restricted

Players	Surname	Given Name	ABF No	Amount
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$

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 Open

 Seniors

 Restricted

Players	Surname	Given Name	ABF No	Amount
Captain				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$

Ivy Dahler Swiss Butler Pairs - \$80 per player

 Open

 Restricted

Players	Surname	Given Name	ABF No	Amount
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$
Player				\$

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Country Congresses

Sunday, November 26, 2006

Monaro Bridge Club Congress - Swiss Teams
Monique Vochteloo
P O Box 5418, Cooma North 2630
Tel: (02) 64527331
email: wandmvochteloo@snowy.net.au

December 30, 31 & January 1

Tablelands New Year Congress
Julie Wyburn
Tel: (07) 4091 3512
email: tldbridge@wldnet.com.au

Sunday, January 7, 2007

Gold Coast Congress - Swiss Teams
Pam Jessep
Gold Coast Bridge Club
P O Box 7009, GCMC Q 9726
email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

May 27 - 29, 2007

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email: valkevh@winsoft.net.au

Club Secretaries: Please email editor@abf.com.au
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ABF Calendar

November 16-26, 2007

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November 17-20, 2006

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Club Banora, Leisure Drive, Banora Point, Tweed Heads

24-26 November, 2006

Golden West Swiss Pairs, Mandurah
Convener: Allison Stralow, email: gw@abf.com.au

January 13-20, 2007

39th Australian Youth Championships
ANU, Canberra
Convener: Brad Coles, email: youth@abf.com.au

January 15-29, 2007

Canberra, Rydges and Hellenic Club
See September ABF Newsletter for full details
Convener: Sean Mullanphy, email: not@abf.com.au

February 17-24, 2007

Broadbeach, Gold Coast
See this Newsletter for full details
Enquiries, email: manager@qldbridge.com

July 6-21, 2007

Australian National Congress, Fremantle, WA
Venue: Esplanade Hotel, South Terrace
Convener: Allison Stralow, Tel: 0403 153 823



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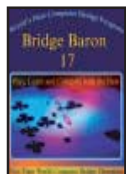
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2007 National Open Teams format

South West Pacific Teams

8 teams will qualify at each venue (Ryldges and Hellenic Club). Each group will be ranked from Team 1 to Team 8 according to their qualifying position. All ties will be broken. Captains will meet at 6pm at Ryldges to determine their opponents for match 1. All subsequent matches will be predetermined according to the attached draw. All finals matches are at Ryldges

Round of 16 - Match 1 (Friday at 7:30 pm, 2 x 16 boards)

Top Half

Team 1 chooses from Teams 3 and 4 at the other venue. Team 2 plays the remaining Team from the other venue. There are 4 matches. The 4 winners go directly to the Quarter Finals. The 4 losers get a **second chance**.

Bottom Half

Team 5 chooses from Teams 7 & 8 at the other venue and Team 6 plays the remaining Team from the other venue. There are 4 matches. The 4 winners continue to Match 2 and the 4 losers are eliminated.

Note: The higher your qualifying position, the greater is your advantage in the finals. Team 1 has the advantage of choice, Team 2 has the advantage of not being chosen by Team 1 and all Teams 1 to 4 have a second chance. Similarly, Team 5 has choice and Team 6 cannot be chosen by Team 5.

Round of 16 - Match 2 (Saturday at 10am & 12:30pm, 2 x 16 boards)

The 4 Top Half losers play the 4 Bottom Half winners. The winners proceed to the Quarter Finals and the losers are eliminated. (Note the Top Half winners have this session off)

Quarter Finals (Saturday at 3:30pm & 6:00pm, 2 x 16 boards)

The 4 top half winners from Friday night play the 4 winners from Saturday morning. The 4 winners progress to the Semi-Final and the 4 losers are eliminated.

Semi-Finals (Sunday at 10am, 1:00, 3:30 & 6:00pm, 4 x 16 boards)

The 2 winners progress to the Final. The 2 losers are eliminated.

Final (Monday at 10am, 1:00, 3:30 & 6:00pm, 4 x 16 boards)

NOT Draw

Fri/32bds Rnd16 - Match 1	Sat/32bds Rnd16 - Match 2	Sat/32bds Q/F	Sun/64bds S/F	Mon/64bds F
<u>Match A</u> R1 v H3/4		Winner A		
	<u>Match I</u> Loser B v Winner F	v	Winner Q/F 1	
<u>Match B</u> R2 v H3/4		Winner I		
<u>Match C</u> H1 v R3/4			v	Winner S/F 1
	<u>Match J</u> Loser C v Winner G	Winner J		
		v	Winner Q/F 2	
<u>Match D</u> H2 v R3/4		Winner D		v
<u>Match E</u> R5 v H7/8				
	<u>Match K</u> Loser A v Winner E	Winner B		
		v	Winner Q/F 3	
<u>Match F</u> R6 v H7/8		Winner K		
<u>Match G</u> H5 v R7/8			v	Winner S/F 2
	<u>Match L</u> Loser D v Winner H	Winner L		
		v	Winner Q/F 4	
<u>Match H</u> H6 v R7/8		Winner C		

Teams from Rydges are numbered R1 to R8 and from the Hellenic Club H1 - H8