

April 2019

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GOLD COAST GOLD

You know you something special is going to happen when this type of result comes your way.

♠ K 9 4 3
 ♥ 9 5 2
 ♦ 10 9 7 5 3
 ♣ Q

♠ void
 ♥ A K Q J 7 3
 ♦ A K 2
 ♣ J 8 5 3

♠ J 10 6 2
 ♥ void
 ♦ Q J 8 5 4
 ♣ K 9 4 2

♠ A Q 8 7 5
 ♥ 10 8 6 4
 ♦ void
 ♣ A 10 7 6

Dealer North ♠ 10 6
 EW Vul ♥ Q J 10 8 6 5 3
 ♦ 2
 ♣ K J 6

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

♠ K 7 4
 ♥ A K 9 7
 ♦ A 8 6
 ♣ A 9 4

♠ 9 8 2
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ J 5 4 3
 ♣ Q 8 7 5

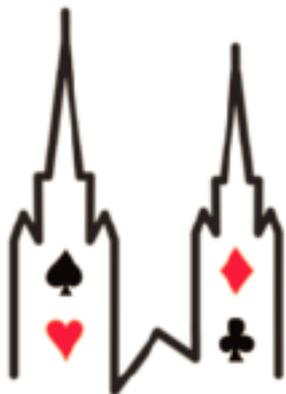
This hand turned up near the end of the second session of the final, and it generated some really wild results. If North led the ♣Q against 4♥, North-South then embarked on a cross-ruff of the minor suits, holding declarer to his six heart tricks! One pair managed to defend 6♥ X (a Lightner double, indicating a desire to ruff North's long suit), and scored +1700. Others scored the more 'typical' +400 with the cross-ruff. Therese Demarco and Stephen Fischer bid to 5♥ after South and North had bid and raised spades. On a spade lead, Fischer ruffed, drew trumps, and garnered a club trick (small towards the King, making the Jack into a winner), to collect his 11 tricks. The spade lead led to a six trick difference, as opposed to a minor suit lead!

This hand, together with two other good boards on this round, shot them into the lead with one session remaining.

They held things together during the final session, with results like the following:



Stephen Fischer (ACT) with South Australia's Therese Demarco, winners of the Gold Coast Pairs



ADELAIDE

The Autumn National Championships will be held at Wayville Showgrounds from Thursday 2nd May to Monday 6th May. Don't forget to enter!

I am also trying to encourage newer players to participate. To this end, I am offering rookie players (with fewer than 25 MPs each) from each affiliated SABF club free entry to the Consolation Pairs which is being held on Monday 6th May. (This offer only applies to the first year you play.) If you are a single player who is interested, please contact me and I will help find you a partner.

I am also appealing for help from any active players or their friends or children or grandchildren or neighbours to act as a caddy for one or more half-day sessions at the event. If you are interested, please send me an email at:

ANOT_Organiser@gmail.com.

Jinny Fuss,
 Organiser (on behalf of the SABF)

See advertisement on the back page.

Winners of the Gold Coast Seniors' Teams:
 (left to right) Neil Ewart - David Smith (Victoria), Zolly Nagy - David Middleton (SA)



West	North	East	South
	3♥	3NT	Pass
4♥ (1)	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♦ (2)	Pass	5♥ (3)	Pass
6♦	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Whilst half the field played in 3NT, failing on a club lead, Demarco and Fischer stopped in 2♠ after Fischer (West) opened 2♠ (often 5 card suit) and Demarco wisely passed. Careful play led to 10 tricks, and a 92% score. Just playing in a part-score (1NT, 2♥ or 2♠) led to at least a 62% score!

After the 3♥ opening bid, it was extremely challenging to bid to the grand slam – which only one pair managed. However, Demarco and Fischer did very well at counteracting the pre-emptive barrage. Fischer transferred to spades then bid his diamond suit naturally. Demarco appreciated that her all honours were extremely good for slam (with the ♥A-K and ♣A dealing with the outside losers), so bid 5♥ to encourage partner in his efforts. Once Fischer had confirmed his 5-5 shape, Demarco corrected to 6NT, the highest scoring small slam and a wise choice at pairs. Those in 6♠ scored 54%, whereas 6NT scored 85% of the matchpoints.

The Gold Coast Pairs finals are scored barometer-style. This means that you see the results round-by-round. Going into the last round, Demarco and Fischer still led the field, but only by 11 matchpoints from a fast-finishing Sophie Ashton and Sartaj Hans. Both pairs were sitting in the same direction for the last three boards, but their scores matched, thus the gold medal went to this honeymoon partnership.

Typical results reflected a sound understanding of the need to get a 'plus' score at Pairs. Many pairs pushed too hard on this hand, probably with East upgrading their 14 HCP hand to a 1NT opening bid.

I'm confident that this result made several "States" very happy. Therese Demarco and Stephen Fischer would have met each other when living in Darwin, and the Northern Territory does not get to see many national titles head that way! Stephen Fischer is now resident in Canberra. Therese Demarco lives in Adelaide and has recently taken up directing and tutoring at the SA Bridge Association, where she is proving very popular in both roles.

♠ 9 6 2
 ♥ Q 6 2
 ♦ A 4 3 2
 ♣ K 8 7

♠ A J 10 5 3
 ♥ A 9 8
 ♦ 9 8
 ♣ 9 6 4

♠ 7 4
 ♥ K J 4 3
 ♦ K Q J 6 5
 ♣ A 2

♠ K Q 8
 ♥ 10 7 5
 ♦ 10 7
 ♣ Q J 10 5 3

[Ed: Therese describes her win as 'incredible and unbelievable'. Well done. I know winning the Gold Coast Pairs isn't easy and, having won, one is on a real high!]

Barbara Travis

A South Australian contingent at the Gold Coast Congress' Trivia Night



GOLD COAST RESULTS

OPEN PAIRS

FINAL

1st **Therese Demarco** - Stephen Fischer

4th **Phil Gue** - Bill Hirst (from UK)

6th **Justin Williams** - Nathan van Jole

also: **Judy Hocking** - **Kevin Lange**

FINAL B (Plate)

3rd **Joe Haffer** - Marshall Lewis (from USA)

SENIORS PAIRS

FINAL B (Plate)

1st **Peter Chan** - Bob Sebesfi

INTERMEDIATE PAIRS

FINAL

Well done to **Janet Munro** - **Milton Hart** for qualifying

RESTRICTED PAIRS

FINAL

8th **Joanne Bakas** - **Tassi Georgiadis**

WEEKEND MATCHPOINT SWISS PAIRS (Open)

12th **Felicity Gunner** - **Prudie Wagner**

19th **Carolyn & Brian Leach**

20th **Dianne Marler** - Jane Davies (from UK)

MONDAY BUTLER SWISS PAIRS (Open)

EAST-WEST:

7th **Ian Hilditch** - **John Zollo**

12th **Felicity Gunner** - **Prudie Wagner**

OPEN TEAMS

=5th David Beauchamp - Jodi Tutty,
Justin Williams - Nathan Van Jole

SENIORS' TEAMS

1st **Zolly Nagy** - **David Middleton**,
Neil Ewart - David Smith

INTERMEDIATE TEAMS

16th **Joanne Bakas** - **Tassi Georgiadis**,
Corinne Blanchard - **Bill Bradshaw**

RESTRICTED TEAMS

11th **Helen McBride** - **Sally Macdonald**,
Wardie Adamson - **Sully Detmold**

OPENING LEAD TIP

When responder passes opener in opener's second-bid suit (e.g. 1S – 1NT – 2H – Pass), you should lead trumps. This auction suggests that responder is very short in opener's first-bid suit, therefore you lead trumps to limit declarer's ability to trump in dummy.

TASMANIAN FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

Congratulations to Phil Gue and his partner, Nigel Rosendorff (from Sydney) who won the Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs at the Tasmanian Festival of Bridge (28th to 31st March).

George Smolanko, together with George Kozakos (from Sydney) finished 6th in the same event.

