

ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

Approved for Print Post S65001/00163

NO. 152 NOVEMBER 2011

ABN 70 053 651 666

Major sponsor for bridge

The ABF welcomes a major new sponsor and everyone benefits

The ABF Management Committee is delighted to announce that it has entered into a sponsorship arrangement with Tony Bemrose Insurance Brokers (TBIB), which will provide a range of benefits for both our members and our organisation. The arrangement will come into *play* from January, 2012.

TBIB recently undertook a full review of the ABF's insurance portfolio, which resulted in most favourable terms and premiums, especially in the area of Public Liability and Management Liability. This review has significantly reduced costs for the ABF.

What is the arrangement?

Essentially, the arrangement is a rewards based program in that every time ABF members (or people introduced by an ABF member) utilise the services and products on offer by TBIB, income will be generated for the ABF. This will assist in continually improving the infrastructure of the sport we all love, and in keeping the cost of our events at a minimum.

The income derived from the sponsorship arrangement will be shared equally with State and Territory Associations, based on where new TBIB clients reside. From January 2012, the ABF will provide members with information about the benefits of the products and services offered by TBIB.



ABF President Keith McDonald with a perplexed-looking Bemrose team: Terry Topping, Sean Bemrose and Steve Weil



About TBIB

Since 1979 TBIB has been providing the highest quality, professional insurance advice and management services available. They are an innovative and well-managed full service insurance brokerage and claims advocacy service for individuals, sole traders and national companies alike.

TBIB has undertaken to offer ABF members products which incorporate 'best in breed' policy wordings and extremely competitive premiums.

Support those who support bridge

More detailed information about TBIB products and services will be provided from January 2012, when the sponsorship arrangement comes into force. In the meantime you can find out more about TBIB and the service that they offer by following the link on the ABF website or at www.tbib.com.au.

If you have a priority matter that you would like to discuss in the meantime however, please give Mr Steve Weil a call on (07) 3252 5254 or email him to steveveil@tbib.com.au.

TBIB handed over a cheque for \$1,000 to 'kick-start' the endeavour. Many thanks to Susan Hetherington for the photos.

We would encourage you to make the most of this opportunity and *support those who support our sport!*



Tasmania hosts one of the more enjoyable national championships, the Australian Swiss Pairs. Normally alternating between Hobart and Launceston at the beginning of October, this year it returned to Hobart after two years in Launceston (Hobart hosted last year's ANC).

Always at a great venue (the casino in Launceston, and the casino in Hobart!) with superb food at a variety of restaurants (spoilt only by the fact that there are two evening sessions, meaning dinner is a little drier than normal on those nights), and the opportunity to see the many excellent places Tasmania has to offer (this year MONA – what an art museum! – don't miss it on your next visit to Hobart).

If you haven't made it to the National Swiss before, put it on next year's must-do list. 34 tables turned out for the old people's game (the Roger Penny Swiss Pairs), and 56 tables for the real event, the Open Swiss.

The Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs

My first seniors' event, and Arjuna de Livera and I were top seeds (which guaranteed that we would not do well!)

A nine-round Swiss Pairs of 12-board matches over Thursday and Friday (including Thursday evening – hopefully conveners will see the sense of programming evenings free for the future, even if it means having early morning starts).

The first few rounds saw the usual jockeying at the top, but strangely, we managed to stay at table one until Round 6, when we suffered a narrow loss to Geelong's Arthur Robbins - Gary Ridgeway. This allowed Bob Richman - Sara Tishler to grab the lead, narrowly ahead of the Geelong pair.

Of interest, the eventual winners, Victorians Bob Gallus - Stephen Weisz, had entered the second half of the event in 14th place only, 19 VPs behind the leaders. However, by Round 7, they had hit the lead, but a mere 3 VPs separated the top four pairs (coincidentally, similar things happened in the Open).

The penultimate round saw us play the leaders. This was a dull set of boards, with just a handful of IMPs in or out, depending on who had the cards.

Gallus and Weisz scored a small win against us, but of course we were "cusped" by the Victory Point scale, and dropped to fourth, crucially 7 VPs behind Richman - Tishler (R-T), who had a good win to take the lead, 2 VPs ahead of Gallus - Weisz (G-W), with Robins - Ridgeway (R-R) 2 VPs back in third place.

So the last round saw R-T play G-W, R-R play Sue



Senior Swiss winners, Stephen Weisz - Bob Gallus

Ingham - Terry Brown (I-B; 5th) and we made up the third table playing Marlene Watts - George Smolanko (W-S; 6th), with the likely winners coming from Table 1, or possibly Table 2.

The last set had lots of opportunities and the following few boards determined the result.

North deals, nil vulnerable

♠ A 5
♥ A 6
♦ Q 10 7
♣ Q 8 7 6 4 3

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

This early board saw most players open the North hand 1♣, and EW now got to find their spade fit, with game being bid at a number of tables, the result being determined by which side declared.

At table 1, R-T played 4♠ by East, and the diamond lead scuttled that contract quickly, giving G-W a good pick-up.

At table 2, R-R managed to play 4♠ from the West seat, and North didn't find a diamond lead, so the contract rolled home, for a bigger swing to the Geelong pair.

At our table, George Smolanko opened the North hand 1NT. Our methods didn't give East a chance to get into the bidding, and when Marlene Watts transferred to hearts, NS had bought the contract in 2♥. Our defence was pretty awful, and with trumps breaking and West unable to see the club ruff in East's hand, this contract made for a good swing to W-S.

The next hand seemed to cause problems for a number of NS pairs, probably because they didn't use Blackwood!

Australian Youth Triathlon, 2011

The 2011 Youth Triathlon is coming down to Melbourne. This event comprises of three events: teams, pairs and an individual, to determine the Australian Youth Triathlon Champion



What is the triathlon?

The triathlon is an event that tests a player's ability to play with different partners, and perform when playing different scoring methods.

Format:

2 x sessions of teams

2 x sessions of matchpoint pairs

1 x session of the individual, where you play with different partners

Dates: December 2 - 4, 2011

Location: Waverley Bridge Club
21B Electra Ave Ashwood Vic

Schedule:

Friday, 6pm: Welcome Dinner and Crazy Bridge

Saturday, 10am: 2 x sessions of teams, 1 x session of pairs

Sunday, 10am: 1 x session of pairs, 1 x session of the individual

The event will conclude around 4pm on the Sunday

Cost:

\$30 if you enter on or before October 31, \$40 if you enter after this date.

Eligibility:

This event is open to anyone born after January 1, 1971.

Other information:

Come support this event as it is in Melbourne, for the first time ever! There will be great prizes and the overall winner of the event, if eligible, will receive guaranteed entry into the 2012 Australian Youth Butler, with a partner of their choice!!!

Billets can also be found or request or see www.matthewflindershotel.com.au/accommodation.html for affordable options. Financial assistance for this event can be requested from friends of youth bridge:

foyb@abf.com.au

Tournament regulations will be available online by 31/10/11.

For further information contact:

vicyouthbridge@gmail.com

Email us to register for this event

Send your name and a contact (phone or email) email registration

Please copy the following into the body of your email and fill in relevant details:

- Name
- DOB
- Email
- ABF no.
- Phone
- Are you coming to the Welcome Dinner and Crazy Bridge
- Do you have a partner for the pairs: if so, who?
- Do you have team mates for the team s? If so who?
- Would you like to have a billet organised for you?
- Shirt size

WAKE UP AUSTRALIA

DON'T YOU KNOW
THE REST OF THE
WORLD USES
Bid Boxes?



- **Great economy**
pay for themselves in 1-2 years then little cost
- **Enviromentally friendly**
no more paper mess
- **Ethically friendly**
no more heavy or light doubles, passes, or full stops
- **100% plastic super life bid cards**
- Sits on table or screws onto side of table
- Available in red, green or blue.

**ONLY \$44.95 + postage a set
with quantity discount up to 20%.**

PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS & SUPPLIES

postfree@bigpond.net.au

OR 02-9388-8861

East deals, nil vulnerable

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

At our table, George Smolanko opened the South hand 1♠ after I (wimpishly) passed. Partner overcalled 2♣ and Marlene bid 2♥. Now I tried 3♣ and, thankfully for us, George eschewed Blackwood and just bid 6♥. This was doubled, and resulted in one down for our biggest (and only) swing. Unfortunately, it was too late (having come late in the match, after the debacles on the following hands).

