

New South Wales Bridge Association

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Editor: Peter Jamieson

Chairman's Corner

As I write this, the Wimbledon tennis championships are on television – as always at this time of year.

More novel, the European bridge championships are on the internet. Bridge Base Online (BBO) has been broadcasting every round, showing up to 16 tables each round ... free!

Nothing can replace the social experience of mixing with other players at your local bridge club or at a tournament. But, for those who haven't tried it, it is worth exploring the bridge activities available at online bridge clubs like BBO – particularly since many of them are free.

Obviously, you can play online, casually or competitively. Bridge promoters need to think about how to use this to attract new players to our community – especially from the younger, more internet oriented age groups.

For people who want to watch and learn, BBO has frequent "Vugraph" broadcasts with expert commentary, showing live matches from around the world, including many Australian events. You can watch them as they happen ... or go to the library of recent matches and browse through them at your leisure.

I can't resist a plug here. Comparing overseas coverage with our own Australian event, you can't help but admire the online presentation of results pioneered by our own Matt McManus and Pauline Gumby ... it's world's best practice!

BBO also provides a facility for bidding practice. To home in on particular sequences, you can specify hand shapes and strength.

Bridge teachers can even set up pre-dealt hands for teaching sessions.

BBO, developed by Fred Gitelman and others (Fred himself is a world class player), describes itself as "primarily a labour of love", to help promote the game of bridge throughout the world. You will find it at http://www.bridgebase.com.

Bruce Neill Chairman

<> <> <> <> <> <> <> Les Longhurst Teams of Three

The popular Les Longhurst Teams of Three was conducted at NSWBA premises 162 Goulburn St on Sunday June 1st. This event features teams of three players entering and then on the day being allocated a playing captain by lucky draw.

The winners this year were the **GOSNEY** team pictured below - Paul Gosney, Joan Polivnik, Bella Swartzberg, and Marlene Baskin with a score of 118 Victory Points from the six 8 board matches.



Runners up were the **EBERY** team – Jamie Ebery, Katalin Szatmari, Machteld Baljet, and Marcel Hoevenaars on a core of 115 VP's. Third place went to **GILL** – Peter Gill, Mary Atkinson, Eugene Graczynski, and Coral Lawrence.

Convener Judy Mott did a great job with assistance from Judy Frazier who acted as MC. The event was ably directed by Nick Hughes.

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Bridge Decisions

This bridge article courtesy of

www.ronklingerbridge.com

Bidding Problem:

North dealer: Nil vulnerable

West North East South --- 1♥ Pass 4♥ ?

What would you do as West with:

♠ K 8 7 4 3 2 ♡ — ◇ A 4 **♣**10 7 6 4 3

The Italian Job

When Italy won the 2000 World Open Teams Olympiad, Alfredo Versace found a great bid on this deal from the final:

Dealer: N Nil Vul	North ♠ Q 6 5 ♡ K Q J 9 5 4 ◇ J 9 ♣ K Q
West	East
♠ K 8 7 4 3 2	♠ J 9
♡ —	♡ A 6
♦ A 4	♦ K Q 8 7 3
4 10 7 6 4 3	♣ A 8 5 2
	South
	♠ A 10
	♥ 10 8 7 3 2
	♦ 10 6 5 2
	♣ J 9

West	North	East	South
-	1♡	Pass	4♡
4	Pass	Pass	Pass

The lack of spade length argues against a takeout double by East and the diamonds lack the quality needed for a 2-level overcall. The rationale for Versace's very courageous 4♠ was:

- (a) The void in the enemy suit (usually a good sign for competing), and
- (b) The good shape (6-5 pattern) with moderate strength. As South's was a weak action and West was also weak, it was very likely that East would have some useful values. Indeed they were sufficient to allow 4♠ to make, thanks to the ♠A onside and the 2-2 split in clubs.

At the other table East overcalled 2♦, but the bidding ended with 3♠ by West. In the Women's final, both West's did bid 4♠, but that was aided by East's 2♦ overcall.