In the Restricted Pairs, Margaret and Herb Neumeister were one of the leading two pairs until they suffered a big loss in the last match to the pair who won. Margaret and Herb (from Gawler BC) finished a very respectable 4th, and Rita and Ray Jones (from Kadina but affiliated with Gawler BC) also did themselves proud, finishing in 9th place.

In the final lead-up event, the Island Matchpointed Swiss Pairs, Therese Demarco and Lori Smith came 5th.

The main event is the TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs, held over the weekend. The winners were David Beauchamp and Jodi Tutty, practising for their stint in the Australian Mixed Team. Our South Australians did not place, with Therese Demarco and Lori Smith finishing 13th and Phil Gue with Nigel Rosendorff finishing 21st.



Phil Gue - who won the Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs in Tasmania.

BRIDGE

You sit round a table, your cards in your hands.
It's only a card game but makes such demands.
Enough points to open or should I just pass?
Or perhaps try a pre-empt - that would cut quite a dash!
I'm not the dealer - opener bids first.
They open one heart and I fear the worst.
Now a double from partner - for takeout that's clear.
Things look a lot brighter - four spades could be near.
They push us to five and lead out two aces
But I trump the second - the look on their faces!
Drawing trumps is no problem, the split isn't bad
And a long suit in dummy - more tricks to be had.
I get rid of my losers - they should have led clubs.
It's a top, not a bottom, so we're off to the pub!

Anon

ABF'S DAILY BRIDGE COLUMN

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IF YOU ENJOY THIS ARTICLE, YOU SHOULD CONSIDER SUBSCRIBING. THE DAILY COLUMN REQUIRES SUPPORT FOR ITS ONGOING SUCCESS.

GUESSING EVERYONE'S SHAPE BEFORE THE OPENING LEAD IS MADE

By Mike Lawrence

Everyone has one of those special moments when you see something that might not normally be spotted. A few weeks ago, I was teaching a group of players at my house and this hand came up. I sat South.

West Dealer: Nil Vulnerable

West North East South

1♦ Pass 2♦ Pass

All Pass

East's 2♦ raise shows 6-9 support points.

This was my hand:

♠ J 9 4
♥ Q 10 3
♦ J 9 7
♣ K J 4 2

At the table, before my partner made her opening lead, I noticed something very rare. Without seeing the lead or the dummy, it was possible to state what everyone's distribution was. This is not a trick question. All the facts you need are in place.

Here are some important questions you need to think of.

How many points does your partner have?

Why did your partner not overcall or balance?

If you are going to try to work this out, you should stop now and do it. If you want the answer, continue reading.

Firstly, opener did not bid again so opener rates to have a minimum hand.

Your RHO only raised to 2♦. He won't have much either.

This means that they can have from 18 to 23 points.

You have 8 points. If your opponents have 18, your partner has 14. Not likely. They must have a little more than minimum values.

If your opponents have 23, your partner has 9 points.

With 9 points or more, your partner would try to balance if she could. It is very poor in general to hear the opponents bid a suit and raise that suit and then allow them to play it there. They have a fit and letting them play in one of these contracts is usually bad.

Why did partner, who normally is aggressive at balancing, not balance this time?

The logical answer is that her distribution is bad. She might have three diamonds.

If your partner has three diamonds, it means that they have seven. Almost surely, East will have four of them for the raise, and that means opener has three.

What shape might opener have if she has three diamonds? Opener can have only one shape with three diamonds that opens 1♦ in standard bidding.

Opener has 4-4-3-2 distribution.

If my partner has three diamonds, she would lean toward bidding a four card major if she could. She would be rooting for me to have one or two diamonds and hopefully, some support for her major. But my partner did not bid. It sounds like she has no four card major. That leaves her with 3-3-3-4 distribution.

I know she has three cards in each major because if she had two, the opponents would have an eight card fit and they would have bid it.

All of this leaves your RHO with three spades, three hearts, four diamonds, and three clubs.

Here is the actual hand.

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

The bidding may look just a little odd. Many players holding the East hand would bid 1NT. Actually, I like East's raise. It allows opener to bid notrump if they want, and that surely will be better than having East bid notrump. His three little cards in spades and clubs suggest that notrump from East's side of the table is not a good idea.

On this hand, the 2♦ raise did not work well. But it was well thought out and on any hand where opener is about to look for game, giving opener the chance to play the hand is a good thought. Incidentally, if West has a hand with diamonds and some shape, East's 2♦ bid will help West judge when to play in a diamond contract. A nice, unselfish bid by East.

RETURNING THE SUIT PARTNER LED

The card you return in partner's 'opening lead' suit should help your partner know how many cards you hold in that suit:

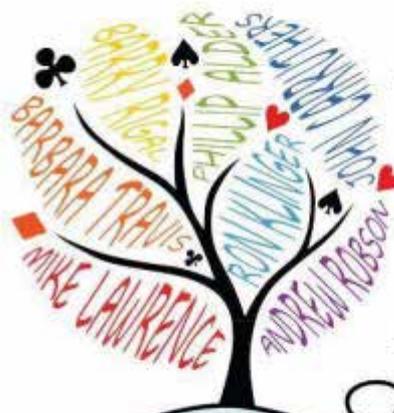
With 4+ cards, you return your original fourth highest card;

With 3 cards, you return your higher remaining card (you have a doubleton left);

With 2 cards, you return your only remaining card.

If you follow this formula, your partner will usually be able to determine how many cards you started with, and then they can determine declarer's holding in the suit.

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BRIDGE BY "NUMBERS"

There are a number of helpful rules (some humorous) to help us with our bidding, play and defence. I recently found a few different sets of these rules, many that I had never heard of. Here are some examples:

RULE OF 2 (play)

With a 'double tenace', such as A Q 10 or K J 10, it is usually best to finesse towards the lower honour first.

RULE OF 4 and 4 (bidding)

It is normally better to play in a 4-4 fit than a 5-3 or 6-3 fit (assuming both fits are of the same rank). This is because you can use the longer (unequal) side suit for discarding losers. This rule can affect the auction.

If you hold game values such as ♠ K Q 2 ♥ A Q 6 4 ♦ A 7 6 5 ♣ 4 3, and partner opens 1♠, you should respond 2♦ first. If your partner rebids 2♥, you will play in 4♥ (the 4-4 fit) rather than 4♠ (the 5-3 fit). If your partner rebids something else, you revert to the spade game.

RULE OF 10 (doubling a part-score)

When contemplating a penalty double of a suit contract below game, add your expected trump tricks to the number of tricks the opponents are trying to win. If the answer is 10 or more, you have the right number of trump tricks, so doubling is OK (though it won't always work!).

RULE OF 15 (opening in 4th seat)

In deciding whether to open the bidding in the 4th seat, the player should add together their HCPs and the number of cards held in spades.

If the answer is 15 or more, then you should open the hand.

RULE OF 15 (takeout double)

If you are thinking about making a takeout double, count your HCP, then add 6 for a void, 4 for a singleton or 2 for a doubleton in the opponent's suit. If your total is 15 or greater, then you can consider doubling.

RULE OF 16 (raising 1NT)

If you are considering raising a 1NT opening bid to 3NT, count your HCPs and the number of cards in your hand that are 8s or higher. If the sum of the two is greater than 16, raise to 3NT. This avoids the need for the use of 2NT as an invitational bid, freeing up the 2NT bid for 'better' uses.

RULE OF BOSTON (opening leads)

This is an acronym, commonly used in the USA, which stands for "Bottom of Something, Top of Nothing".

QUEEN-FINDING RULE

If you have a two-way finesse for a Queen, finesse the opponent you like least... or if you dislike them both equally, play for the drop!

RULE OF 160

If the ages of your opponents add up to 160 (or more)... don't underestimate their ability!!