This may have been the reason George punted on slam. All the earlier boards had seen everything work for NS, and perhaps he expected the same on this one.

At Table 1, G-W did try Blackwood, and stopped in 5♥, making on the nose, whilst I-B at Table 2 also opted for slam without success (but undoubled).

The next hand was one of our first played, and started the landslide:

East deals, all vulnerable

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

After partner opened the East hand 1♥, (*Ed: note that this is the seniors' event, with the board being placed upside down on the table often. Watts was North on the previous example*). Marlene doubled with the South hand, and George, conservatively, bid 2♠ as North. Marlene had obviously seen George's responses before, because she pushed on to 3♠, and George now bid game. George played it nicely, and with everything working, the game rolled home. I felt then it was 4



Marlene Watts - George Smolanko

not going to be our match.

How right I was. At tables 1 and 2, NS were not so ambitious, playing comfortably in 2♠.

Just a couple of deals later came this hand:

East deals, EW vulnerable

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

Marlene opened the South hand 1♠, and over North's 2♥ response, now jumped to 4♣, splinter. George tried Blackwood this time, and bid 6♥ when Marlene showed two Key Cards. Declarer must have been a little disappointed with dummy after East led ♣Q. However, he played the contract well, and took advantage of the lie of the cards. Two rounds of trumps took care of that little problem, before he turned his attention to spades.

He crossed to dummy with a low trump and tried ♠J, which lost to East's queen, and a diamond was returned. Winning in dummy, he had the choice of playing ♠10 (pinning ♠9 in East), or a low spade, hoping for the king to drop.

The odds favour the latter (either East or West could have the singleton king left, whereas the pin play only works if East started with ♠Q9 exactly). Sure enough, his play brought home the slam swing, with less than half the field bidding slam, and only half of them making the winning play in spades.

Both NS pairs at table 1 and 2 stayed out of slam (both making 11 tricks), for a 5 IMP swing to G-W and R-R as EW (the datum was 620 NS).

Immediately after this board came another where the

Inaugural Life Membership

In June 2011, Kalgoorlie Bridge Club was pleased and proud to present to Pam Moore, the first ever Life Membership of the club.

Pam joined the Kalgoorlie Bridge Club in 1996. She was the Secretary for six years, and also Vice President, Acting Treasurer whilst Secretary, and she served on the committee until 2008.

For many years Pam co-ordinated the Kalgoorlie Congress, kept and recorded all Masterpoints, recorded and scored all games, set the yearly programmes for the club and with the help of her husband Ralph set the Pennants Boards. Pam also acts in the position of Club Director.

Since 2000, Pam has given, and still is giving, bridge lessons. She has always shown outstanding leadership qualities, working within all areas promoting the game.

Additionally Pam has won our Club Championship Pairs in 2000 and 2001, and the Individual Club Championship in 2005, 2008 and 2009.

Thanks to Pam's dedication, hard work and promotion of the game, the Kalgoorlie Bridge Club now enjoys strong and effective membership.

The membership was presented to Pam as a surprise at a social event organised by the club. Pam truly was

surprised, and emotionally overwhelmed that her efforts had been acknowledged with life membership

Pam received many cards and emails of congratulations from former members.

Cheryl Harding travelled from Perth and John Williams from Kellerberin to make the occasion even more memorable.

Sue Lia, Kalgoorlie Bridge Club

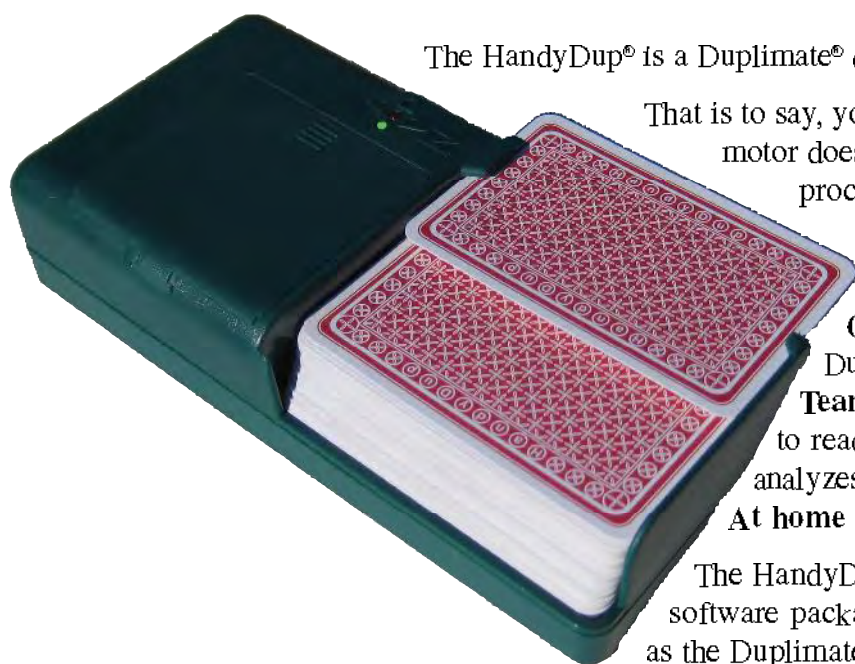


Pam with Fay Taylor, the longest playing member of the club



Chris Shotter, Club President with the award

A dealing machine for \$ 490!?



The HandyDup® is a Duplimate® dealing machine without motor.

That is to say, your fingers have to do the work that the motor does in a Duplimate. This slows down the process, of course, but you always get what you pay for, don't you?

The HandyDup is good for:

Clubs and **teachers** who cannot afford a Duplimate.

Teams (playing hand dealt boards) that want to read the deals into the PC for post mortem analyzes/re-play.

At home for playing/re-playing tournament deals.

The HandyDup comes with the same comprehensive software package for dealing, analyzing, printing, etc, as the Duplimate.

You can see it in action, and download the software, at www.handydup.com.

And, yes, if you place your order for a HandyDup at info@duplimate.com it is only \$490 incl. postage!

www.handydup.com • info@duplimate.com

result would be determined by who was declarer.

South deals, all vulnerable

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

At our table, I again showed my age by passing the West hand, and George opened the North hand 1♣. Marlene responded 1♠ with the South cards, I showed my diamonds, but George pushed on to 4♠.

I led a heart, and the ace was taken for a heart return, won in dummy. Marlene played a club to her queen to start the trump suit, but I ruffed. I should have tried a third heart (and then a fourth, when winning the trump ace, in case partner had a trump promotion available), but instead I played a low diamond.

Marlene ducked this to her hand, and a trump now picked up the suit and brought home the game.

This hand virtually decided the top three places. At table 1, R-T had their worst result, declaring 3♦ doubled by West for -800 and 11 IMPs to G-W, whilst at Table 2, I-B missed the spade game, playing in 3♠.

Those pairs playing a 15-18 notrump range often saw North become declarer in 4♠, after a Stayman auction. East's natural club lead quickly brought that undone.

So, after all this action, Bob Gallus - Stephen Weisz had a good win against Bob Richman - Sara Tishler to take the title (and drop Bob and Sara to fourth place), whilst Arthur Robins - Garry Ridgeway had a similar result against Sue Ingham - Terry Brown to be runners-up, and George Smolanko - Marlene Watts had taken us to the cleaners to grab third place.

So much for my first seniors event!

The Australian Swiss Pairs

So, after a disappointing performance in the warm-up event, we looked forward to the major event of the championships. This event, 10 rounds of 12-board matches on Saturday and Sunday (again with evening play on the Saturday). Oh, no. We were first seeds for this, too! How could an untried partnership be placed ahead of more regular partnerships, such as Avi Kanetkar - Terry Brown, Kim Morrison - Simon



Swiss Pairs winners, Michael Wilkinson - Michael Waring

Hinge, Andy Braithwaite - Ian Robinson, and Bruce Neill - Richard Jedrychowski?

If this was the Convener's way to try and get me to write a report for the ABF Newsletter, it won't work (not for the future anyway).

I'd like to show you the hands from the critical last round, but we were so far away from the top tables (Table 11) that we had no influence (or interest!) – even our scores weren't included in the datums (more of this later).