. <> <> <> <> <> <>

NSW 2008 Interstate Teams Selection

Since the previous Bulletin went to press, NSW team trials have been conducted for the Youth Team and the Seniors Team. The trials were conducted using a pairs format with Butler scoring. Here are the four NSW Teams.

Youth Team

Michael Weng - Orlando Wu, Muhammad Naufal - Shing Fung Yuen, Hoi-Ming Chan - Leigh Matheson

Seniors Team

Ruth and Peter Jamieson Egon Auerbach – Tom Kiss Dennis Zines – Ross Stuart

Open:

Tony Nunn - Michael Wilkinson Peter Gill - Nye Griffiths Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer

Women

Judy Snow - Lynn Kalmin Judy Mott - Nafi Bashar Kim Neale - Kinga Moses

The non-playing captains for these teams have been confirmed. Kieran Dyke will captain both the Open and the Youth teams. Tina Zines will captain both the Senior and the Women teams.

You can follow their progress at the interstate championships to be held at Holiday Inn Surfers Paradise during the first week of August. Just visit the ABF web site and follow the appropriate links.

NSW Mixed Pairs Championship 2008

- 1 Pauline Gumby Warren Lazer
- 2 Marilyn Chadwick Kim Morrison
- 3 Elizabeth Adams Tony Nunn

NSWBA Swiss Pairs Congress June 22

- 1 Graeme Corin Elizabeth Bornecrantz
- 2 Elly Urbach Les Varadi
- 3 Margaret Gidley-Baird Timothy Cregan

Book Review by Peter Jamieson Misplay These Hands With Me

Written by Mark Horton, this book is aimed at intermediate/advanced bridge players. Horton is well known on the international bridge scene as a well skilled player and also a distinguished bridge writer. Currently editor of BRIDGE magazine (UK) he has also authored over a dozen bridge books. The hands in this book are excellent - sourced from various newspaper bridge columns, bridge magazines, Bridge Base Online and bridge books (including the famous book *Bridge with the Blue Team*).

The presentation is witty, entertaining and stimulating using a style familiar to many players of my generation (baby boomer) because it is deliberately modeled on that used by famous UK player Terence Reese (1913 —1996) in some of his books. This method is conversational along the lines of "My opponents on this hand from a weekend congress in Sydney are good players but not quite in the top class. West deals and I hold - - - - " (South's hand is now shown). The bidding is presented with the rationale for particular bidding choices explained. Then the lead is made and your hand (declarer) and dummy is shown. You the reader are sitting at the elbow of the writer throughout the bidding and play. The twist that Horton uses is to present a totally plausible line of play for declarer which in every case is wrong! In the Post Mortem he then explains why a superior line should have been adopted. The temptation to race through each deal and be entertained should be resisted or you will not get the best value out of the book. A better approach is to put your thinking cap on as soon as the lead is revealed and then imagine you have to make this contract to win the championship. In most cases if you really think hard you will detect the flaw in Horton's (highly plausible) line of plav.

The setting varies between match point pairs, Rubber Bridge and teams (IMPs scoring). This variety keeps you on your toes as the strategy is different in each. But most of the time you will be declarer in contracts which look to be much too ambitious- needing superior card play skills for success. Sometimes the play looks to be too easy but then of course trumps break 4-0 and both finesses fail - so great foresight and care is needed to succeed.

This book is available from most bridge book sellers. At present The Bridge Shop has stocks of this book RRP\$32.95 phone 02 9967 0644 or visit www.bridgeshop.com.au





The ABF and the NSWBA present the

2008 Sydney Spring Nationals

22 - 30 OCTOBER 2008



Gold Masterpoints Playoff Qualifying Points

Venue: Hakoah Club, Bondi

Details: www.abf.com.au/events/spnot

OPEN TEAMS TOURNAMENT

Qualifying: Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th Oct 2008

Final Series: Sat 25th & Sun 26th October 2008

DICK CUMMINGS OPEN PAIRS

(Swiss Matchpoint Pairs)