BRIDGE AT BEAUMONT PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS IN WINTER BRIDGE CONGRESS



MT OSMOND GOLF CLUB

60 Mt Osmond Rd, Mt Osmond



SUNDAY 23rd JUNE 2019

2-session Graded Matchpoint Pairs with a two-course Christmas lunch & Red MP awards

Start time: 9.30am
Finish: approx. 5.15pm



\$50 per person (\$100 per pair)

includes the two-course Christmas lunch



Barbara Travis

barbara.travis@hotmail.com
0437 919 928

*Filling fast! Don't leave entering for too long.
Entries are not complete until fully paid.*

WHAT DOES A 4NT BID MEAN TO YOU? by Jon Hunt

How many uses does your partnership put to the bid of 4NT?

For many pairs the answer is probably only one or two; most often where the bid is used to ask partner about their Keycards (or Aces) or, less frequently, as an invitation to bid a slam in no-trumps if partner is a maximum for their bidding so far (eg 1NT - 4NT).

Some partnerships will have a meaning for an opening bid of 4NT. I prefer this to show a weak (very weak?) two-suited hand in the minor suits, intended as a wholly pre-emptive action.

The aim, of course, being to make the opponents guess; perhaps getting them to a non-making contract, or restricting their ability to bid a making slam or simply finding a profitable sacrifice against whatever their contract might be. Making the opposition guess is the best part of pre-emptive bidding!

Sometimes, however, the shoe is on the other foot with the opponents pre-empting and then 4NT can be used to try to find a fit at a high-level.

For example, if your right-hand opponent opens 4S, what does a bid of 4NT show? This rather depends on how you play a bid of Double over 4S. If you play X to be takeout, then 4NT instead would show a two-suited hand (5-5 or better). Some pairs might agree this to be simply for the minors while others might choose to play it as any 2 suits. Your response to this bid would assume initially that partner holds the minor suits.

If, on the other hand, like many partnerships, your double of 4S is penalties (or perhaps, just showing values), then 4NT could be used to show a two-suited or three-suited hand.

What about if we open the bidding and the opponents subsequently pre-empt say, bidding 4S over your partner's 1H opening. Double, in many partnerships, would be for penalties (or, more generally used to show values). What would be the best use of 4NT in that auction? There are two possibilities. Either retain 4NT as Keycard in support of Hearts or perhaps use it to indicate a two suited hand in the minors, such as

♠ 3
♥ Q
♦ A J 10 9 2
♣ K J 9 7 5 3

However, you can only assign one of these as the meanings for the bid, and you must decide with your partner which is likely to be most useful in the long run.

The concept of using 4NT to indicate the possibility of playing in a suit not previously mentioned (rather than as Keycard Blackwood) is one that does crop up from time to time.

Here's a hand from the recent SA Senior's Trials.

North
♠ J 6
♥ void
♦ A K 10 9 5 4 3
♣ Q 9 5 2

South
♠ Q 8 7 5
♥ Q 2
♦ Q 8
♣ A K J 8 6

David Parrott, North, opened with 1♦. East bid 4♥, I doubled with the South hand and David rebid 4NT. My double doesn't guarantee 4 spades, so there's no major agreed. We had not discussed this type of sequence, but it didn't make sense for this to be any sort of Keycard ask. Indeed, David intended his bid to show long diamonds and support for clubs. Fortunately, we were on the same wavelength so 5♣ was an easy call and the play just as comfortable.

What about this hand?

North
♠ 8
♥ Q
♦ A K 9 6 4 3 2
♣ A 6 4 2

You open 1♦, the next hand bids 4♥ and partner makes a negative double, passed back to you. What level of contract feels right to you? Five, six or somewhere in between?

Partner would probably stretch to double with any reasonable 4 or 5-card spade suit and a reasonable (8)9+ HCP. In that case 5♦ would be best or, as in the previous hand, you could 4NT to indicate the club suit together with your long diamonds.

In the 2007 Bermuda Bowl, that auction,
1♦ 4♥ Double Pass
was found at 11 of the 22 tables.

At all but one of those tables North, while surely tempted, restrained themselves to only rebid 5♦ (only one optimistic North bid 6♦) and that ended the auction. As you can see South's pass over 5♦ is quite reasonable, and yet 6♦ is a good contract.

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
♠ 8	♠ A Q 6 3
♥ Q	♥ 9 5
♦ A K 9 6 4 3 2	♦ J 10 5
♣ A 6 4 2	♣ K Q 9 8

If you had a sinking feeling that 5♦ was just a bit of an underbid (but that 6♦ was an overbid) is there a sequence that might just get you to the slam?

What about this auction:

<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>
1♦	4♥	Double	Pass
4NT (1)	Pass	5♣ (2)	Pass
5♦ (3)	Pass	6♦	All Pass

- (1) Suggesting a long diamond suit with 4-cad club suit: choice of contract
- (2) Agreeing clubs
- (3) Now inviting slam in diamonds

Or maybe it's all just a bit of fantasy on my part?

[Ed: This is a great use for the 4NT bid - showing both the suits, then suggesting the slam, plus an even-longer diamond suit.]

Jon Hunt

GRAND BIDDING by Barbara Travis

♠ A K Q 10 8 3
♥ A Q 3 2
♦ 2
♣ A K

You happily open this hand with 2♣, the auction progressing:

<i>You</i>	<i>Partner</i>
2♣	2♦ (1)
2♣ (2)	3♣ (3)
4NT (4)	5♣ (5)
5NT (6)	?

- (1) Weak or waiting
- (2) Game forcing with spades
- (3) Stronger than 4♣
- (4) Roman Key Card Blackwood
- (5) 1 key card, i.e. ♦A
- (6) How do you respond to 5NT?

You really want to know whether partner holds the ♥K, not the ♦K. If they hold the ♥K you want to play in 7♠ but if they hold the ♦K, you want to play in 6♠, and even that contract may hinge on the heart finesse.

Your responses to 5NT should not be 'numeric', as they were in the days of straight Blackwood. Your responses should show specific kings. In other words, you rebid 6-trump suit with no kings, and bid the king that you hold. Those playing 'numeric' responses faced a 6♦ bid, leaving the grand slam open to guesswork. One declarer heard their RHO double 6♦, drawing the conclusion that partner held the ♥K and bidding the grand slam. However, those playing specific king responses heard a 6♥ bid, denying the ♦K but showing the ♥K. Now the grand slam was able to be bid confidently:

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

43 pairs out of 112 pairs in the South-West Pacific Teams bid to 7♠, so clearly many people had good tools at their disposal.

This hand was a little different:

♠ A K 8
♥ Q
♦ A 7 2
♣ 10 7 6 5 4 3

<i>You</i>	<i>Partner</i>
	1♣
3♥ (1)	4♣ (2)
4♦ (3)	4♥ (3)
4♣ (3)	4NT (4)
5♣ (5)	5NT (6)
?	

- (1) A splinter bid, showing club support, a singleton or void in hearts, and 10-13 HCP. Given that 1♣ can show a 3-card suit, the splinter guarantees at least 5 clubs.
- (2) Setting clubs, and showing slam interest (5♣ would be 'fast arrival'), asking for cue bids
- (3) 1st or 2nd round control in the bid suit
- (4) Roman Key Card Blackwood

(5) 2 key cards + the ♣Q – or in this instance, showing an extra club, meaning the ♣Q is unnecessary. When partner holds the ♣Q, as she did, she knows that you have 6+ clubs.

(6) Showing all the key cards and interest in the grand slam.

A little thought reveals that any king response takes you above 6♣, so only one king must be needed for the grand slam. Consequently, you should bid 7♣, although a 6♠ response will lead to the same outcome.

The two hands:

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

If you think that grand slams never come up, both these grand slams occurred during the South-West Pacific Teams in Canberra in January.