Perhaps the most critical board of the event (as far as overall results were concerned) was the first board of the penultimate (9th) round, when the two Michaels (Wilkinson and Waring), in third place, held the NS cards against leaders, Michael Prescott - Sue Ingham.

What would you bid with the following South hand:

♠ AKQ, ♥ 92, ♦ J5, ♣ KQ10764

after the bidding starts:

West deals, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3♦	Pass	Pass	?

Most (including me) would bid 4♣.

Unfortunately, partner and I had had a small discussion about leaping Michaels, and how useful even a 4♣ or 4♦ bid (over a three-level preempt) was, to show 5+, 5+ in the other minor and a major, but I'm sure we hadn't decided to play it!

So when partner bid 4♥, I knew this was a cuebid agreeing clubs (whilst he knew it was pass or correct for my five-card major!).

So I cuebid 4♠, and he reasonably passed, knowing I had five spades. Three off wasn't going to be too bad, since no game could make (-150 was the datum, so only 4 IMPs out).

However, Michael Wilkinson found a 3NT bid!

West deals, NS vulnerable



PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS & SUPPLIES

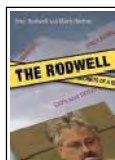
PO Box 807 Double Bay NSW 1360
Tel: (02) 9388-8861 Email: postfree@bigpond.net.au

Visit bridge museum at www.postfree.cc or visit (phone first)

UPSTAIRS, 68 New South Head Rd, VAUCLUSE 2030.

Books, software, club & home supplies. 2nd hand books, vintage & antique items.

NEW BOOKS



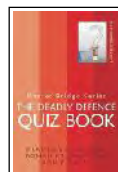
The Rodwell Files
Secrets of a
Bridge Champion
by Eric Rodwell
and Mark Horton
Expert and
super-expert
card play.
\$42.95 post-free
(\$34.95 if not
mailed)



**Take All Your
Chances 2**
by Eddie Kantar
Declarer play
tests to lift your
game and your
results.
\$29.95 post-free



**Bridge With The
Blue Team**
by Pietro Forquet
A classic reprinted
Best Blue Team
hands. \$52.95
post-free (\$44.95
if not mailed)

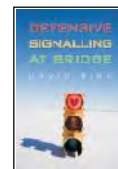


**Deadly Defence
Quiz Book**
by Izdebski,
Krzemien, Klinger
This book WILL
improve your
defence. Sequel
to the excellent
'Deadly Defence',
\$34.95 post-free

BEST OF 2011



Deadly Defence
by Izdebski,
Krzemien &
Klinger
Advanced signal-
ling, tricks from
nowhere.
\$34.95
POSTFREE



**Defensive Sig-
naling at Bridge**
By David Bird
Types of signals
for every situation.
A must read.
\$29.95
POSTFREE



GIFTS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

Tea Towels

9 different designs
\$12.95 each OR any 4
tea towels for \$40

A Woman's Place is at
the Bridge Table Servi-
ettes

Pack of 20 \$4.95

Pen Sets "I Love Bridge"
4 biro's in plush presentation
case. Excellent gift.
\$14.95 + postage - VALUE



Shoulder Bag \$19.95

Bridge Aprons \$19.95
Pair Oven Gloves \$14.95
Bridge Ties silk \$24.95
Bridge Ties \$14.95
Bridge Visors \$9.95
Bridge Watch \$19.95
M-O-Pearl Bracelet \$9.95
Spade earrings \$8.95
Candle set \$6.95
Hand Towels \$7.95



Mens Socks \$6.95
Long Womens socks \$4.95
Long white socks \$7.95
Note Clip set of 4 \$9.95

Bridge Jewellery

Necklaces \$19.95
Magnetic Brooches
\$14.95
with rhinestones \$19.95



Double Piatniks \$19.95
Gift packed, many attractive designs

Postage is added for Giftware

SOFTWARE

Jack 5 CD PC
\$99 post-free

BRIDGEMASTER 2000
\$99 post-free

BRIDGE BARON 22

\$99 post-free
\$49.50 with return of ANY
previous version of BB.



TALKING BRIDGE

104 minute Audio
from Larry Cohen \$34.95 postfree

Change the culture at your club DEALER 4 SUPER MACHINE



100% Australian made

A sensation worldwide – no barcodes, faster,
smarter, cheaper at \$4495 + delivery (Australia only)
Ask us about grants in NSW, Qld, WA.

Non-discounted books & software are postfree.

We pay the first \$10 postage on orders over \$175.

20% DISCOUNT FOR BRIDGE CLUB LIBRARIES + POSTFREE



♠ 6 5 3
 ♥ Q 8 7 5
 ♦ K 6
 ♣ A J 8 5

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

♠ A K Q
 ♥ 9 2
 ♦ J 5
 ♣ K Q 10 7 6 4

No, 3NT can't be made from either hand, but that's seeing all four hands! Ingham found the excellent lead of ♥4! This went to Prescott's ♥10, and he was faced with a dilemma. Who had ♥A? Declarer would hold up with the ace, and a heart continuation could be costly. South had bid notrumps, so obviously had a diamond stopper. There seemed no hurry, so Prescott found the "safe" return of ♠J.

Nine tricks later, partner was asking "Why didn't you return *my* suit? Either the one I led, or the one I bid!" That was an expensive shift, that would cost the championship.

Of course there was one more unlucky story. Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby found themselves in 3NT by South, on a low diamond lead. Yes, low from dummy misguessed that suit, but luckily the defence only got two heart tricks for -500 (making my -300 look a success).

The Michaels were pleased with their bidding on this grand slam deal:

South deals, all vulnerable

		♠ 10 6 3 ♥ Q 5 2 ♦ J 7 4 3 ♣ 8 7 6	
	♠ A K Q J 5 ♥ J ♦ A K ♣ A Q 4 3 2	♠ 8 4 2 ♥ A 10 6 3 ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ K 10 5	
	♠ 9 7 ♥ K 9 8 7 4 ♦ Q 9 6 5 ♣ J 9		
West	North	East	South
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

East's 3♠ showed better than a 4♠ raise, and 4NT was Key Card. With all the aces held, 5NT asked for side suit kings, so when ♣K was shown, the grand seems a good bet.

Interestingly, there is a trick in the play, when declarer wins the first trick. Declarer draws only two rounds of trumps, then plays the two top clubs. Declarer needs to bring home the club suit without loss. If it breaks 3-2, there is no problem. However, if the suit is 4-1 declarer will fail unless he can ruff a fourth club. The hope then is, the defender with four clubs has the last trump and declarer gets home. When clubs broke 3-2, it was back to drawing the last trump.

This hand was in the first set of the second day. The Michaels started the day way back in 14th place (runners-up, Ian Robinson - Andy Braithwaite were even further back in 17th place). Good wins in the next two rounds saw the Michaels into third place, just 5 VPs off the leaders, Sue Ingham - Mike Prescott, and drawn to play them.

The penultimate round saw them win that match, helped by the 3NT already mentioned, to take the lead in a traffic jam, 1 VP ahead of Jeannie Reitzer - Kieran Dyke, and Sue and Mike in equal second, with Ian Robinson - Andy Braithwaite Swissing into fourth place, just 1 VP further back, and with the top four to play each other in the last match.

The hands in the last round were quite wild. The Michaels had a high-scoring draw against Jeannie and Kieran, to stay 1 VP ahead of them, helped by this deal:

South deals, EW vulnerable

		♠ Q 7 6 4 ♥ A 6 ♦ A 5 ♣ A J 10 5 2	
	♠ A K 9 5 2 ♥ 7 ♦ J 9 8 7 2 ♣ Q 8	♠ --- ♥ K J 10 9 5 2 ♦ Q ♣ K 9 7 6 4 3	
	♠ J 10 8 3 ♥ Q 8 4 3 ♦ K 10 6 4 3 ♣ ---		
West	North	East	South
Wilkinson	Reitzer	Waring	Dyke
1♠	1NT	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	?	3♦

The problem with many partnerships (including mine) today, is that they play lots of takeout doubles, and sometimes worry that a penalty double will not be taken as a penalty double.

Wilkinson (West) would have liked to double 3♦, but there were two problems. First, partner might ‘take-it-out!’, second, there was no guarantee 3♦ would go down, given East had shown a weak hand with long hearts.