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th October 2008

MANZONI WOMENS' TEAMS

&

BOBBY EVANS SENIORS' TEAMS

Qualifying: Mon 27th – Wed 29th October 2008

Finals: Thursday October 30th 2008

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Three Opening Lead Problems

(from the 2008 NSW Seniors Team Trials)

Problem 1 – Dealer N, All Vul, IMPs scoring

You hold as West:

★ K 10 9 6

♥ J 4

♦ Q8543

♣ 76

West	North	East	South
-	1♣	Pass	1♡
Pass	2♡	Pass	4♡
All Pass			

The opponents are playing a system using five card major and weak no trump. It is therefore possible that North has a balanced 15-16 point hand. You have to make the opening lead.

Problem 2 - Dealer West, EW Vul

You are West holding:

★876

♥ J 5

♦ Q 8 7 3

♣ Q J 8 5

West	North	East	South	
Pass	1♡	Pass	1 ♠	
Pass	2♠	Pass	4NT	
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠	
All Pass				

The opponents are playing Standard with five card majors. The 5♠ bid showed two keycards and the queen of spades. It is your opening lead.

Problem 3 - Dealer South, All Vul

You are West holding:

♠ A K 10 7 5

♥ 64

♦ Q 10 7

♣ 8 4 3

West	North	East	South
_	_	_	Pass
Pass	1♡	Pass	2\$
2♠	6♦	All Pass	

The opponents are playing a natural system with a weak NT. 1♥ only promised four cards. They do not use Drury or fit jumps by responder. What do you lead?

Answers to all three problems on page 6

Changes to Bridge Laws

As mentioned in Bridge Newsletters and web sites throughout Australia, the revised Bridge Laws dated 2007 became effective throughout Zone 7 (which includes Australia) from June 1, 2008.

If you were familiar with the 1997 Laws then you need to acquaint yourself with the new version. You can purchase a book of these in paperback or hardcover from major bridge book retailers.

The new laws can be accessed at various web sites, three of which are detailed on the ABF Regulations web site.

Of particular interest to Australian bridge players

is a 10 page document titled "Zone 7 Law Interpretation, Regulation and Guidance" available in PDF format at the ABF Regulations web site. It contains numerous examples of the impact in this Zone of the new Laws. Here is the link http://www.abf.com.au/events/tournregs/Zone7Laws080508.pdf

For most club bridge players the revised Laws will probably have limited impact. But here are four changes you *should* know:

Extract from ABF Alerting Regulations

4.1 Stayman 2♣ over partner's 1NT
This bid is self-alerting because it is almost
universally used. The conventional responses to
Stayman are alertable, as are natural responses,
which convey a message about strength or special
distribution.

Returning Cards to Board

After play has finished, each player should shuffle his original thirteen cards, after which he restores them to the pocket corresponding to his compass position. Thereafter no hand shall be removed from the board unless a member of each side, or the Director, is present.

Revokes

Rectification following a revoke -

Be aware that under the new laws there is a transfer of two tricks only where the offending player wins the revoke trick <u>and</u> their side wins subsequent trick (s). If the offending side did not win the Revoke trick but won subsequent tricks then one trick is transferred to the non offending side. These changes mean more responsibility for directors to administer **Law 64C** (note- Law 64C allows the Director to award a different score if the non offending side is clearly damaged even after applying the Law).

Continued next page @

Insufficient Bid

There have been major changes to *Call allowed after an Insufficient Bid*—see **Law 27.** If you have Internet then you really must check out this Law and especially the Zone 7 interpretation document mentioned above. Here is one example:- Opener bids 4NT ace ask and responder bids 4H (having meant to bid 5H to show two aces). The Director must be called but under the new laws, the insufficient bidder will in most case be able to correct to 5H. This contrasts with the 1997 laws which were very severe.

(The above material was written by Peter Jamieson and in no way is intended to be a point of official reference. All bridge players should go to the web sites mentioned or read the Laws book. Most bridge clubs will have a printed copy of the new Laws and be willing to let players check a particular law)

Young'n'OLD

——Contributed by Rakesh Kumar of Sydney.