Below is a table with the recommended responses to 5NT, showing all the key cards:

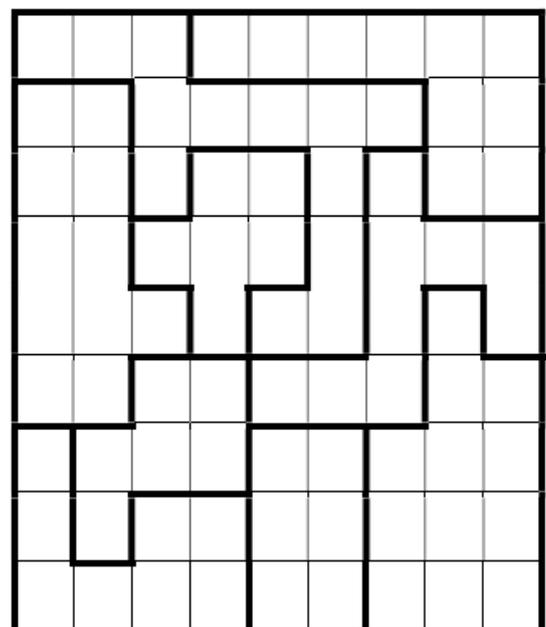
Response	Meaning
7-trump suit	Shows a long solid suit (5+ cards) that is a source of tricks (KQJ10x) or significant extra trumps
6-trump suit	0 outside kings
6-new suit	King of THAT suit (ie 6♣ shows ♣K)
	With all 3 of the outside kings you should also bid 7-trump suit

Barbara Travis

PUZZLE CORNER: Place the Ace

Places Aces (letter A) in the grid so that every row, column and outline shape contains exactly two Aces.

Cells containing Aces may not touch, not even diagonally.



(Solution can be found on page 13 – if you get stuck.)

HIGH LEVEL DECISIONS

The Camrose Trophy is the English equivalent of our Open Interstate Teams, being a battle between Open Teams from England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland, plus a 'host' team (to remove the bye).

[It is interesting that Great Britain has now removed the bye, whereas the ABF has reinstated the bye!]

Look at the following hand from the 2019 Camrose Trophy, played in March:

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

There were three matches, so the hand was played six times. Here is what happened:

ENGLAND v. ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION ('host' team)

Table 1

West EBU	North England	East EBU	South England
3♦	2♦ (multi)	Pass	2NT (enquiry)
Pass	3♥ (max ♠)	4♣	4♦ (cue bid)
Pass	4♠	5♦	6♥ (good ♥s)
Double	6♣	Pass	Pass
	All Pass		

East led the ♦3, making 12 tricks. England +1210.

Table 2

West England	North EBU	East England	South EBU
5♦	2♣	Pass	4♣
Double	Double	6♦	6♣
	All Pass		

East led the ♣3, down 1. England +100.
(He held too many diamonds to lead a diamond!).
England +16 IMPs, though they lost the match.

WALES v. SCOTLAND

Table 1

West Scotland	North Wales	East Scotland	South Wales
All Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣

East led the ♦4, making 12 tricks. Wales +480.

Table 2

West Wales	North Scotland	East Wales	South Scotland
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT (!)
Double	5♥ (2 key)	Pass	6♣
All Pass	Pass	Pass	Redouble

East led the ♦3, making 12 tricks. Scotland + 1620.
Scotland + 15 IMPs.

NORTHERN IRELAND v IRELAND

Unfortunately, there are no records of the bidding for this match, although I have the results:

Table 1

Northern Ireland bid to 6♦ X.

North led the ♥A but must have switched at trick 2. West now used his entries to dummy to establish the fifth club, discarding his heart loser.

6♦ X, making 12 tricks. Northern Ireland +1540.

Table 2

Ireland bid to 6♦ X.

North led the ♥A and continued with another heart.

6♦ X, down 1. Northern Ireland + 200.
Northern Ireland +17 IMPs.

When people ask about high-level bidding and sacrifices, I tend to say that it's a challenging area. These six wildly different outcomes reflect that even the top players in a country can find these decisions just as challenging. 6♦ is obviously an excellent save against 5♠, but two tables never even bid as East-West. Clearly the 3♠ opening bid had a far more pre-emptive impact than the 2♦ (multi) or 2♣ opening bid, though I would have thought that West should be bidding 5♦ on his shapely hand, especially when East seems to be short in spades on the auction.

6♣ is a fine contract, though the Scottish auction is unconvincing. The use of RKCB with a void did not assist South with his slam decision; give North the ♦A and it's a dreadful contract. However, East had to find a club lead to defeat the contract – a viable lead if West had come in with diamonds, but a guess otherwise.

Of course, 6♣ by South is cold! (Nowadays, those using multi 2♦ do try to make the strong hand the declarer, which should have been the case in the England auction.)

COVERING AN HONOUR WITH AN HONOUR

The reason you should cover an honour with an honour is to try to promote a trick for your partnership. So, if you can see a sequence of honours in dummy, eg. Q-J-10-9, clearly playing your King on the Queen is NOT going to promote a trick for your side, so you should play a low card.

The time when you should cover an honour with an honour is when the last honour is led from dummy (if there is a sequence). By doing that, you are helping to promote your pair's cards. If dummy has a lone honour, then you should cover that honour when it is led, unless you have extra length in the suit (meaning that your honour cannot be finessed away).

HOW TO LOSE 5 IMPs

This article, written by Christine Duckworth, is reproduced from MetroNews (UK), Spring 2018 (editor Christine Duckworth)

You are playing in a Mixed Teams event when you pick up a balanced but chunky 19 count, nil vulnerable. LHO passes and, to your surprise, partner opens 1♦. You bid a quiet 1♥ and partner surprises you further by rebidding 2NT. Since this shows 18-19 HCP, you have no difficulty in pulling the remaining cards out of the bidding box and saying 7NT. These are the two hands:

♠ A H 3	♠ V B
♥ A H V 7	♥ 5 3
♦ 10 9	♦ A H V B 5
♣ H 10 7 3	♣ A B 5 2

No, those aren't typos. I omitted to tell you that you are playing in the Netherlands. Hs are Heren (Kings), Vs are Vrouwen (Queens) and Bs are Boeren (Jacks). Here is the whole hand, translated into English:

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

You claim your 13 tricks and move on to the next deal, assuming this is a flat board – after all, it wasn't exactly difficult to bid the grand.

But no... Your team-mates, who are Dutch, are playing this cute convention whereby 2♥ and 2♠ opening bids show 0-7 HCP and at least 4 cards in the bid Major. Sometimes this leads to some great results, but it is definitely a two-edged weapon. On this occasion, when East opened 2♥ South doubled and everyone passed. That was -1700, and -5 IMPs since declarer managed to make just one trick.

It was a shame really, as she could equally well have chosen to open 2♠, and that would probably have been a trick cheaper and a small swing to us!

Christine Duckworth



Joe Haffer (left) and his partner Leigh Gold at the Gold Coast Congress

AUCTION INFERENCE

Written by Paul Linxwiler, published in the IBPA August 2018.

At the US Nationals, Jovi Smederevac, of Vienna, Austria, found the right defence on this deal, based on an inference from the bidding. Smederevac was playing with Jade Barrett in the first semi-final of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs.

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

West	North	East	South
		1♦	Pass
2♥ (1)	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(1)	5 spades, 4-5 hearts, weak		

As South, Smederevac decided to attack hearts by leading the Ace. Her rationale was based on East's choice of 3NT. "Declarer doesn't have 18-19 balanced, because with that type of hand she would have agreed spades or tried to figure out if partner held five hearts. Therefore, 3NT must be based on long diamonds."

Barrett encouraged on the ♥A lead, so Smederevac continued with the Queen and a low heart to the King. This caused declarer some discomfort. Unable to discard a club, declarer discarded the ♠K. So North cashed the ♠A then exited with a low club. Locked in hand, declarer could run the diamonds, but was then forced to play clubs from her hand for two down, giving Smederevac and Barrett a top score.



John Lokan at the Gold Coast Congress

CANBERRA SELECTION by Barbara Travis

DEFENSIVE DEDUCTION

♠ Q 6
♥ K Q J 8 4 3 2
♦ 5 4
♣ J 4

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

♠ A K 10 2
♥ 7 5
♦ K Q 8
♣ Q 8 7 6

This hand comes from the National Women's Teams. At every table but one (of 18), declarer made at least 10 tricks in 4♥, whether from North or South.