However, Waring (East) had no problems – a double would be for takeout, and any bad result would be partner’s (for bidding or passing), so he took that action. West was happy to pass. 3♦ doubled was no great contract (and on ♠A lead should have been a bloodbath), but the defence lost their way under the pressure of leading the event, and Kieran played well to get out for just -100!

With EW getting into lots of trouble at other tables, this was 8 IMPs to the Michaels, their biggest swing of the match.

Their draw meant that it was unlikely they would retain the lead, unless there was a “perfect” result between third and fourth. Sure enough, Ian Robinson - Andy Braithwaite had done just enough against Sue Ingham - Mike Prescott to get to tie with the two Michaels. Countback regulations determined that the two Michaels had the title until *more drama* on this, the last, deal.

East deals, nil vulnerable

♠ 7 3 2
♥ K 9
♦ 10 8 7
♣ J 9 5 3 2

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

♠ 10 9 8 4
♥ Q
♦ Q J 9 5 4
♣ 10 8 7

Our opponents had bid comfortably to 6♥, and scored 980. However, I had entered the score as if we had bid the slam, so 18 IMPs to us, and a maximum win, propelling us to 13th place.

When I checked our score (we should have only won by 21 - 9) I was faced with a difficult choice – say nothing, and hope we got the outright Masterpoints for 13th if no one noticed, or come clean.

Strangely, I chose the latter, and now there was turmoil. This change in score was likely to change the datum by just a fraction, *but* with the two Michaels failing to bid the slam, the change was likely to cost them 1 IMP and 1 VP.

Word got around that Ian and Andy would take the title. That is, until the scorers realised that we were playing so far down the field (Table 11) that our scores didn’t form part of the datum (only the top 10 tables were good enough to be considered). So the two Michaels had their first open National Championship – a great effort.

Phil Gue

Albury Congress winners

Swiss Pairs:

1. Bert Romeijn - Chris Fernando (photo)
2. Ross Crichton - Pam Crichton
3. Bal Krishan - Hashmat Ali



Swiss Teams:

1. Terry Srong, Jill Magee, Stephen Weisz, Bob Gallus (photo)
2. Ross Crichton, Pam Crichton, Alison Farthing, Janet Kahler
3. Margaret Bourke, Stephen Fischer, Stan Klofa, Laurie Kelso



*Sue McConnell
Commercial Club Bridge Club*

Spring Nationals winners

Restricted Teams

Carol Sheldrake - Kathie De Palo, Michael Bush - Philip Moroney

Open Teams

Terry Brown - Avi Kanetkar - Paul Lavings - Robert Krochmalik

Dick Cummings Open Pairs

Kim Morrison - Simon Hinge

Manzoni Women's Teams

Margaret Bourke - Greer Tucker - Sue Lusk - Therese Tully - Felicity Beale - Di Smart

Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams

Paul Lavings - Robert Krochmalik - Tom Moss - Robert Grynberg Tom Reiner - Andrew Reiner

Bridge into the 21st Century

The XYZ Convention

Bidding is going through an exciting period, with many new ideas. One of my favourites is Two-Way Checkback, where after opener's 1NT rebid, 2♣ forces 2♦, and 2♦ is an artificial game force.



The XYZ Convention goes one big step further, making responder's 2♣ and 2♦ Checkback, no matter what opener rebids at the one-level.

After all these sequences, 2♣ and 2♦ are Two-Way Checkback:

1♣ 1♦	1♣ 1♦	1♣ 1♦
1♥ -	1♠ -	1NT -

1♣ 1♥	1♣ 1♥	1♣ 1♠
1♠ -	1NT -	1NT -

1♦ 1♥	1♦ 1♥	1♦ 1♠
1♠ -	1NT -	1NT -

1♥ 1♠
1NT -

No matter how many passes, bids, doubles or redoubles occur, XYZ still applies.

If responder continues with 2♣, opener is requested to bid 2♦, which responder passes with a sign-off in diamonds.

If responder bids 2♣ and then continues over 2♦, responder is showing an invitation-to-game hand.

If responder continues with 2♦ in the above sequences that is an artificial game force:

1♣ 1♥	1♣ - 1♥
1♠: 2♣ requests 2♦	1NT: 2♦ is an artificial game force

In the second sequence, opener bids features up-the-line:

1♣ - 1♥
1NT - 2♦

2♥: three-card support

2♠: four spades but not three hearts
(though I would bid 1♠ over 1♥ with four spades)

2NT: 3-2-4-4 in that order

3♣: five clubs, not four spades, not three hearts

To sign off in clubs, responder jumps to 3♣:

1♦ 1♥
1♠ 3♣: sign off in clubs

Try this quiz after

1♣ 1♥

1♠ ?

1. ♠ KQ76, ♥ K873, ♦ 96, ♣ J72
2. ♠ QJ98, ♥ 8752, ♦ A9, ♣ K75
3. ♠ KJ87, ♥ A98754, ♦ 43, ♣ 2
4. ♠ QJ103, ♥ A764, ♦ AK, ♣ 873
5. ♠ K6, ♥ K876, ♦ J98763, ♣ 8
6. ♠ 65, ♥ AQJ76, ♦ K76, ♣ J105
7. ♠ 76, ♥ AQJ1087, ♦ K65, ♣ J8
8. ♠ A6, ♥ AKQJ876, ♦ KJ103, ♣ ---

1. 2♠. With less than an invitation to game normal bidding applies. Note that if opener had bypassed spades and bid 1NT with a balanced hand, the 4-4 spade fit would have been missed.

2. 3♠. A limit raise, inviting 4♠.

3. 4♠. You don't know whether you will make 4♠, and there is no way to find out. You simply bid 4♠, and hope partner makes it.

4. 2♦. There is too much chance of slam to simply jump to 4♠, so start with a game force 2♦ and support spades at your first opportunity.

5. 2♣. Requesting opener to bid 2♦, which you intend to pass.

6. 2♣. With an invitational hand start with 2♣, and bid 2S over opener's 2♦.

7. 2♣. And over 2♦ jump to 3♥, and invitation with a good six-card suit.

8. 2♦. Artificial game force. Now you can investigate grand slam in comfort with all the extra space available.

Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies

JACK 5

\$110.95

(includes postage and GST)

The world's best bridge program

BRIDGE TIMERS AND

DEALING MACHINES

Bridge timers, starting

at \$515 + \$10 postage

We also have second-hand dealing machines in excellent condition

Dennis Yovich, EBA Pty Ltd

P O Box 70, Leederville WA 6902

www.electronicbridge.com.au

Ph: (08) 9341 8116

Fax: (08) 93414547

Email: dyovich@inet.net.au



The Arcadia

Oz Bridge Travel presents...

Singapore - Cape Town SA
on board the luxurious **Arcadia**
March 22 - April 11, 2012

Fly - Cruise - Stay **19 Days**
...starting at only \$6,400



Light House, Robben Island

Smaller than the really big ships (only 998 cabins) **Arcadia** still offers all the luxuries and indulgences. Exclusively for adults, (no children allowed) **Arcadia** offers a relaxed pace, stylish surroundings and more than a hint of extravagance. Signature features such as her exterior glass-fronted lifts and expansive art collection, featuring no less than 3,000 works of art, create a sophisticated air.

Arcadia has many a place to happily while away an hour or two: Caffè Vivo, The Piano Bar and The Rising Sun pub to name but a few. There are plenty of ways to keep active, but the ultimate route to feeling great is **Arcadia's** wonderful spa which includes a large hydrotherapy pool and a thermal suite complete with fragrant aromatic showers. By evening, you'll find spellbinding shows in the Palladium theatre, a lively casino, Electra nightclub and the Globe which offers it all - 'comedy to live music'.

Bridge Program: Is extensive, but relaxed. Play when you want With 10 glorious days at sea, fulfill your desire to improve your game with daily morning clinics. Enjoy lunch up on the top deck and then join us in an afternoon of Duplicate. **Red Points** - 2 Team Games - Partner guaranteed. Join us. This Oz Bridge Travel Holiday will be a ripper!



Charmarel Falls, Mauritius

All Inclusive: Flights - Cruise Tickets - Hotels & Port Tours!