The recent Strathfield Congress was won by Paul Gosney, Nye Griffiths, Orlando Wu and John Hornibrook. We faced them in the last round and lost the 8-board match by 17 IMPs. This could be entirely attributed to two boards, in which the bidding styles of the young and the no-longer-quite-so-young accounted for the swings. Youth bidding is characterized by a tendency towards exuberance, sometimes described as consistent overbidding ... in this match it was a winning strategy.

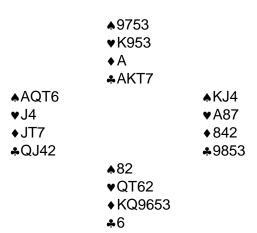
Exhibit A Dealer N, nil vul

♣JT6
♥KT76432
◆8
♣95
♣54
◆AJ9
◆AKQ94
◆AKQ94
♣AQ4
♣AQ982
♥—
◆652
♣KJT62

The not-so-young North opened his hand with a multi-2D, correctable. Now a double by West yielded a 2NT response by East, which was raised to 3NT and duly made. At our table, Orlando Wu opened the North hand 3H (!!) and gave me a problem, so I

elected to bid 3NT on the basis of some optimism (partner might have a useful spade stopper) and even greater pessimism (surely if I doubled I would get a 3S response). Then Orlando made things worse for me by leading a spade. I needed the club finesse to go only one off, for a loss of 10 IMPs.

Exhibit B - Dealer W, Nil Vul



Nye Griffiths opened the West hand 1C, making North's hand an awkward one to bid. NS eventually reached a part score in diamonds and made 11 tricks when two spades were not cashed. Being inclined towards decrepitude, I did not open the 11-point 8-loser hand (including 2 rather forlorn-looking jacks) in first seat. So Orlando bid 1C, John Hornibrook responded 1D and Orlando rebid 1H. John now did a fine job of re-evaluating his hand and raising to 3H. Not to be outdone, Orlando bid game and also proceeded to make 11 tricks, gaining his side 7 IMPs.





Since its beginnings this family business has emerged as a major player in the Australian accessory market. Principal items sold are fashion handbags, luggage, wallets, and jewelry. Their products are widely available in retail stores. You can view the product range in their catalogue at their web site (PDF format). Go to www.manzoni.com.au

Manzoni Accessories are one of NSWBA's sponsors.

Answer to Lead Problem 1

Dealer: N	North	
All Vul	♠ Q 5 2	
	♥Q872	
	♦ A K	
	♣ A 10 8 4	
West		East
★ K 10 9 6		♠ A J
♡ J 4		♥ 10 9 3
♦ Q 8 5 4 3		♦976
♣ 7 6		♣ K 9 5 3 2
	South	
	★ 8743	
	♥ A K 6 5	
	♦ J 10 2	
	. Q J	

The only guaranteed lead to shoot 4 hearts is a spade - for now the defence can score ♠A, ♠K, ♠ruff plus ♣K. But which spade to lead? If you lead ♠6 partner should get this right. But the lead of \$10 may cause partner to play ♠J and then the spades are blocked. At the table West chose to lead ♣7 and now the spotlight was on South. At the table South called for ♣4 and the defence got things right via ♣K, cash ♠A at trick 2 then spade to king and a spade ruff. If South rises ♣A at trick 1 it needs double dummy play to make 4H (including exiting a low spade from dummy at T9!). Note the effect of different systems if NS were playing Standard then North after opening a strong NT would declare 4H (as happened 4 times). Now the lead of A and spade continuation to king then spade ruff is needed but that looks very dangerous and guite likely to blow the defence. Beating 4H gets EW + 12 IMPs. 3NT is cold but 4H is the normal spot.

Answer to Lead Problem 2

Dealer: W	North
EW Vul	♠ A Q 9 2
	♥ A 8 6 4 3
	♦ J 9 5
	♣ 6
West	East
♦ 876	◆ 4 3
♡J5	♡Q972
♦ Q 8 7 3	♦ 10 4
♣ Q J 8 5	♣ A 10 7 4 3
	South
	♠ K J 10 5
	♥ K 10
	♦ A K 6 2
	♣ K 9 2

Only an opening spade lead shoots 6. The defence needs to stop declarer from reversing dummy and setting up the long heart. When clubs are played East must rise and play another spade.