At our table, South opened 1NT (14-16 HCP) and North transferred to 4♥. The ♠4 was led, and partner quickly cashed three top spades to discard a club loser, making 10 tricks. Our team-mates were the only pair to defeat 4♥!

Kate McCallum led a fourth-highest ♦2 to Vanessa Brown's ♦A. At trick 2, Vanessa switched to a heart, which Kate won with the ♥A. The trump switch got her thinking, and she reached some impressive conclusions. Her first deduction was that Vanessa must have at least four diamonds, so knew that there were no more diamond tricks available to the defence. That led her to the winning defence which was that they needed club tricks, and quickly. Therefore, Kate led the ♣A and received an encouraging ♣2 from Vanessa. Another club saw the defence take their top four tricks – which is easy when you can see all four hands but is not necessarily that straight-forward at the table. (On this hand the opening lead was also relevant – an opening spade lead meant the contract would always make.

No wonder she is a seven-time world champion!!

DEFENSIVE DISASTER

♠ A J 4
♥ J 3 2
♦ A 10 5
♣ 10 8 5 3

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

♠ K 9 2
♥ ---
♦ K 9 6 3
♣ K Q J 7 4 2

Dealer East, EW Vul			
West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥ (2)	1♥	3♣ (1)
Pass	Pass	4♥	5♣
Pass	Double	5♥	Pass
		All Pass	

This hand comes from the National Women's Team final. This auction occurred at my table. Candice Ginsberg's 3♣ overcall showed an 'intermediate' overcall, so I was looking for game with my 3♥ cue bid. Despite East's 4♥ bid, Candice felt

confident that 5♣ was a good contract. It became better when East bid on to 5♥, which I doubled with my two Aces opposite a decent overcall.

When declarer won the ♣K with the Ace, I could place South's remaining values! It was just a matter of declarer's shape.

She ruffed the club, then led She led six rounds of hearts, so I discarded two clubs and the ♦10, encouraging. Meantime, Candice discarded four clubs and one card in each other suit. East still had some hope that the ♠J was onside, so she tried a small spade to dummy's ♠10, and I won the Jack. I led the ♦A, to clarify what was happening defensively. When declarer ruffed, it was easy to take her down one trick.

At the other table, after a similar auction, Kate McCallum played in 5♥ (undoubled). She followed a similar line of play (cashing six hearts), but both North and South were slightly careless with their discarding. When each defender discarded a spade, declarer was home. The third spade became the 11th trick. That resulted in 13 IMPs to our team.

It is very important when you have to find lots of discards to try to keep 'different' suits from each other. Once South discarded a spade, North had to retain spades. That is why, at our table, I threw clubs first – it gave me time to watch Candice's discards and know which suit I had to keep.

WHEN THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE

You are North, playing in 4♥ after the opponents have bid and raised spades.

♠ K 10
♥ A Q 10 9 5 2
♦ J 7 6
♣ Q 4

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

♠ Q 8
♥ K 8 4 3
♦ A 9 4 3 2
♣ A 8

To my disappointment, East led the ♣J. Given that I had to lose the ♠A and potentially two diamonds, I had to hope East had led from King-Jack in clubs. I ducked the lead, but West won with the ♣K, and returned a club. I drew trumps in two rounds, then led a small spade towards dummy. I was hoping that East might duck, then I would end-play him with the second spade – but no, East won the ♠A and exited with his spade. There was one remaining chance... one player needed to hold the ♦K-x or Q-x. It was time to cash the ♦A. If East kept his King, he would be end-played with the second diamond; he would have to return a black card and I could trump in dummy and discard my diamond loser from hand. If he threw his ♦K under the Ace, then I could lead another diamond towards my Jack, making it become a winner. Therefore, the contract made.

Howard Melbourne was sitting West on this hand. At his table, trick 1 went the same way, so he was on lead with the ♣K. He gave serious consideration to leading the ♦10 at trick 2, which 'surrounds' declarer's Jack and dummy's ♦9. It is the only card to defeat the contract!

Barbara Travis

THREE-BID TEAMS - AN INTERESTING NOTION

At the Hainan Bridge Festival in China, they hold 15 events, one being a Three-Bid Teams. It has a unique rule: each player can make only three bids per board, excluding Pass, Double and Redouble. Once you have used up your three bids but want to make a fourth bid, the opponents can accept or not. If the fourth bid is not accepted, the offending side's players must both Pass. If the fourth bid is allowed, then the bidding just continues.

Here are a few interesting deals from the HBF's Three-Bid Teams, reported in the IBPA Bulletin, December 2018.

You are North and hold:

♠ A J 6 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ A K 9 7 5 3
♣ void

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	?		

This is your last bid! What information do you have from South's bidding, given 3♥ would have been forcing. You know he has solid hearts and a game-forcing hand. So, you can gamble on a slam – no more bids can be used – 6♥ or 7♥ should be your chosen bid. Here is the full deal:

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

At 12 of the 50 tables, North-South bid to 7♥. The diagrammed auction was the usual route to the grand slam.

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

West	North	East	South
2♠	Pass	2NT *	Pass
3♦ *	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	5♣	All Pass

2♠ was weak, with 2NT being a relay. 3♦ showed diamond shortage and 3♥ was natural. 3NT denied heart support, so East now knew that West held 6 spades, a singleton diamond,

and no heart support. That meant he had at least 4 clubs, making 5♣ a reasonable bid. Furthermore, there was no need to worry about a misunderstanding because West had to Pass!

Here is another board where the bidding side ran out of bids:

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦ *
Pass	3♦ *	Pass	4♦ *
Pass	Pass!	Pass	

2♦ was an artificial game force, and 3♦ showed a 5-card suit. 4♦ was a slam try, but South had forgotten that his partner had used up his allocated three bids already, and therefore had to Pass!

This is certainly a novel sort of event. I don't know whether there is space in the local calendar for such an event, but it could prove to be a 'fun' one-night experience!



Sally Luke, playing with Di Marler, won the Gawler Congress Pairs A Grade.

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A GAME AT THE CLUB by Barbara Travis

A recent session has provided me with plenty of hands for analysis.

First, I held this hand:

♠ K 8 2
♥ Q J 4
♦ K J 8 7 6 5
♣ K

Me	LHO	Partner	RHO
		1♠	Pass
2♦	3♥	4♠	Pass
?			

We were playing Standard, so my 2♦ response merely showed 10+ HCP rather than being game forcing. This meant that partner's 4♠ rebid showed a very good hand. My problem was: Did we have control of the heart suit? We had no agreements, so I just punted 6♠, successfully.

After the session, I discussed this hand with a few friends. My 'correct' rebid was to bid 5♠. Bidding our own major freely at the 5-level is not a sign of madness. It actually asks partner to bid slam with control of their suit. (*Refer to the Open Playoffs article in December 2018, where Andy Hung now bid 6NT, protecting his K-x in the suit – both from the lead and from a ruff.*)

Partner's hand was:

♠ A Q J 9 6 5 3
♥ K
♦ A
♣ A 8 6 2

so my 6♠ bid worked this time.

Try this hand:

♠ 2
♥ K 9 7 2
♦ K 9 7 6 2
♣ A 10 2

Board 1, nil vulnerable, and the auction started:

West	North	East	South
Me		Partner	
	Pass	1♠	2♥
?			

At the vulnerability and with my lack of fit for partner, I decided to try for a penalty if partner re-opened with the hoped-for double.

Pass	Pass	2♠	Pass
?			

Partner's 2♠ rebid indicated she held a hand unsuited to penalising 2♥. Now I tested partner's knowledge of continuations:

2NT	All Pass
-----	----------

We have since discussed that my 2NT bid shows a hand that indicates I was interested in penalising 2♥. Mind you, I probably should have rebid 3NT, and so should she after 2NT.

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

She should have bid 3NT now, comfortable that she was giving me seven or eight tricks. 2NT making 12 tricks was our only bottom of the day. I'm prepared to take a large proportion of the blame for my 2NT bid, but she's also learnt that solid suits are good for raising to 3NT. I never mind a bad result if it leads to an educational outcome.