Singapore - Kuala Lumpur - Langkawi Island - Seychelles

Mauritius - Reunion Island - Port Elizabeth SA - Cape Town SA

You will love this Cruise - The Ports of Call are a Fantasy - The Bridge Program is a Dream

for a full brochure

email: Nigel@Travelrite.com.au **1-800-630-343** or **03 9836-2522**

Bridge Queries **contact:** Gary Brown **phone:** 0418 570 430

email: brownbridge@ozemail.com.au

Richard Pollett



Richard Owain Pollett was born in Adelaide in 1986, and began his violin studies at the age of five. In 2007, he undertook a Masters Diploma with Italian violinist Massimo Quarta. This took place in Lugano, Switzerland, at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana, and was completed in January this year, with the highest honours. Richard was studying at the Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne. He had completed a Bachelor of Music Honours degree with a University Medal from Grif-

fith University, and a Master of Philosophy at the University of Queensland.

Richard participated in the Stage III finals of the ABC Symphony Australia Young Performers' Awards in 2006 and 2007, performing with the Tasmanian and Queensland Symphony Orchestras. He has won many prestigious prizes and awards. In 2004 he toured Europe with the Australian Youth Orchestra.

Richard was a gifted bridge player who represented Queensland at the Hobart ANC in 2002 and the Darwin ANC in 2003. He played as often as his busy life allowed. He had extraordinary promise, unfulfilled by a tragic accident that took his life on September 27, 2011.

The Richard Pollett Memorial Award has been established by Richard's family and close friends, in association with the Australian Youth Orchestra, to honour his memory. Award(s) will be made annually to provide support and encouragement to young violinists who display outstanding personal and musical attributes. Richard touched many through his playing and his person and was an inspiration to all who knew and heard him. For more information please visit the AYO website www.ayo.com.au.

LUXURY BRIDGE HOLIDAYS 2012

WITH MATT MULLAMPHY

EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE - FLORIADE 2012, NETHERLANDS



SOUTH AMERICA
17 FEB TO 7 MAR

\$9,975 pp twin share includes

- 2 nights accommodation at Four Seasons Hotel - Buenos Aires.
- 15 nights aboard the Silver Spirit.
- A VIP ticket to attend the Rio Carnival, 2012
- All breakfasts & dinners in Buenos Aires
- All meals & beverages aboard the Silver Spirit
- Extensive sightseeing trips & group transfers
- All bridge sessions & lessons



QUEENSTOWN
17 TO 24 MAR

\$3,195 pp twin share includes

- 7 nights luxury accommodation at Millbrook Resort, Queenstown.
- 6 bridge lessons
- 12 bridge sessions
- All breakfasts, lunches & gourmet dinners
- Premium wines with dinners
- Extensive sightseeing trips & group transfers
- Free shuttle from Millbrook Resort to Queenstown centre
- Special in-house golf rates for Millbrook



EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE
16 MAY TO 1 JUN

\$9,975 pp twin share includes

- 6 nights accommodation at Four Seasons Hotel Florence (former Medici Palazzo)
- 7 nights aboard the River Cloud II
- "Private collection" tour at the Uffizi
- All breakfasts
- All dinners including premium wines
- All lunches plus morning & afternoon teas onboard the River Cloud II
- Extensive sightseeing trips & group transfers
- All bridge sessions & lessons

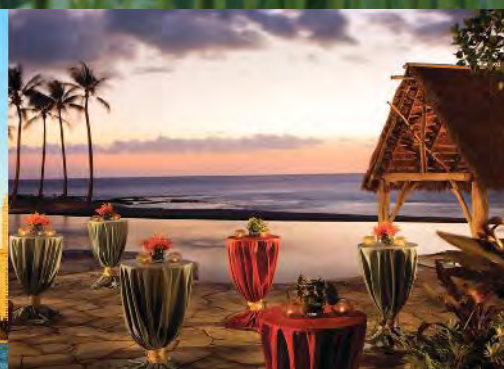
Further information: www.luxurybridge.com.au email: luxury@luxurybridge.com.au



NEW YORK & MONTRÉAL
28 SEP TO 14 OCT

\$10,295 pp twin share includes

- 4 nights at the Four Seasons Hotel, New York City
- 10 nights on the Silver Whisper
- All breakfasts & lunches
- All dinners including premium wines
- All drinks aboard the Silver Whisper
- Extensive sightseeing trips & group transfers
- All entrance fees
- All bridge lessons & sessions
- Tickets to a Broadway show



HAWAII
14 TO 22 OCT

\$5,295 pp twin share includes

- All transfers
- 7 nights accommodation at Four Seasons Resort Hualalai, Hawaii Island
- All breakfasts & all lunches
- All dinners including premium wines
- All bridge lessons & sessions
- Extensive sightseeing trips & group transfers
- All entrance fees
- Special in-house golf rates for Four Seasons Hualalai



VIETNAM & CAMBODIA
21 NOV TO 5 DEC

\$7,865 pp twin share includes

- 3 nights at Park Hyatt Hotel, Saigon
- 7 nights aboard The Jahan Riverboat
- 3 nights at Hotel de la Paix, Siem Reap
- All breakfasts
- All dinners including premium wines
- All lunches onboard the Jahan
- Extensive sightseeing trips & group transfers
- All entrance fees
- All bridge lessons & sessions

rybridge@mail.com or contact Matt Mullamphy on (02) 9029 3900

FOCUS

Hi Maestro,

Lately, I have been thinking about the dumb errors I seem to make with annoying frequency. For example, the other night I made a really bad play and went down in a contract I should have made easily. On the very next hand, I passed out of turn!

They say that disasters come in threes, but some nights at the table, they seem to come in fives and sixes. Obviously, concentration is an issue, and some nights I seem to be able to concentrate better than others. Equally obvious, is that this is not a problem everyone has. So, is it just me, or is there some clever fix that might help?

Lost as Always.

Dear Lost,

Have a think about what happens when bridge players turn up to a club game. They may have worked all day, they may have had problems with the traffic on the way to the club, or they may have spent time mulling over that new bidding agreement they discussed last week with their partner.

All of a sudden, it's cards out of the slot, and play! Whatever baggage you have brought with you is still thrashing around in your head, and you are about to make your first expensive mistake of the night.

Your observations are accurate. At all levels of bridge, players make mistakes that are not in any way connected to their level of technical expertise. They frequently make these errors because their brain has been engaged on some other matter.

Think about when you are most likely to make a serious error at bridge. Best candidates are:

- 1). The first board of the session.
- 2). The last board of the session.
- 3). The next board after a blunder or altercation with an opponent.
- 4). The first board after a protracted break, such as a supper break or a long wait between moves.

Some of the reasons for these are obvious, if you think

about it. My partners are forbidden from making observations about "last board". I recall one partner breaking the rule, when he announced "last board", at the conclusion of a 20-board teams match. The lack of concentration which resulted, cost us double digits in IMPs. What happened was that he withdrew from the game prematurely, and lost focus.

So, what is to be done? I recommend to any player whose concentration is a little fragile, that they adopt a focussing routine. For me, I count the cards multiple times or leave my hand face down on the table and don't look at them until I have cleared my brain of all extraneous thoughts. I am sure anyone can develop a routine which achieves this. The routine should be activated at the start of play (be ready to play), after disasters (because you will not be immunised against them), and after protracted breaks in play.

Having adopted this principle over more than a decade, it is interesting to note that my least memorable moments at the table have occurred when I should have activated the focussing routine, and didn't.

This may be a way to improve your results without making gains in technique.

David Lusk

Marketing tips for clubs

It is always helpful to know what makes other clubs successful in growing their membership. The ABF has started to compile a list of tips and tricks for you.

Visit <http://www.abf.com.au/marketing/tips.htm> for tips on how to attract members, how to retain members and how to gain free promotion within your local community.

If you would like to share your campaign/marketing ideas that have been successful please send them to marketing@abf.com.au with the subject 'Marketing Tips'.

It would be great if we could work together to create a fabulous resource library for the benefit of all our clubs.

We would love to hear from you!