Answer to Lead Problem 3

Dealer: S	North	
All Vul	_	
	♡KQJ753	
	♦ A J 6 5	
	♣ A J 9	
West	East	
♠ A K 10 7 5	♠ Q 8 6 4 3	
♥ 6 4	♡ 10 9	
♦ Q 10 7	♦ 2	
♣ 8 4 3	♣ K 10 7 5 2	
	South	
	♠ J 9 2	
	♡ A 8 2	
	♦ K 9 8 4 3	
	. Q 6	

The big question is do you lead a spade or not. North clearly has a ♠singleton or void. If it is a void then ♠A lead loses a vital tempo for declarer can afford to get the diamonds wrong and still make 12 tricks. The only lead to give your side a chance is the unbid suit. The club lead means that declarer MUST get the diamonds right otherwise they go down losing ♣K and ◇Q. At this table West lead a spade and that was minus 12 IMPs. At some tables North-South encountered busy bidding by the opponents. At one table West opened 2♠. At another West passed and when East climbed in with a very skinny vulnerable 2♥ Michaels Cue bid, the EW spade barrage saw North become declarer 5H.





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Book Review

by Peter Jamieson of

The Lone Wolff – Autobiography of a Bridge Maverick

Published in 2008 by Masterpoint Press of Canada, this 287 page book has created guite a buzz in the bridge world. The writer, many times World Champion Bobby Wolff (born 1932) has set down his thoughts on a wide range of bridge topics. Wolff hails from San Antonio Texas where he learnt to play bridge in late 1944 and soon became addicted. His first game of duplicate bridge was in 1949 and bridge became central to the rest of his life. His tournament achievements in top USA and World Championships are simply awesome. For many years his partner was Bob Hamman- rated to be one of the top half dozen or so bridge players of the past 50 years. Wolff has served as president for both the World Bridge Federation and the American Contract Bridge League and as the promo on the back page of the book states "Bobby Wolff has been there and seen it all". There is a flavour of whistle blowing in some sections. He names people for both good and (in his view) bad performance or behaviour. In fact I would guess he has re-opened some old wounds! Wolff has a lot to say about both playing and nonplaying sponsors in Tournament Bridge. He also has some strong opinions about cheating in Tournament Bridge and writes about several incidents that I had never heard of. Other topics that get covered include bridge administration and 'politics', Youth Bridge, destructive bidding (as in Brown Sticker Bids) and USA Team Trials methods. He also reveals the background to his being fired (his word) from the highly successful NICKELL sponsored bridge team.

I would have liked a few more bridge hands as well as more about the bridge systems he has played and what bidding methods he currently prefers. But these are small quibbles. If you learnt your bridge in the 1960-80 periods (and especially if you kept track of the international bridge scene) you will find this book to be a real page turner. However all tournament bridge players should find this book to be 'a good read'.

Available through the usual bridge product retailers including:

- The Bridge Shop ☎02 9967 0644

 (also in Brisbane ☎ 07 3846 5994),
- ♦ Post Free Bridge Books 202 9388 8861
- ♦ J.W & S Hardy 207 3398 8898

RRP \$34.95

Congress Results

Tamworth Teams April 19-20:

- 1 L. Harkness, J. Lindsay, M. Ingold, C Van Wyck
- 2 S. Mayo, G. Mayo, I. Price, E. Hahn
- 3 J Hackett, W Healy, S Clarke, G Clarke

Bathurst Congress May 3-4

Pairs Final

- 1 Marion Knox & Evelyn Maguire
- 2 Dorinda Sullivan & Helen Jeffery
- =3 R Farr Jones & J Hector
- =3 V Gavel & H Archibald