A few hands later we had another result 'linked' to negative doubles. The auction started:

1♦ (1♥) 1♠ ...

Our opponents ended up in 3♠ on a 4-3 fit, for the dreaded -200, and our only top of the day. When someone overcalls 1♥, one agreement when playing negative doubles, is to use the double to show a 4-card spade suit, and bidding 1♠ shows 5+ spades. This application allows you to make use of the overcall to be more precise about your spade suit, so that your side knows whether there is a fit or not and, therefore, whether to keep competing in the spade ("master") suit.

On another hand, my partner thought I was a genius for my opening lead. My RHO had opened 1NT and played there. I was on lead holding:

♠ 10 7 3
♥ A 9 8
♦ A 10 9 7
♣ A 8 6

For a number of years, I have been philosophically opposed to leading from 3-card or 4-card suit headed by the Ace when on lead against No Trump contracts. Basically, it seems to give extra tricks to declarer. That reasoning was behind my lead of the ♠10 (I didn't lead a low one because I didn't want to encourage my partner!). Partner won the ♠Q, with declarer dropping the Jack, and continued a spade. This is the whole hand:

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

The spade lead gave us time to cash our eight winners quickly, resulting in an equal top.

After the session, quite a few people asked me how to deal with the following hand; there had been varied outcomes after RHO's 4♠ opening bid:

♠ A 3 2
♥ K
♦ A 9 4
♣ K Q J 9 6 3

After some thought, I chose to bid 5♣, primarily because I didn't want to double – showing a good hand – and hear partner bid 5♥. Partner held:

♠ J
♥ A 10 9 6 4
♦ K J 7 3 2
♣ 7 5

If your partner doubles a 4-level opening bid, 4♠ on this hand, rather than committing to one particular suit, you are better served to respond 4NT. This 4NT bid indicates that you have two places you would be happy to play. So when partner now bids 5♣, you 'correct' to 5♦ to show both red suits. On this hand, you would finish in 5♦, which makes – as does 5♣ (clubs being 4-1).

In December's "A Game at the Club", I mentioned that people need to balance when the opposition subside at the 2-level in a known 8 card fit. Obviously, my partner had learnt this lesson well, because she did balance after this auction:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Me</i>		<i>Partner</i>	
	1♦	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Double	

The auction continued:

Pass			
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Partner bid on to 3♥ hoping we held a 9-card fit:

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

Given we were vulnerable, it was important to go down only one trick; -100 would be better than -110 or -130, but -200 would be a bottom. On a diamond lead, and with the hearts breaking 2-2, I was able to eliminate the diamond suit, then exit in clubs, making the opponents start the spade suit, and getting a spade trick at the end, for -100.

One session and so many lessons!

Barbara Travis

OPENING LEAD TIP

Don't just lead fourth highest of your longest and strongest suit:

- Listen to the auction before leading.
- Work out what you know about the opponents' length in different suits and their HCP.
- Think about how many HCP you can expect from partner.
- THEN make your lead.

NEGATIVE DOUBLES

HOW TO DEAL WITH OPPOSITION INTERVENTION AFTER YOUR PARTNER HAS OPENED THE BIDDING

How often does an opponent overcall your partner's opening bid and mess up your planned response?

For example, partner opens 1♦ and your RHO overcalls 1♠:

♠ 9 8
♥ K Q J 7
♦ 9 7 6
♣ J 10 9 8

- * You could Pass, but that is not satisfactory with 7 HCP.
 - * 1NT (6-9 HCP) is not appropriate with no spade stopper.
 - * A bid at the 2-level shows 10+ HCP.
 - * You shouldn't support diamonds with only 3 cards.
- But equally, you don't want to Pass just because of the intervention.

Hands where you want to make a penalty double of the opponent's overcall occur rarely. Instead we use doubles of low level overcalls to give partner the message: "I would have responded to your opening bid but the overcall has made my life difficult."

These doubles are called NEGATIVE DOUBLES and are like takeout doubles (except your partner opened). They say:

- I have the other two (unbid) suits, or
- I have a one-suited hand which I cannot bid freely (not enough HCP), or
- I have one of the other suits (major) and support for your suit (minor)

On the hand above, you would make a negative double; you have the perfect hand for it, being able to cope with any rebid partner makes.

POINT COUNT FOR NEGATIVE DOUBLES:

- At the 1-level 6+ HCP
- At the 2-level ~8+ HCP (more shape = fewer HCPs allowed)
- At the 3-level 10+ HCP
- There is no upper limit (HCP) for negative doubles.

HOW HIGH TO PLAY NEGATIVE DOUBLES:

I would recommend playing them to the 3-level, but it is a matter for partnerships to agree on.

WHAT OPENER DOES NEXT:

- Opener introduces a new 4-card suit.
- Opener can rebid NT with the opponent's suit stopped.
- Minimum rebids show minimum hands.
- You need to jump to show a stronger opening hand (16+ HCP) or bid game with enough values.

(REVERSES are cancelled because the double 'forces' partner to bid).

EXAMPLE 1:

The auction starts: 1♥ (1♠) ?

You hold: ♠ x x
♥ x x
♦ K J x x
♣ K x x x x

What can you bid?

- * You cannot bid 1NT (6-9 HCP). That shows a spade stopper.
- * You cannot bid 2♣ because that shows 10+ HCP.

You have an ideal hand for a negative double.

- * If partner bids 2♣ or 2♦ (minimum opening bid) you will happily pass, having won the part-score battle.
- * If partner rebids 2♥ (showing 6 cards) you can pass, having won the part-score battle.
- * If partner jumps, depending on what they bid you may pass or head to game.

EXAMPLE 2:

The auction starts: 1♦ (2♣) ?

You hold: ♠ K x x x
♥ K x x x
♦ Q x
♣ A K x

What can you bid?

- * If you bid a Major at the 2-level it will show your points and be forcing BUT it will show a 5+ card suit.
- * You could bid 3NT (values for game, clubs stopped) BUT you haven't had the opportunity to explore for a Major fit. Furthermore, you close down the auction when you might belong in slam.

You should use a negative double first, because you can always bid 3NT with your next bid. You are now ready to deal with whatever partner rebids.

- * If partner rebids 2♥ or 2♠ (minimum opening bid), your next bid will be game in that suit.
- * If partner rebids 2♦, then you can rebid 3NT confident that you have eliminated a Major fit.
- * If partner rebids 3♥ or 3♠ you can explore for slam in that Major.

EXAMPLE 3:

The auction starts: 1♣ (2♠) ?

You hold: ♠ x
♥ K 10 x x
♦ A K x x
♣ A x x x

What can you bid?

- * Bidding a new suit at the 3-level would be forcing, but would show a 5+ card suit.
- * Bidding clubs (3♣) would be non-forcing.

You have a perfect hand for a negative double. After partner's rebid you will be in a good position to determine where to go in the auction.

- * If partner rebids 2NT you will bid 3NT.
- * If partner rebids a new suit at the 3-level (minimum opening bid), you will settle for game.
- * If partner jumps to show a stronger opening bid, you will head to slam via RKCB.

EXAMPLE 4:

The auction starts: 1♥ (2♣) ?

You hold: ♠ A Q 10 x x x
♥ x
♦ Q x x
♣ x x x

What can you bid?

- * If you bid 2♠ you are showing the 5+ card suit, but you are showing 10+ HCP and making a forcing bid.
- * At the same time, you don't want to pass with such a nice

hand/suit.

Again, you start with a negative double.

- * If partner bids 2♦ or 2♥, you now bid 2♠. Partner then has to work out that you have a WEAK hand with a long suit of your own; if you held 10+ HCP then you would have bid 2♣ at your first bid, so your hand becomes like a weak 2♠ opening.

WHEN YOU WANT TO DOUBLE FOR PENALTIES

WHEN YOU PLAY NEGATIVE DOUBLES YOU CAN NO LONGER DOUBLE AN OVERCALL FOR PENALTIES.