StepBridge.com.au

the Australian
internet bridge club

StepBridge - Seriously Social



Expressions of Interest Sought

The ABF Youth Committee ("ABFYC") is seeking expressions of interest for a person to accept responsibility for:

- Preparation of three newsletters annually of approximately eight pages to be distributed electronically only;
- Liaising with the ABF Youth website designer and administrator to ensure that the content is meaningful and current
- Establish and maintain social network pages and content to be current and meaningful
- To advise the ABFYC on the establishment of an online youth forum to allow the ABFYC to better understand the needs and drivers for participation in youth bridge and to allow youth players to exchange plans ideas and any other meaningful information

The newsletter will primarily consist of:

1. Results from both Australian and International events at which youth players are participating;
2. Photos of youth players both profile and at the table to try to make a more intimate feel between youth players who may not otherwise directly interact;
3. Advertising of all youth events at which we the ABFYC seek to optimise youth participation;
4. Reproduction of any interesting hands featuring youth players which may be taken (with consent) from tournament bulletins etc.;
5. Submissions from youth players which the appointee would actively seek on an ongoing basis;
6. Reporting in brief on ABFYC meetings and decisions especially as they affect players, events and international programs; and
7. Any editorial content or articles of interest which the appointee would like to include in the newsletter.

The role should primarily be seen as one of assembling a newsletter rather than a need to originate content although additional content will always be welcome.

The website

Many websites suffer from dated and stale content. The ABFYC seeks to have a website which would feature:

1. Copies of the current and past newsletters;
2. Details of forthcoming events;
3. Information about youth programs and activities from around the world;
4. Promulgation of decisions made by the ABFYC as they affect youth players;
5. Minutes of the ABFYC meetings;
6. Invitation of submissions from youth players on issues to be considered by the ABFYC which will affect them.

Other

While to a certain degree the website will duplicate contents of the newsletter it will provide an expanded space for much of the material. Information must be up-to-date and archived as appropriate and it will be the role of the appointee to liaise with the web administrator to ensure that this happens.

The ABFYC certainly doesn't see any web design experience as necessary but it would be well-regarded.

General

Subject to the availability and desire of the applicant, transport and accommodation costs would be provided to attend the Australian Youth Championships held in Canberra each January with the intent of gathering material and 'bonding' with the youth community. Of course contributions to the event bulletins would be appreciated.

The applicant would report to the ABFYC through the ABF Youth Coordinator (currently Dave Thompson) and invited to attend the two meetings held annually during which the applicant's views on all aspects of youth bridge promotion and activity would be sought.

Remuneration

The ABFYC have allocated an annual honorarium of \$2,000 for the role outlined above but will accept applications from candidates who set a higher amount to be paid for the role. Applications together with payment criteria outside of those outlined above close on Friday, 16th December, and should be directed to the Chairman of the ABFYC, David Stern at youth@abf.com.au. Commencement likely 1st January, 2012

Update - our new ABF Masterpoints site

The Masterpoint Centre database and website are being updated, and the changeover is scheduled for early January 2012.

Masterpoints for the month of December, 2011 will be processed in the usual way, and then early in January 2012, visitors to the Masterpoints Centre website will be taken to the new site.

All the existing website functionality will be there, but the new site will be easier to navigate, with one menu of options showing on all pages, a Site Map, and plenty of help.

Players will also notice some great new features like:

- Masterpoints will be visible on your account as soon as they have been uploaded by your club or state Masterpoint Secretary. They will be labelled as “future points” but won’t be used to calculate your rank until the month-end process has been performed by the Masterpoint Centre.

- Reports like Top 50 Masterpoint Earners, Current Year and All Time, and the McCutcheons, can be run on-screen at the National, State and Club level

There are some significant changes ahead for Clubs Masterpoint Secretaries. Clubs will be issued with a user name and password (emailed and sent by post early January, 2012). This will enable clubs to:

- upload their Masterpoint award file (instead of emailing them), with Masterpoints immediately visible on member accounts;
- edit player details (amend, transfer in, reactivate, etc.) – changes are immediately visible on the website;
- add new players, with the new ABF number being assigned immediately, and the player then being visible on the website;
- enter awards individually via the traditional CPAR and Sundry pages (same as at present)
- manage your club details, alternate members and annual cancellations (same as at present).

Any change that affects the database (player add/edit, award uploading, etc.) will also result in a confirmation email being sent to the club.

The whole process is completely automatic and the database is updated immediately – the Masterpoint Centre won’t need to be involved in any of these processes, except for approving Masterpoint batches prior to the month-end close.

From January, we hope that all communication with the Masterpoint Centre can be done by email. This means that we will be emailing your quarterly reports instead of using regular mail. To ensure our details are up-to-date, the first time a club logs onto the new site, they will be asked to confirm all their club details, including the preferred email address.

So, watch out for this exciting event in January, 2012. Until then, you can visit the test site at www.abfmpc.bridgeaustralia.org. This address is used for testing only, so the data isn’t accurate or up to date.

The Centre would be pleased to receive your feedback – positive or negative – so feel free to email us with your comments.

Masterpoints - what are they?

In many sports individuals and teams are given rankings, generally by the sport’s governing body. Golfers are ranked using a handicap system, snooker players are ranked using the Snooker world rankings and each member country of the Olympic Games is ranked based upon gold, silver and bronze medal counts.

Like other sports bridge has a ranking system to provide an indicator of an individual’s level of skill and achievement. In most countries around the world, Masterpoints are used but the scheme is different in each country. Our Masterpoints system provides ABF members with a ‘ranking’ from Graduate Master (2 masterpoints) to Diamond Grand Master (15,000 masterpoints).

Whilst ranking systems can be flawed the ABF’s Masterpoints system provides the best available indicator for an individual’s level of play. The system is designed to encourage continuous enquiry, understanding and expertise to make our members aware

Bridge Software

JACK 5	\$85.80
Bridge Baron 22	\$85.80
BridgeMaster 2000	\$77.00
Learn & Practise Bidding Conventions v. 1	\$33.00
Counting at Bridge (Lawrence)	\$39.60
My Favourite 52 (Larry Cohen)	\$20.00

Try these challenging bid and play hands

John Hardy (ABN 63 813 139 759)
63 Tristan St., Carindale QLD 4152
Ph: 07-3398 8898 or 0409 786 050
Email sales@johnhardy.com.au
Website www.johnhardy.com.au



The Next Generation

Bridgemate makes bridge more fun with the next generation of wireless scoring: Bridgemate II.

Based on a track record of 15 years Bridgemate II is the most advanced scoring system, especially designed for players and directors of all ages. Scoring has never been so easy: no more errors, real-time registration and publishing of results in a split second and this all with the ultimate paperless scoring method.



Bridgemate II ergonomic design fits perfectly on every table. The units are stable without wobbly stands or flip over's and the display won't get greasy or pen scratched. The clear text on its large keys leaving no doubt about their function. The intuitive entry process on one screen require a minimum of key strokes.



Bridgemate is fully adjustable to your preferences: if your scoring program can do it, Bridgemate will do it. It supports all Australian used scoring programs like ASE8, BridgeMaster, CompScore2, DuplicateScore and ScoreBridge, it is the official scoring system of the World Bridge Federation and is in use at all ABF events.

Bridgemate: your best choice

More than half of the Australian clubs have switched to wireless scoring and over 95% of them chose Bridgemate. There are clubs with 80 tables and clubs with 5 tables: Bridgemate accommodates them all. For a club having 2 sessions a week a Bridgemate II will cost as little as **8 cents** a player a session; no matter how big or small your club is.

SPECIAL OFFER Even our first model Bridgemate Pro is still unbeaten by other brands. This model is now in reach of every club for the special price of **\$50/unit** in a mixture of new and refurbished units. No risks as you get 2 years warranty and if you upgrade within the first year to the absolute top (Bridgemate II) we'll refund the purchase price. Just imagine you can get a real Bridgemate not for \$200 like other brands but for as little as a fourth of the price!

price info

AU\$ levy
- 11%

Bridgemate II: ~~\$ 259~~ **\$ 231 ***

Bridgemate server: ~~\$ 399~~ **\$ 356**

AU\$ levy: The strong AU\$ gives you a profit of 11% (subject to exchange rates)

* With tailor made service agreements. Pick the one that fits best from free to \$20/unit.

trade and save

Save now an extra 10%/unit for every functioning wireless scoring device of any brand you trade in.

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY

We are convinced that Bridgemate is the best system in the world. Thousands of clubs in 35 countries can confirm this, but you should judge yourself before spending money.