Plate

- 1 Phil Fent & Dominic Kwok
- 2 Liz Scorer & Graham Daniel

Sunday Teams

- 1 Jane North, Helen Wilson, Jenny King, Dariuz Diozd
- 2 L Cleaver, R Hummelshoj, E Dawes, H Britton
- 3 E Cassidy, D Cassidy, G Garde, R Thane Best Local Team: D Morrow, J Skovgard, C Street, and N Johnson

Strathfield Congress May 18

- 1 Nye Griffiths Paul Gosney Orlando Wu John Hornibrook
- 2 Nicholas Rodwell Tony Nunn Nabil Edgtton Andrew Peake
- 3 Patricia Mann Robert Case Ron Speiser Jenny Rose

Trumps Autumn Teams, 25 May

- 1 Jane Douglass, Kieran Dyke, Vera Rowland and Ish Del'Monte
- 2 Nye Griffiths, Paul Gosney, Tony Nunn, Nick Rodwell
- = 3 Jeanette Reitzer, Ted Chadwick, Tony and Louise Leibowitz
- = 3 Sue Allen, Silla Bradley, Helen Lowry, and Judith Ireland

Wollstonecraft Teams June 15

- 1 George Finikiotis, Elizabeth Fanos, Michael Courtney, Linden Raymond
- 2 Colin Hucker, Marie Hucker, Glenys Fitzpatrick Nancy Everingham
- 3 David Weston Justine Harkness Julian Foster, Ben Chosid

(continued next page)

Newcastle Congress June 14-15

Swiss Pairs:

- 1 Tony and Helena Hutton
- 2 Julie Gleeson- Chris Dibley

Teams:

- 1 Helena Dawson Christine Williams, Normand Maclaurin Ken Berry
- 2 R Fletcher, P McGrath, M Seldon, C Dibley

North Shore Super Congress

Mr Solace's Swiss Teams June 27

- 1 Helena and Tony Hutton, Elly Urbach, Les Varadi
- 2 Pauline Evans, Berenice Folkard, Giselle Mundell and Nevena Djurovic
- 3 Toni Sharp, Marilyn Chadwick, Graeme Corin and Liz Bornecrantz

Captain Cook Swiss Pairs June 28

- 1 Peter Jeffrey Julian Abel
- 2 Eric Lindh Patricia Phillips
- 3 Nye Griffiths Stephan Winkler

Two Men and a Truck Swiss Teams June 29

- 1 Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Paul Gosney and Andrew Peake
- 2 Eve Whitby, Eva Kowalczyk, Gheorghi Belonogov and Peter Ciszak
- 3 Shirley Phillips, Michael Phillips, Frank Dreyer and Lee Dreyer

Best Restricted Team:

M Remedios, A Symons, P Anderson, G Goldsmith

DIARY OF UPCOMING CONGRESSES IN NSW

NOTE: visit NSWBA web site and select *Congresses in NSW*, to send email to the convenor or enter the Congress online or, where available, view PDF of advertising brochure.

Date	Club	Event	Contact	Phone
July 13	Ingleburn RSL	Teams	Bev Foley	9618 0797
July 19-20	Nowra	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Eddie Garkut	4464 2400
July 18-20	Orange	Fri: Walk in pairs Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Christine Kershaw	6362 3029
July 20	Twin Towns Services	Birthday Teams	Ernie Scott	5536 1173
July 19-20	Taree	Teams	Judy Scott	6553 7878
August 9-10	Moree	Pairs	Doreen Bailey	6752 7468
August 16-17	North Shore	Sat: Swiss Pairs Sun: Teams	John McIlrath	1300 772337
August 16-17	Ballina	Pairs	Mary Goodall	6681 5533
August 16-17	Wagga Wagga	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Doreen Kjeldsen	6933 1828
August 19-24	Coffs Harbour	Super Congress Tue: Welcome Pairs Wed-Thur: Swiss Prs Fri-Sun: Teams	Robyn Bingham	6651 7845
August 23-24	Dubbo	Sat: Pairs Sun: Teams	Jane North	6882 5107
August 31	Bayside	Winter Teams	Derrick Browne	9388 2662
August 31	Illawarra B A	Swiss Teams	Chris Diment	42844271