HOW DO YOU PENALISE THE OVERCALL:

When you want to penalise the opponent's overcall you have to PASS and wait for partner to double.

When you have length in the opponents suit, ask yourself:

- Do I want to play this hand or do I want to defend and take them down?
- If the answer is 'Defend', then you need to Pass first, then Pass partner's double.

There is more onus on the opener to look at their hand and think about whether you may have a penalty double if the bidding goes: OPENING BID – OVERCALL – PASS – PASS...

Opener must think:

- Am I short in 'their' suit? Where are the rest of that suit (since RHO hasn't raised)?
- Where are the rest of 'their' suit (given RHO hasn't bid/raised)?
- If the answer is "With partner", then you must re-open with a DOUBLE, which initially asks partner to bid another suit (i.e. you are short in their suit) OR to PASS if they had a penalty double of the overcall.
- Where are the HCP on this hand (since RHO hasn't bid)?
- If the answer is "With partner" and partner hasn't bid, then clearly your partner has the opponent's suit! If you have any 'normal' shape for your opening bid, and shortage in 'their' suit, then you must re-open with a DOUBLE which allows partner to PASS with the penalty double of the overcall, or bid another suit if they are, in fact, weak (when you now find your best fit).

Opener MUST reopen with a double when short in the opponent's suit – i.e. singleton or small doubleton. The only exception is when you have 'extreme' shape (like a 7-4 or 6-5) when you bid your shape/suits. Otherwise (for example with a 5-4-3-1, short in the overcall) you should double.

EXAMPLE:

The auction starts: 1♠ (2♥) ?

and you hold: ♠ x
♥ K J 10 x x
♦ A x x
♣ x x x x

You want to penalise 2H, so you have to Pass. Now the auction continues:

1♠ (2♥) Pass (Pass)

and partner is expected to re-open with a double because they will be short in hearts:

Double (Pass)

and now you can convert their double to Penalties by passing.

On the other hand, if your initial pass was based on a poor hand, then you must bid after the re-opening double.

Barbara Travis



CPD Day 1: Competitive Bidding

A free professional development workshop for bridge teachers who wish to update their skills for intermediate to advanced lessons.

Presented by National Teaching Coordinator Joan Butts, this new workshop will cover everything teachers will need to deliver a five-lesson course focused on Competitive Bidding.

The workshop will use the new Competitive Bidding Teacher Resource Pack materials and cover:

- Overcalls & Responses
- Two-Suited Overcalls,
- Overcalls over their 1NT
- Takeout Doubles
- Responding to Takeout Doubles

Participants are eligible to receive 10 accreditation points for attending this workshop.



Presenter:
Joan Butts
ABF National Teaching
Coordinator

Saturday, 6 April 2019
10am - 2:30pm

South Australian Bridge Association
243 Young St, Unley, South Australia

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Register online at

www.abf.com.au/education/workshops

Event Organiser: David Parrott
yadi.david@bigpond.com or 0417 727 082

The workshop is
funded by



South Australian
Bridge Federation Inc



CPD Day 3: Two Over One Game Force

A free professional development day for bridge teachers who wish to update their skills for intermediate to advanced lessons.

Two Over One Game Force is a bidding style that will refine parts of Standard. It doesn't mean you change your whole system, you just make it better. It's quite easy to teach, even to new players, and is less complicated than parts of Standard. Even if you don't play it yourself (yet), the newest addition to the Continuing Professional Development Day program, will help you learn more about 2/1 which has become very popular around the world.

Participants will receive 10 points towards accreditation.



Presenter:
Joan Butts
ABF National Teaching
Coordinator

Sunday, 7 April 2019
10am - 2:30pm

South Australian Bridge Association
243 Young St, Unley, South Australia

Morning tea, and lunch will be provided.

Register online at

www.abf.com.au/education/workshops

Event Organiser: David Parrott
yadi.david@bigpond.com or 0417 727 082

The workshop is
funded by



South Australian
Bridge Federation Inc

SA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION & SOUTH LAKES GOLF CLUB present the 2019 GOLF / BRIDGE BIATHLON Sunday 7th April



10:00am Tee off
(9 holes, shotgun start)

12 noon - BBQ Lunch

1:00pm Bridge



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Directors Forums

John McIlrath, the ABF National Director Development Officer is returning to Adelaide to present two Director's Forums:

Saturday 27th April 2019 10am – 4pm

“So you wish to be a Director!”

Looking at Scoring Programmes/Movements/Laws/How to run a session.

(For those wishing to learn about directing)

Sunday 28th April 2019 10am – 4pm

“What makes a good Director?”

Including table simulations, and a general discussion on more interesting laws with a question and answer session.

(For current directors)

There will be a lunch break around 12.30pm each day. The Forums are free.

All current and potential directors are urged to attend.

ACES ON THE ASTRAL PLANE by David Lusk

MYSTRALA GETS THE SCREAMING HORRORS

Reprinted from Australian Bridge, April 1995

The Aces had finally selected their four for the centenary match against the Screaming Banshees. Olaf was to line up with Sir Richard and Mystrala was placed opposite Paxacotl. The Imp had declared himself unavailable for a number of reasons. The most significant was that he believed the Banshees, who were effectively four manifestations of the one persona, were in communication with one another. This theory had been refuted many times by Olaf, who had much evidence to the contrary. The Imp's stated reason for staying clear was simply the noise, an excuse which all accepted as genuine.

Father O'Loughlin, who had missed selection, agreed to act in an official capacity, but had expressed some confusion over the event's title. "Centenary Match?" he enquired of Mystrala. "Does this mean the hundredth annual match?"

Mystrala's whispered answer was in the negative. "No, Father. It means that we play a match every hundred years. Please remember that in a place where time has no meaning, a hundred years might just as well be ten minutes."

Father O'Loughlin suddenly wished he hadn't asked.

Once the match got under way, Mystrala had a chance to shine on one of the early boards.

Dealer North ♠ 8 7 ♥ J 8 ♦ A K 9 8 6 4 ♣ A 6 5 ♠ Q 10 9 5 4 ♥ 9 ♦ Q 7 ♣ Q 7 4 3 2 ♠ A K J 3 2 ♥ Q 4 3 2 ♦ 3 2 ♣ K 9	♠ 6 ♥ A K 10 7 6 5 ♦ J 10 5 ♣ J 10 8
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<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Mystrala</i>	<i>Banshee Alpha</i>	<i>Paxacotl</i>	<i>Banshee Beta</i>
Pass	1♦	2♥	2♠
All Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT

Mystrala led the ♥9 without much conviction. Banshee Beta ululated his thanks for the dummy and screamed for a low heart. Paxacotl won with the ♥K and cashed the ♥A. On the ♥A, Mystrala discarded the ♦Q. Banshee Beta's cacophony reached a new crescendo as he realised that the contract may have been rendered unmakeable.

Unable to establish the diamonds without yielding a trick to East, declarer is reduced to just 8 tricks.

Banshee Beta made a valiant effort to establish the spade suit for one loser, but conceded two down when that chance failed to materialise.

At the other table, Olaf was declarer in the same contract:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Banshee Delta</i>	<i>Sir Richard</i>	<i>B'shee Gamma</i>	<i>Olaf</i>
	1♦	3♥	3NT

All Pass

Banshee Delta led the ♥9. Olaf played dummy's ♥8 and East played low.