Free trial sets available.

In the unlikely event that you are not happy we'll refund the purchase price.

Watch out!

Bridgemates success has inspired others to copy our scoring system. But they are still far as good.

In choosing a wireless scoring system, watch for what is really important:

- ☒ Large size of keys and display
- ☒ User friendly operating
- ☒ Stable and crash proof casing
- ☒ Low battery consumption
- ☒ Compatibility with scoring programs
- ☒ Customer service and warranty

Be sure all these boxes can be ticked!

W: www.bridgemate.com.au

E: info@bridgemate.com.au

P: 08 8339 2210

M: PO Box 1010, Stirling SA 5152

that they are part of a learning community – bridge is after all exercise for the brain.

How can I obtain Masterpoints?

Masterpoints come in three colours.

1. Club session wins will gain green Masterpoints (how many depends on the size of the field).
2. Placing in competitions and congresses run by your club and other clubs will gain red Masterpoints. (Each club is allocated a certain number of Red Point sessions per year.)
3. Major congresses and club events such as the GNOT or GNP will attract gold Masterpoints.

Information about the number of Masterpoints you will need to work your way up the rankings, together with the colour/s required, is provided on the back of your ABF Registration Card.

Currently, only a small proportion of regular club players compete in bridge congresses, which is where you start to accrue red and gold Masterpoints. This is a shame, because these events provide members with a huge opportunity to build on their ranking whilst at the same time deriving a lot of enjoyment from their sport.

Why compete in congresses?

Congress bridge is different (and many would say better) than normal club bridge because:

✓ attendees are drawn from all over, and the field tends to be made up of stronger players. This is good for stronger players, but it's also excellent for improving players.

✓ if you're avoiding congresses for fear of being 'beaten up' by stronger players, don't worry. Almost all congresses are run on the 'Swiss draw' principle, which means that except for the first round, you only meet opponents who are doing as well as you are. Less experienced players will, in the main, meet players of a similar standard, though if you do particularly well, you will be tested with your next draw, but of course if you're doing badly, you should end up with an easier draw!

✓ many of our congresses are run as teams events. This means that two pairs enter together as a team of four (they don't need to have played as a team before, but are usually of a similar standard). For each match (usually eight boards), your team is drawn to play another team. The teammates of the pair you are playing are at the other table playing your teammates, but your teammates sit in the opposite direction to you, so that they hold the cards that your opponents at your table hold. Scoring is done solely on how your table result compares to their table result – what happens at all the other tables is irrelevant. This is a very different method of scoring from what is used at regular club sessions, and many people believe this makes for

The future is here!

LARGE touch screen not only means
LARGE buttons. It also implies:

MORE options

LESS risk of errors (only the buttons that should be pressed are shown).

REDUCED risk of mechanical failure (no moving parts).

See for yourself how **USER FRIENDLY** the BridgeScorer is at www.bridge-scorer.com where you will find a clickable demo; and/or **TRY IT FOR FREE** for three months.

The BridgeScorer® comes with a **LARGER** software package and **BETTER** warranties than any competitor.
SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED (or money back)

\$199
ALL INCLUSIVE



www.bridge-scorer.com • sales@asecomputing.com

Ph. (02) 4362 2488

ITALY 22 DAYS – AMALFI-VENICE-TUSCANY-CORTONA - FINESSE

Aug 24 - Sept 14 from \$ 5890 T/S SingleS = \$ 890



Included in this Holiday: Rome – Rome

- All tipping & gratuities
- 21 nights finest accommodation
- 12 tour days with Air-Conditioned coach
- English speaking tour guides
- All dinners including your drinks,
- All breakfasts
- Naples to Venice internal flight
- All transfers
- Lunches on tour & transfer days as specified
- All bridge fees including Pairs and Teams (all sessions are Red Points)
- Workshops & Lesson Material
- Fully escorted tour - Greg & Gaye & Guides.

For more information regarding our hotels & tours visit our website or 'phone for tour book

HUNTER VALLEY-TUSCANY ESTATE Jan 03 – 06 \$ 575 T/S



All rooms are large and feature views of the gardens. Each room includes air conditioning, private bathroom, and a lounge area with flat-screen TV and minibar. Estate has swimming pool and tennis court. Included in this Holiday:

- 3 nights accommodation
- All breakfasts & All dinners.
- All bridge fees - all 5 sessions are Red Points
- Workshop & Lesson Material.
- New Year Welcome Drinks.

Winter in Thailand – Phuket-Krab –Railay Beach: June 18 – July 01 14 Days \$ 2195 T/S + Air



Holiday Inclusions : Phuket - Phuket

- All tipping & gratuities.
- 13 nights 4* accommodation.
- English speaking tour guides.
- All dinners & All breakfasts.
- All transfers with the group.
- Excellent Conference Facilities.
- Workshops & Lesson Material.
- Fully escorted tour.
- 5 tour days with 4 lunches.
- Comprehensive bridge program & workshops



<http://www.members.optusnet.com.au/~gayeallen> : **Greg or Gaye** Ph: 9596 1423 or 0410 127 326

much more enjoyable bridge. But don't worry if you don't understand how to score this way – the Bridgmates and scoring program work everything out for you.

✓ ☐ pairs congresses are either Matchpoint or Butler scored. Matchpoint scoring is the method used at club sessions, but Butler is more like teams scoring, and many people find this an enjoyable alternative to club sessions.

✓ ☐ Masterpoints awarded at congresses are either red or gold, and are awarded at a higher rate than normal green point club sessions. The way points are commonly awarded at congresses means that it's unusual for any player to walk away empty-handed, so your Master rank promotion gets just a little bit closer with every congress you play in.

✓ ☐ they are run by non-playing, qualified directors who will have the time to ensure issues at the table are properly dealt with, and that justice is done. This is not always possible at club sessions when playing directors need to get back to their table.

✓ ☐ the field is usually divided into categories for prize purposes so that lesser players aren't competing with the strong players for minor prizes.

✓ ☐ in the same way that congresses are different from normal club sessions, major gold Masterpoint congresses are different again. These are very professionally run events, and draw top players from Australia and overseas. It is quite something to sit in a room with sometimes over a thousand other players all focusing on the play of their hands – you could hear a pin drop!

✓ ☐ it provides lots of social interaction with members from other clubs and is fun! Congresses may also provide you with an opportunity to travel to new places and make new friends.

If, as a new player, you are still a bit uncertain about all this, dip your toe in the water at one of the Novice or Graded events. These are held in your club, regionally and nationally. Many new players find this more enjoyable than open events but it doesn't take long to want to move on.

To find out about upcoming novice or graded congresses, look up your State or Territory home page under 'events'. Alternatively, view the 'events' page on the ABF web site for information.

If you would like to try competing in a congress but feel a bit apprehensive about the process, approach an experienced player in your club (who is attending the relevant congress) and ask if they would 'mentor' you through the process once you arrive.

Once you have a taste of competitive bridge playing, you will quickly gain confidence in the competition processes and move quickly through your ABF rankings.

If you are a novice player be aware that as at the end of August, 2011, 70.2% of ABF members had between 0 – 100 Masterpoints. (24.1% had between 0-5 Masterpoints). You are representative of the vast majority of ABF members, and we encourage you to participate in competitions to gain full enjoyment and benefits from your sport.

Want more information?

You will find all you are looking for, including an on-line and downloadable Masterpoint Manual on the Masterpoint Centre website:

www.masterpoints.org.au .

Good luck and happy bridging.

*Sandra Mulcahy
ABF National Marketing Coordinator
(with assistance from Peter Busch)*

Armidale nonagenarians rule!

At the Monday 4 July session of the Armidale Bridge Club Olive Tilly and Professor Robin Stokes came top NS with a score of 60.8%.

There's nothing exceptional about this - except that both are nonagenarians and - this is a slightly delicate matter - have an average age of somewhere between 90 and 92.

Mrs Tilly was, amongst other things, a munitions worker in South Australia during World War II, while Professor Stokes has long enjoyed a worldwide reputation in the field of chemistry.

This is not the first time they've topped the field together and there is every reason to believe they'll do it again and again.