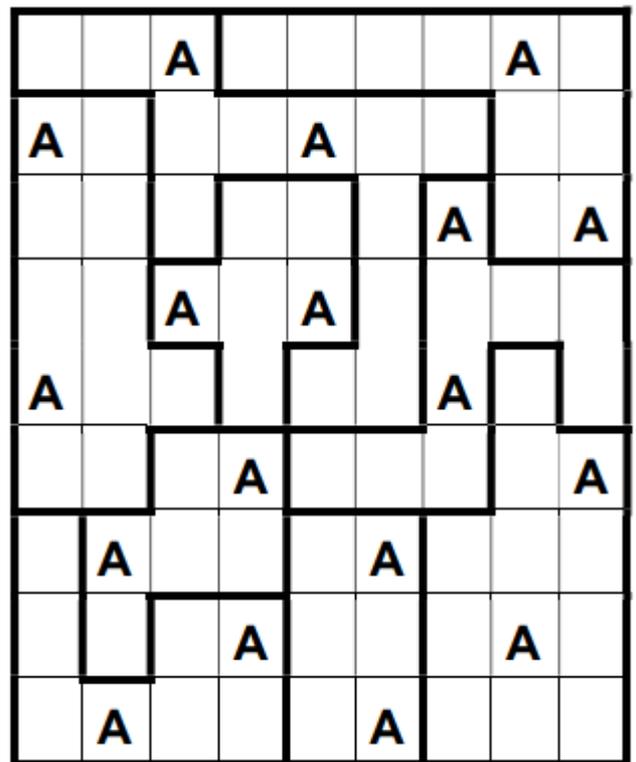
Olaf won the ♥Q and led a small diamond. He played the ♦A on Banshee Delta's ♦7, and returned to hand with a spade.

On playing a second diamond towards dummy, Olaf simply called for dummy's lowest diamond when West's ♦Q appeared.

Not unexpectedly, West could not produce another heart and Olaf was able to claim 10 easy tricks.

David Lusk

PLACE THE ACE: Solution



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RESULTS

SABA SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS (February 2019)

A GRADE

- 1st Cathy Chua - Justin Williams
- 2nd Peter Chan - Phil Gue
- 3rd Alex Bremner - Milton Hart

B GRADE

- 1st Jinny Fuss - Jackie Ward
- 2nd Carolyn & Brian Leach
- 3rd Anne Henesey-Smith - Tricia Lonn

C GRADE

- 1st Helene Maddern - Patricia Maroney
- 2nd Margaret & Herbert Neumeister
- 3rd Melinda Andrews - Allison Bullock

SABF RESTRICTED BUTLER PAIRS

- 1st Joanne Bakas - Tassi Georgiadis
- 2nd Maggie & Nick Truscott
- 3rd Alice Handley - Monika Vnuk

GAWLER PAIRS CONGRESS

A GRADE

- 1st Sally Luke - Dianne Marler
- 2nd Wendy Hooper - Adel Abdelhamid
- 3rd Therese Demarco - Lori Smith

B GRADE

- 1st Carolyn & Chris Mroczek
- 2nd Paul Acfield - Graham Stucley
- 3rd Maureen Wilson - Terry Healey

C GRADE

- 1st Claire De Lambert - Darrell Mitton
- 2nd Patricia & John Sharpe
- 3rd Chris Brady - Zhihong Miao



George Smolanko,
winner of the Open Trials Final (with Justin Williams)

OPEN TRIALS FINAL

(SA OPEN TEAM for the ANC Interstate Teams)

- 1st George Smolanko - Justin Williams
- 2nd David Anderson - Ian Hilditch
- 3rd Attilio De Luca - David Lusk

OPEN TRIALS PLATE

- 1st Andy Babiszewski - Peter Popp
- 2nd Paul Hudson - Chris Lorimer
- 3rd Judy Hocking - Kevin Lange

DAYTIME TEAMS FINALS

DE LUCA: Attilio De Luca - Susan Emerson, Gary Deaton - Peter Colmer,

ZOLLO: Judy Hocking - Kevin Lange, Roger Januszke - John Zollo

DOECKE: Cathy Chua - Justin Williams, Mike Doecke - David Parrott - Yadi Parrott - George Smolanko

TRAVIS: Sheila Bird - Felicity Smyth, Therese Demarco - Lori Smith, Pam Morgan-King - Jeff Travis

SEMI-FINALS

DE LUCA	90	<i>defeated</i>	DOECKE	61
ZOLLO	99	<i>defeated</i>	TRAVIS	71

PRELIMINARY FINAL

ZOLLO	74	<i>defeated</i>	DOECKE	51
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FINAL

ZOLLO	140	<i>defeated</i>	DE LUCA	105
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SABA GRADED PAIRS (March 2019)

OPEN PAIRS

- 1st Jim Burke - Colin Twelftree
- 2nd Jill Knight - Mike Robertson
- 3rd Maureen Wilson - Terry Healey

RESTRICTED PAIRS

- 1st Helene Maddern - Patricia Maroney
- 2nd Paul Acfield - Graham Stucley
- 3rd Pat & John Elliott

NOVICE PAIRS

- 1st Anne Burke - Jude Twelftree
- 2nd Julie & Stephen Savage
- 3rd Christine Roberts - Len Bell

SUPERVISED PAIRS

- 1st Meagan Zander - Owen Teakle
- 2nd David Pollock - Ian Woolley

SENIORS' TEAM

(SA SENIORS' TEAM for the ANC Interstate Teams)

- 1st Russel Harms - Jeff Travis
- 2nd Andy Babiszewski - Peter Popp
- 3rd Yadi Parrott - Felicity Smyth

INTERNATIONAL EVENT IN AUSTRALIA, 2020

In April 2020, Perth will host the Asia-Pacific Bridge Congress. This is an international event open to all bridge players, with the main competition being teams-based, but some pairs-events will also be programmed. See the preliminary flyer below:



COMING CONGRESSES

GOLDEN BUNNY TEAMS	Marion	Friday 19th April 2019	
AUTUMN NATIONALS	SABF	Thursday 2nd May to Monday 6th May	(Adelaide Showgrounds)
SABA GRADED PAIRS CONGRESS	SABA	Sunday 19th May 2019	
MORIALTA & UNLEY ROTARY PAIRS	SABA	Sunday 2nd June 2019	
CHRISTMAS IN WINTER	Beaumont	Sunday 23rd June 2019	(Mt Osmond Golf Club)
BAROSSA PAIRS	Barossa	Saturday 6th July 2019	(Tanunda)
BAROSSA TEAMS	Barossa	Sunday 7th July 2019	(Tanunda)

COMING SABF EVENTS

WOMEN'S TRIALS	Friday 12th April to Sunday 14th April 2019
ANC RESTRICTED TRIALS	Sunday 14th April 2019
STATE SWISS BUTLER PAIRS	Thursdays 9th May, 16th May, 23rd May, 30th May, 13th June
STATE TEAMS PHASE 1	Thursdays 20th June, 27th June, 4th July, 11th July, 1st August



Autumn Nationals 2019

Ridley Centre, Wayville Showgrounds

Thursday 2 & Friday 3 May – Swiss Pairs

(Open, Seniors, Women, Under Life Master)

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May – Teams

(Open, Under Life Master)

Monday 6 May – Consolation Teams and Pairs

(and Teams final)



All events attract Gold masterpoints

PQPs awarded in all events except Consolation and Under Life Master

Entry fees: Pairs \$260, Teams \$540

(Special discount where entry fee paid in full in one transaction by credit card or EFT by 3 April)

Consolation \$10 per player

Tournament Organiser Jinny Fuss

04 740 740 05

ANOT.Organiser@gmail.com

See website for full details – www.abfevents.com.au/events/anut/2019

Not comfortable with computers or the Internet? Just ring Jinny



SABF CONTACTS

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Youth Coordinator	Justin Williams	sayouthbridge@gmail.com	0407 979 610
Autumn Nationals	Jinny Fuss	ANOT.Organiser@gmail.com	0474 074 005
Constitution	Phil Markey		
Ethics	David Cherry		
Appeals	Rex Whitford		
Counsel	Phil Markey		
Sponsorship/Promotion	<i>vacant</i>		

Committee Members: David Gue (Adelaide Bridge Centre), John Smith (SABA), Peter Teubner (Glenelg), Jill Allanson (Barossa), Sue Phillips (Bridge in the City), Jinny Fuss (Christies Beach), David Anderson (Reynella), Barbara Travis (Beaumont), David Parrott (SABA), Moira Smith (Gawler), John Elliott (Alexandrina), Jim Coffey (Whyalla)