Malcolm Saunders, Armidale Bridge Club



Teacher Training Workshops under way

Three ABF Teacher Training Programs have been completed so far this calendar year. These have been held in Melbourne, Brisbane and Launceston. A fourth will be conducted in Perth in November. Each person who attended received a Certificate for successfully completing the course.

The aim of these workshops is to introduce ideas and material that work, and to give teachers, both new and experienced, the tools to deliver top quality bridge lessons. Course content and method are examined, with suggestions for running professional beginners and more advanced classes, regardless of system or material used.

The ABF has called these programs “Teacher Training Programs” and not “Accreditation Programs”, because they are planned as an introduction only, a starting point, for teachers to develop their own teaching style. There is no set exam, but it is hoped that participants complete the Teacher Training Workbook. Ongoing support after the course is offered via the ABF National Teaching Coordinator.

Congratulations to the following people, who have completed the course, which is a nine hour, three session introduction into the principles and methodology of teaching bridge.

Tasmania

Dallas Cooper	Pamela Lidl
Margaret Glasson	Jan Anderson
Pat Beattie	
Barbara Briggs	
Janice Tongs	
Dave Shears	
Kay Decker	
Jeanette Harland	
Doreen Girvan	
Klaus Decker	
Ian Callahan	
Sandra Filler	



Victoria

Pauline Beck
 Alfred Branicki
 Jan Clyne
 Mary Elson
 Julie Farmer
 Elizabeth Friel
 Laura Ginnan
 Kevin Gunn
 Anne Gunst
 Jan Hackett
 Chris Hynd
 Jean Macleod
 Margaret Morgan
 Serita Mudford
 Liz Munro
 Jim Naughton
 Dianne Nicol
 Marjorie Phillips
 Derek Poulton
 Lorraine Read
 Trish Ritman
 Alex Smith
 Libby Thompson
 Bob Weaver
 Shirley Weaver
 Peter Wells
 Margaret Wylie



Queensland

Kemal Avunduk	Birgitt Bingham
Leslie Cheung	Judy Clifford
Mary Collins	Neville de Mestre
Margaret de Mestre	Kim Ellaway
Noreen Everson	Marie Filippini
Charlene Frederiksen	Jenny Hays
Paula Lennon	Sandra Mulcahy
Barry O'Donohue	Lesley Pope
Sandra Routley	Therese Tully
Kay Watkinson	

Joan Butts

ABF National Teaching Coordinator

Spring forward!

We encourage usage of Scorers® as deals and results can then be merged automatically. That is to say, the Scorers can show the deals and the hand records can include the actual results.

	N	S			Pts	Fr	%
C	8	8	♠ 75		200	4	96
D	4	4	♥ T3		100	15	71
H	5	5	♦ A63		-140	5	44
S	4	4	♣ T98762		-150	1	36
N	4	4			-200	4	30
			♠ KQ8642	♠ J9	-650	6	17
			♥ AQ	♥ KJ98	-660	4	3
			♦ 94	♦ QJT852			
			♣ KJ5	♣ Q			
			♠ AT3				
C	5	5	♥ 76542				
D	9	9	♦ K7				
H	8	8	♣ A43				
S	9	9					
N	9	9					

Opt res: -300

We therefore contribute to Duplimate® and HandyDup® customers' (old as well as new) purchase of Scorers until the 31st of December (2011). Just state your machine number (or place an order for a dealing machine) and we will send a voucher good for \$50 per Scorer.

This offer cannot be combined with any other offer.

Duplimate Australia

sales@duplimate.com • www.duplimate.com.au

Copy Deadline

for Issue 153, January 2012,
the deadline is:

December 26, 2011

Late submissions will be held over
until Issue 154, March 2012

Email: editor@abf.com.au

Margaret Smith

MEMORIAL TEAMS 2011

\$3,000 in total PRIZES!

Margaret Smith

"A grand master with a reputation of being a "grand" partner. Margaret was happy to play with players of any level to put back into bridge the pleasure and social interaction she enjoyed throughout 30 years of playing."

Sunday 27th November

9:45am for 10:00am Start

Manly Leagues Bridge Club

Cnr Federal Pde & Pittwater Rd,
Brookvale (Free Parking)

PRIZES (\$3,000 total)

1st Prize: \$1,000

2nd Prize: \$400

3rd Prize: \$200

Plus six \$200 prizes to the best remaining teams: <3000, <2000, <1000, <600, <300, & <100 team MPs.

Plus a Champagne Platter prize to the best remaining team from each of Manly Leagues, Parramatta, Peninsula & North Shore bridge clubs.

EVENT DETAILS

- 6 x 8 board Swiss Teams
- B4 red MPs, no yellow systems
- \$120 per team
- Director - Tony Howes
- Lunch orders taken before start of play

Convenor: David Farmer

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA, with ABF approval for red master points at B4 level.

Online Bookings required by 24 November 2011

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/entry/enter.asp?eid=2567

OR: Email david.farmer@austega.com Call 0415 715 743

The bold and the beautiful

Congratulations to Grand Master David Priol and his American sweetheart Gigi, who married on October 31.

David has travelled to all our major congresses for many years, in spite of poor health. He is well known and very popular within the bridge community.

David was born with a rare bone disease and has been in a wheelchair for most of his adult life.

He runs Springwood Bridge Club in the lower Blue Mountains, where he lives.

He met Gigi (a non-bridge player) online, and the pair have had a blossoming love affair for some years. She has been to Australia several times, and is now returning to live here permanently.

May your life together be joyous.





GOLD COAST CONGRESS UPDATE FOR 2012 AS AT 7/10/2011

It is only 79 more sleeps till Christmas! It must mean it is time to crank up the Gold Coast Congress spirit to ensure that 2012 is every bit as good as last year and indeed better. I was so impressed with the way people responded to our "dress up night" last year that we are making it a regular feature – our theme will be Black and White" and Sunday Night of the Pairs will be the night we will judge the best outfits. Let us see if we can surpass last year's efforts!

The big news is that there will be no night play for the teams as play will start at 11am on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and continue through until around 7pm (at latest). We will play 2 matches then lunch – start again around 3.30pm for another 2 matches. The Pairs will continue to have night play and will be the same format as last year. I know most of you will be cheering but many of you will be very disappointed and I understand your concerns.

The downside is that you will lose 2 morning hours on Tuesday and Wednesday but gain half an hour on Thursday so we are talking about a total of 3.5 hours. I realise the mornings are precious especially to our international visitors but I am hoping that the earlier finish will enable you all to become earlier risers. Gay and I are still in the throes of planning early morning activities on the beach – any suggestions send them in! We had thought of an exercise class to limber up ☺, walks, or heaven forbid an early morning dip! We are all working hard to ensure all the restaurants will continue to give the equivalent prices to the early bird specials as I appreciate that was another area of concern.

The upside is we can all go to bed earlier if we chose. I know this will be a big relief to all my staff who were struggling to cope with manning the desk from 8am till midnight. Hopefully we can all be a bit more social and catch up with friends over a leisurely dinner or a few drinks after play. It also helps us to contain costs as there are heavy penalty rates for using the Gold Coast Convention Centre after 10pm.

We are introducing a new event called Eclectic Holiday Pairs so there will be Walk Ins every day for those who wish. Players can play in any one, two or three sessions in any of the three Eclectic Events and each session will have voucher prizes. To qualify for overall prize within each Event, all three sessions must be played.

EVENT 1 - Saturday 25th, Sunday 26th, Monday 27th - 1pm

EVENT 2 - Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th, Thursday 1st March - 11am

EVENT 3 - Friday 2nd March - 10.30am, 3.00pm and Saturday 3rd March 10.30am

Please spread the word to anyone you think maybe interested. The cost is \$15.00 per session and there is no need to preregister.

THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION,
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION
PRESENTS THE...

GOLD COAST CONVENTION CENTRE
GOLD COAST HIGHWAY
BROADBEACH

GOLD COAST CONGRESS

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25TH TO SATURDAY MARCH 3RD 2012

DON'T
MISS THIS
INTERNATIONAL
BRIDGE
EVENT

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

www.qldbridge.com/gcc



GOLD COAST
congress

For further enquiries or to register, contact: KIM ELLAWAY

Call: +61 7 3351 8602 or +61 4 1206 4903

Fax: +61 7 3103 4799

Email: manager@qldbridge.com